

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Daniel

12:1-3

‘At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. Keep me safe, O God;
you are my hope.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews
10:11-14, 18

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Be watchful, and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand
before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Mark 13:24-32

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven’.

‘Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.’

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

KNOX DEANERY

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Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

17th / 18th November, 2018

*God, our Father,
Creator of all,
You gather us Your people unto Yourself.
May we bear witness to Jesus, Your Son,
and persevere in faith and love,
so that all the earth may come to praise You,
as God, the author and perfecter of life.
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Lest anyone get caught in an apocalyptic fervour of sign-spotting and calculation, we hear the ringing caveat: “But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father” Our faith offers us hope, so that as we recognize that the Creator of all has become fully manifest in Jesus of Nazareth, especially in his death and resurrection, there is a victory of cosmic implications. This vision frees us sufficiently from fear so that we can get on with our purpose in life. Conceivably, the text is not so much a warning about the end of the world as it is a commentary on living in it. This day, this moment, this life, is the time to bear the fruit. Another year hurtles by. Seize the day! As our projects and pre-tenses mount, as our labours and tasks surround us, as our entertainment and doodling while away the time, we may forget the upshot of our lives. It is to love and evoke love, no matter where we may be, from nursing home to classroom. It is to receive with full heart the gift of Christ’s once-and-for-all redemptive act. Since we do not know the hour or the day, let this be the hour, let this be the day, let this be the time that we live and die.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

21st November – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

22nd November – St Cecilia, virgin, martyr.

24th November – Sts Andrew Dűng-Lac, priest, & his Companions, martyrs.

I have come that you may have life and have it to the full

(John 10:10)

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr Alan Fox 9758 1029
 Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

DEACON:

Rev. Peter Stringfellow 9758 1029
 Email: Peter.Stringfellow@cam.org.au

FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR:

Carolyn Sombekke 9758 1029
 Email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE:

9758 1029
 Monday to Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
 Secretaries: Carole D'Souza, Maree Wilson
 Accountant: Sara Luk
 Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

SCHOOLS:

St John the Baptist 9758 1013
 Principal: Catherine Mason

St. Joseph's College 9758 2000
 Principal: Catherine Livingston

Mater Christi College 9754 6611
 Principal: Mary Fitz-Gerald

MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am
 Tuesday 7.00 pm
 Wednesday & Thursday 9.15 am
 Friday 11.00 am

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays at 5.15 pm

BAPTISMS:

Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. **6 weeks' notice required.** Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism on our Parish Website. Contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029 or via email at office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

WEDDINGS:

By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
17th / 18th November, 2018
WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

PRAYING FOR...**All who have died recently:**

Carmela Piro, Frances Middleton.

**Those who we remember at this time:**

Lionel Roberts, Mary Stewart, Luigia Cecchin, Clive Royle, Thelma Gribble, Jim Moloney.

The sick: Baby Xavier King; Giuseppina Zarro, Oscar Price, Tom McMahon, Brigida Mazzone, Daniel Vincent-Smith, Keith Scutt, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Steve Reid, Ron Prince, Patricia Quinn, Charlie Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, Lilian Luyf, Kayden McDevitt, David Merton, Peter Mitchell, Jemma Du Buisson Perrine, Brock McAvaney, Beryl Turner, Michael Byrne, Ann Jayawardena, Mary Edmunds, Anabelyn Malabed, Miep Wirth, Ethel Arrowsmith, Eillien Patrick, Brendan Kearns, Elsie Johnson, Jill Neville, Maria Iaconis, Bev McNamara, Anthony McNamara, Victoria Lewis, Nicole Moore, Peter Fairhurst, Hans Whitaker, Edward Osborne, Allida Serafin, Barbara Kenny, and Clive Geach.

SICK LIST – If you are aware that any names on the sick list need be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

Date: 1st Saturday of each month, at 10.30am.
 Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
 Contact: Pauline Barlow on: 9758 5106.

FRIENDSHIP GATHERING: Everyone is welcome on **Thursdays between 10am to 1pm** for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meet every **Tuesday at 10am** in the Parish Hall. Join us for a cuppa prior to the meeting. Praise and worship begins at 10.15am, followed by inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are welcome. Enquiries: Judy: 9752 2986

MOTHERS' PRAYERS Come and join with mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and godmothers, to pray simply together from **9 am–10 am each Tuesday (during school term)** in the Parish Centre. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office

THE 2019 COLUMBAN CALENDAR is now available at the Piety Stall. Cost **\$8 per copy.**

THE FUNERAL SERVICE for the late **Frances Middleton** will be held here at St John's church, this coming **Thursday 22nd November, at 1.30pm.**

ADVENT REFLECTION AND AFTERNOON TEA

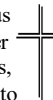
An Advent Reflection Day for both men and women will be held on Thursday 29th November between 1.30pm and 3.00pm in the Parish Hall. Come and join us for an afternoon tea of joyful reflection and community connection. Please RSVP to the parish office so that I can prepare something special for you.
 - Carolyn Sombekke, Faith Development Coordinator.



ADVENT IS FAST APPROACHING have you considered joining or starting an **Advent Discussion Group?** There's time for prayer, the reading of Scripture, as well as discussion. Please indicate your interest on the sign-up sheet beneath the poster entitled **Saviour: Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections**, situated on the glass wall. Books: \$4.00.

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES New sets of Stewardship envelopes are now available for collection in the church foyer. A big thank you to everyone for your generosity in supporting the mission of our Parish.

NOVEMBER CROSS November is the month of the Holy Souls, where we pray for parishioners, friends, and members of our families, who have gone before us in faith. Our prayer is that they will live forever with the Lord. As is our custom at St John's, during November you'll have the opportunity to write the names of those you wish to remember on our November Cross. For those who would like to have a Mass offered for deceased relatives and friends, November Offering envelopes are available on the trolleys.



TRANSPORTATION HELP NEEDED The annual St. Vincent de Paul and Parish **Senior's Christmas lunch** will be held on Saturday 1st December 2018 from approx. 11:30 – 2:30 pm in the school hall. If you are able to help with transporting invitees kindly please contact Terry Stephens on 9758 4249. If you are assist with the **SERVING OF THE MEAL** and/or drinks, please contact Connie Bala on 9753 5000. Thank you to all.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is an opportunity to explore the Catholic faith in a non-confronting environment. RCIA is for those who may be searching for God, for those not baptised, for those baptised in another Christian tradition, for those baptised but who have not received other Sacraments of Initiation. If you would like to find out more at a relaxed, informal meeting, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020: What is God asking of us in Australia at this time? Have your say by Wednesday 6 March, 2019. for details see the website at: www.cam.org.au/plenary/

OUR PARISH SCHOOL FETE The figures are in, and I have the great privilege of sharing that we raised a record breaking figure at our recent fete of almost \$20,000. This is a phenomenal achievement made possible by the teamwork and shared talents of so many across our community. Our P&F President Trina hasn't stopped smiling! Trina has been our president over the past two years. Her tireless efforts and commitment to our school has been sensational. Trina is stepping down as president at the end of this year. Our new president will be elected at our Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting on Monday 26th November, 2018 at 7.00pm. Any school parents are welcome to share your time and talents with our P&F Committee We are so grateful to Trina for her positive energy, endless ideas and 'can do' attitude in all her endeavours. – Catherine Mason, Principal

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR This Sunday has been instituted by Pope Francis as the World Day of the Poor. Pope Francis asks of us, that as we enter Advent and prepare for Christmas, we examine what we are doing for our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate than ourselves. The theme for Pope Francis' World Day of the Poor message this year is "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him" (Ps 37:5). we give thanks to God for those who do great works to lift up the poor in our community.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL BREAK-UP

Inviting all volunteers and friends of St. Vincent de Paul, to our annual break-up dinner on Wednesday 21st November at the Royal Hotel in Upper Ferntree Gully from 6.30pm. Kindly RSVP by 14th November by phone to either Connie Bala on 9753 5000 or Bev McNamara on 9758 2818.



A HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE cost of \$5490. Departures Dates: 24 March, 26 May, 31 May 2019. For enquiries & bookings please call 03 8839 6615, or email: pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au.

ROSTERS: Mon 19th Nov to Sun 25th Nov.

Flowers	Carole D & Lia Unmack
Altar Servers	6pm: Nicholas D
Linen	Anne Jackson
Welcomers	6pm: Queenie J 9am Peter C, Neil & Lorraine & Joanna C 11am Tony & Christine E
Lectors	6pm: Evangeline L 9am: Peter F 11am: Carolyn S
Counters	Byron M & Ruby S
Gardening	Carlos E.