

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus
27:4-7

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians
15:54-58

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

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Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

2nd & 3rd March, 2019

*God our Father,
You look into our hearts, and You offer us
understanding and compassion.
Help us to be more like Jesus, Your Son,
who did not judge others.
May we bear witness to Your truth and Your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



NOTE FROM FR. ALAN, IN RESPONSE TO THE EVENTS OF THIS LAST WEEK.

Dear Friends,

this week the lifting of the suppression order concerning Cardinal George Pell's trial and the sustained media focus has made for a challenging time for the Catholic Church in Melbourne. We will all have different ways of both responding to this news and making sense of it.

For some it heralds another chapter in the already painful journey that Catholics have been a part of over the last few years. Some of us may feel upset and saddened by the news. Some of us may just feel very weary about the way our Church is being portrayed in the media. There are those in our community who have been abused, and the story touches on and may re-open already raw wounds.

On this the last Sunday prior to Lent we gather around the table of the Lord. We pray that God will continue to journey with us as we search to understand, accept and acknowledge the challenges of our times. We hold in our thoughts and prayers all those who have suffered abuse within the Church.

Fr Alan Fox

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Wed 6th Mar ASH WEDNESDAY- Fast and abstinence. The blessing and giving of ashes.

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: deaconpeter@tutanota.com

FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Carolyn Sombekke 9758 1029
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PARISH OFFICE: 9758 1029
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am – 3pm
Wednesdays 9am -12 Noon
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.

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C
2nd & 3rd March, 2019

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:



Those who we remember at this time:

Tracey McNamara, Therese Edmunds, Tom Donegan.

The sick: Baby Ayden Tellis, Frank Cassar, Christopher Windebank, Giuseppina Zarro, Ada Arnold, Lesina Maio, Peter Dunlop, Catherine Turner, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Steve Reid, Patricia Quinn, Charlie Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, Lilian Luiyf, Kayden McDevitt, David Merton, Rosa Jones, Peter Mitchell, Jemma Du Buisson Perrine, Brock McAvaney, Beryl Turner, Michael Byrne, Ann Jayawardena, Mary Edmunds, Anabelyn Malabed, Miop 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, Clive Geach.

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

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

Date: **Saturday, 3rd March, 2018 at 10.30 am**
Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
Contact: Pauline Barlow on 9758 5106.

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

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meet at 10am each Tuesday, for a 10.15am start, in the Parish Hall. Come and enjoy praise and worship, inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome. Enquiries: Judy 9752 2986.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP . Do you desire to pray for your children but it doesn't seem to happen? Come and join with other mothers of any age to pray together. *Tuesday's* from 9am–10am each Tuesday (during school term) in the Parish Centre. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

PROJECT COMPASSION BEGINS 6th March, "Give Lent 100%." to assist people in real poverty. Please consider collecting a box to participate.

LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY MASS on Wednesday, 6th March 2019 Mass will be celebrated at **9.15am and 7.00pm** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year until the beginning of their 60th year; the law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year. Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and a time for lending a hand to others e.g. attending to the sick, the lonely or the over-burdened. Lent is also an appropriate time to prepare for and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY. Our school open day will take place on Wednesday 13th March, 8.00am -5.00pm. Please invite any friends, family or neighbours who have a child eligible to start school in 2020 to come along and see our wonderful school in action.

ANNUAL COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE 2019 St John's Conference of St Vincent de Paul along with St John's Social Justice Group will share the Annual Combined Churches Raffle this year. Both groups have similar aims in working to support the disadvantaged and so both groups will work together on this parish project. A percentage of raffle takings return to our parish. The sale of the tickets has commenced and tickets are available after weekend masses. There are wonderful prizes to be won. We look forward to your support. Also, feel free to take a few books to sell to family and friends. We thank you in anticipation of your continuing support in 2019.

MATER CHRISTI COLLEGE UPCOMING TOUR: Bring your family and friends to our next Scheduled Tours, Friday 8th March departing at 9.30am and Sunday 24th March departing at 10.00am. Mater Christi girls consistently achieve region leading VCE and vocational results. A visit will enable your family to witness our vibrant, inclusive and warm community. Visit www.materchristi.edu.au to book your tour.

St Josephs ST JOSEPH'S COMMUNITY DAY College is on Sunday 17th March from 10.00am – 2.00pm. Come and be a part of this fun day! Free Rides and activities, food and drink at reasonable prices. This event is open to everyone. There will be face painting, college tours and displays, and meet the team from KIIS FM.

EMMAUS COLLEGE OPEN DAY will be held on Thursday 28th March 2019, from 1.30pm – 6.30pm at the Vermont South Campus. For bookings or more information see the College website: www.emmaus.vic.edu.au or call 9845 3211.



PLenary COUNCIL 2020 Have your say by **Wednesday 6 March** *The Listening and Dialogue stage will close on Ash Wednesday, 6th March*, and the Listening and Discernment stage will commence. The national themes for discernment for the Plenary Council which have emerged will be announced. Any enquiries relating to the Plenary themes please email: Cathy.Jenkins@cam.org.au at the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation.

KNOX CITY COUNCIL INVITES YOU to attend: *Proud to Belong in Knox* on Wednesday 20th March 2019 This a free community event, where you can hear people from diverse cultural backgrounds discuss what it means to call Knox home. It's our chance to celebrate Cultural Diversity Week and grow together as one connected and inclusive community. Venue: Knox Community Arts Centre Wednesday 20 March 2019 at 6.00pm-9.00pm (Formalities commence at 6.30pm) Registration is essential at: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/82900>

CATENIAN INVITATION: Come and join other Catholic men from nearby parishes for dinner and an evening of fellowship at a local restaurant with function room privacy on Wednesday March 20th from 6.45pm onwards. We have a guest speaker addressing us after dinner: Sergeant Michael Ferwerda from the Clandestine Laboratory Squad (Clanlab) who will speak about "The rise of suburban Home Grown Drug Laboratories" that are now prolific in our State/Country. Note that this is a ladies night as well. Please confirm attendance with Phil Copesey on 0411 141977 for all details.

ROSTERS: Mon 4th Mar to Sun 10th March	
Flowers	Lent – No Flowers
Altar Servers	6pm: Nicholas
Linen	Alvi M
Welcomers	6pm: Sue N & Anna M 9am: Rosa L & Terry & Laurel S 11am: Gina M & Pat O'B
Lectors	6pm: Evangeline L 9am: Peter F 11am: Marg V
Counters	Peter & Dawn G George & Genevieve W
Gardening	Carlos E