

## FIRST READING

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*  
*Is 66:10-14*

Rejoice, Jerusalem, be glad for her, all you who love her! Rejoice, rejoice for her, all you who mourned her! That you may be suckled, filled, from her consoling breast, that you may savour with delight her glorious breasts.

For thus says the Lord:

Now towards her I send flowing peace, like a river, and like a stream in spate the glory of the nations. At her breast will her nurslings be carried and fondled in her lap. Like a son comforted by his mother will I comfort you. And by Jerusalem you will be comforted.

At the sight your heart will rejoice, and your bones flourish like the grass. To his servants the Lord will reveal his hand.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians*  
*6: 14-18*

The only thing I can boast about is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. It does not matter if a person is circumcised or not; what matters is for him to become an altogether new creature. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, who form the Israel of God.

I want no more trouble from anybody after this; the marks on my body are those of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, my brothers. Amen.

*The Word of the Lord.*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

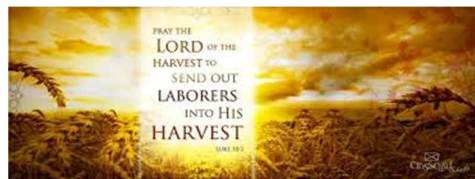
*Alleluia, alleluia!*  
*May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,*  
*and the fullness of his message live within you.*  
*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*  
*10:1-12,17-20*

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him, in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit. He said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Start off now, but remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road. Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, "Peace to this house!" And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not move from house to house. Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is set before you. Cure those in it who are sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not make you welcome, go out into its streets and say, "We wipe off the very dust of your town that clings to our feet, and leave it with you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near." I tell you, that on that day it will not go as hard with Sodom as with that town.' The seventy-two came back rejoicing. 'Lord,' they said, 'even the devils submit to us when we use your name.' He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot serpents and scorpions and the whole strength of the enemy; nothing shall ever hurt you. Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

**Knox Deanery**  
**19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156**  
**Phone: 9758 1029 Fax: 9758 9234**  
**Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au**  
**Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au**

## 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

**6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2019**

*God of all creation,*  
*As we journey together*  
*we pray for healing, forgiveness and unity.*  
*Fill us with zeal for Your kingdom*  
*and tidings of peace,*  
*so that we may persevere*  
*as heralds of the gospel*  
*and joyful disciples of Your Son.*  
*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



*He sent them*  
*out ahead of him,*  
*in pairs*

## SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL - FERNTREE GULLY CONFERENCE THANK YOU

The Conference of Ferntree Gully would like to thank all of our parishioners for your tremendous support for our on-going work in assisting the disadvantaged in our parish area. Our Winter Appeal raised, not only the awareness of our varied work and the number of committed volunteers, but also added \$ 2421.20 to our funds and many bags of essential non-perishable food/ toiletries. Thanks to Fr. Alan and each one of you who supports our unique charity in so many ways. PLEASE RETURN YOUR BAGS OF NON PERISHABLE FOOD TO THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AT ANY TIME. A basket is always available at the doors of church for any ongoing non-perishable food donations. The PIETY STORE is available each Sunday at each mass for your personal religious purchases. Money collected at the Piety Store supports the work of St Vincent De Paul. We are always delighted to welcome more volunteers to continue this vital work in supporting our neighbour.



## SEEKING CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS AT THE 11AM MASS

Children's Liturgy can help our children experience mass and the Gospel messages when the readings are presented in a fun way. You don't need to be a teacher. You don't need to be a mum or dad - grandparents and young adults are also welcome. If you want to, you can work as a pair with a friend. If we can find enough helpers, you may only have to be on the roster once per term. All the literature is provided. At the very least, all you have to do is read the gospel and discuss it in a way the children can understand. If you are more keen, you can dress up, put on plays, write poetry, stage an interview or make things. Please give Kathryn Wallace a call on 0414 244 890 if you are interested in helping or have any questions.

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> July St Augustine Zhao Rong, priest, and companion martyrs  
Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> July St Benedict, abbot Sat 13<sup>th</sup> July St Henry

*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 9am – 3pm  
Secretaries: Charmaine Premaratne & 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 5.15 pm

**BAPTISMS:**  
Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C**  
**6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2019**  
**Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

*Those who we remember at this time:*  
Francesco Sainato, Cosimo Coviello & John Caulfield



**The sick:** Noel McNamara, Frank Cassar, Christopher Windebank, Giuseppina Zarro, Lesina Maio, Peter Dunlop, Catherine Turner, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Patricia Quinn, Charlie Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, Lilian Luiyf, Kayden McDevitt, David Merton, Rosa Jones, Peter Mitchell, 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, 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**  
When: Each First Saturday of the Month at 10.30am.  
Where: 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** Next Tuesday, 9th July, St. John the Baptist Prayer Group will be hosting Fr. Peter O'Neill as our guest speaker who will be talking to us about Human Trafficking, a subject we should all be more familiar with. Venue: St. John's parish hall, 10.15am - 12.15pm, with refreshments afterwards. Enquiries: Tineke 97631096, or: Judy 9752 2986. Hope to see you there!"

**MOTHERS' PRAYERS** Come and join with other mothers of any age to pray together. 9am–10am each Tuesday (during school term) in the Parish Centre. For further enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

**MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE** The July issue is available in the church foyer for \$4 a copy.

Dear Friends,  
Its with a heavy heart that I inform you that after 14 years here at St John the Baptist, my appointment will soon draw to its close.

On the Wednesday before last, quite unexpectedly, I received a phone call from the Vicar General, Monsignor Greg Bennet, relaying the Archbishop's request that I accept a new appointment in the Archdiocese, that of Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, in Cheltenham. At the time Archbishop Peter was still to make his way back to Melbourne from the Australian Bishops; 'Ad Limina' visit to Rome, so I had about a week to consider his request, time to make contact with the retiring Parish Priest at Cheltenham, so as to find out a little more. Last Saturday I visited OLA, and asked as many questions as I could.

The upshot of my discernment and subsequent acceptance of Archbishop Peter's request, is that I will be moving on, officially in early October. However given I had annual leave arranged for September, it will mean in practical terms saying farewell on what will now be my last weekend at Ferntree Gully, that of August 31<sup>st</sup> / September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Archbishop Peter returned to Melbourne on Wednesday of this week, and literally, within hours, my appointment as Parish Priest of Cheltenham, was ratified, effective Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. While the particularities of Our Lady's Parish, Cheltenham, are relatively unknown to me, I can say from what I've seen so far, that the parish appears not too dissimilar to Ferntree Gully, i.e. one church in a similar contemporary style to St John's, one primary school, presbytery, hall, etc., all on the one site. However, I'm sure I'll only really find out the similarities and unique differences, particularly among the community itself, once I've moved in. So it appears now, that my upcoming 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination celebration, in late August, will also be a farewell gathering, of sorts. The Vicar General was clear that I would not be asked to move until after the anniversary, and then as my leave was pre- planned, not until after my return from leave. Please know that my Mass of Thanksgiving on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August, will certainly focus on my gratitude for the last 14 years here, in addition to my 3 years connected to St John's as a seminarian and deacon.

It's not goodbye, just yet, however I would want you all to know, both now and into the future, of my sincere gratitude for the welcome and support you have shown me throughout my time among you.

The announcement of my appointment will be made at all Masses, across both parishes, this weekend, and the coming weeks will undoubtedly be busy ones as I prepare to leave, and as you and I alike, await news of the appointment of a new Parish Priest for St John the Baptist. Thank you for your generosity of spirit, and for all the care you've shown me, particularly during my times of illness. God bless,

- Fr Alan

**PETER'S PENCE ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER THIS WEEKEND**

Pope Francis uses the collection proceeds to provide emergency assistance and aid to the most disadvantaged around the world. Thank you for your generous support of this worthy cause.

**SAVE THE DATE** : Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> August is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fr Alan's Ordination to the Priesthood. A day well worth celebrating! We will start with Mass at 7pm followed by a gathering in the hall afterwards where a gift from the parish will be presented. (contributions towards this would be appreciated). If you would like to help with the organising of this event please contact Sue Nicholls on 9762 8640 or Carolyn Sombekke at the parish office, or via email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com.

**BAPTISMS** – We offer our congratulations to Isaac Welburn son of Zane & Fiona; Caleb & Max Howell sons of Shane & Jacqueline; Liliana Escobar daughter of Carlos & Jacqueline, who are to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy!



**ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY MASS** Invitation for those celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, or 60<sup>th</sup>-70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year. Mass will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 11am. Couples who register will receive a commemorative certificate. Registrations close Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July. To register ph 9287 5587 or see the website at: www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily

**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY** falls this year on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July. This provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge our Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters (who number over 130,000). The celebration also signifies that we are united as one in God's love and care. The theme for 2019 is: "Peace to this house and all who dwell within."

**ROSTERS: Mon15<sup>th</sup> July to Sun 21<sup>st</sup> July**

<b>Flowers</b>	Anne P & Connie B
<b>Linen</b>	Alvi M
<b>Welcomers</b>	6pm: Louise D & Peter G 9am: Sue & David W, Thelma B 11am: Kath & Andrew, Maria L
<b>Lectors</b>	6pm: Rebecca L 9am: Tony D 11am: Sarah M
<b>Counters</b>	Peter & Dawn G, George & Genevieve
<b>Gardening</b>	Carlos E