

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy
30:10-14

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
1: 15-20

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
10:25-37

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him,' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go and do the same yourself.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

13th & 14th July, 2019

*God of mercy and compassion,
in Christ You draw near to us,
lifting us out of death,
binding up our wounds,
and nursing our spirits back to health.
Let Your tenderness compel us
to go and do likewise.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



FOCUS ON THE WORD Commentary by Origen of Alexandria. Extract from *Sermon 101, 1-3.11: PL 38, 605-607.610* To interpret the parable of the Good Samaritan, one of the elders used to say that the man going down from Jerusalem to Jericho was Adam. He said Jerusalem was paradise, Jericho was the world, and the brigands were enemy powers. The priest was the law, the Levite the prophets, and the Samaritan Christ. Adam's wounds were his disobedience, the animal that carried him was the body of the Lord, and the "pandochium" or inn, open to all who wished to enter, was the Church. The two denarii represented the Father and the Son, and the innkeeper was the head of the Church, who was entrusted with its administration. The promised return of the Samaritan was a figure of the second coming of the Saviour. The Samaritan was carrying oil—"oil to make his face shine," as scripture says, referring surely to the face of the man he cared for. He cleansed the man's wounds with oil to soothe the inflammation and with wine that made them smart, and then placed him on his own mount, that is, on his own body, since he had condescended to assume our humanity. This Samaritan bore our sins and suffered on our behalf; he carried the half dead man to the inn which takes in everyone, denying no one its help; in other words, to the Church. To this inn Jesus invites all when he says: "Come to me, all who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you new strength." This guardian of souls who showed mercy to the man was a better neighbor to him than were either the law or the prophets, and he proved this more by deeds than by words. Now the saying: "Be imitators of me as I am of Christ," makes it clear that we can imitate Christ by showing mercy. "Go and do likewise." If we do, we shall gain eternal life in Christ Jesus. Amen.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Mon 15th July St Bonaventure, bishop, doctor

Tues 16th July Our Lady of Mt Carmel

Sat 20th July St Apollinaris, bishop, martyr

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

(John 10:10)

PARISH PRIEST:
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Monday to Friday 9am – 3pm
Secretaries: Charmaine Premaratne & Maree Wilson
Accountant: Sara Luk
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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 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.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C
13th & 14th July, 2019

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:

Miep Wirth

Those who we remember at this time:

Bruno Albicini, Margherita Capozzi; Margaret Haines, John Bekkers, Terry Whelan; Jim Feeney; Bob Whittle and Elena Sgarbossa..

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, 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 meet at 10am each Tuesday for a 10.15am start, in the Parish Hall. Come and enjoy praise & worship, inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All warmly welcome. Enquiries: Tineke 97631096, or: Judy 9752 2986.

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.



BAPTISMS – We offer our congratulations to **Bowie Golby** son of Jarrod & Kristie Golby, who is to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy!




FUNERAL MASS – The Funeral Mass for the late **Miep Wirth** will be celebrated here at St John's Church on Thursday, 18th July at 10.30am.

ST JOSEPHS CLASS OF 1989 REUNION: will be held on Thursday 25th July at 6pm. If this is a reunion year for you, please start the conversation, gather your friends together and come back to St Joseph's for an evening of nibbles, drinks and a tour. Register on the website at: stjosephs.com.au/reunions/

MELBOURNE PILGRIMAGE TO PERTH Young people from parishes, communities, schools are invited to join the Melbourne ACYF Pilgrimage to the fourth Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Perth from 8th–10th December. ACYF is the largest national gathering of Catholic youth in Australia and it exists to provide young people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus, be empowered to be disciples in the world today and encounter and celebrate the vitality of the Church. The Festival is for youth and young adults from year 9 to 30 years of age. Details: see the website at: cam.org.au/acyf19 or call the office on 9287 5565.

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.

AN EMMAUS COLLEGE  **EMMAUS INFORMATION EVENING** will be held on Monday 22nd July commencing at 7.00pm at the Vermont South campus, 503 Springvale Road. *Bookings are Essential* This will comprise of a half hour guided tour of the College followed by an Information Session conducted by the Principal (*please allow 90 minutes*) To register, go to: www.emmaus.vic.edu.au/enrolment/open-day-tours/ or Ph: 9845 3211.

FR ALAN'S 25th ANNIVERSARY & FAREWELL Preparations are well underway for Fr Alan's 25th Anniversary of Ordination party, which will now include an opportunity for farewell, following the breaking news of his appointment to Cheltenham Parish. 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.



UP-COMING MUSICAL: Mater Christi and St Joseph's will soon present their 2019 Co-Production of A Chorus Line - High School Edition. The students have been rehearsing since the beginning of the year, and excitement is building as opening night draws closer and they begin to see the results of all their hard work. Performances run from: 28th – 31st August 2019 Tickets on sale through Burrinja from 23rd July

MORNING TEA FOR FARMERS IN DROUGHT Congratulations on the efforts of St John the Baptist Friendship Gathering fundraising event which took place on Thursday 11th July to raise funds to assist Farmers affected by Drought in the East Gippsland area. The Friendship Gathering are happy to report that \$520.00 was raised for distribution by the Mercy Nuns' in Orbost. Well done!

FUNDRAISER FOR EASTERN PALLIATIVE CARE On 28th July 2019 Run Melbourne will fill the streets with over 20,000 people and you are invited! Walk, jog or donate to improve the lives of those living with a terminal or life limiting illness at home Form your own team or join TEAM EPC as an individual fundraiser. To find out more call 1300 130 813 or see the website & register at: www.epc.asn.au/events.

ROSTERS: Mon 22 nd July to Sun 28 th July	
Flowers	Marg H & Ange C
Linen	Jean B
Welcomers	6pm: Myra Noth & HELP NEEDED 9am: Marg & Adrian D & Anastasia A 11am: Patrick S & Coral M
Lectors	6pm: Louise D 9am: Adrian S 11am: Trish M
Counters	Tony B & Steph H
Gardening	Carlos E