

## FIRST READING

*A reading from the book of Genesis 18:1-10.*

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree. 'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 1:24-28*

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was

God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 10:38-42*

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



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**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**

**20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2019**

*Eternal God,  
You draw near to us in Christ  
and make Yourself our guest.  
Amid the cares of our daily lives,  
make us attentive to Your voice  
and alert to Your presence,  
that we may treasure Your word above all else.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



**FOCUS ON THE WORD** *Commentary by St Bruno of Segni (d. 1123).*

Everything our Saviour did was full of sacred teaching. In every situation his actions were meant to point beyond themselves. For example, his outward actions in the hillside village of Bethany are repeated every day in his holy church. Daily the Lord Jesus enters in, not thinking frequent visits beneath his dignity. There he is welcomed by Martha, who takes him into her home. Let us see then what Martha stands for, and what Mary symbolizes. Each of them denotes something important, for these two make up the entire Church.

One of them, namely Martha, symbolizes the active life; the other, Mary, the contemplative. That is why scripture says it was Martha, not Mary, who received Christ into her house. Mary, of course, does not own a house, since the contemplative life entails the renunciation of all worldly possessions. All that contemplatives want to do is to sit at the feet of the Lord—to read, pray, and give themselves up to contemplating God is their whole desire. It is enough for them to be always listening to the word of God and feeding their minds rather than their stomachs. Such as these were the apostles and prophets; such are many others who, leaving everything, flee from the world and cling to the Lord. They seem to possess nothing, yet they have everything.

Only good people can live this kind of life, whereas both good and bad alike can lead active lives, ...so called because they consist of constant activity, weariness, and toil, so that scarcely a moment's quiet can be found. (Extract from Sermon 101, 1-3.11: PL 38, 605-607.610)

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> July St Mary Magdalene  
Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> July St James, apostle

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> July Ss. Joachim & Anne,  
parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

***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  
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**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.

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C**  
**20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2019**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

Christine Kane,(Ireland), Derwin Faustin.



*And those who we remember at this time:*

Inez Botman, Martin Pelgrim, Palma Kaali-Nagy Jack Turner, Ettore Luciano, , Ronald Herbert.

**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:** is on Thursdays between 10am and 12.30pm in the Parish Hall. Ladies and Gentlemen welcome anytime to have a cuppa and a chat.

**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

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP** Annual statements for your contributions to Stewardship/Thanksgiving are available for collection in the church foyer. A heartfelt thank you for your generous financial support of the Parish, through Stewardship.

**FR ALAN'S 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY & FAREWELL**  
Preparations are well underway for Fr Alan's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination Mass, to be celebrated here at St John's at **7.00pm on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.**

This occasion also now offers our Parish community the opportunity to farewell Fr Alan, following the unexpected news of his pending new appointment to Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham. If you would like to help with the planning please contact Sue Nicholls on: 9762 8640, or Carolyn Sombekke, at the Parish Office on: 9758 1029, or via email at: csombekkesjb@gmail.com

**ST JOSEPHS CLASS OF 1989 REUNION:** will be held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 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 Pilgrimage to the fourth Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Perth from 8<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> 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. Further information can be found at: cam.org.au/acyf19 or call the Archdiocesan Youth 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 needn't be a teacher. Nor need you 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 call Kathryn Wallace on 0414 244 890, if you are interested in helping, or have any questions.

**CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL – 27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> JULY**  
Next weekend we have a special collection, namely the Annual Appeal for **Catholic Mission**. This year, the Appeal focusses on the important work within the Diocese of Yendi in Ghana, through programs aimed to address problems faced by abandoned children – particularly those living with disabilities. Please consider bringing a little extra along next weekend to generously support the work of Catholic Mission.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOS OF FR ALAN?**  
We are creating a book for people to sign or leave a message to Fr Alan. At the front of this book we are creating a photo collage. If you have any photos you would like to contribute, old or recent, with Fr Alan in your company then could you please scan and email to the parish, office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au or drop in to the office, Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday to have them photocopied. These must be in this week by Wednesday 24th July. Thankyou

**MUSICAL: A CHORUS LINE:** 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: 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 Tickets on sale through Burringa from 23<sup>rd</sup> July

**PETERS PENCE COLLECTION:** A big thank you for your generous donations. The total amount collected was \$906.65 Your gift is greatly appreciated.

**FUNDRAISER FOR EASTERN PALLIATIVE CARE** On 28<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> July to Sun 4<sup>th</sup> August**

<b>Flowers</b>	Sue N
<b>Linen</b>	Susan O'H
<b>Welcomers</b>	6pm: Sue N & Anna M 9am: Rosa L & Terry & Laurel S 11am: Gina M & Pat O'B
<b>Lectors</b>	6pm: Trish M 9am: Caroline Q 11am: Volunteer required
<b>Counters</b>	Tony B & Steph H
<b>Gardening</b>	Carlos E