

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
3:1-5, 9-11

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!*

Alleluia!

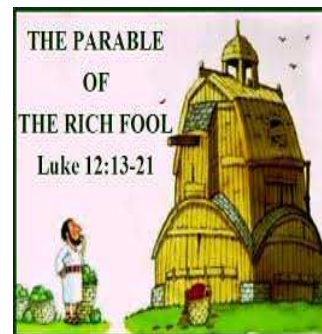
GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
12:13-21

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

3rd & 4th August, 2019

**Creator God,
How generous you are to
all your creatures.
With such generosity ever before us,
help us to avoid any self-indulgence,
and to shape our lives
in accordance with the Gospel.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**



FOCUS ON THE WORD

The parable in today's gospel depicts a man who has so much grain that he decides to build bigger barns to store it all. The parable follows Jesus' teaching that 'a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.' The point is about having more than we need. What good is served by one person having more than they need while others do not have enough to meet their needs? The rich man who had the abundant harvest could have stored up all that he needed and still been able to share the abundance with others. Liberation theology introduced the catch phrase, '*live simply so that others may simply live*'. The call was for those in wealthier countries to simplify their wasteful and indulgent lifestyles so that others may be able to meet their most basic of needs.

Our modern society is particularly dominated by a mindset of accumulating more than we might ever need. The saying 'Whoever has the most toys, wins' holds more than just a shred of truth for many people. Our consumerist lifestyle nurtures the desire to accumulate more and more 'stuff'. Every time we turn on the television there is a new 'must have' gadget. We talk about built-in obsolescence of manufactured goods and every new technological device makes older models redundant so that we feel we constantly have to upgrade. How would we answer God's question, 'so this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?' How could you simplify your lifestyle and make a difference in the lives of others?

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 6th Aug *The Transfiguration of the Lord.*

Thursday 8th Aug *St Mary of the Cross, virgin*

Friday 9th Aug *St Lawrence, deacon, martyr*

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

(John 10:10)

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Alan Fox 9758 1029
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DEACON:
Rev. Peter Stringfellow 9758 1029
Email: Peter.Stringfellow@cam.org.au

FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR
Carolyn Sombekke 9758 1029
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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 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.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C
3rd & 4th August, 2019

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently

Fr Allan Mithen PE



And those who we remember at this time:

Patrocínio Sason, Elena Russo, Nora Ryan, Johanna Roelofs, Clara Coviello.

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. This week (6th August) we finish with a Book Sale. 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

FR ALAN'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION CELEBRATION & FAREWELL – You are invited to attend a **Mass of Thanksgiving at 7pm on Tuesday 20th August**, to celebrate Fr Alan's 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. Following Mass you are invited over to our School Hall for supper, where we'll also have the opportunity to both thank and farewell Fr Alan, as he prepares to take up his new appointment at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham. There will be some words of appreciation and a presentation made.



What might you be able to do to contribute or assist?

- Please consider bringing along a plate of finger food to share. The hall will be open between 5.45pm - 6.45pm for any food to be dropped in.
- Both this weekend of 3rd/4th August, and next weekend of 10th/11th August, you'll find envelopes available on the church pews. These are available for your use, should you wish to contribute towards Fr Alan's farewell gift. Simply drop your envelope in the collection basket at Mass, or alternatively, drop your envelope into the Sacristy, or the Parish Office.
- A signature book to sign or leave a message will be available in the hall on the night, and will also be available at the back of the church before and after all Masses on the following weekend of 24th/25th August.
- Any assistance with the set up and clean up, and help during the gathering in the hall, would also be greatly appreciated.

For further information, or to assist with planning, please contact Sue Nicholls on: 9762 8640, or the Parish Office on: 9758 1029.

SUPPER CLUB - TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!! **Saturday**, 10th August is our inaugural SJB 'Supper Club' From 7.30pm, in the school hall, 'Free to Feed'

will provide a delicious Middle Eastern banquet, and share their traditional recipes and experiences as refugees in Australia. Your \$35 ticket lets you:

- Feast on an amazing Middle Eastern banquet
- Get as involved as you want in helping to prepare some of the dishes
- Have access to traditional recipes
- Hear stories from brave refugees, who now call Australia home.

This unique event is BYO, and we expect formalities to conclude by 9.15pm. Tickets are available from the school office, or by calling Ange 0428 415 928 **DON'T MISS OUT!!** - Parents & Friends Committee.



CATHOLIC CARE ANNUAL APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND 10th /11th AUGUST this Church Appeal is CatholicCare's major annual fundraiser. It is an opportunity to communicate the importance of CatholicCare's work in helping to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in our community. Please donate generously to help CatholicCare provide counselling services to individuals and families, assistance to couples preparing for marriage, support for newly-arrived refugees, and help for families who are struggling with alcohol or other drug dependencies..

BAPTISMS – We offer our congratulations to **Grayson Sydney-Smith** son of Brett & Kelly, who is to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy

THE CATHOLIC MISSION appeal which was collected last weekend, raised a total of **\$3,769.00** Thank you for your most generous support, and for being part of the life-giving work happening around the world.

CHRISTIAN BOOK SALE on Tuesday 6th August at 12.15pm in the Parish Hall there is a Book Sale of Christian books- some brand new and some second-hand from a wide range of authors on various topics. The sale is a fundraiser, to assist CCR to help Catholic Girls to attend a seminar in New Zealand. Please come and browse, buy a book or maybe two.

SAVE THE DATE FAMILY GROUPS ANNIVERSARY MASS on **Sunday, 18th August at 11am Mass** More Information to follow. If you are new to the Parish and would like to join up with an existing Family Group in your street or area please contact John and Sue on 9758 2902.



ROSTERS: Mon 5 th Aug to Sun 11 th August	
Flowers	Sue N
Linen	Laurel S
Welcomers	6pm: Louise D, Peter G 9am: Sue & David W, Thelma B 11am: Kath & Andrew W, Maria L
Lectors	6pm: Ignatius L 9am: Pamela E 11am: Sarah M
Counters	Bryon M & Ruby S
Gardening	Patrick S & Harry R