

FIRST READING

A reading from the first book of Kings

3:5, 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, I love Your commands.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans
8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Blessed are You, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth;
You have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

29th / 30th July, 2017

*Heavenly Father,
enfold us in Your gracious care and mercy,
that with You as our ruler and guide,
we may use wisely the gifts
of this passing world,
and fix our hearts on those things
which last for ever.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Our readings focus on seeking the things that are of value.

King Solomon is praised for seeking wisdom rather than riches or personal gain. And he desires wisdom in order to better serve his kingdom.

The Gospel gives us two examples of doing everything possible to attain the reign of God. The person who truly wants the reign of God will sell everything in order to remain faithful to the kingdom. That is true wisdom.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 31st July

St Ignatius of Loyola

Wednesday 2nd August

St Peter Julian Eymard

Thursday 3rd August

St Dominic

Friday 4th August

St Jean Vianney

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: Carol Leatham, Carole D'Souza
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 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.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
29th / 30th July, 2017

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:
Patricia Bolton



We remember the anniversaries of:
Ettore Luciano, Giuseppe Daraio

The sick – Denis Buckley, Therese Edmunds, Jim Johnson, Keith Scutt, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Steve Reid, Ron Prince, Patricia Quinn, Charles Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, Grace Gamley, Lilian Luiyf, Kayden McDevitt, David Merton, Rosa Jones, Peter Mitchell, Jemma Du Buisson Perrine, Lisa Whittaker, Brock McAvaney, Beryl Turner, Bernard Guerin, Michael Byrne, Ann Jayawardena, Mary Edmunds, Anabelyn Malabed, Fran Middlebrook, 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, Charles Gatt, Allida Serafin, Barbara Kenny, Clive Geach.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

Date: **Saturday, 5th August, at 10.30 am**
Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
Contact: Pauline Barlow on 9758 5106.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: We meet **every Tuesday at 10.05 am** in the Parish Hall for praise and worship, inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome. Enquiries: Tineke 9763 1096, Judy 9752 2986 or Andrew 9755 2443.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP: Come and join with mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and godmothers, to pray together on **Tuesdays from 9 am to 10 am** during school term in the Parish Centre. For enquiries, contact the office.

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

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL last weekend raised \$1,734.95. A sincere Thank you for your generous donations and support for Catholic Mission.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS – 4th August

Holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 10am, Mass at 11am. Please stay for a cup of tea/coffee after Mass.

WOOLIES EARN & LEARN STICKERS If you'd like to support our Parish primary school with the Earn & Learn stickers, you're welcome to place the stickers in either the box in the foyer of our church, or the box in the entrance to our school office.



ST LUKE'S PARISH invites you to a Dinner Dance on Friday 18th August, 7.30pm at the Hungarian Community Centre, Boronia Road, Wantirna. A fully catered 2 course meal \$35 per head BYO drinks. Details from Chris Williams on 0415 747 003 or at: www.saintlukeswantirna.net

KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS invite members and parishioners to celebrate the feast day of the Order's Patron, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Mass will be Tuesday 8th August at St Clare's Parish, 1 Killara Street, Box Hill North, 11am. Light refreshments will be served after Mass. For more information please contact Peter Finn on 9758 2275 or Brian Philp on 9758 7805.

MATER CHRISTI COLLEGE tour is scheduled for Sunday 6th August at 10am. For more information, or to arrange a personal tour, contact Kylie Lee on 9754 6611. Enrolments for Year 7 2019 will now close on 25th August 2017.

WELCOMER'S ROSTER A new roster is available in the church foyer for volunteers who have not given us their email address. Thank you for your commitment to this ministry. If anyone is interested in being a welcomer, please contact Patrick Sawyer on 9752 3524.

FAMILY CARE SISTERS WHOLISTIC CENTRE in 69 Alto Ave Croydon are showing an inspiring film on Wednesday 15th August, from 9.50am-3pm. BYO lunch, tea/coffee and morning tea provided. Cost is \$25; for bookings phone 9723 6797.

BAPTISM

We congratulate

Mateo De Leon Chavez

who is to be baptised this weekend.

The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



COG (Call of Guadalupe) THEATRE will be performing in MAGDALENE: A WANTON SAINT at the Renaissance Theatre, East Kew on October 4-7. If you are interested in being please contact Geraldine Lee on 0413 398 518 or via email: geraldine343@gmail.com

MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE OPEN DAY on Saturday, 5th August from 10am-4pm. Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Everyone is welcome. Details: 9926 9300. Mass for the Feast of Mary of the Cross will be celebrated in the chapel, where she prayed, on Tuesday 8th August at 12.30pm.

"menALIVE Ministries in conjunction with St Christopher's Parish, Syndal is facilitating a Father-Son experience from 11-13th August called **"Growing Good Men"**. It is being held at Gilwell Park, Gembrook. Cost \$330 for the weekend for a Dad & Son "pair" including accommodation and meals. Enquiries Michael Bohan 0439 172 465 or Frank Peh via Syndal Parish Office 9802 8538.

NATIONAL VOCATIONAL AWARENESS WEEK is next week. The Church needs more priests and religious so we are asked to pray daily and talk to others about vocations.

ROSTERS:
Monday 31ST July to Sunday 6th August

Flowers	Marg, Ange
Altar Servers	6pm: Kiara, Nicholas
Linen	Alvi
Welcomers	6pm: Queenie 9am: Peter, Neil, Lorraine, Joanna 11am: Tony, Christine, Carole
Lectors	6pm: Stephanie 9am: Pamela 11am: Sue S
Counters	Tony, Sasty
Gardeners	Harry