

## FIRST READING

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*  
22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R./ Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands.*

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*  
11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are Peter, the rock on which  
I will build my Church;  
the gates of hell will not hold out  
against it.  
Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*  
16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

***If God is  
all you have  
you have  
all you  
need***



**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**  
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**21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A**  
**26<sup>th</sup> / 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

*Living God  
You sent Your Son among us  
to reveal Your wisdom  
and make known Your ways.  
Increase our faith,  
that we may confess Jesus as Your Son,  
take up His work on earth,  
and trust in His promise  
to sustain Your Church.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*



## FOCUS ON THE READINGS

Our readings focus on the power and fidelity of God made manifest in human ministry.

The prophet Isaiah delivers to Shebna the results of his unfaithful behaviour. But God will continue. A new "officer" will be appointed who will be invested with the keys, a symbol of the power and authority of God.

The theme is picked up in the Gospel reading where Peter is given the keys to the kingdom, symbolizing the power and authority of Christ. But the focus is sharpened. Isaiah refers to the wrongful behaviour of Shebna. Christ responds to the faith expressed by Peter.

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

*Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August St Monica*  
*Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August St Augustine*  
*Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August The Passion of St John the Baptist*

***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  
Email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com

**PARISH OFFICE:** 9758 1029  
Monday to Friday 9am – 3pm  
Secretaries: Carol Leathem, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**  
**26<sup>th</sup> / 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently:*

*We remember the anniversaries of:*

John Arnold snr, John Arnold jnr, Ken Collins, Felicia Jayawardena, John Kolmus, Bartolomina Marotti, Simone Mills, Angelo Rech, Chris Smolders, Brian Stackpole



*The sick* – Denis Buckley, Therese Edmunds, 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 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 10.15 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.

**WELCOME** This Saturday evening we welcome Fr Jim Acreman who will lead us in the celebration of our Eucharist.

**NATIONAL DAY FOR MIGRANT & REFUGEES OBSERVANCE** is celebrated in all parishes this weekend.

**ARCHBISHOP HART'S PASTORAL LETTER** on the upcoming National Survey on Same-sex Marriage is available on the trolleys.

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS – 1<sup>st</sup> September**

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

**FIRST SATURDAY DELIVERANCE RETREAT** Saturday 2 September, 9am–4.30pm  
Salesian College Chapel, 10 Bosco Street, Chadstone. In addition to the Vincentian Retreat Centre's regular retreats every Saturday in the Salesian College chapel, every FIRST Saturday will now feature a full day 'Deliverance Retreat', during which there will be Rosary, praise and worship, talks, Holy Mass and Adoration, with healing prayers. Details: Ramesh and Bernie at rbvm.546.samson@bigpond.com

**TAIZÉ PRAYER AT TRINITY COLLEGE** chapel, Royal Parade, Parkville on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 5.30pm. Until November, Taizé prayer is happening on the first Saturday of the month in the Trinity chapel. The prayer is followed by dinner in the Trinity College dining hall, if you wish to stay. Dinner is \$5. Details and RSVP: Chaplain Fr Samuel Dow at sdow@trinity.unimelb.edu.au

<b>ROSTERS:</b>	
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	
<b>Flowers</b>	Mary & Judy
<b>Altar Servers</b>	6pm: Kiara & Nicholas
<b>Linen</b>	Anne
<b>Welcomers</b>	6pm: Sue & Anna 9am: Rosa, Terry & Laurel 11am: Gina & Pat
<b>Lectors</b>	6pm: Evangeline 9am: Adrian 11am: Stephanie
<b>Counters</b>	Peter, Dawn, George & Genevieve
<b>Gardeners</b>	Harry & Patrick

**BAPTISMS** – We congratulate Thomas Ryszard Fogarty who will be baptised this weekend.



*The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.*

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE** (Spring Edition) is available in the church foyer.

**FINDING SPIRITUALITY IN OUR TROUBLED WORLD: Christian & Muslim Perspectives** lecture at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street East Melbourne on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September from 6.30-7.30pm. Free entry. Light refreshments will be offered. To register: <https://findingspirituality.eventbrite.com.au>

**'REST, PRAY AND RECREATE' RETREAT WEEKEND** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September at Pallotti College, 80 McNamaras Rd, Millgrove. Cost \$190. Details & bookings: contact Denis on 0427 449 434 or email: deo.gratias@bigpond.com

**MORAL THEOLOGY PUBLIC SEMINARS** on Saturday 23 September and Thursday 16 November at Jesuit College of Spirituality, 175 Royal Parade, Parkville. Rev. Dr Ai Pham SJ (Dean of Studies at Jesuit Theological College) is sharing his knowledge with the general public. The September seminar is titled 'The primacy of love in moral theology', from 10am to 12pm, and in November Rev. Dr Pham will lead a seminar titled 'The spiritual exercises and the formation of Christian conscience' from 6pm to 8pm. Cost: gold coin donation. Details: 9448 8276 or email: enquiries@jcs.edu.au

**AN INVITATION TO AFTERNOON TEA** extended to all Catholics and Lutherans by St Francis Xavier Parish, 1087 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill, from 2.00-3.30pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September. A unique event to reflect on the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. For more information ring the Box Hill Parish Office on 9890 2231 or email: boxhill@cam.org.au.

**MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE** is available in the foyer of the church. Please consider purchasing a copy for \$4.