

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 6:12-16
Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.

Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates.

Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R./ My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonian 4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord forever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when
the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
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32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

11th & 12th November, 2017

*Brighten your Church, O God,
with the promise of your kingdom
and waken our hearts to its light.
Let us hasten with faith undimmed
to greet the bridegroom's return
and to enter the wedding feast.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

The focus of both readings is wisdom. It is common in the Old Testament to find wisdom as an expression of God. Herein this reading, we see wisdom praised as the gift which lasts forever. As the presence of God, she is available to all who seek her. She guides their ways to the good.

The Gospel takes this poetic text and puts it into a tangible parable. The focus of the parable is seen in the last line, "Always be ready, for you do not know what hour the Lord is coming." From the first reading and the parable, we know that being ready comes for wisdom.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 15th November St Albert the Great, bishop, doctor

Thursday 16th November St Margaret of Scotland & St Gertrude, virgin

Friday 17th November St Elizabeth of Hungary, religious

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
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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 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.

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
11th & 12th November, 2017

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently:
Salvatore Teofilo, Jim Daly,
Barbara Ballek



Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Mary Stewart, Natale Franchi, Thelma Gribble, Ivka Kruljac, Clorinda Peluso, Noel Clarke, Patricia Danaher, Michael Palandri, Niall Hargreaves, Alison Clements.

The sick – Catherine Turner, Therese Edmunds, Keith Scutt, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Steve Reid, Ron Prince, Patricia Quinn, Charlie Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, 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, 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, Allida Serafin, Barbara Kenny, Clive Geach.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE
Date: *Saturday, 2nd December, at 10.30 am*
Venue: 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
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: Judy 9752 2986 or Andrew 9755 2443.

MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP Come and join with mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and godmothers, to pray together from 9am–10am each Tuesday (during school term) in the Parish Centre. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE (Summer Edition) is available on the trolleys.

BAPTISMS – We offer our congratulations to *Georgia Dianne Hunt* daughter of Sean & Belinda, *William Carlo Wheeler* son of Michael & Lisa, and *Leonardo Matthew Cole Carbone* son of Abbey who are to be baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you all with great joy.



FUNERAL MASS – The Funeral Mass for the late **Salvatore Teofilo** will be celebrated here at St John's this coming Wednesday 15th November at 11.00am. Rosary prior to Mass at 10.30am

CATHOLIC DEAF APPEAL – 11th /12th Nov. The annual appeal for the Catholic Deaf community will take place this weekend. This collection will be taken up at all Masses after Communion to support the work of the John Pierce Centre for the Deaf.

DON'T MISS OUT!
AUDITIONS Sun Nov 19th 2017
ST JOHN'S PARISH MUSICAL 5-8TH July 2018
"IT'S NOT ABOUT THE GIRL!"

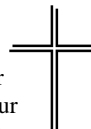
We are looking for people, 12 years old and above, to be in our Parish Musical. We are in particular need of more males. There are speaking and non speaking parts; singing and non singing parts. Sign up sheets are on the glass walls in the church. Consider taking this opportunity to be involved in a wonderful community building experience, and please do contact me, via email at: csombekkesjb@gmail.com or contact the parish office on 9758 1029 to let me know how you'd like to be involved. Auditions Sunday afternoon 19th November, 2017. Thanks, Carolyn Sombekke

ST. VINNIES VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS: Our annual dinner with friends and volunteers will be held on Monday 13th November 2017, at the Royal Hotel Ferntree Gully, from 6:30pm. Kindly please RSVP to: Connie Bala 9753 5000 or Beverley McNamara 9758 2818. Hope to see many of you there."

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES About half the sets of Stewardship Envelopes still await collection from the church foyer. If you've yet to do so, please collect your envelopes as this will aid their distribution. Thank you again for your generous support.

GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET – Sunday 19th November, 10am – 2pm. 51 Elizabeth St, Bayswater. In association with Tabulam & Templer Homes for the Aged.

REMEMBERING OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED November is the month of the Holy Souls where we pray for parishioners, friends and members of our families who have died. We pray that they will live forever with the Lord. As is our custom at St John's, you're invited to write the names of those you would like remembered on our Memorial Cross. For those who would like to have a Mass offered for their deceased relatives and friends, November offering envelopes are available on the trolleys.



DEACON PETER - PASTORAL VISITATION
We have celebrated together the feasts of all saints and souls, we have erected our November Cross and offer prayers for those we love. That love transcends death. The loss of those we love is the universal human experience, I have felt the pain in my own life and so have most of you. Should you feel the need to reflect on, or pray about your experience in life or loss, then I wanted to let you know that I am available for pastoral visitation. I am a great respecter of privacy and confidentiality so I will always await an invitation, rather than approach unsolicited. Pastoral care is not a replacement for professional counselling, grief or otherwise, it is rather the mission of care to be exercised by all Christians in their love of God and neighbour.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is an opportunity to explore the Catholic faith in a non-confronting environment. The RCIA is for those who may be searching for God, for the non-baptised, or for those baptised in another Christian tradition. If you, or someone you know, would like to find out a little more, please consider attending our enquiry meeting on Wednesday, 15th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. No strings attached! RSVP to the Parish Office (9758 1029) by Tuesday 14th.

ROSTERS: Mon 13th Nov to Sun 19th Nov	
Flowers	Sue N
Altar Servers	6pm: Nicholas
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm: Sue N, Anna 9am: Rosa, Terry, Laurel 11am: Gina, Pat
Lectors	6pm: Evangeline 9am: Peter F 11am: Stephanie
Counters	Bryon, Ruby
Gardening	Michael