

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ezekiel 2:2-5

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you up to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 12:7-10

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 6:1-6

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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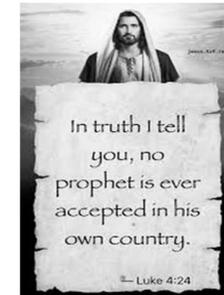
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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

7th / 8th July, 2018

*God of the prophets,
in every age You send the Word of Truth,
familiar yet new.
Count us among Your faithful,
give us the vision to see Christ in our midst,
and to welcome Your saving Word.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

This week's gospel passage sees Jesus returning to his home town of Nazareth. He is well and truly into his public ministry at this point in the gospel, and his reputation is obviously growing as a healer and teacher. When he goes to Nazareth the locals are quick to 'put him in his place'. They remember the boy, the teenager, the young man apprenticed to his father's craft. He's a nobody as far as they are concerned; just young Yeshua (Jesus) who grew up here. It is much the same within families and local communities today. No matter how successful and authoritative a young woman or man may have become, a trip home will quickly remind them that in the eyes of those they grew up with nothing has changed. In the gospel passage they even say, that's Jesus - he's just James' brother; no one special! Why would they think they had anything to learn from a brat who grew up in their own town? What could he possibly tell them? They try to force Jesus back into the mould of the person with whom they were previously familiar and comfortable.

We do this to one another all the time. We have certain expectations about the way a friend normally acts or thinks and when they behave any differently we react in a way that lets them know that they are not 'being themselves'. In doing this, we take away the freedom of the other person to grow and change. Each of us has a unique identity without which the cosmos would be incomplete. It may take a lifetime to really cotton on to God's sense of that identity and role, or we may be fortunate enough to find out relatively early. But like Jesus it is essential to break out of the expectations of the home crowd. It may mean disappointing those who love us dearly, family, teachers and friends. But if we ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten us about our identity and role, and then for courage to take them up - perhaps we'll persevere.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

9th July St Augustine Zhao Rong Priest, and companions, martyrs

11th July St Benedict, abbot. 13th July St Henry

14th July St Camillus de Lellis, priest.

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
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FAITH DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR:

Carolyn Sombekke 9758 1029
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PARISH OFFICE:

9758 1029
 Monday to Friday 9 am – 3 pm
 Secretaries: Carole D'Souza, 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 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.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

7th / 8th July, 2018

YEAR OF YOUTH**PRAYING FOR...**

All who have died recently: Margaret Smith, Trevor Wishart and Anne Di Nardo (Boronia)

Those who we remember at this time:

Luigi and Pia Pietrulina Bruno Albicini, Francesco Sainato, Porzia Mazzei.

The sick: Peter Collier, Tom McMahon, Paddy McCann, Brigida Mazzone, Stanley De Silva, Wilhelmina Weerden, Daniel Vincent-Smith, Mary Hill, 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, Brock McAvaney, Beryl Turner, 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, and Clive Geach.

SICK LIST – If you are aware that any names on the sick list need be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE

Date: **Sat, 4th August, 2018 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 to 1 pm** for a chat over a cuppa, join a card game, knit or just sit for a while.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meet every **Tuesday at 10.00am** in the Parish Hall a cuppa prior, to the meeting. Praise and worship begins at 10.15am, followed by inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome. Enquiries: Judy: 9752 2986 or Andrew: 9755 2443.

MOTHERS' PRAYER is on break for the school holiday period, and will recommence on 17th July. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

BAPTISM Congratulations to Millie Wilmann, who is to be baptised this weekend. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.



FUNERAL MASS The Funeral Mass for the late Margaret Smith will take place here at St John's Church on Tuesday, 10th July at 10.30am

MORNING TEA FOR CHARITY – Thursday 12th July 10am – 12 noon. St John's Friendship Gathering will be hosting a morning tea in the Parish Hall. There will be patchwork quilts for sale – these were created and donated by the late Mary Maguire (RIP). Entry is only \$10 and includes both Morning Tea and a Prize Ticket. Money raised will go to a variety of charities including the Royal Children's Hospital and Peter McCallum Foundation. All charities are recorded on display at the event.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP An annual statement for all contributors to the Thanksgiving/Stewardship Program is in the church foyer and available for collection. A heartfelt thank you for your generous support of the Parish through Thanksgiving.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE GIRL: PARISH MUSICAL With opening night on Thursday 5th July, our production is currently in full swing. At time of printing this bulletin – there are still a few tickets left for the performance on Saturday night, and the Matinee on Sunday – so if you haven't got a ticket, please consider buying one, and supporting this great venture.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES WITH ADDICTION Resurrection Parish Keysborough in association with the Dandenong Deanery will be running a Forum on Thurs 12th July between 7.00-9.00pm. The speaker will be Dr Michael Carr-Gregg - one of Australia's highest profile adolescent and child psychologists. To book Email: dandenongdeanery@live.com.au or phone 0422 296 961

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF WYD SYDNEY 2008 This July marks 10 years since we celebrated 'Days in the Diocese' in Melbourne and World Youth Day in Sydney. The 23rd World Youth Day was a Catholic youth festival that started on 15th July and continued until 20th July 2008, in Sydney. It was the first World Youth Day held in Australia, and the first World Youth Day in Oceania.

NEW ARCHBISHOP APPOINTED We pray for Archbishop Hart as he approaches hi retirement, and for Archbishop-elect Peter Comensoli, as he prepares to take up his appointment as the Ninth Archbishop of Melbourne, on the 1st of August 2018.

2018 ANNIVERSARY MASS Sunday 29th July, 11am, at St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne. Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, or 60th-70th wedding anniversary this year? The Life, Marriage and Family Office invites you and your families to join us at the 2018 annual Anniversary Mass. All couples registering will receive a commemorative pack and certificate. Register by Friday 13 July on ph 9287 5587 or email: lmf@cam.org.au

CELEBRATION OF LA DIVINA PASTORA on Sunday 8th July at St Monica's Church, 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds. The Italian community invites you to this year's exuberant **La Divina Pastora**, a celebration of Catholic liturgy and ceremonial. It begins at 1.45pm with the Rosary, Mass at 2pm, followed by a Eucharistic procession with a statue of the Blessed Virgin at 3.15pm, accompanied by the Bellini Band. Afterwards there will be a convivial gathering for refreshments at the Reggio Calabria Club, 476 Brunswick Road, West Brunswick. All welcome. Details: Giuseppe on 9326 0982, Tony on 9382 0400 or Raffaele on 9386 9318. For more information see: www.cam.org.au/portals/0/2018/ParishUpdateFlyers/PU24/FestaDellaDivinaPastora.pdf

CHOSEN 2018: NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE "You did not choose me but I chose you. and I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last" - John 15:16. The Chosen Conference is a national conference of young people and young adults between 18-30 years old, from **12th to 15th July 2018** at Mannix College Clayton,. For details Email: register@chosconference.org.au or call: 0422 215 855.

ROSTERS: Mon 9th July to Sun 15th July	
Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Altar Servers	6pm Nicholas D
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm Louise D, Peter G 9am Sue & David W, Thelma B 11am: Maria L Kath & Andrew W,
Lectors	6pm Evangeline L 9am Caroline Q 11am Peter Joiner
Counters	Tony B & Lia U
Gardening	JULY Michael D..