

FIRST READING

A reading from the Second Book of Kings
4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. The hand of the Lord feeds us;
he answers all our needs.*

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
4:1-6

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
6:1-15

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover. Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

28th / 29th July, 2018

*Heavenly Father,
You open wide Your hand,
giving us food in due season.
Satisfy the hungers of body and soul
and lead all peoples of the earth
to the feast of the world to come.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

In many important ways, John's Gospel uses the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes to teach about the Eucharist. Like the Last Supper, this miracle is said to have occurred near the time of the Jewish feast of Passover. Jesus' language is similar to the language he used at the Last Supper as reported in the Synoptic Gospels. John's description of this event also anticipates the Messianic banquet of heaven, as the crowd reclines and all hungers are satisfied with abundance. This connection is further amplified by the response of the crowd, who wants to make Jesus king. John is helping us to understand that each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are anticipating the eternal banquet of heaven. John's Gospel notes the detail that the bread blessed and shared with the crowd are barley loaves. This is the food of the poor. It reminds us that God feeds and nourishes us, fulfilling our physical needs as well as our spiritual ones. In the Eucharist, we are sent to serve the poorest among us. In the responses of both Philip and Andrew, we hear feelings of inadequacy as they survey their limited resources in the face of such great need. We may sometimes share these feelings about our own material possessions, or our emotional and spiritual resources in the face of our family's needs. Jesus will also work with what we have to provide for our family's needs. When we offer our efforts to God, we ask him to transform them so that they will be more than adequate to the tasks and needs before us. Jesus taught his disciples that he can take their small offerings and make amazing things happen. When we offer God our works and our actions, God will bless them and will help us do amazing things!

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

31st July – St Ignatius of Loyola, priest. 1st August – St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop, doctor.
2nd August - St Eusebius of Vercelli Bishop and St Peter Julian Eymard, Priest.
3rd August – St Dominic, priest. 4th August – St John Vianney, 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.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**28th / 29th July, 2018****YEAR OF YOUTH****PRAYING FOR...****All who have died recently:**

Ronald Herbert

Those who we remember at this time:

Primo Scapin (1year), Giuseppe Daraio, Martin Pelgrim, John Addicott, Theresa Campion, Thomas Barrons and Shaun Chapman.

The sick: Peter Collyer, 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 We welcome all mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and godmothers, to pray together from **9 am–10** For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

FUNERAL MASS The Funeral Mass for the late Ronald Herbert will be celebrated here at St John's Church on Wednesday 1st August at 11.00am.

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL This weekend's Catholic Mission Appeal 2018 highlights the important work of *Reach out. Give life.* Catholic Mission in Myanmar; through programs aimed to improve education for children, specifically through teacher training and the implementation of alternative, child-centred education around the country. Parishioners are invited to reach out though their financial gifts and prayers in support of the work of the Church in Myanmar, as they support the education and training of teachers, even in the most remote and disadvantaged areas. We welcome Nora McCluskey (to our 6pm Mass) & Fr Michael Hardy SVD (to our 9am & 11am Masses) who will speak to us about the 2018 appeal. Please give generously in support of the work of the Church in Myanmar, as they support education and the training of teachers.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS Friday 3rd August at 11am. Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 10am. Please stay for a cup of tea/coffee after Mass.

SAVE THE DATE: On **Sunday the 19th August** we celebrate of the **30th Anniversary of Family Groups** in our parish. All are most welcome to join in the celebrations. More information in the coming weeks.

SENIOR YOUTH Let's talk! Your opinions do matter! Knox Deanery invite you to join in for an informal chat to explore the challenges of participating in your local church community. Come along to St Joseph's Parish Hall 22 Boronia Rd Boronia on Wednesday 22nd August from 7.30pm to 9.15pm Enquiries: yahc@bigpond.com or Tel.: 0430 194 590 Refreshments – Pizza and drinks provided.

**EMMAUS COLLEGE INFORMATION EVENING AND OPEN MORNING**

there will be an open Morning on Friday, 3rd August 2018 at 9am-10.30am at the Vermont South Campus located at 503 Springvale Road, Vermont South. Ph 9845 3211. For tour bookings or more information please see the College website: emmaus.vic.edu.au.

MATER CHRISTI COLLEGE: Bring your family and friends to our upcoming tour, Sunday 29th July 2018, commencing MaterChristi at 10.00am. Mater Christi girls consistently achieve region leading VCE and vocational results. Visit materchristi.edu.au to book your tour.

SOLEMN INSTALLATION MASS FOR THE NINTH ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE

Wednesday 1st August, 7pm, St Patrick's Cathedral. You are warmly invited to attend the liturgical reception and Solemn Mass of the ninth Archbishop of Melbourne, Most Reverend Peter A Comensoli, who will be installed as Archbishop at this Mass. Refreshments will follow at Central Hall, 20 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. All welcome. With limited space in the cathedral, guests are requested to book to ensure a place. Guest bookings via TryBooking link: www.trybooking.com/WXSE or to watch live streaming of the event at home go to: http://www.cam.org.au/Live-Reception-Mass

ST JOHNS TENNIS CLUB the Thursday Morning Ladies Mid-week tennis team is urgently looking for players, either on an emergency basis or full time to join our friendly team. For more information please phone Beth on 0423 759 850

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO VISIT PEOPLE AT THE MELBOURNE CUSTODY CENTRE Do you have 3 hours once a month, on a Saturday morning, 9am to 12 noon, to visit with a companion, the women and men at the Melbourne Custody Centre, corner William and Lonsdale Street, Melbourne? Sister Mary O'Shannassy, from CatholicCare Prison Ministry would welcome expressions of interest from women and men who feel that they could make a difference by being a part of this ministry. You will receive ongoing training and support. Email: mary.oshannassy@ccam.org.au Phone: 03 9287 5577 Mobile: 0408 571 299

EAST TIMOR NEEDS TEACHERS Contact Christine on 02 9560 5333. Can't commit just yet? Check out palms.org.au/encounters for more opportunities, or visit: palms.org.au/volunteer

ROSTERS: Mon 30th July to Sun 5th August

Flowers	Marg H & Judy G
Altar Servers	6pm Nicholas D
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm Queenie J 9am Peter C, Neil & Lorraine R & Joanna C 11am: Tony & Christine E
Lectors	6pm. Jenny K 9am: Tony D 11am Kath V
Counters	Peter & Dawn G, George & Genevieve W
Gardening	AUGUST: Patrick S & Harry R