

FIRST READING

A reading from the First book of Kings

17:10-16

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' she said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."'

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Praise the Lord, my soul!

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews **9:24-28**

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on

our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark **12:38-44**

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



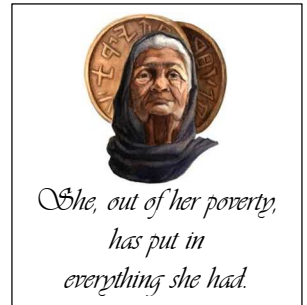
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
KNOX DEANERY
19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156
Phone: 9758 1029 Fax: 9758 9234
Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au
Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

10th / 11th November, 2018



*Jesus, give us grace not to count the cost.
Help us share what we have,
With generous hearts,
in outreach to all in need.
Teach us to attend to the needs of others.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE READINGS

There are two rather different ways of interpreting the corresponding 'widow' scene in today's Gospel. If we set aside the part of the text preceding the description of the widow's action, Jesus' condemnation of the scribes for their religious ostentation, then the widow's action provides an extreme example of religious generosity and trust in God. As Jesus points out, it is not the amount that is contributed that counts before God but the totality of personal trust and self-giving that the amount represents. For some it was just what they had left over after making good allowance for their comfortable lifestyle. For the widow, it was absolutely everything: keeping nothing for herself, she could rely now only on the providence of God. In this way, the widow becomes an example of faith to admire and possibly to emulate. The alternative view is to interpret what is happening here not as something to admire but, in effect, to deplore. In his denunciation of the scribes in the preceding verses, Jesus had singled out for critique their taking the places of honour at banquets (where they will be very well fed), while 'swallowing the property of widows'. In Jesus' view what was going on in the Temple was thinly veiled economic exploitation. Jesus is strongly disapproving of the conditioning of this poor woman, already exploited by the Scribal class, and now further impoverished by the Temple authorities. Jesus wanted to create a radically different distribution of resources amongst his followers. And we are told this happened at Pentecost 'The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common: they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.'

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

12th November – St Josaphat, bishop, martyr 15th November – St Albert the Great, bishop, doctor
16th November – St Margaret of Scotland and St Gertrude, virgin.
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
 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 9:00 am – 3:00 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.

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
10th / 11th November, 2018
YEAR OF YOUTH

11th November, 2018 marks the
100th Anniversary of the Armistice
which ended the First World War (1914–18).

**PRAYING FOR...**

All who have died recently:



Those who we remember at this time:

Natale Franchi, Patricia McCann, Eufronia Oracion, Ivka Kruljac, Clorinda Peluso, Noel Clarke, Patricia Danaher, Michael Palandri, Niall Hargreaves.

The sick: Baby Xavier King; Giuseppina Zarro, Oscar Price, Tom McMahon, Brigida Mazzone, Wilhelmina Weerden, Daniel Vincent-Smith, 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, 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: 1st Saturday of each month, at 10.30am.
 Venue: 37 Lane Road, FTG. All are welcome.
 Contact: Pauline Barlow on: 9758 5106.

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

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP meet **every Tuesday at 10am** in the Parish Hall. Join us for a cuppa prior to the meeting. Praise and worship begins at 10.15am, followed by inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are welcome. Enquiries: Judy: 9752 2986

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

THE 2019 COLUMBAN CALENDAR is now available in the Piety Stall. Cost **\$8 per copy.**

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC DEAF will be taken up at all masses this weekend. Thank you for your ongoing support.


STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES The new series of Stewardship envelopes is now available for collection in the church foyer. A big thank you to everyone for your generosity in supporting the mission of our Parish.

ADVENT REFLECTION AND AFTERNOON TEA

An Advent Reflection Day will be held on Thursday 29th November between 1.30pm and 3.00pm in the Parish Hall. Come and join us for an afternoon tea of joyful reflection and community connection. Please RSVP to the parish office so that I can prepare something special for you.
 - Carolyn Sombekke, Faith Development Coordinator.



ADVENT IS FAST APPROACHING have you considered joining or starting an **Advent Discussion Group**? There's time for prayer, the reading of Scripture, as well as discussion. Please indicate your interest on the sign-up sheet beneath the poster entitled **Saviour: Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections**, situated on the glass wall. Books: \$4.00.

NOVEMBER CROSS November is the month of the Holy Souls, where we pray for  parishioners, friends, and members of our families, who have gone before us in faith. Our prayer is that they will live forever with the Lord. As is our custom at St John's, during November you'll have the opportunity to write the names of those you wish to remember on our November Cross. For those who would like to have a Mass offered for deceased relatives and friends, November Offering envelopes are available on the trolleys.


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. RCIA is for those who may be searching for God, for those not baptised, for those baptised in another Christian tradition, for those baptised but who have not received other Sacraments of Initiation. If you would like to find out more at a relaxed, informal meeting, please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029.

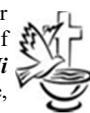
TRANSPORTATION HELP NEEDED

The annual St. Vincent de Paul and Parish **Senior's Christmas lunch** will be held on Saturday 1st December 2018 from approx. 11:30 – 2:30 pm in the school hall. If you are able to help with transporting invitees kindly please contact Terry Stephens on 9758 4249.



 If you are assist with the serving of the meal and/or drinks, please contact Connie Bala on 9753 5000. Thank you to all.

BAPTISMS – We offer our congratulations to **Dion Di Mascio** son of Domenic & Elise and **Niamh Ann Ni Coileain** daughter of Eamonn & Katherine, who are to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL BREAK-UP**

Inviting all volunteers and friends of St. Vincent de Paul, to our annual break-up dinner on Wednesday 21st November at the Royal Hotel in Upper Ferntree Gully from 6.30pm. Kindly RSVP by 14th November by phone to either Connie Bala on 9753 5000 or Bev McNamara on 9758 2818



LOURDES DAY MASS 2018. Each year, thousands of Australians attend our Lourdes Day Mass celebrations, where they receive a special blessing and a small bottle of Lourdes water. This special mass, which is open to everybody, but those facing health challenges are particularly encouraged to attend. It's like Lourdes coming to us! You are invited to attend St Patrick's Cathedral at 10.30am on Saturday 1st December, to be part of this event.

WIDENING THE DOOR OF HOPE A response to the Victorian Assisted Dying Legislation. Tuesday 20th November, 2018 at 7.00pm refreshments, for a 7.30pm start at Mercy Theatre, A.C.U. 115 Victoria Pde Fitzroy. Orators: Assoc. Prof. Natasha Michael & Dr Stephen Parnis. For more information: www.cam.org.au/justice.

INFORMATION NIGHT YARRA THEOLOGICAL UNION on Tuesday 13th November ,at 7.30pm–8.30pm, YTU Study Centre, 34 Bedford Street, Box Hill. Study Theology as an undergraduate or postgraduate student for credit. Or choose to enrol for your own interest, without completing essays for credit. All are welcome to come along and find out more. Feel free to bring a friend. No booking required, Fee Help is available. Enquiries: admin@ytu.edu.au

ROSTERS: Mon 12th Nov to Sun 18th Nov.	
Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Altar Servers	6pm: Nicholas D
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm: Sue N & Anna M 9am Rosa L & Terry & Laurel 11am: Gina M & Pat O'B
Lectors	6pm: Jenny K 9am: Rosanna C 11am: Steph H
Counters	Tony B & Lia U
Gardening	NOV: ASSISTANCE NEEDED!