

## FIRST READING

*A reading from the Book of Genesis 14:18-20*

Melchizedek king of Salem brought bread and wine; he was a priest of God Most High. He pronounced this blessing: 'Blessed be Abraham by God Most High, creator of heaven and earth, and blessed be God Most High for handing over your enemies to you.'

And Abraham gave him a tithe of everything.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.*

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 11:23-26*

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming to his death.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 9:11-17*

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing.

It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



*Give them something  
to eat Yourselves*



## ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

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## THE MOST HOLY BODY and BLOOD – Year C

22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2019

***Merciful God,  
as we gather to celebrate the Eucharist,  
may we grow in our appreciation  
of Your Son's Body and Blood  
broken and poured out for us.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the Living Bread come down from heaven. Amen.***



## FOCUS ON THE WORD...

The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ celebrates the central celebration of Christianity – the Eucharist. Today we are presented with the feeding of the five thousand with five loaves and two fish, widely regarded as a Eucharistic story because it was a clear example of God's presence in a miraculous meal. Whenever the gospel writer refers to a meal, it is used to teach about the reign of God. In 1st Century Palestine, who you shared a meal with was a very political act. Your status in society was judged by who you kept company with and particularly with whom you shared food. At times, Jesus broke these rules and practised open table fellowship – sharing meals with people of all stations in life and often being criticised for his actions by the Scribes and Pharisees. Part of Jesus' open table fellowship meant that he also ate with dignitaries and religious leaders, but he used these occasions to remind them of the inclusive message of God that they were ignoring. The author of Luke's gospel was keen to show that the reign of God is available to anyone who wishes to be a part of it. The reign of God is inclusive and welcoming; no one will be turned away. 'The lonely place' where this action occurs is a symbol of our own longing to be filled, our yearning to belong. Jesus welcomes all who come to the table of the Lord. What is significant about twelve baskets of left-overs? Twelve was an important number – it represented the twelve tribes of Israel, the message is that no matter how many people feast on the message of Jesus and accept the reign of God, there will still be enough to 'feed' the twelve tribes of Israel. No one need be left out!

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> The Nativity of St John the Baptist

Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> St Cyril of Alexandria, bishop doctor

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Solemnity

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Sts Peter & Paul, apostles

***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: Charmaine Premaratne & 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 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 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.

**THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD –  
Year C  
22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2019**

**PRAYING FOR...**



*All who have died recently:*

*Those who we remember at this time:*  
Innocenzo Abbatangelo, Sheila Thompson, Maureen Witham, Peter Halliday.

*The sick:* Bonnie Hoefler, Frank Cassar, Christopher Windebank, Giuseppina Zarro, Lesina Maio, Peter Dunlop, Catherine Turner, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Patricia Quinn, Charlie Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatton, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, Lilian Luiyf, Kayden McDevitt, David Merton, Rosa Jones, Peter Mitchell, 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, Clive Geach.

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

**GROUP ROSARY SESSION FOR PEACE**  
When: Each First Saturday of the Month at 10.30am.  
Where: 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** meet at 10am each Tuesday, for a 10.15am start, in the Parish Hall. Come and enjoy praise and worship, inspiring teaching and prayer ministry. All are warmly welcome. Enquiries: Judy 9752 2986.

**MOTHERS' PRAYERS** Come and join with other mothers of any age to pray together. 9am–10am each Tuesday (during school term) in the Parish Centre. For further enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.

**MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE** The June issue is available in the church foyer for \$4 a copy.

**FIRST EUCHARIST** Please keep the following children in your prayers as they receive the Eucharist for the first time this weekend.



Lachlan L, James N, Daniel S, Dallas D, Oliver W, Gabriela H, Isabelle N, Eliza S, Orlando R, Jake H, Cooper S, Gordon L, Oscar O, Archie McK, Ryan G, Jade H, MJ D, Nevaeh W, Chelsea M, Meisha S, Jack F, Naima S, Michaela P, Kye P, Dean C & Cooper L.

**FIRST EUCHARIST GIFTS** Please note that we have a supply of First Eucharist gifts available to purchase in our piety stall (in the foyer of the church). You may browse before or after each of our Masses.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL WINTER APPEAL 2019** Next week there will be a special collection in support of many clients who have had the following experiences: unemployment, drug and alcohol abuse, mental/physical/emotional abuse and homelessness. We invite you to support our Winter Appeal by: Donating a variety of non-perishable food for our weekly food hampers, volunteering in our Op Shop, Donating household items to our Op Shop, making generous financial donations or contributing to our Knox Vincentian Scholarship Scheme.

**ST JOSEPHS COLLEGE ENROLMENTS AND OPEN DAY** Enrolments for 2021 close on 23<sup>rd</sup> August. There will be a Principal's tour on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am. To register or find out more, call 9756 3112 or see the college website: www.stjosephs.com.au



**EARN & LEARN STICKERS** The Earn & Learn promotion is coming to an end soon. All Earn & Learn stickers must be in by this coming Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> June, so we can enter them on the system. The more we collect the more equipment we are eligible to receive. Thank you for your support in this venture, all stickers are gratefully received.

**FAREWELL & HAPPY RETIREMENT** All members of our Parish / School community are invited to a special farewell assembly at St John's School Hall on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm to honour Mrs Judy Lewis' wonderful contribution to our school. Judy will be retiring at the end of the school term. We look forward to honouring her and saying thank-you.

**INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS** Congratulations to our St John's senior students who competed in the District Winter School Sports on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June against several other schools, well done.

**SAVE THE DATE :** Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> August is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fr Alan's Ordination to the Priesthood. A day well worth celebrating! We will start with Mass at 7pm followed by a gathering in the hall afterwards where a gift from the parish will be presented. (contributions towards this would be appreciated). If you would like to help with the organising of this event please contact Sue Nicholls Ph 9762 8640 or Carolyn at the parish office or via email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com



**LECTORS' ROSTER** A new lectors' roster for the period July -September is currently being prepared. Please contact me before the 24<sup>th</sup> June (details below) if you would like to read, or change your availability. Rosters and guidelines will be available on the weekend 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> June. Enquiries phone Stephanie 97585497 or email: smhorgen@gmail.com

**THANK YOU** to the wonderful people of our Prayer Shawl Ministry. A couple of weeks ago a grandchild of a parishioner was rushed by ambulance to hospital suffering from severe croup. She thought it would be good if he had a scarf to keep his little neck warm on these cold days. Then she remembered the beautiful hand knitted scarves that were in the parish office ready to be given to those who needed them. She chose a lovely soft dark green one that was shorter than the others, just perfect for a young boy, blessed and ready to wear. She explained to him that it had been knitted with love and prayers and he understood and was delighted to have it. If you know of anyone that is in need of a prayer shawl, scarf or blanket then call in at the parish office. We are happy to share the love and blessings

**FAITH SEEKING UNDERSTANDING:** Reflection entitled "St John the Baptist" by Carolyn is on the trollies for you to take home.

<b>ROSTERS: Mon 1<sup>st</sup> July to Sun 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	
<b>Flowers</b>	Sue N
<b>Linen</b>	Laurel S
<b>Welcomers</b>	<b>6pm:</b> Sue N & Anna M <b>9am:</b> Rosa L & Terry & Laurel S <b>11am:</b> Gina M & Pat O'Brien
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>6pm:</b> Evangeline L <b>9am:</b> Pamela E <b>11am:</b> Trish M
<b>Counters</b>	Bryon & Ruby
<b>Gardening</b>	Barry B