

## FIRST READING

### *A reading from second book of Maccabees*

*2 Mac 7:1-2, 9-14*

There were seven brothers who were arrested with their mother. The king tried to force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law forbids, by torturing them with whips and scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman for the others, said, 'What are you trying to find out from us? We are prepared to die rather than break the Law of our ancestors.'

With his last breath the second brother exclaimed, 'Inhuman fiend, you may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up, since it is for his laws that we die, to live again for ever.'

After him, they amused themselves with the third, who on being asked for his tongue promptly thrust it out and held out his hands, with these honourable words, 'It was heaven that gave me these limbs; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again.' The king and his attendants were astounded at the young man's courage and his utter indifference to suffering.

When this one was dead they subjected the fourth to the same savage torture. When he neared his end he cried, 'Ours is the better choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet relying on God's promise that we shall be raised up by him; whereas for you there can be no resurrection, no new life.'

*The Word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. Lord, when your glory appears,  
my joy will be full.*

## SECOND READING

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Thessalonians*  
*2:16-3:5*

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who has given us his love and, through his grace, such inexhaustible comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and strengthen you in everything good that you do or say. Finally, brothers, pray for us; pray that the Lord's message may spread quickly, and be received with honour as it was among you; and pray that

we may be preserved from the interference of bigoted and evil people, for faith is not given to everyone. But the Lord is faithful, and he will give you strength and guard you from the evil one, and we, in the Lord, have every confidence that you are doing and will go on doing all that we tell you. May the Lord turn your hearts towards the love of God and the fortitude of Christ.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;  
glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*  
*20:27-38*

Some Sadducees – those who say that there is no resurrection – approached Jesus and they put this question to him, 'Master, we have it from Moses in writing, that if a man's married brother dies childless, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Well, then, there were seven brothers. The first, having married a wife, died childless. The second and then the third married the widow. And the same with all seven, they died leaving no children. Finally the woman herself died. Now, at the resurrection, to which of them will she be wife since she had been married to all seven?'

Jesus replied, 'The children of this world take wives and husbands, but those who are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection they are sons of God. And Moses himself implies that the dead rise again, in the passage about the bush where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all men are in fact alive.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

**Knox Deanery**

**19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156**

**Phone: 9758 1029**

**Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au**

**Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au**

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C**

**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

*Dear Lord,  
You call everyone to live with you forever.  
Make strong our belief in Jesus,  
the first one to rise from the dead,  
so that we may continue doing what He wishes  
and follow Him to your home in heaven.  
We make this prayer  
through Christ our Lord. Amen*



## FOCUS ON THE WORD

Life after death, in one form or another, is a common belief of most of the major faiths of the world. It is certainly a basic tenet of Christian faith. Because the gospels record Jesus as speaking about an afterlife, we tend to assume that this was a common belief of his time. However, within the different groups of Judaism, there was significant diversity of belief about this point. While the Pharisees believed in resurrection, the Sadducees did not. The Sadducees, whose name means 'righteous ones' were an elite group within the Jewish faith. They were purists in their adherence to the Torah and their rejection of any later teachings or writings – this actually put them in conflict with the Pharisees, although the two groups are often portrayed in the gospels as being united against Jesus. Today's gospel passage depicts an attempt by the Sadducees to ridicule belief in an afterlife by questioning Jesus about an extremely exaggerated scenario. The Sadducees quote the Law of Moses at Jesus, but he goes one better by quoting the very conversation when Moses encountered God in the burning bush. In this encounter, God reveals Himself to be the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God does not say, I was the God of Abraham, but rather I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This distinction confirms that the relationship is ongoing, not stuck in a time before their death. The reply Jesus gives largely ignores the farcical nature of the question. Rather, Jesus makes clear that the resurrected life is not merely an extension of the earthly life. The things that are of concern in this world are not an issue in the next. Through death and resurrection, life is changed; not ended. This idea can be challenging at a time when we are mourning the loss of a loved one, yet we are called to respond to that challenge with a genuine hope and trust in the life that goes on in a different way. Jesus, in fact, dismisses the whole idea of death as an ending by saying that to God all people are alive, whether on earth or in the resurrection. © Greg Sunter

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Nov St Martin of Tours

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Nov St Josaphat

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Nov St Albert the Great

Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Nov St Margaret of Scotland, St Gertrude

*I have come that you may have life and have it to the full*

*(John 10:10)*

**PRIEST ADMINISTRATOR :**

Fr Thomas Kuruvila 9758 1029  
 Email: Thomas.Kuruvila@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 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.

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C**

9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2019

**PRAYING FOR...**

*All who have died recently*



*And those who we remember at this time:*

Patricia (Pat) McCann, Salvatore Teofilo, Natale Franchi, Eufronia Oracion, Patricia Danaher, Michael Palandri, Clorinda Peluso, Niall Hargreaves, Carmela Piro.

**The sick:** Tom Clynnnes, Cosimo Petracca, Noel McNamara, Christopher Windebank, Giuseppina Zarro, Lesina Maio, Peter Dunlop, Catherine Turner, Peter Commons, Wilma Neville, Mary Brimelow, Patricia Quinn, Charlie Kelly, Bonnie Williams, Kathleen Hatten, Edward Kitain, Scott Warner, Lilian Luiyf, Kayden McDevitt, David Merton, Rosa Jones, Peter Mitchell, Beryl Turner, Michael Byrne, Ann Jayawardena, Mary Edmunds, Anabelyn Malabed, 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.

**WEEKDAY ROSARY** on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Rosary will be recited 25 minutes prior to the Weekday Mass. All are welcome to join in the recitation.

**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.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** meet at 10am each Tuesday, for a 10.15am start, in the Parish Hall. Come and join us as we unwrap “The Gift” a 7 week course to learn more about the gift of the Holy Spirit. Enquiries: Tineke 97631096, or: Judy 9752 2986

**FRIENDSHIP GATHERING:** is on Thursdays between 10am and 12.30pm in the Parish Hall. Ladies and Gentlemen welcome anytime to have a cuppa and a chat.

**MOTHERS' PRAYERS:** 9am–10am Meet each Tuesday (during school terms) in the Parish Centre, to pray. Enquiries, contact the Parish office on 9758 1029.

**ADVENT PREPARATION EVENING**

As we speed towards Christmas, I would like to invite you to spend some time with me in quiet contemplation and preparation for the Advent season. The evening will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm - 8.30pm in the parish hall. It will involve some quiet reflection and activities along with a light supper and opportunity to socialise with fellow parishioners. Please contact me Carolyn via email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com or contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029 to register your interest. – Carolyn Sombekke Faith Development Coordinator.

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC DEAF APPEAL** This weekend is the annual collection for the Catholic Deaf Appeal. Thank you for your generous support which will help to assist the work of the John Pierce Centre for the Deaf.

**NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR THE GIFT OF RAIN.** The Catholic Church in Australia is dedicating the month of November as a time to pray for those affected by crippling drought conditions and to pray for the gift of rain. You can find out more about this initiative by accessing the National Prayer Campaign website at [www.catholic.org.au/drought](http://www.catholic.org.au/drought).

**PRAYER FOR RAIN**

**Father of all compassion, strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them. In your loving providence, send abundant rain to those areas most in need and restore our parched earth. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**REMEMBRANCE DAY 2019** Remembrance Day marks the anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914–18). Each year on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, Australians observe one minute's silence at 11 am, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts and appreciation of their sacrifice.



*Lest We Forget*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
 Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
 At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
 We will remember them. Lest we forget.*

**WORLD MISSION APPEAL 2019** a HUGE thank you for your generous donations to help support the work of Catholic Mission. The total collection amounted to \$8,287.20

**SAVE THE DATE** The St Vincent de Paul Senior Citizens Lunch will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at St John's School Hall. More details soon!

**BAPTISMS** – We offer our congratulations to

**Charlotte, Belle & James Roberts, Isaac Schimizzi, Roxie Stokes & Heavenly Fernando,** who are to be baptised this weekend: The Church of God welcomes you with great joy

**NOVEMBER CROSS** 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, from 1<sup>st</sup> November you'll have the opportunity 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 will be available on the trolleys.

**WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?**

Soon we will be starting a small informal group to chat and learn more about the Catholic Faith. If you or anyone you know would like to join us then please email me [csombekkesjb@gmail.com](mailto:csombekkesjb@gmail.com) or leave your name with the parish office 97581029 and I will get back to you. Carolyn Sombekke (Parish Faith Development Coordinator)

**SUNDAY BRUNCHERS** Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 11:45am at St Francis Xavier Primary School hall, 90 Mayona Rd, Montmorency. Come along and learn how to make homemade pasta. Christian? Single? Would you like to meet other people who share the same values? Calling all those who find themselves single in their 30s, 40s, or 50s who would like to meet new people. Sunday Brunchers is a group for people who are single and most importantly, share Christian values. Please bring \$5 cash to put towards ingredients. All welcome. RSVP to [sbrunchers@gmail.com](mailto:sbrunchers@gmail.com) To find out more, go to: [www.facebook.com/events/405302093751437/](http://www.facebook.com/events/405302093751437/)

**POSITIONS VACANT ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE** For more information visit... [www.cam.org.au/jobs](http://www.cam.org.au/jobs)

ROSTERS: Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> to Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> November	
<b>Flowers</b>	Ann P & Connie B
<b>Linen</b>	Alvi M
<b>Welcomers</b>	6pm: Sue N & Anna M 9am: Rosa L & Terry & Laurel S 11am: Gina M & Pat O'B
<b>Lectors</b>	6pm: Louise D 9am: Tony D 11am: Trish McG
<b>Counters</b>	Steph H, George & Genevieve
<b>Gardening</b>	Carlos E