

FIRST READING

A reading from the second book of Samuel
5:1-3

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
1:12-20

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignties, Powers – all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head.

As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and

for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
23:35-43

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Knox Deanery

19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully, 3156

Phone: 9758 1029

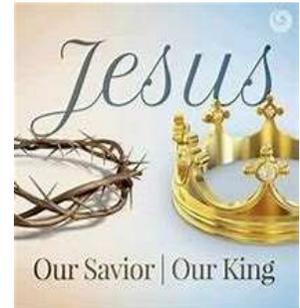
Email: office@stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Website: www.stjohnthebaptist.net.au

Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the Universe – Year C

23rd & 24th November, 2019

*God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
You gave us Your Son,
the beloved one who was rejected.
Show us in His death
the victory that crowns the ages,
and in His broken body
the love that unites heaven and earth.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



FOCUS ON THE WORD

Today's liturgy brings to an end the yearly liturgical cycle and concludes with the great festival honouring Christ as King. This is quite a recent Feast day, inaugurated in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. This was a time in our world's history when the first Great War was over, but there were signs in Europe that peace was illusory. The feast was to be a reminder that though world powers may fail, there is a power for peace within the world that will not fail. The reign of Christ has been established, and the values of peace and justice are possible for those who seek this reign of God.

While the world seeks power through pomp and display, Jesus displays the power of God's reign on a Cross. The values of this world, which lead to the horrors of Gallipoli, Hiroshima, Cambodia, Croatia, need to be turned upside down for true peace to break out. Wars begin with greed and selfishness, whether on a world scale or the wars within the family home. Peace begins where there is generosity, forgiveness and concern about others. This is the 'kingdom' that Jesus came to offer and the power that we celebrate in today's feast. The cycle of Luke's Gospel comes to a fitting end with the image of the crucified Saviour offering life in God's gracious love to a dying criminal. The heavens are opened for those who desire to live in God. © Mary Coloe.

Reflect on the words of the Our Father: 'Thy Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.' What are the implications of this prayer for believers? How can we help build the kingdom of God on earth?

NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR RAIN.

Eternal God, creator of the earth, we turn to You now in faith asking You to look with favour on our drought-stricken land, on our starving animals and on our failing crops. In Your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our parched earth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Mon 25th Nov St Catherine of Alexandria

Sat 30th Nov St Andrew

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 9.45am – 3.45pm
Tuesday to Friday 9.00am -3.00pm
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 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.

Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE– Year C

23rd / 24th November, 2019

PRAYING FOR...

All who have died recently



And those who we remember at this time:

Fr Con Cummings, Dimitri Rogers, Mario Porco, Fernando Tassoni, Ilva Tassoni, Lionel Roberts, Noel Clarke, Alice Hilet, Thelma Gribble, May Ferguson, Giuseppina Donato.

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 Hatton, 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.

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”. 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.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT with Friar Alessandro. On Sat 7th December, 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. Entry free. See flyer in the foyer for details.



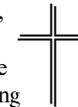
ADVENT REFLECTION EVENING As we speed towards Christmas, I would like to invite you to spend some time with me in quiet contemplation and preparation for the Advent season. **THIS Wednesday 27th November at 7.00pm - 8.30pm in the Parish Hall.** An evening where you can relax a little, reflect a little, chat a little and share a light supper. Please contact me, Carolyn, via email: csombekkesjb@gmail.com or the Parish Office on 9758 1029 to register your interest. – Carolyn Sombekke – Parish Faith Development Coordinator.

TRANSPORTATION HELP NEEDED The annual St. Vincent de Paul and Parish Senior's **Christmas lunch** will be held on **Saturday 7th December 2019** 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 able to help serving the meal and drinks kindly please contact Connie Bala on 9753 5000. Thanks all.

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, during 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.



COMMUNION TO THE SICK REGISTER Anyone taking communion to the sick, would you please record the name of the person, to whom you are taking communion in the register located in the sacristy.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN is on 25th November, to raise public awareness of violence against women in all countries around the world and at all levels of society. For more information go to the Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria website at www.dvrcv.org.au **HOLDING THE LIGHT: REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** Catholic Social Services Victoria would like to invite you to: Holding the Light, an ecumenical service to remember and honour the Australian women and children who have been killed during 2019 by domestic/relationship violence. The service will be held on **Sunday 1st December, from 3.00pm – 4.00pm** at St Francis' Church, corner of Lonsdale and Elizabeth Streets Melbourne. For further information, please contact Peter Hudson Ph: 0429 806 509 or email phudson@css.org.au

WOULD YOU LIKE 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 or leave your name with the parish office 97581029 and I will get back to you. Carolyn Sombekke (Faith Development Coordinator)



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS 2019 ANGEL TREE



Each year we provide needy families we have visited throughout the year with a Christmas Food Hamper and Gift cards for each of their children. We invite you to contribute to either of these:

- Under the Angel Tree we will provide basket/ bags for your **Christmas food items** or those who might like to donate a complete hamper. Please feel free to supply your own bags if you wish.
 - The **gift cards** we will provide allows the parents to purchase a suitable gift themselves according to the age and needs of their child/ ren.
 - There will be separate SVDP envelopes to make any: **Credit Card donations; cash donations**
- You may like to take an “Angel” off the tree and purchase a gift card to the amount of either: \$10, \$20, or \$30. Please place your donation in the box near the tree. The cards can be purchased from: Kmart, Target, Coles, Myer; or any other store of your choice.

On behalf of our SVDP local conference, we would like to thank you, most sincerely, for your ongoing generosity this year in supporting our work with the disadvantaged. We would like to thank Fr Thomas for his encouragement on behalf of our parish. The Society would appreciate all gift cards to be in by the close of masses on Sunday 15th December, as deliveries of these hampers will be during the week of Monday 16th December.- SVDP- Ferntree Gully Conference.



ROSTERS: Mon 25th Nov to Sun 1st December

Flowers	Sue N & Lynne K
Linen	Sue O'H
Welcomers	6pm: Louise D & Peter G 9am: Sue & David W, Thelma B 11am: Kath & Andrew W
Lectors	6pm: Phuong B 9am: Gordon V 11am: Kath V
Counters	Steph H, Tony B
Gardening	Carlos E