

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
Shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abraham went as the Lord told him.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*R/. Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.*

SECOND READING

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to
Timothy 1:8-10*

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

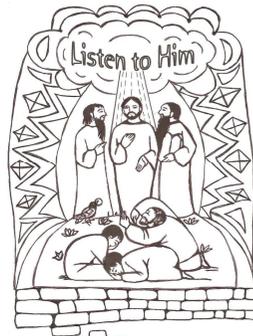
*Glory and praise to You,
Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud
the Father's voice is heard:
This is My beloved Son, hear Him.
Glory and praise to You,
Lord Jesus Christ!*

GOSPEL

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew 17:1-9*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



*'This is my Son, the Beloved; he
enjoys my favour. Listen to him.'*

SCRIPTURE READINGS for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) head to:
<http://www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass.htm>
Navigate using the right-hand column



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

2nd Sunday of Lent – Year A

7th /8th March, 2020

*Holy God,
from the bright cloud
You revealed Jesus in glory
as Your beloved Son.
During these forty days
inspire and transform our lives
into the image of Your risen Son,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.*



FOCUS ON THE WORD

When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. Whilst Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're confused and scared by what they witness. Peter sees the appearance of Elijah and Moses as a confirmation that Jesus has come to continue the work of the great prophets of the past. Rather than placing Jesus in the old tradition of the prophets, the appearance of Elijah and Moses, together with the voice of God, is to endorse the new direction that Jesus' ministry is taking. Jesus' new vision for the world is informed by the relationships forged between God and the prophets of the past, but it is a vision of a completely different way of relating to God: a much more personal relationship that calls us to respond from the heart to those around us. © Greg Sunter

SLAVERY-FREE EASTER CHOCOLATE – Look for any of these three certification symbols on the wrappers:

FAIRTRADE, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ.

More Info: <https://acrath.org.au/slaveryfree-easter>

[AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN HUMANS]



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

(John 10:10)

PARISH 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.

2nd Sunday of Lent – Year A**7th / 8th March, 2020****PRAYING FOR...***All who have died recently*

Anita Hassell.

And those who we remember at this time:

Tom Weerden, Mary Maguire, Jack Winters, Mary Hilder.

The sick: Ruby Samtoy, Fame Pelgrim, Elsie Johnson Anne Jayawardena, Wilma Neville, Lea Hartley, Cosimo Petracca, Christopher Windebank, Giuseppina Zarro, Lesina Maio, Catherine Turner, Patricia Quinn, David Merton, Michael Byrne, Mary Edmunds, Bev McNamara, Anthony McNamara, Victoria Lewis, Nicole Moore, Peter Fairhurst, Hans Whitaker, Edward Osborne, Allida Serafin, Barbara Kenny, Clive Geach.

NEW GUIDELINES SICK LIST –names will remain on the sick list for 6weeks, then removed, unless notification to continue is received at 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.

CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE FOR PARISHES.

Due to the rapidly changing situation in respect to the threat posed by the coronavirus (COVID-19) effective from 28th February, Holy Communion will be distributed in one kind only. Also at the Rite of Peace, parishioners with coughs & sneezes are encouraged to smile or bow. See Archbishops letter on the trolleys

TRIVIA NIGHT Thanks to all who attended the Trivia Night. Thanks also to the many who made donations. Everyone seemed to have a great time. We raised \$967.00. A great result! We will be donating this equally to Opening the Doors Foundation (<https://www.openingthedoors.org.au>) in Thornbury and Alfajiri Street Kids Art (<https://www.alfajiri.org>) in the Kenya. Thanks again.

HALL OF FAME - FR JOHN PETRULIS is being honoured by being inducted into the Salesian College Hall of Fame. The ceremony will be held at Salesian College 10 Bosco Street, Chadstone on Friday, March 20th, 2020. Tickets: \$50.00 includes 3 course meal & drink www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=561134&



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS is on Fridays at 10.30 am during lent followed by Mass at 11.00 am. All are invited to join.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM-CONFIRMATION

This year the Sacrament of Confirmation is offered to Year 5 and 6 children who have already been baptised, and who reside within the boundaries of our Parish. Confirmation Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 14th May 2020 at 6.30pm. The **Parent Information Evening is on Thursday 12th March 2020 at 7pm in the School Hall.** If your child attends a school other than St John's, **please contact the Parish Office on 9758 1029 to register your interest.** Dates for the preparation classes will be advised at this meeting. Information for children attending at St John's will be distributed via Year 5 & 6 teachers. You will be required to present a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPEN DAY will take place on **Wednesday 11th March** from **8.00am-5.00pm.** Please invite any friends, family or neighbours who have a child eligible to start school in 2021 to come along and see our wonderful school in action. If you have a child who is eligible to start Prep in 2021 please make contact with the school office ph 9758 1013 to complete an enrolment form.

**ANNUAL COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES**

RAFFLE tickets are now on sale until 10th May, 2020. This year all proceeds from the sale of these tickets will be for the Parish. We look forward to your support by promoting these wonderful prizes. Also, feel free to take a few books to sell to family and friends. This is our major fundraiser, with great prizes, including 3 cars, + Coles/Myer gift cards worth \$1000 to be won! We thank you in anticipation for your continuing ongoing support in 2020.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2020 Running through the six weeks of Lent each year. This year's theme:

GO FURTHER TOGETHER.
WEEK 2. Twenty-seven year old Phany was a struggling farmer and was forced to leave her daughter to take up construction work in the city. Her life has been transformed since joining a Caritas supported program, learning crop growing skills and better water management to combat drought. Envelopes, Leaflets and donation boxes available in the church foyer.



LECTORS' ROSTER The April-June roster is now being prepared. If any existing rostered lector is unavailable during this period, or would like to request a change to the roster, or any readers who would like to be added please contact me before the 23rd March. Thank you. Contact Stephanie 9758 5497 / smhorgen@gmail.com

MATER CHRISTI COLLEGE: Bring your family and friends to our next Scheduled Tour on **Friday 13th March** departing 9.30am or **Sunday 22nd March.** To book your tour visit: materchristi.edu.au

ST JOSEPHS COMMUNITY FUN DAY come and celebrate with us on **Sunday 15th March**, 10am-3pm at St Joseph's College, 5 Brenock Park Drive, FTG. There will be **Free Rides** such as the UFO, Cha Cha, Hurricane, Harley Davidson Rides and more, **Free** Petting Zoo, face painting, KIIS FM street team, College Band, College Tours, & displays. Food & drinks available to purchase – Devonshire Teas, Coffee, Soft Drinks, Popcorn, Bacon & Egg rolls, Zooper Doopers, Ice-creams, Sausage Sizzle, Fairy Floss. Register at stjosephs.com.au

EMMAUS COLLEGE OPEN DAY will be held on **EMMAUS Thursday 26th March, 2020** between **COLLEGE 1.30pm – 6.30pm.** For tour bookings or more information ph 9845 3211 or visit the website at: www.emmaus.vic.edu.au.

PALMS Australia assists communities abroad with professional skill development by matching Australian professionals with a dedicated local counterpart. Opportunities exist for English Teachers, Librarians, Electricians, School Nurses & more. Each of our program participants is supported with a living allowance, & with thorough preparation and support. All applicants will be required to complete a Working with Children and Police Check. Can you assist??? Look at www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on ph 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au

ROSTERS: Mon 9th Mar to Sun 15th Mar	
Flowers	No Flowers in Lent
Linen	Sue N
Welcomers	6pm: Myra N, Lia U 9am: Peter C, Joanna C, Neil & Lorraine 11am Maria L, Help needed please.
Lectors	6pm: Phuong B 9am: Adrian S 11am: Peter J
Counters	Peter & Dawn, George & Genevieve
Gardening	Carlos E