

### First Reading Bar 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 125. R. v.3

**(R.)** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

### Second Reading Phil 1:3-6. 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

### Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths:  
all people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel Lk 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.



### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH



St. John the Baptist

St John the Baptist Church 62 Bowden Street, Glenorchy, 7010  
P.O. Box 41, Glenorchy, 7010  
St. Monica Church 67-69 Allunga Road Chigwell, 7011  
Phone No: (03) 62726363  
Email address: glenorchy@aohtas.org.au  
Parish Website: <http://cdtas.org.au/glenorchy/Home.aspx>  
The Parish has been entrusted to the Salesians of Don Bosco since 2000



St. Monica

### 4-5 December 2021, 2nd Sunday of Advent - Year C

#### Dear Friends

Last Tuesday Robert Kreshl spoke to about twenty parishioners and friends gathered in the foyer of our church. Those present were privileged to hear his story. Robert shared some of his journey from the powerlessness of a lack of trust in God to the transformative power of his surrender to God's merciful love. His refusal to admit his willful pride and rejection of a loving God in his life, mainly due to the destructive, violent upbringing in a broken home, led him to the brink of despair. However, Robert shared that 'God would not let go of him no matter what'. In the darkest moments of his life, God would gently lead him back to Himself until after many years he completely surrendered himself to God's mercy. Robert now uses his natural, God-given talents to help others in need, discover the freedom of a surrender to God's love and invite all to be forgiving and loving people

Today's Gospel challenges us and all Christians to be such forgiving and loving people. It instructs all to prepare a way for the Lord's coming. "So is there some crooked attitude, or some crooked way of behaving or some crooked relationship that needs to be straightened out, let us straighten it out. Then we will truly be preparing a way for the Lord to come to us."

"God does not abandon us when we stray from the straight path. He keeps calling us back from our crooked ways to the straight path. Advent is an excellent time ... to commit ourselves to the right path. We must ask the Lord to take the blindness from our eyes, the weakness from our wills, and the hardness from our hearts, so that our lives may be flooded by the grace of his coming." (McCarthy, Homilies, p.18)

Our parish Advent Second Rite of Reconciliation will be on Tuesday 14 December at 7.00 pm. This will be an excellent opportunity to "prepare a way for the Lord" and invite Him to fashion our hearts and make them like His own. May the Virgin Mary Mother of God pray to Jesus for us.

#### Coming up:

- 7.00pm 7 December: Talk by Fr Krish Mathavan MSC on the Pope's encyclical, Laudato Si (Creation)
- 9.00am & 7.00pm 8 December: Solemnity of Mary's Immaculate Conception
- 7.00pm 14 December: Parish Second Rite of Reconciliation. All welcome.
- Parish Office closed from 2.00pm Tuesday 21 December 2021
- Parish Office reopens 8.30am on Tuesday 4 January 2022
- 5.30pm 24 December: Carols  
6.00pm Christmas Family Mass
- 8.30am 25 December: Christmas Mass at **St Monica's Chigwell**
- 10.00am 25 December: Christmas Mass at **St John's Glenorchy**
- **No Mass at 6.00pm 25 December: Christmas night.**

**24 hour Surveillance of the St John's Church Glenorchy.** Thanks to those wonderful people who installed cameras around the outside of the church and in the Church foyer.

**Thanks to Fr Bernie Graham and all those who helped out at last weekend's Masses while I was not well. Thanks also to all those parishioners who prayed for me.**

#### Prayer for the Family during Advent:

Heavenly Father, you bless us with the gifts of life and love so powerfully present in our midst through families. In praise of your gifts we offer you in return our commitment to love and care for one another as family – as our own family, as church family and as part of the great human family. ... Make our home a dwelling place of love, respect and understanding, forgiveness and support. ... we ask the intercession of Mary, our Mother and Joseph, Her Spouse, who cared for Jesus in Nazareth, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

PARISH DIRECTORY	
Parish Priest	Fr Gaetano Riolo SDB
Pastoral Associate	Sr Pamela Davis OP
Parish Secretary	Sheila Gonzales
Office Hours	8:30am - 2.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Salesian Community	204 Tolosa Street Glenorchy 7010
Phone	6273 4313
Rector	Fr Bernie Graham SDB
<b>Dominic College</b>	
Phone	6274 6000
Principal	Ms Beth Gilligan
<b>Guilford Young College</b>	
Phone	6238 4350
Principal	Mr Craig Deayton

PARISH DIARY December 2021	
<b>4 Saturday, Mass of the Virgin Mary</b>	
• 9.00am Mass at St John's	
• 6.00pm Mass at St John's	
<b>5 Sunday, 2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	
• 8.30am Mass at St Monica's	
• 10.00am Mass at St John's	
<b>6 Monday, St Nicholas</b>	
• 9.00am Mass at St John's	
<b>7 Tuesday, St Ambrose</b>	
• 9.00am Mass at St John's	
<b>8 Wed., Immaculate Conception of Mary</b>	
• 9.00am Mass at St John's	
• 7.00pm Mass at St John's	
<b>9 Thursday, St Juan Diego</b>	
• 12.00 noon Mass at St John's	
<b>10 Friday, Our Lady of Loreto</b>	
• 9.00am Mass at St John's	
<b>11 Saturday</b>	
• 9.00am Mass at St John's	
• 6.00pm Mass at St John's	
<b>12 Sunday, 3rd Sunday of Advent</b>	
• 8.30am Mass at St Monica's	
• 10.00am Mass at St John's	

**First Reconciliation Preparation**  
At the last session the children heard the story of Zacchaeus and how he had a change of heart. They discussed everyday examples of children who thought about their poor choices and had a change of heart. In their final session this weekend, the children will learn the steps to making a good confession and prepare for their First Reconciliation at the Parish Advent Reconciliation on Tuesday, 14 December. Please continue to pray for the children.

**Can you Help?**  
In the recent pew survey, 60 parishioners indicated that Outreach to the Vulnerable was most important to them. Can you spare a couple of hours to volunteer on a Wednesday or Thursday morning (on a rostered basis) to help with packaging food parcels for disadvantaged families? The programme is coordinated by the Glenorchy Churches Network (of which St John's is a member.) Volunteers meet at the Glenorchy Uniting Church Hall. For more information call Marilyn Goninon on 0418 123 530.

**Save the Date, Sunday, 27 February, 2022**  
You are invited to attend a Parish Assembly Day to be held at GYC Glenorchy on Sunday, 27 February, 2022 from 11.30 a.m. until 3.00 p.m. The Day will begin with Mass at 10.00 a.m. at St John's Church and include a light lunch. Come and celebrate what the Parish is doing well and help us identify future growth areas. To make the Assembly a success, we welcome your participation.

**Talk by Fr Krish Mathavan (creation)**  
How as Christians can we be involved in our world to make a positive difference? What are our responsibilities towards our natural environment? Fr Krish Mathavan has a passion for the environment and will help us to answer these questions. He will speak on the Pope's environmental encyclical Laudato Si', particularly the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor. He is the parish priest at Moonah. His early life included both experiences with his father in the Buddhist temple and with his mother at the Catholic church in Singapore. He has a PhD and worked as a researcher in a genetics laboratory before studying for the priesthood. He was ordained in 2017. 7 pm Tuesday December 7th in the church.

**St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hampers**  
Dear Parishioners,  
In my letter, to you some weeks ago, advising you that St. Dominic Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society would be going into recess. It is with deep sorrow that I have to confirm that it has happened. However we need some help in handling Christmas Hampers this year. They will be in the Parish meeting room for the consumers to come and collect them on Tuesday 21st to Thursday 23rd December from 10.00am-2.00pm. Our consumers are still being cared for by other Conferences and are mainly working from Hopkins Street store. As I stated the Poor Box in the Chapel will be looked after for the Society. There are some Christmas Cards for sale this week-end. Des Mortimer

**Parish Christmas Luncheon**  
The Parish Christmas Luncheon will be held on Friday 10th December at Club Hotel, Main Road Glenorchy. If you would like to come please write your name on the list at the back of the church. Kay Grainger 6272 9024.

**Carols on the Hill**  
is a free, outdoor carols event designed for families to share the joyful spirit of Christmas. On Saturday 11 December, 7 pm - 9 pm, at Guilford Young College school oval, Hobart (off Patrick Street). To register or find out more, go to eventbrite.com.au and search 'Carols on the Hill 2021'.

**St John's Parish 50/50 Club**  
The next raffle will be drawn in December 2021. We have 26 people who have joined. We need 24 people to complete the fundraiser. You may join by contacting Sheila, the parish secretary, at the Parish Office 62726363 or by envelopes which are available on the table at the back of the church and can be put in the basket.

**Assistance Required**  
We are in need of assistance with serving refreshments (and washing up thereof) at the end of the 6pm Vigil Mass. If you can give a little of your time (on a rotating roster) to assist Sue, please call Virginia on 0428 627 311. Thank you.

**Our Sick - Please remember in your prayers**  
Alida Beric, Eileen Sherrin, Don Ambler, Fr Bob Curmi, Mary Dowd, Monique Matzner, Amy Matzner, Patricia Leamey, June Webb, Vince Mele, Barbara Campbell, Fr Peter Rankin, Judy Kingston, Les Williams, Pauline Fitzallen, Krystyna Szukielojc, Bob Mochrie, Elizabeth Drake, Marian Whyman, Joanna Colli, Maria Mele, Peter Rankin

**Prayers for the Deceased**  
*Please remember in your prayers our deceased parishioners, family and friends especially:*  
Bill Oakley, Gwen Lincoln, Betty Direen, Frances Direen, Craig Rickards, Peter Crane, Sr Carmel Hall, Minka Busch, Ron Nilsson, Stan Brach, Kerris Direen, Vic & Margaret Derrick, Michael Percy, Luigi Valdarchi, Cath Mc Carthy, Georgette Thomas, PK Varghese, Esterina D'Onofrio, Dino Di Benedetto, Luis Escobar, Doreen Street  
*Eternal rest grant unto their souls O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.*

**Reminder for Covid-19 Safety**  
You must check in every time you come to St John's church or the Parish office. Everyone aged 16 years or older must check-in no matter how short their visit to church or parish office/meeting room. Please pray for all those sick with the Coronavirus and for those who have died from it.

**St John the Baptist Catholic Parish: Glenorchy/Chigwell Covid-19 Safety Action Plan**  
The parish Covid-19 Action Plan is in place to meet government regulations. A copy of this plan is available on the churches' noticeboards.

**WEEKEND MASSES St John's, Glenorchy**

- 6.00pm Saturday
- 10.00am Sunday

**St. Monica's, Chigwell**

- 8.30am Sunday

**WEEKDAY MASSES St. John's, Glenorchy**

- 9.00am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
- 12.00pm Thursday

**ROSARY At St. John's, Glenorchy**

- 8.30am every Wednesday and Saturday

**RECONCILIATION At St. John's, Glenorchy**

- 9.30am-10.00am & 5.15pm-5.45pm Saturday

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT At St. John's, Glenorchy**

- 8.00am - 8.50am Wednesday
- 9:00am - 11.50pm Thursday

**LEGION OF MARY at St. John's, Glenorchy**

- 6.45 pm Every Tuesday

**ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUP at St. John's, Glenorchy**

- 1st Wednesday of the month at 9.30am

**DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP at St. John's, Glenorchy**

- Every Friday at 3.00pm

COUNTERS' ROSTERS	
This Week:	6 Dec
Mary Parisissons' Team	
Next Week :	13 Dec
Bridget Hayde's Team	

WEEKLY COLLECTION	
Envelopes:	\$695.00
Quest Tap and Go	\$100.00
Loose Plate:	\$795.05
Direct Deposit:	\$325.00
TOTAL:	\$1,915.05
Weekly Budget: \$ 2,500.00	
Difference: -	\$584.95