

And he did it: with unequalled courage he spread the news that he, the greatest of all men, was the least in the kingdom of heaven. His disciples, and the devil, would have preferred him to fight, to build his sect, to defeat this upstart whom he himself had baptized, to seize his place in history. But he did not – and so, rightly, he has his place, and he has glory in heaven.

We envy the great and the talented, and sometimes we think that they themselves are beyond envy. But when they come across someone with greater gifts, as one day most of them will, they will see for the first time what it means to feel like us. Let us pray that they, like John the Baptist, may pass that test.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY & KOINONIA

Next Sunday, **1 September 2024**, is Father's Day. Holy Family Parish will hold a special prayer during the 9.15am Mass to honour all fathers, followed by Holy Family KOINONIA at the Holy Family Fellowship Centre. Come and join us for the Father's Day celebration!



St. John Paul II: "In revealing and in reliving on earth the very fatherhood of God, a man is called upon to ensure the harmonious and united development of all the members of the family."

Parish Office Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday
9.30am to 1.30pm

Presbytery T: (03) 97924317 | School T: (03) 97911853
Parish W: holyfamilydoveton.org.au
Parish E: doveton@cam.org.au
Parish Manager E: hfparishmanager@gmail.com
Child Safety E: holyfamilycso@cam.org.au

Let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching. (Hebrews 10:25)



The only thing that counts is faith working through love. (Galatians 5:6)

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
25th August 2024**

COMMENTARY ON THE READINGS FOR 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel: John 6:60-69

Throughout the Gospel of John a great division is taking place between those who accept Jesus as the Messiah, the Wisdom of God, the Light of the world, the Good Shepherd, the King of the Jews, the Lamb of God, and those who do not accept. The marriage-feast at Cana, where the disciples believe and see the glory of Jesus, is immediately followed by the rejection by the custodians of the Temple. Then Nicodemus comes by night and tentatively approaches the light, while the Samaritan joyfully accepts him and announces him to her fellow-townfolk. Later in the Gospel we will see the stark division growing ever stronger between the sick man at the Pool of Bethzatha and the Man born Blind on the one hand and the Pharisees on the other. Finally the gentile Pilate declares Jesus to be king, while the Jewish authorities reject any king but Caesar.

Now, as the conclusion of the revelation of Jesus as the Wisdom of the Father and the Bread of Life, comes the sad moment of the division between the disciples, when some find the message too fierce and walk away, while Peter in the name of the faithful disciples makes his moving and loving act of faith, 'you have the words of eternal life'. It is the same profession of faith as Peter in the synoptic gospels makes at Caesarea Philippi, but directly in terms of the Johannine gift, eternal life.

In all this, the choice is being put before us too: how deep is our faith, how firm our commitment? It is the ultimate choice in life; there is no sitting on the fence. And the choice must be renewed from day to day.

(Resource: Universalis)

Parish Priest:
Fr. Joby George VC

Priest-In Residence:
Fr Sebastian
Mappilaparambil VC

Parish secretary:
Caroline Allen

Parish Manager:
Gerard Antony

Principal:
Paul Sharp

Child Safety Officer:
Florida Nugara

Catechists:
Christina D' Couto

Sunday Masses:
Saturday Vigil 6.30pm
Sunday..... 9.15am
..... 11.00am
Healing Mass 7.00pm

Spanish Mass:
Saturday 4.00pm

Weekday Masses:
Monday to Saturday 9.15am
Wednesday 7.00pm

Reconciliation:
Tuesday 9.45am - 10.15am
Saturday 9.45am - 10.15am

Novena to Our Lady:
Saturday 9.00am
Wednesday 7.00pm

Baptisms: Second Sunday

Divine Kids Bible Class:
Sunday 10.15am

Parish Prayer Group:
Tuesday 7.00pm-8.00pm

Parish Halls:
Available for hire –
Contact Parish Office

NEWS AND EVENTS AROUND US

25th August 2024: Social Justice Sunday

Social justice Sunday is observed every year on the final Sunday of August. This year's commemoration falls on August 25. The Catholic Church in Australia has a long tradition of commemorating Social Justice Sunday. The social justice remarks are made on behalf of the entire bishops' conference in time for Social Justice Sunday. These declarations are issued with the hopes of provoking thought and action throughout the year. The Social Justice Sunday initiative encourages all to be compassionate. An act of kindness can go a long way in transforming a person's life.

30th August 2024: Screening of 'Into the Breach: The Mission of the Family'

A screening of the five-episode video series Into the Breach: The mission of the Family created by Knights of Columbus for FORMED is taking place at St. Mary's East St Kilda on 30 August 2024. The theme of the evening will be family formation, providing a chance for families, parents, expecting parents and newlyweds to gather together, learn and discuss the truth and beauty of the Catholic vision of marriage and family life in the modern world.

RSVP by emailing stkildaeast@cam.org.au
Event Date: Friday 30 August 2024,
6.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Venue:
St Mary's Parish Hall,
208 Dandenong Road
East St Kilda VIC 3183



CHILD SAFETY

Holy Family Parish is committed to upholding the wellbeing, safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

READINGS

SUNDAY

Joshua 24:1-2,15-18
Psalm 34:2-3,16-23
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69

MONDAY

2 Thessalonians 1:1-5,11-12
Psalm 96:1-5
Matthew 23:13-22

TUESDAY

St Monica
2 Thessalonians 2:1-3,14-17
Psalm 96:10-13
Matthew 23:23-26

WEDNESDAY

St Augustine of Hippo
2 Thessalonians 3:6-10,16-18
Psalm 128:1-2,4-5
Matthew 23:27-32

THURSDAY

The Beheading of St. John the Baptist
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Psalm 145:2-7
Mark 6:17-29

FRIDAY

1 Corinthians 1:17-25
Psalm 33:1-2,4-5, 10-11
Matthew 25:1-13

SATURDAY

1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Psalm 33:12-13,18-21
Matthew 25:14-30

29th September 2024: Migrant Youth Festival

The ethnic and migrant youth of Melbourne are invited to the inaugural Migrant Youth Festival, an initiative of the Migrant Catholic Chaplaincies. The festival is a unique opportunity to connect with like-minded young people while encountering Jesus and deepen your faith and relationship with God. The day will include a keynote address, a panel featuring Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, group activities and a mini cultural concert. We will join the broader Catholic community for the annual Migrant and Refugee Mass—or 'Mass for All Nations'—at St Patrick's Cathedral, which will close out the festival. Lunch will be provided.

This event is aimed at migrant and ethnic young people between the ages of 18 and 35, but everyone is welcome! Booking and more info at <https://melbournecatholic.org/events/migrant-youth-festival>

Date: 29 September 2024

Venue: Cathedral Hall,
Australian Catholic University
22 Brunswick Street
Fitzroy Victoria 3065



SAINT OF THE WEEK

29th August 2024, The Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Saint John the Baptist has two feasts to himself. One, in August, celebrates his death, and one, in June, celebrates his birth. And this is as it should be, for as Christ himself said, John was the greatest of the sons of men.

The greatest, but also the most tragic. A prophet from before his birth, leaping in the womb to announce the coming of the incarnate God, his task was to proclaim the fulfilment of all prophecies – and thus his own obsolescence.

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