

Readings for Whitbourne Patronal Festival 25th June

COLLECT

Almighty God,
by whose providence your servant John
the Baptist
was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of your Son
our Saviour
by the preaching of repentance:
lead us to repent according to his
preaching
and, after his example,
constantly to speak the truth, boldly to
rebuke vice,
and patiently to suffer for the truth's
sake;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Isaiah 40.1-11

*A reading from the book of the prophet
Isaiah.*

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's
hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of
the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway
for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made
low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall
be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the
field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows
upon it;

surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for
ever.

⁹ Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'

¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Psalms 85.7-13

*R The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.*

⁷ Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

⁸ I will listen to what the Lord God is
saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful
people
and to those who turn their hearts to
him. **R**

⁹ Truly, his salvation is very near to
those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed
each other.

¹¹ Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from
heaven. **R**

¹² The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his
feet. **R**

Galatians 3.23-end

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the
Galatians.*

²³ Before faith came, we were
imprisoned and guarded under the law
until faith would be revealed.

²⁴ Therefore the law was our
disciplinarian until Christ came, so that
we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now
that faith has come, we are no longer
subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ

Jesus you are all children of God
through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were
baptized into Christ have clothed
yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no
longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer
slave or free, there is no longer male
and female; for all of you are one in
Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to
Christ, then you are Abraham's
offspring, heirs according to the
promise.

GOSPEL: Luke 1.57-66, 80

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke.

⁵⁷ The time came for Elizabeth to give
birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸ Her
neighbours and relatives heard that the
Lord had shown his great mercy to her,
and they rejoiced with her.

⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to
circumcise the child, and they were
going to name him Zechariah after his
father. ⁶⁰ But his mother said, 'No; he is
to be called John.' ⁶¹ They said to her,
'None of your relatives has this name.'
⁶² Then they began motioning to his
father to find out what name he wanted
to give him. ⁶³ He asked for a writing-
tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.'
And all of them were amazed.

⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened
and his tongue freed, and he began to
speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ Fear came over
all their neighbours, and all these things
were talked about throughout the entire
hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶ All who heard
them pondered them and said, 'What
then will this child become?' For,
indeed, the hand of the Lord was with
him.

⁸⁰ The child grew and became strong in
spirit, and he was in the wilderness until
the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

POST COMMUNION

Merciful Lord,
whose prophet John the Baptist
proclaimed your Son as the Lamb of
God

who takes away the sin of the world:
grant that we who in this sacrament
have known

your forgiveness and your life-giving
love
may ever tell of your mercy and your
peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.