



# ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street

HEIDELBERG

## PARISH PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we the parishioners of St John's are grateful for all we have received from the men, women and children of our past. Help us to cherish and maintain our parish heritage.

Most of all, enable us to be people who welcome the stranger, the needy, the sick and the lonely.  
Like St John, our patron saint, may we be people who love others, as your Son Jesus, asked us to do.  
We make this prayer, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### PARISH OFFICE:

52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084  
t: 9457 1066  
e: heidelberg@cam.org.au  
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**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Mario Zammit

**SACRAMENT COORDINATOR:**

Sr Loreto Lynch RSM

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Mary Peeris

**CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:**

Michelle Robertson t:0409 533 100

**OFFICE:** 9:30am-2:30pm, Mo, Tu, Th, Fr

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Maureen Hegarty

### PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL:

55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084  
t: 9459 2963;  
e: office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au  
**PRINCIPAL:** Maureen Stella

**HALL HIRE:** Fran mob: 0417972317  
10:00am-5:00pm (Mon-Fri only)

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 6:00pm  
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

### AUSTIN HOSPITAL MASS:

3rd Sunday of the Month at 9:30am.

**WEEKDAY MASS:** 9:15am

**ROSARY:** Monday to Saturday after Mass.

**LECTIO DIVINA:** Every second and fourth Monday of the month at 7:00pm, in the parish house.

**LEGION OF MARY:** Tuesday night at 7:30pm in the parish house. Info: Sue 9459 8604

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday: 7:30pm - 9:00pm;  
Thursday: 9:40am - 11:00am,  
Friday: 8:00am - 9:00am

### RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturday at 9:45am & 5:30pm  
or by appointment

**BAPTISMS:** On Sundays at 11:45am, by appointment.

### BAPTISM INFORMATION EVENING:

Last Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the parish house, except Dec and Jan.

**WEDDINGS:** By appointment (9457 1066).

**PARISH PILGRIM STATUE OF MARY:** In order to have the statue of Mary in your home for one week please contact Marj McBroom on 0414 289 304.

*16th / 17th December 2017 - Third Sunday of Advent Year B*

### BLESSING OF NATIVITY SETS

*(Families can use this blessing prayer to bless their nativity set at home.)*

**PARENT:** Let us ask for God's blessing on this Christmas manger and upon ourselves, that we who reflect on the birth of Jesus may share in the salvation he accomplished.

*ALL: Come, Lord, dwell with us.*

**CHILD:** For the Church of God, as we recall the circumstances surrounding the birth of Christ, that we may always proclaim his gift of new life for all people, we pray to the Lord.

*ALL: Come, Lord, dwell with us.*

**CHILD:** For the world in which we live, that it may come to recognise Christ who was greeted by the angels and shepherds, we pray to the Lord.

*ALL: Come, Lord, dwell with us.*

**CHILD:** For our families and our homes, that Christ who was laid in the manger may dwell with us always, we pray to the Lord.

*ALL: Come, Lord, dwell with us.*

**CHILD:** For parents, that their love for their children may be modelled on that of the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, we pray to the Lord.

*ALL: Come, Lord, dwell with us.*

**PARENT:** Let us pray as our Lord Jesus Christ taught us:  
Our Father who art in heaven ....

**PARENT:** God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Saviour of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

*ALL: Amen.*

**ALL:** May Christ our God enlighten our hearts and minds, now and for ever. Amen.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**RECENTLY BAPTISED:** Jack Winstanley, Max Gallace, Eve Williams.

**THE SICK:** Patricia Mulholland, Ruth Mc Guire, Brendan O'Kane, Patricia Wong, Lauran Black.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Bruce Thompson, Kathryn Mary Laurie.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Anne Cotter.

*Names on the sick list remain for six weeks, unless otherwise advised.*

*Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by Thursday morning latest. Thank you.*

16 Dec/ 17 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Bernadette Nzenza	Adrian Daly	Peter Penson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Moira Di Cesare	Ronnie Maloney	TBA	Mary Kotefski
Communion	Marco Di Cesare	Teresa Lincoln	Kate Mathai	Des O'Brien
	Domenica Ashworth	Ngoc Thi Minh Tran	Tim Boyle	Tony Rowlands
	Emma Chang	Elizabeth Williamson	Yannick Jonas	Sally Tramontana
	TBA	Margaret Bradley	Sue Lew-Kee	Michelle Penson
23 Dec/ 24 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Leela Cherubim	Bob Dowling	Christmas Eve No Vigil Mass
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Elizabeth Williamson	Michael Leonard	
Communion	Noel Micallef	Alice Wong	Geraldine Manuel	
	Donna Richardson	Fiona Curry	Erin Manuel	
	Maria Basilone	Stanly Devasia	Doris Schembri	
	Michelle Penson	Pauline Griffiths	TBA	
Counters	<b>17 Dec:</b> Shane Byrnes, Tim Booth, Nigel Mant & <b>24 Dec:</b> Vincent Chung, Bill Barnes, Peter O'Donoghue.			
Collection Weekly Average for November				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		December 2017: Elaine 9459 6721
Stewardship	\$2982.25	Stewardship	\$616.20	January 2018: Elaine 9459 6721
Loose	\$845.72	Loose	\$432.50	
<b>Thank you</b> for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

**VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** this weekend. Thank you for your generosity towards those less fortunate.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CALENDARS:** Members of our Vinnies Conference will be selling Christmas Cards and 2018 calendars. Proceeds support the work of the conference. The Christmas cards feature two stained glass windows in our parish church.

**CHRISTMAS MASS AT THE AUSTIN HOSPITAL:** The December Mass at the Austin Hospital will be held at 9:30am on Christmas Day. No Mass will be held this Sunday.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):** the Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated at our parish on Friday 22nd December at 7:30pm. We gather to pray and prepare ourselves as a community and then have time for individual reconciliation.

**STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES:** The January to April instalment of Stewardship Envelopes is ready to be picked up from the porch of the church. Envelopes are in alphabetical order. Thank you for your continued support.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES:** are available in the pews. Money contributed to the Christmas Offering supports our parish priest, sick and retired priests, priests in poorer parishes and the ministry of the Archbishop. Thank you for your generosity.

**CHRISTMAS SINGING GROUPS:** We need more people to join us at the Sunday 10:30am and the 5pm masses. If you would like to help us prepare for Christmas by joining one of these groups you are most welcome.

**THE FRINGE OF HIS GARMENT:** a course by the Catholic School of Evangelisation; 24th and 25th March, at St Thomas the Apostle, North Greensborough. This course is a journey of inner healing with Jesus, the doctor who heals the deepest wounds of our life. Information: Sandra Bishop (9434 7553).

### CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS TIMES

Sunday 24th December

**CHRISTMAS EVE:** 7:00pm @ OLMC Nalleijerring Centre  
Monday 25th December

**MIDNIGHT MASS:** starting at 11:30pm with Carols

**CHRISTMAS DAY:** Masses at 8:30am & 10:30am

**AUSTIN HOSPITAL MASS:** at 9:30am

Sunday 31st December

**NEW YEAR'S EVE:** 5:00pm last Mass of the year  
Monday 1st January

**NEW YEAR'S DAY:** 10:30am

*No 5:00pm Sunday Mass on Christmas Eve  
No evening Mass on Christmas Day.*

**HEALING MASS:** Final Healing Mass for 2017 and Christmas break-up on Thursday, 21st December at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Henry Street, Eltham, 7:30pm, with by prayer ministry and supper after Mass. Please contact Emilia on 9435 7475 or Sandra 9434 7553 with any enquiries.

**FESTIVAL OF PRAYERS, READINGS AND CAROLS:** organ concert by Thomas Heywood in St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 22nd December at 6:30pm. Admission: \$20 at the door; no concessions. Children under 15 free. Bookings/tickets not required. Information: 9926 5753 / paul.taylor@cam.org.au.

**ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:** with the delivery of the final report we move as a Church to the next stage of the painful process of atoning for the sins of the past. We continue to hold in our thoughts and prayers all those who have suffered abuse at the hands of clergy, religious, teachers and volunteers in our Catholic schools and homes. It is for these children, women and men that we offer our humble prayers for their healing and health as they, too, move to this next stage in their journey of their story. If you would like time to reflect and speak about this, you are welcome to meet Fr Mario or to contact Michelle Robertson, our Child Safety officer, on 0409 533 100