



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street
HEIDELBERG

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which our parish stands, the Wurundjeri-Balluk clan of the Woi wurrung people in the Kulin Nation. We respectfully recognise elders, both past and present, and join in a silent prayer for healing of the pains caused by our ancestors.

St John's parish is a child-friendly community and we gratefully welcome young children and their families; we are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults in our midst.

12th/13th May 7th Sunday of Easter, Yr B



Ascension Sunday



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Father, we give you thanks

for the many gifts you have given us;
the gift of life, the gift of those who love us.

We thank you today for the gift of our mothers.

We give thanks for our mothers who have died
and for the unique way
they have revealed for us your love.

We ask that you bless them and keep them in your care
until the time comes for us
to join them in your Kingdom.

We ask your blessing upon the mothers
who are unable to be with us today.
May they know
how much we love and care for them.

We pray for birth mothers
who have loved their children so much they have shared the gift of their child with those
who could better care for them and their needs, and give them a secure home.

And we pray for adoptive mothers,
that they may always know their special role of being a true mother,
a revelation of God's love for their children.

We ask your blessing upon mothers who have lost children through stillbirth, crib death, accident
and tragedy, war and violence that they may have your continuing strength and courage.

We ask your blessing too, upon those who would very much like to be mothers but who are
having trouble having a child.

We ask your blessing upon all mothers in our community;
give them the strength to live the faithful and loving lives you call them to live.

Protect and guide them; keep them in your care.

We ask this blessing in the name of Jesus, our Lord. AMEN.



PARISH RAFFLE: 120 Litre bar fridge with \$300 worth of drinks. Bar fridge is padlocked; 77 keys left to be sold (\$10.00 each). The holder of the key that unlocks the padlock takes the lot! Buy your keys after weekend Masses. Try your luck with the padlock at the parish lunch on 17th June. Thanks you to the parishioners who donated fridge and drinks. Thank you for your support. Proceeds go towards the planned restoration of our parish church.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR: Maureen Hegarty
CHILD SAFETY OFFICER: Michelle Robertson m:0409 533 100
SACRAMENT COORDINATOR: Sr Loreto Lynch rsm

PARISH OFFICE:
 52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084
 t: 9457 1066
 e: heidelberg@cam.org.au
 w: cam.org.au/heidelberg
 facebook/stjohnheidelberg
OFFICE HOURS:
 Mo, Tu, Th, Fr; 9:30am to 2:30pm

MASS TIMES:
WEEKEND: Saturday: 6:00pm
 Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
AUSTIN HOSPITAL:
 3rd Sunday of the Month at 9:30am
WEEKDAYS: 9:15am

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):
 Saturdays at 9:45am & 5:30pm
 or by appointment
BAPTISMS: 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

ROSARY: Monday to Saturday after morning Mass
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:
 Wednesday: 7:30pm - 9:00pm;
 Thursday: 9:40am - 11:00am,
 Friday: 8:00am - 9:00am

LECTIO DIVINA: Every second and fourth Monday of the month at 7:00pm, in the parish house
LEGION OF MARY: Every Tuesday night at 7:00pm in the parish house; contact Sue 9459 8604
PARISH PILGRIM STATUE OF MARY:
 To have the statue of Mary in your home for one week contact Marj McBroom m: 0414 289 304

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY:
PRINCIPAL: Maureen Stella
ADDRESS:
 55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
 t: 9459 2963;
 office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

HALL HIRE:
 Fran Gasior: m:0417972317
 10:00am-5:00pm; Mon-Fri only

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME:
 Please contact parish office to introduce yourself

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.*

KNOX PUBLIC LECTURE: What Price Loyalty? Australian Catholics at the First World War by Dr Jeff Kildea. At Catholic Leadership Centre Cnr Victoria Parade / Hoddle Street, East Melbourne on Wednesday 16th May at 7:30pm. RSVP: Tuesday 8th May jill.doncovio@ctc.edu.au or 9412 3304.

MASS BY CANDLELIGHT: in the spirit of Taize at Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham; Thursday 17th May. Mass at 8:00pm, following a time of quiet reflection. Contact Rose 9434 3962 or Sandra 9434 7553.

PARISH RETREAT DAY: 'People Come First; the Pastoral Theology of Pope Francis,' by Br Mark O'Connor fms. From 9:30am to 4:00pm on Saturday 19th May, at Mother of God Church, Wilfred Rd., Ivanhoe. Cost, payable on the day, \$10; includes lunch. Book using registration form on brochure available from church foyer, or contact Fr Bill Edebohls: bill.edebohls@cam.org.au

CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES: featuring Daniel Wells, current Collingwood Champion. At the CQ Club, 113 - 123 Queen St. Melbourne, 7:00am to 9:00am on Thursday 24th May, \$45/head. Enquiries/bookings Michael Bohan 0439172465 / michael.bohan@menalive.org.au. A ministry of menALIVE.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Invest in your marriage! Rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. No group sharing; couples and a priest present the weekend. Based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome. Weekend dates: 1-3 June, 17-19 August, and 9-11 November. From Friday 7:00pm to Sunday 5:00pm. Accommodation and meals provided. Information: Andre and Maria 0411 225 992 / vicbookings@wwme.org.au / www.wwme.org.au

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE: Preparing and celebrating Catholic funerals. Organised by the ACU Centre for Liturgy. Venue: ACU Mercy Lecture Theatre and Chapel. Wednesdays 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th June from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Exploring a Christian theology of dying and death, and how the Order of Christian Funerals celebrates death in a specifically Catholic way.

"I like to contemplate the holiness present in the patience of God's people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly religious who never lose their smile. In their daily perseverance I see the holiness of the Church militant."

(Gaudete et Exsultate, 3)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Leah Jeyaratnam, Noah Pardi.
THE SICK: Max Chester, Lauren Black, Elizabeth Larkin, Catherine Livera, Patricia Mulholland, Erin Nevill, Patricia Wong.
ANNIVERSARIES: Peter Krzysik, James Anthony Clifford.
RECENTLY DECEASED: Bob Hyland, Sr Patricia Nunan rsc.

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.

12 May/13 May	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Elizabeth Williamson	Michelle Robertson	Matthew Sanders
2 nd Reader	Brian Garrone	Pietro Sciotto	Robyn Laurie	Leela Cherubim
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Jan McCaffery	Tim Boyle	Margaret Hansen
	Maria Basilone	Peter O'Donoghue	Leo Hernandez	Jenny Hollaway
	Emma Chang	Chris Ratnayake	Marni Mant	Jack Naden
	Marco Di Cesare	Val Wallis	Nigel Mant	Tony Rowlands
19 May/20 May	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Garry Sproules	Bob Dowling	Giuseppe Amoroso
2 nd Reader	Zen Zebrovski	Ronnie Maloney	Grace Lew-Kee	Mary Kotefski
Communion	Leela Cherubim	Pauline Griffiths	Leonore Giliberto	Catie Nesbitt
	Adrian Daly	Teresa Lincoln	Yannick Jonas	Sally Tramontana
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Elizabeth Williamson	Sue Lew-Kee	TBA
	Noel Micallef	Alice Wong	Doris Schembri	TBA
Counters	13 May: Tim Booth, Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes & 20 May: Vincent Chung, Bill Barnes, Peter O'Donoghue.			
Collection Weekly Average for April				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		May : Val 9458 2981
Stewardship	\$3067.72	Stewardship	\$581.90	June : Jenny 9459 7174
Loose	\$799.17	Loose	\$411.00	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST! Next Sunday we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. Red is the colour associated with the Holy Spirit. Let us all wear red, or have a red ribbon next Sunday, as we celebrate the Holy Spirit in our life.

AUSTIN MASS: Sunday 20th May. Volunteers please meet at 8:30am for 9:30am Mass at the chapel. Parishioners are invited to participate in this Mass to minister to the sick by their presence. Thank you.

Chaplaincy Sunday Appeal: next weekend 19/20 May, to support the vital work of Catholic Chaplains among young people in youth justice facilities, patients and their families in hospitals, people living with HIV/AIDS, men and women in prisons and seafarers. Thank you for your donation.

SERVE THE SERVERS GATHERING: Saturday 26th May after 6:00pm Mass. Let us celebrate and thank our young servers over a movie and popcorn!

THANKSGIVING MASS: on Sunday 27th May as a parish we thank all those who have in any way offered ministry to our parish community. (*Readers, ministers of Communion, altar servers, music ministry, church cleaners, those who prepare flowers, sacristans, Austin volunteers, money collectors and counters, parish council and finance committee members, Vinnies, Heidelcare and many, many more who generously give of their time and talent.*) 10:30am Mass will be a Mass of thanksgiving followed by a sausage sizzle at the parish hall. BYO drinks, tea and coffee provided. For catering purposes kindly put down name and number on sheet in church porch or contact the parish office 9457 1066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED: Family of three seeking property for rent at a cheap rate. Please contact parish office for details. Thank you.

REJOICE AND BE GLAD: Copies of the new document from Pope Francis available at parish office (\$10).

ST JOHN'S GEMS: Tuesday 15th May; we will be having fun with art, week collage and paper mosaics, and playing games such as Scrabble. Make new friends, have fun and enjoy a chat. All welcome. Elizabeth 0447 195 553, Jan 0423 478 504.

PARISH MASS COUNT: During the month of May we will be having our annual Mass count. This is normally carried out during the offertory. Thank you.

PHILIPPINES MISSION IMMERSION TRIP: We plan to visit the parish in Bataan. Tentative date January 2019. The initial group will be made up of ten people over the age of 18. Cost, excluding spending money, is around \$2,000, including travel, food and lodging. Anyone interested please email heidelberg@cam.org.au or contact Fr Mario.

ST JOHN'S ANNUAL FAMILY PARISH LUNCH: Sunday 17th June at 12noon in the parish hall. All St John's families & friends are welcome. BYO drinks and, in our time-honoured tradition, a small dessert to share. Parish raffle and a door prize to be won on the day. Children's activities include movie & ice cream. Supervision is not provided for children on the day and we ask that you are mindful of where your children are at all times during the luncheon. Children's entertainment provided. Bookings on www.trybooking.com/366075 / Maureen Hegarty 0423877736 / leave your name on the sheet in porch. Adults \$26, children \$10, preschoolers free. We look forward to celebrating this event with you.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2018: classes for children in Year 6 or above start on 22nd May and finish on 7th August. Sacrament of Confirmation on 12th August at 2:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

FIRST READING:

Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

In my earlier work, *Theophilus*, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

R./ God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. R./

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. R./

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. R./

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority,

Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

ASCENDED BUT NOT DEPARTED

The account of the Lord's Ascension in today's first reading does not mean that Jesus, at the end of his earthly career, literally ascended as described. The clear parallels with the description of the prophet Elijah's ascent into heaven (2 Kings 2:1-18) suggest that Luke is using that episode as a model to indicate the closure of Jesus' personal ministry on earth and its continuation from heaven. Having escaped the clutches of his enemies by rising from the dead, Jesus now makes an Elijah-like ascent to heaven.

Just before he departs, the disciples voice a strong sense of "unfinished business:" "Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Jesus does not give a direct answer. The time of the Kingdom's full arrival and the completion of the messianic program remains shrouded in mystery. What the disciples must understand is that, empowered by the same Spirit that energised his mission, they are to become instruments of its realisation in the new era—that of the Church—that lies ahead. Through their hands and feet and mouth Jesus will continue his messianic work until the end of time.

Taken from a late appendix to the Gospel of Mark (16:15-20), today's gospel has Jesus' commissioning his disciples before being carried up to heaven. The "signs" that are mentioned as accompanying believers (including snake-handling!) are best explained as expressions of the risen Lord's triumph over evil, and the hope for a renewed and harmonious world which that victory holds out.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj