



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.

11TH / 12TH AUGUST — 19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME 2018

Dear Parishioners, Visitors and Friends

WEEK 4 – OUR FUTURE WEEKEND

Welcome to the final week of our Parish Stewardship Program.

In recent weeks we have reflected on the role of faith in our lives and the importance of gathering to celebrate the Eucharist each weekend. We have also considered the notion of our parish as a *community* of faith and how we can make our own contribution to parish life by being involved in our Groups & Ministries.

This week brings it all together. We look to the future – imagining what sort of parish we want to be. Ours is one filled with optimism – but one that needs the support and contribution of every individual if we are to achieve our dreams.

This week we ask you to finalise your commitments by:

Signing up for a Parish Group or Ministry;

Making your meaningful pledge of financial support to the Stewardship Program.

This week we welcome Fr Jude Pirota, Parish Priest of St James the Apostle Parish, Hoppers Crossing North. Fr Jude will be with us for all Masses over the weekend encouraging us with our commitments. We also welcome Lorella Di Paolo from the Parish Development team of the Archdiocese of Melbourne who will coordinate the distribution/completion/collection process with assistance from members of the Leadership Team and who will be available after all Masses if you need further information.

We thank you in advance for your generous support.

WEBSITE UPDATE:

The dedicated Stewardship Programme section this week features a special video from Monsignor Greg Bennet, the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. There is also a special Ministry focus on our **Austin Hospital Volunteers** – an important part of our parish community. This may be of interest to you!

SCRIPTURE REMINDS US:

“The Church of God that will last into eternity is the Church of living stones, built upon the cornerstone of Christ that must constantly be built up.” (1 Peter 2:5)

Fr Mario

PRAYER FOR OUR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME

*Lord, we thank you
for calling us to be
your Church.*

*Through our Baptism
we are called to
service and to
witness.*

*In the Eucharist we
sustain and strengthen that call.*

*By serving others we follow your example and
proclaim our beliefs.*

*By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our
love and care.*

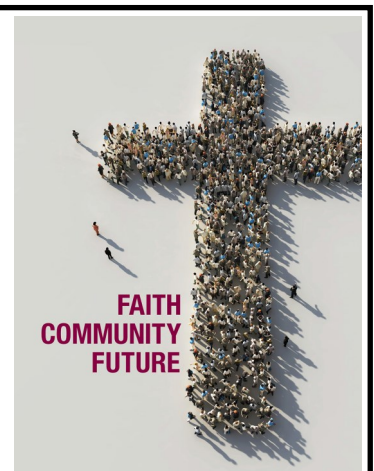
*Lord, help us always to worship you as you
deserve,*

to grow in faith and service

and to give without counting the cost.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



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.*

SACRED WORDS, SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP: to be launched on Saturday 11th August from 2:00pm to 3:30pm at St Pius XI parish hall, 431 Waterdale Road, Heidelberg West. Guest speaker: Fr Brendan Byrne sj speaking about the different lenses through which we may gain deeper understanding of the Scripture. Following the launch those interested will meet regularly to study Scripture together. RSVP Tracey Doublet (0430 279 749 / tracey.doublet@marists.org.au) by Thursday 9th August.

MEDITATION ON JESUS: One day retreat on Saturday 29th September from 9:30am—4:00pm and a five day retreat from Monday 20th August 9:30am to Friday 24th August 4:00pm. Breathing exercises and gentle postures cleanses and heals body, mind and soul. Both retreats are guided by Fr Gilbert Carlo svd and will be held at Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia. RSVP and for information: gilbertcarlo@gmail.com / enquiries@janssencentre.org / www.janssencentre.org / 9762 6625

PALMS AUSTRALIA: Teach with Timorese teachers! Take your teaching skills to new heights in the mountains of Timor. Contact Christine on 02 9560 5333. For more opportunities, visit palms.org.au/volunteer. Can't commit just yet? Check out palms.org.au/encounters

POPE FRANCIS' VISION FOR A LISTENING CHURCH: A conversation on the Plenary Council 2020 by Fr Noel Connolly. On Thursday 30th August from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at St Francis Xavier Hall, 88 Mayona Road, Montmorency. Register online. RSVP by 25th August at www.trybooking.com/WXRZ. Enquiries: Beth 9435 2178 / beth.krolikowski@cam.org.au or Regina 9457 5794 / stpiusvic@bigpond.com

NATIONAL EUTHANASIA DEBATE: The Senate will soon vote on a Bill which would allow territories to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide. Please contact your senators TODAY and ask them to protect vulnerable people by voting against the Bill. Visit the HOPE website to send your message <http://www.no euthanasia.org.au/sign>

REQUIRED: Parishioners who can spend time with sick Catholic patients in the Austin hospital, offering patients prayer, support and holy Communion. This is another way of reaching out and being Christ in today's world. Please contact the parish office 94571066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au

HEALING MASS: Thursday 16th August at Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham. Evening starts at 7:30pm with Praise & Worship and Mass, with Anointing of the sick. Prayer Ministry and supper available. Contact: Emilia 94357475 / Rose 9434 3962.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Jaxson & Mason Conforto.

THE SICK: M. Cooke, Aurette Ferriere, Bern Green, Francis Micallef, John Pikines.

ANNIVERSARIES: Helen Mc Guinness, Giancarla Chiara, Bill Whelan, Wally Richardson, Mary Rees, Maureen Brennan, Thomas Hansen, Veronica Hansen, Maria Kairouz, Margaret Abrahams, Simon Soares, Rodrigo & Silva Families.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Leorzio Cipollone.

*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.*

11 Aug/12 Aug	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Claire Newsome	Michelle Robertson	Johanna Nesbitt
2 nd Reader	Brian Garrone	Peter Penson	Harsha Dilip	Candida Rowlands
Communion	Donna Richardson	Teresa Lincoln	Kate Mathai	Tony Rowlands
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Michelle Penson	Beena Dilip	Sally Tramontana
	Maria Basilone	Leo Hernandez	Maureen Howard	Charito Cosio
	TBA	Jack Naden	Leonore Giliberto	Leo Cosio
18 Aug/19 Aug	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Adrian Daly	Pietro Sciotto	Joanne Martinez	Mary Kotefski
2 nd Reader	Barbara Barnes	Marguerite Ryan	Robyn Laurie	TBA
Communion	Jeanette O'Sullivan	Pauline Griffiths	Tim Boyle	Mark Aiello
	Emma Chang	Alice Wong	Yannick Jonas	Margaret Hansen
	Domenica Ashworth	Val Wallis	Jan Mc Caffery	Jenny Hollaway
	Bill Barnes	Stanly Devasia	Doris Schembri	Grace Nesbitt
Counters	12 Aug: Graeme Foote, Michael Tilley & 19 Aug: Tim Booth, Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes.			
Collection Weekly Average for July				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		August: Cath 9459 9420
Stewardship	\$3290.62	Stewardship	\$655.45	September: Merilyn 9459 1950
Loose	\$635.47	Loose	\$317.52	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: This Sunday 12th August, members of our parish community will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation from Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli at the Cathedral. This is another important parish event and we are encouraged to keep these members of our community in our prayers. We thank the teachers and catechists who have prepared these children and pray for their families as they continue together on their journey of faith.

'OUR FUTURE' FORUM: Thank you to all parishioners who participated in this forum.

ST JOHN'S GEMS (50+): on Tuesday 14th August from 10:00am to 12 noon, in Francis Xavier meeting room at the parish house. Scrabble, 500's, UNO, Checkers etc. All welcome. New members always welcome.

GEMS UPCOMING OUTING: Morning Melodies on Tuesday 28th August at 10:30am at the Lower Plenty Hotel. Abba songs. \$15.00 includes entertainment, Devonshire Tea, Lunch (including wine, beer or soft drink). Transport available. Information: Elizabeth 0447195553.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY: This Wednesday 15th August is a holy day of obligation and we are encouraged to participate at Mass on this special day. Masses at 9:15am, 2:30pm (school Mass) and 7:00pm.

ST JOHN'S PARISH COMMUNITY NIGHT OUT: this Saturday 18th August you are invited for dinner and a fun night from 7:30pm onwards at Four Leaves Café, 37 Greville Rd, Rosanna. Everyone will have the opportunity to order a meal from the café menu and pay for their own meal. Numbers are required to make the necessary bookings. Please email or contact the parish office by Tuesday 14th August (heidelberg@cam.org.au; 94571066).

AUSTIN MASS: next Sunday 19th August. Volunteers please meet at 8:30am for 9:30am Mass. Parishioners are invited to participate in this Mass to minister to the sick by their presence. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES: The new set of stewardship / thanksgiving envelopes start on Sunday 16th September. People using envelopes are missing two envelopes for the 2nd and the 9th September. Please pick up these two envelopes from the church foyer. The new set of envelopes will be available in September. Thank you.

NEW MINISTRIES IN OUR PARISH: Three ministries we are looking at are bereavement groups, sacristans and welcomers. At St John's we are a warm and welcoming. The role of **welcomers** is to be in the church porch welcoming parishioners as they walk in to Mass. **Sacristans** help prepare for Mass and ensure all the ministries required are covered. Members of **bereavement** groups reach out to families who have lost loved ones, offering them prayer and support. Please consider taking part in one of these ministries, or any other ministries on our time and talent sheet. Contact parish office for more information.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: To assist in raising money for the parish school library, the school has organized a Book Fair and is inviting parishioners to visit. The Book Fair is in St Monica's and gives you the opportunity to purchase books for children or grandchildren before or after 10:30am Mass on Sunday 19th August. Thanks for your support. Judy Doupe and Elizabeth Williamson.

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR TAX RECEIPTS: are available upon request from the parish office. Please call or email on Heidelberg@cam.org.au or 94571066. Thank you for your support.

FIRST READING*1 Kings 19:4-8*

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 33:2-9*

R./ Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

R./

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

R./

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.

R./

The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

R./

SECOND READING*Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2*

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

GOSPEL*John 6:41-51*

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other. 'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me.

Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

TAUGHT BY GOD

The people who are in dispute with Jesus in today's gospel are called 'the Jews,' even though everyone in the scene, including Jesus and his disciples, is a Jew. The phrase is the fourth gospel's way of referring to those who have become set adversaries of Jesus, resisting his claims. The usage reflects the historical situation of the community behind this gospel. It should not be understood in an ethnic sense as referring to the Jewish people as such.

These people complain about Jesus' claim to be 'the bread come down from heaven.' They know all too well his human origins ('his father and mother'). How can he hint at divine origin in this way?

In reply Jesus cites a text from Isaiah (54:13): 'They will all be taught by God.' The text suggests a mode of teaching involving a divine-human engagement of unparalleled closeness. The Father has sent the Son into the world and drawn people to him so that in hearing Jesus and believing in him, they are really being 'taught by God.'

It is as the One who imparts this teaching that Jesus describes himself as 'the Bread of Life.' The 'bread' (manna) God gave to the Israelites in the desert sustained their biological life for a time. Jesus in his teaching is the 'Bread come down from heaven' that gives sustenance for eternal life.

We should not miss at the end a hint of the cost that this gift will involve for Jesus: the giving up (in death) of his bodily life ('my flesh') for the life of the world.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj