



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH
& PRIMARY SCHOOL

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street

HEIDELBERG

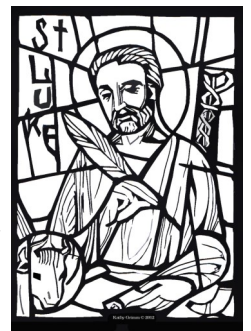
We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which our parish stands, the Wurundjeri-Balluk clan of the Woi wurrung people in the Kulin Nation. We respectfully recognise elders, both past and present, and join in a silent prayer for healing of the pains caused by our ancestors.

Central to the mission of St John's Parish is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

19TH / 20TH JANUARY 2019—2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

Dear parishioners, visitors and friends,

The readings we read during our Sunday Masses are set out in a three year cycle, usually referred to as year A, B and C. During year A we read the gospel according to Matthew, during year B we follow Mark and in year C we read Luke. The gospel of John is used mainly at Christmas and Easter. This three-year schema ensures that the main parts of the gospel story are reflected upon regularly. Starting from the beginning of Advent, this year we are in the last year of the cycle—Year C and so we will be focusing on the gospel written by Luke.



For the large part of the documents found in the Old and the New Testaments, it is very difficult to determine with certainty who the authors were. Most of these documents do not have any internal or external markers pointing to the author. With regards to the gospel according to Luke, it is generally agreed that the author was a companion of the apostle Paul mentioned in his letters to Philemon (24), the Colossians (4:14) and the second letter to Timothy (4:11). Luke's gospel is followed by a second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, where it is clear that the author held Paul in high esteem.

Moreover, it is also difficult to determine an exact date or a place when and where this gospel was written. Looking at certain details within the text, it is common to say that this gospel was composed for a non-Jewish Christian community around the year 80AD—fifty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus (33AD), and twenty years after the martyrdom of Paul (62AD).

In the introduction to the gospel, Luke informs us that he has done extensive research and has made use of a number of sources in order to build up his story. We know that one of the sources used by Luke is the gospel according to Mark, written about a decade earlier. With the skill of a narrator Luke endeavours to transmit the good news of Jesus to a young Church that is not familiar with Old Testament books and traditions.

Fr Mario

HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY!

The following additional 'Christian' verse can be sung in prayer asking God to protect us and our nation.



With Christ our head and cornerstone,
We'll build our Nation's might.
Whose way and truth and light alone
Can guide our path aright.
Our lives, a sacrifice of love, reflect our Master's care.
With faces turned to heaven above, Advance Australia fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing, Advance Australia fair.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR:
Christopher Ratnayake
CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:
Michelle Robertson m:0409 533 100

PARISH OFFICE:
52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084
t: 9457 1066
e: heidelberg@cam.org.au
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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
**FIRST RECONCILIATION,
FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:**
Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

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.*

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION During Weekend Masses: We urgently need more parishioners to come forward and take on this ministry in order for us to be able to continue offering Communion as both Body and Blood at our weekend Masses. A workshop will be held on Monday 28th January at 7:00pm in the parish church. All welcome to join.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS: At this time of the year we send and receive a number of Christmas cards and greetings. Used postage stamps can be resold to stamp collectors and the money sent to help missionary activities in different parts of the world. Please save your used postage stamps and drop them off at the parish office or at the sacristy. Thank you.

EASTER 2019: A short note about Lent and Easter this year. Ash Wednesday this year is on 6th March. Palm Sunday is on 14th April and Easter Sunday is on 21st April. On Easter Sunday this year we will be having three morning Masses: 7:00am, 8:30am and 10:30am.

SERVE THE SERVERS EVENING: on Saturday 23rd February, after 6:00pm Mass; a time to celebrate with and thank our young servers.

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PLAYGROUP: is a very casually run playgroup that has an inclusive approach, with the aim of having fun and is available to the St John's Catholic Parish and Primary School Community. Parents and grandparents looking after pre-school children are invited to participate. The playgroup runs during school terms every Monday from 9:15am to 11:00am. For information contact coordinator Rachelle Hitch: 0431 810 771 / rachelle.hitch@hotmail.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: during Sunday 10:30am Mass. Children are offered a special liturgy during which the word of God is explained to them in a way they can better understand. Children's Liturgy leaders are urgently needed for this ministry. Leaders must possess a current Working with Children Check. Please contact parish office for information.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHURCH IS CELEBRATING A PLENARY COUNCIL IN 2020: We as Church are invited to participate by reflecting on: 'What is God asking of us in Australia at this time?' Please register your response by Wednesday 6th March at <http://www.c.am.rg.au/plenary/> or by mailing your response.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Jenny Ferriere, Marie Hankin, Elizabeth Larkin, Francis Micallef, Joyce Quinn, Frank Walton, Noeline Zerna.

ANNIVERSARIES: Eileen Snow.

*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.*

19 Jan / 20 Jan	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Ronnie Maloney	Elizabeth Williamson	Des O'Brien
2 nd Reader	Michael Leonard	Barbara Barnes	Bob Dowling	Leela Cherubim
Communion	TBA	Pauline Griffiths	Maureen Howard	Leo Cosio
26 Jan / 27 Jan	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Pamela Smith	Garry Sproules	Elizabeth Williamson	Des O'Brien
2 nd Reader	Leela Cherubim	Jack Naden	Claire Newsome	Rosemary Vecchies
Communion	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Mary Harty	Doris Schembri	Charito Cosio
Counters	20 Jan: Vincent Chung, Bill Barnes, Peter O'Donoghue. & 27 Jan: Stephen Devanish, Nicole Pelizzaro, Thomas Bechelli.			
Collection Weekly Average for December			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		January: Elaine 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,498.83	Stewardship	\$725.95	February: Joan 0490 254 928
Loose	\$659.08	Loose	\$350.00	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

GOLD COIN COLLECTION: The November collection was \$504/- Next collection will be on 26th and 27th January. Thank you for your generosity.

NO AUSTIN MASS THIS MONTH: Mass at the Austin hospital will return next month. Thank you.

BLESSING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN, UNIFORM AND SCHOOL BAGS: As we praise God for the start of a new school year, we invite school children to come forward for a special blessing at all Masses of the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd February. All school children are invited to come to Mass wearing their uniform and with their school bag carrying a few books in it. This can also be as special occasion especially for children starting kinder this year!

BLESSING OF ST JOHN'S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL STAFF: at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday 3rd February. Let us welcome our school staff as we start a new year. Celebration continues after Mass with morning tea and a sausage sizzle at the parish hall.

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD JESUS IN THE TEMPLE is celebrated by the Church on the 2nd of February. This is a good opportunity for us to acknowledge, bless and thank God for the presence of children in our parish community. We celebrate this feast with a prayer of blessing for our children and their families during all the weekend Masses of the 9th and 10th of February.

2019 SACRAMENT PROGRAMME For St John's parishioners who do not attend St John's parish primary school, enrolments for all sacraments need to be in by not later than Monday 5th March. Details about catechism classes will be available at a later stage. Contact parish secretary for enrolments. (Reconciliation: year 3 and higher in October, First Communion: year 4 and higher on Saturday 15th June, Confirmation, year 6 and higher on Sunday 11th August.

VOLUNTEERS AT THE AUSTIN HOSPITAL: As a parish we have a very old history of doing voluntary work at the Austin Hospital. This volunteer work has different forms. **A.)** Some volunteers offer to visit the hospital during the week, offering friendship, prayerful support and Holy Communion to Catholic patients. **B.)** Others help once a month checking which patients would like to attend Mass at the hospital chapel. **C.)** Other volunteers help wheel the patients to and from the chapel. **D.)** While others attend Mass offering support to the patients. Mass at the Austin Hospital is on the third Sunday of each month at 9:30am. (There is also Mass at the Repatriation Hospital chapel on the fourth Sunday of each month at 11:00am.) All volunteers working at the hospital need to be registered. If you can help with any of these ministries, please contact the parish office (94571066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au) thank you.

PARISH NURSING HOMES: Catholics living at The Views, (corner of Waiora street and Lower Plenty road) and Clevedon Terrace (Upper Heidelberg Road) are visited weekly by members of the parish offering them friendship, prayerful support, and the sacrament of Communion. Parishioners who would like to participate in this ministry, please contact the parish office. Training will be provided.

WELCOMING NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS: As a welcoming community of faith it is important to keep an eye out for new members in our community. Please introduce yourself to new parishioners and make them welcome. New parishioners please contact the parish office (94571066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au) to give us your details. You can also pick up a welcome pack from the church porch. Thank you!

FIRST READING

Isaiah 62:1-5

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken,' nor your land 'Abandoned,' but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded;' for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 95(96):1-3,7-10*

TOGETHER: Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

LEFT SIDE (AMBO SIDE)

O sing a new song to the Lord,

sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

RIGHT SIDE (PRIEST'S SIDE)

Proclaim his help day by day,

tell among the nations his glory

and his wonders among all the peoples.

LEFT SIDE (AMBO SIDE)

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,

give the Lord glory and power;

give the Lord the glory of his name.

RIGHT SIDE (PRIEST'S SIDE)

Worship the Lord in his temple.

O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'

He will judge the peoples in fairness.

TOGETHER: Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

GOSPEL**John 2:1-11**

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water', and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

THE TRUE BRIDEGROOM REVEALED

In the village culture of Palestine in Jesus' day it was the responsibility of the bridegroom to provide wine at a wedding. To have the wine run out before the end of the celebration would be a grave embarrassment both to him and his family, a failure remembered for generations.

Doubtless, it was concern on this score that prompted the Mother of Jesus to draw the problem to her Son's attention. His initial hesitation to act reflects a tendency appearing elsewhere in the Fourth Gospel (see 7:3-6; 11:3-6). Jesus does not respond immediately to human prompting. He is following a divine agenda set by the Father.

Eventually, Jesus does remedy the situation, providing not only wine in abundance but 'the best wine, kept till last.' His miraculous provision of ordinary wine then functions as a sign' disclosing a deeper reality: namely, that he is true Bridegroom at this wedding, fulfilling God's promise, as recorded in today's first reading, to become the Bridegroom of Israel forever (Isaiah 62:2-4; see also Hosea 2:14-16; Isaiah 54:4-8; Jeremiah 2:2; John 3:29; etc.).

This is what the evangelist is referring to when he states, that Jesus 'let his glory be seen at Cana in Galilee.' He revealed himself to be 'the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth' (1:14).

The Catholic tradition, in its sacramental understanding of marriage, has long found in Jesus' presence at this simple village wedding in Galilee a divine pledge to be present at all weddings and to enrich all marriages with the superabundant and unfailing 'wine' of God's love.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj