



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street
HEIDELBERG

We acknowledge the traditional 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.

1ST / 2ND JUNE, Ascension Sunday, YR C

GROUNDING IN TRUTH—WALK TOGETHER WITH COURAGE

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

Between 27th May and 3rd June we celebrate National Reconciliation Week. On the altar we have the two flags that represent our first nation peoples, the Australian Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait Islander flag.

From this weekend, at each of our weekend celebrations, the principal gatherings of our faith community, we will be making a declaration of acknowledgement of country.

What is a **WELCOME TO COUNTRY**? Protocols for welcoming visitors to Country have been a part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures for thousands of years. Despite the absence of fences or visible borders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups had clear boundaries separating their Country from that of other groups. Crossing into another group's Country required a request for permission to enter. When permission was granted the hosting group would welcome the visitors, offering them safe passage and protection of their spiritual being during the journey. While visitors were provided with a safe passage, they also had to respect the protocols and rules of the landowner group while on their Country. Today these protocols have been adapted to contemporary circumstances, however, the essential elements of welcoming visitors and offering safe passage remain in place. A Welcome to Country occurs at the beginning of a formal event and can take many forms including singing, dancing, smoking ceremonies or a speech in traditional language or English. A Welcome to Country can only be delivered by Traditional Owners, or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have been given permission from Traditional Owners, to welcome visitors to their Country.

An **Acknowledgement of Country** is an opportunity for anyone to show respect for Traditional Custodians and the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country. It can be given by both non-Indigenous people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. There are no set protocols or wording for an Acknowledgement of Country. *(Statement prepared by Aunty Sherry Balcombe from Catholic Aboriginal Ministry).*

The statement in our parish will read: We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the land of the Kulin Nation on which we gather today.

Fr Mario



PARISH RAFFLE: A 120 Litre bar fridge full of drinks, total value: \$550. The bar fridge is padlocked and 132 keys left to be sold for \$10.00 each. The holder of the key that unlocks the padlock wins the bar fridge! Please buy your keys after weekend Masses. Try your luck with the padlock at the parish lunch on 23rd June. Proceeds go towards the planned church renovations.

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
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
**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.*

MISSION IMMERSION TRIP 2020: Experience faith in action while working with the poor in Manila city and in Bataan province in the Philippines. From 2nd January to 19th January 2020. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 35 are given first preference. Applicants over 35 are considered if there is availability. For details and to express interest email: mission2020@mssp.org.au or speak to Fr Mario. The group will be hosted by the Paulist Missionaries (MSSP) whose work is supported by St John's parish. Applications close 30th June.

STRENGTHENING OUR PARISH COMMUNITY: Oftentimes, when we go to Sunday Mass, we do not know anyone to talk to, we are in a rush, or maybe simply do not feel like hanging around after Mass. Another way of getting to know others within our parish community by coming together in smaller groups. We are inviting parishioners to offer their homes for small group gatherings. You can either invite other parishioners or friends who live close to you or we can organise a group to come together. At these gatherings we can celebrate Mass and share a light supper as we spend time together. To show interest please contact the parish office or Jan (0423478504). Thankyou.

THE EYRIE PARISH MAGAZINE: is looking at stories about countries and cultures where we came from. Contact: heidelberg.eyrie@cam.org.au

St John's Walking Group: Monday 3rd June. Meeting outside the parish house at 10:00am to walk along the Anniversary Rail Trail. Coffee at Town and Country part way through the walk. Information: (0423 478 504).

BIGGEST Morning Tea: On Tuesday 21st of May the parish supported this most popular Cancer Council's fundraising event. It was an enjoyable and rewarding way to support the event and help save lives. The event raised \$574 for Cancer Council Australia, which goes towards funding research and prevention and support services for those affected by cancer.

BRING YOUR PALMS TOGETHER: Join Palms Australia to celebrate diversity, cross-cultural understanding, and call to peaceful development of global family. On Thursday 6th June from 5:30pm at the Irish Times Pub, 427 Little Collins St, RSVP by 2nd June: Robert@palms.org.au / www.palms.org.au / 0295605333.

TURN YOUR PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS INTO PROSTHETIC HANDS FOR KIDS: St John's is joining others across Victoria in collecting bottle caps with two great goals! Reducing waste going to landfill and changing our world by supporting Envision Melbourne (envision.org.au), a community focused charity, turning used bottle caps into 3D-printed prosthetic hands for children in underprivileged and war torn countries. Collect lids from home, work, family and friends and leave them in the box in the church foyer.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Ada Parente, Francis Micallef, Lina Poon, Jean Webb.

ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Cipollone.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Michael Carter.

*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.*

1 June/2 June	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Peter Penson	Karen Frost	Joanne Martinez	Catie Nesbitt
2 nd Reader	Moira Di Cesare	Garry Sproules	Claire Newsome	Margaret Andrews
Communion	Michelle Penson	Jerzy Kmita	Tim Boyle	Charito Cosio
	Donna Richardson	Oliver Kmita	Mary Furlan	Leo Cosio
	Marco Di Cesare	Fiona Curry	Elizabeth Williamson	Leela Cherubim
	Domenica Ashworth	Pauline Griffiths	Yannick Jonas	Jenny Hollaway
8 June/9 June	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Adrian Daly	Claire Newsome	Elizabeth Williamson	Rosemary Vecchies
2 nd Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Marguerite Ryan	Peter Penson	Mary Kotefski
Communion	Maria Basilone	Leo Hernandez	Geraldine Manuel	Claire Aboueid
	Emma Chang	Christopher Ratnayake	Brian McIntosh	TBA
	Sue Lew-Kee	Margaret Bradley	Doris Schembri	TBA
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	TBA	Michelle Penson	TBA
Counters	2 June: Graeme Foote, Michael Tilley & 9 June: Tim Booth, Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes.			
Collection Weekly Average for April			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		June : Jenny 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,134.63	Stewardship	\$576.42	July : Val 0490 254 928
Loose	\$751.59	Loose	\$390.00	Morning Tea, 2nd June: Rosa & Maureen
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL: this weekend at all Masses. Please be generous as we support poorer sisters and brothers in our community.

MORNING TEA & SAUSAGE SIZZLE: After 10:30am Mass this Sunday. All welcome. Gold coin donation to cover expenses of sausage sizzle, appreciated.

2019 ST JOHN ANNUAL PARISH FAMILY LUNCH: This year is at Four Leaves Café, on Sunday 23rd June from 12:30pm. Adults \$30, children \$13, preschoolers free. To book a place please put your name down on the sheet in the church foyer, contact the parish office, or on trybooking.com/504050.

HEIDELCARE MEETING: at 7:30pm this Monday 3rd June in the Francis Xavier meeting room in the parish house. All welcome.

HEIDELCARE: Congratulations to Heidelcare volunteer Margaret Fleming, who was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Banyule Volunteer Awards on Sunday afternoon 19th May. She has been volunteering over 40 years in various organisations! Well done Margaret.

POSITION VACANT: Parish Secretary at St Martin of Tours, Rosanna / Macleod. Details at: cam.org.au/Jobs.aspx. Applications to: recruitment@cam.org.au by **Wednesday 5th June**. Please submit a cover letter along with a current resume. It may be beneficial to submit references to support your application.

BIRTH OF A CHILD, MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES: As a parish family we are invited to thank God, acknowledge and pray for parishioners celebrating milestone birthdays, anniversaries or the birth of a child. Kindly inform the parish office of these occasions, 94571066.

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS: Please introduce yourself to Fr Mario and the parish office.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: is a worldwide charity that continues to develop new ways of reaching out to those seeking our support. Through our programmes, we are able to assist with educational expenses, utilities, access to holiday homes and network with other agencies. **Come and See.** Tuesday 4th June at 7:30pm in the parish house Francis Xavier meeting room.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MASS TIME: Due to the Kabataan Orchestra concert on Saturday 15th June, Mass will be at 5:00pm instead of 6:00pm.

JOSE DE PIRO KABATAAN ORCHESTRA 2019 TOUR OF MELBOURNE AND REGIONAL VICTORIA: A talented youth orchestra from Bataan, Philippines started by Fr Joe Cremona will perform a concert at Our Lady of Mercy College Performing Arts Centre, Heidelberg on Saturday 15th June at 7:00pm. No cost to attend but donations to assist the orchestra to continue to develop appreciated. To book please go to: trybooking.com/489205 or contact the parish office.

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): The next GEMS gathering will be Tuesday 2nd June in the Francis Xavier meeting room at 10.00am. All welcome to join us for games and a soup and toastie lunch. Transport available. Elizabeth (0447195553).

GEMS UPCOMING EVENT, CINEMA MORNING: Tuesday 18th June, Palace Cinema, 231 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn at 11:00am. Cost \$20—movie and lunch. **'POMS'** is a comedy about a group of women who form a cheer leading squad at their retirement community, proving that you are never too old. Bookings essential and close on 13th June. Contact Elizabeth (0447195553). Transport available.

COMMUNION IN THE HOME: Do you know of someone who is no longer able to attend mass but would like to receive communion in their home. Please contact Elizabeth (0447195553).

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. 6-7. 8-9

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

LEFT SIDE

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.

RIGHT SIDE

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.

LEFT SIDE

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.

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

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

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

JESUS ASCENDS TO THE FATHER

Jesus has made his risen presence known to those who are to become his key witnesses. Now Luke's gospel depicts him making an ascent to heaven like that of the prophet Elijah in 2Kings 2:1-18. As Elijah had promised his disciple Elisha a double share of his own prophetic spirit, so Jesus promises his disciples that they should wait in Jerusalem to be 'clothed with power from on high.' This promise of the Spirit, to be realised at Pentecost, ensures the continuity between his ministry, empowered by the Spirit (Luke 3:22;4:14,18), and that of the Church that will carry it on.

Beyond this, the feast of the Ascension celebrates the risen Lord's exaltation to God's right hand—whence, through the power of the Spirit, he will continue his messianic subjugation of all powers hostile to God and the return of the entire cosmos to the rule of God (1Cor 15:22-28;Phil 2:9-11). The full realisation of this programme remains an act of hope, as we know all too well. But Jesus' paschal victory has dealt the forces hostile to God a fatal blow. As the Church, empowered by his Spirit, carries on his messianic work, the Ascension assures her that in all her labour and suffering, the risen Lord stands at the right hand of God, interceding on behalf of all. So the Ascension is not just something that happened to Jesus: it is the feast that celebrates the hope that his triumph will ultimately be ours as well.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj