



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.

10TH / 11TH AUGUST—19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR C

Dear Parishioners, Visitors and Friends,

This Thursday we celebrated the feast of our first Australian Saint: Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Mary was an interesting character; she did not just sit back and watch the world pass her by, she became a main actor in her world; she brought together a number of ladies and opened schools to educate the poor and the needy.

Mary's choices were not always easy to carry out. Because of her innovative and challenging ideas, she was at one stage excommunicated, cut off from the official Church. This did not deter her; she stood her ground based on her beliefs, and in the end she succeeded.

As our Church in Australia prepares for the Plenary Council, like Mary MacKillop we too need to have the courage to challenge the Church we belong to.

To remain relevant our Church needs to find new answers to the new questions that arise from our world today. As Church we together need to continuously pray that the Holy Spirit help us to discover these new answers. At times this may mean that we have to speak out and challenge even long standing traditions, remembering that the Holy Spirit is like wind and like fire, and nothing remains the same in the presence of this Spirit of God.

To understand what the Spirit is telling us today, we need to be discerning and prayerful, but then we need the courage to speak out. The Spirit does not only speak through our leaders, but through each and every one of us, if we are ready to listen carefully.

Mary of the Cross is a good role model for us as Church in this moment of the history of our Church. What is my role in this Church? How can I help the Church discern God's will today?

Thank you

.... Mario

READINESS TO RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT

The rather mixed series of instructions in today's gospel come together around two related themes: God's desire simply to load us with blessings and our need to be on the watch so as not to put obstacles in the way.

In view of the Lord's generosity, the best thing we can do with present wealth is to use it to give alms to the poor. This converts it into 'credit' in a heavenly bank, literally, 'treasure in heaven.' Such is the only credit that survives the barrier of death.

We may not share the anticipation of the Lord's imminent return that the early generations of believers had. But the gospels leave us with a keen sense of life as something for which we are accountable. Like the slaves awaiting their master's return, we are responsible and accountable—responsible for the welfare of others, especially the poor and disadvantaged, who, Jesus makes clear, are particularly precious to God.

This sense of accountability is not at odds with God's being 'determined' to give us the Kingdom. It is precisely because such riches are at stake that the responsibility is grave.

To make the point Jesus uses examples familiar to his audience from the practice of slavery at the time, including references to punishments that defaulting slaves were wont to incur.

In so doing he neither endorses slavery nor implies that God acts just like the returning slave-owner. God's generosity is not in doubt. What needs to be attended to is our capacity and readiness to receive what God has in store.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
CHAIR: Christopher Ratnayake
CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:
Michelle Robertson (0409 533 100)
COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Domenica Ashworth
Adrian Daly
Moira Di Cesare
Bob Dowling
Mary Harty
Maureen Hegarty
PARISH PROGRAMME COORDINATORS:
Jan McCaffery (0423 478 504)
Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)
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

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 COMMUNITY DINNER: Saturday 17th August from 7:00pm, meeting at Four Leaves Café in Rosanna. A relaxed evening of community and friendship. Order from the menu and pay your own way. All welcome. Please book through the parish office: 9457 1066. **Note change of date!**

Donations: Thank you to two parishioners who donated \$1000 between them towards the cost of the new church piano. \$2,000 has been donated to date. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN PARISH AGED CARE FACILITY: Catholics living at 'The Views,' (corner of Waiora Road and Lower Plenty 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 Fr Mario or the parish office. You would be rostered on once a month. Training provided.

COLLECT PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS: Kindly place clean plastic bottle tops in the container in the church foyer. To read more visit: <https://envision.org.au/>

THE AUSTRALIAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION: invites you to Support Mothers & Babies by attending the Life Dinner on Saturday 24th August at 7:00pm. Venue: Aurora Receptions, 149 Donald St, East Brunswick. Registration forms in church porch or online at www.family.org.au

KUMON HEIDELBERG: Contact: Maureen Hegarty (0423 877 736)

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY: Thursday 15th August is a holy day of obligation; we are encouraged to participate at Mass on this special day. Masses at 9:15am, 12:00pm (school Mass) and 7:00pm.

THANKYOU: to all who supported the Show, Share and Sell last Sunday, to the stallholders for their wonderful hard work and cooperation and to all those who joined us to browse and buy. We raised \$500 for the Jose De Piro Kabataan (youth) Orchestra.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Teresa Lincoln the owner of winning key No 89 for the bar fridge in our Parish Raffle.

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: On Monday 12th August please join us for a walk along the Main Yarra/Plenty Trails followed by a coffee in Greville Road. We will leave from outside the parish house at 10:00am. Look forward to seeing you. Jan (0423478504).

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): Tuesday 13th August at 10:00am in the Francis Xavier meeting room. Join us for a Quiz morning. Topics: Television shows from the 50's and 60's, famous couples and more! All welcome; transport available; Elizabeth (0447195553).

PARISH BOOK SWAP: Donations of reflective and spiritual books accepted, to help grow our new book swap shelf set up in the church foyer. You are welcome to browse and choose a book to read. **WARNING:** books you read may challenge you to start thinking differently! Contact Jan (0423478504).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Giuseppe & Cynthia Amoroso, Mary McBrearty, Sheila McGrath, Keiran McGrath, Peter Crowley, Mary Palmer, Christopher Dabal, Peggy Preston, Lina Poon, Tom Suri, Jean Webb, Shannol Sarikamis, Eleanor Bowring.

ANNIVERSARIES: Maureen Boyle.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Betty Heath, Giulio Elia, Barry McBrearty, Antonio Medica.

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.*

10 Aug/11 Aug	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Leela Cherubim	Barbara Barnes	Robyn Laurie	Margaret Andrews
2 nd Reader	Peter Penson	Karen Frost	Adele Boyle	Mark Aiello
Communion	Maria Basilone	Chris Ratnayake	Nigel Mant	Sally Tramontana
	Michelle Penson	Val Wallis	Marni Mant	Des O'Brien
	Emma Chang	Bill Barnes	Ann Domaingue	Matthew Sanders
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Bobbie Bartkus	Tim Boyle	Olivia Sanders
17 Aug/18 Aug	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Pamela Smith	Ronnie Maloney	Michael Leonard	Rosemary Vecchies
2 nd Reader	Moira Di Cesare	Claire Newsome	Michelle Robertson	Matthew Sanders
Communion	Jan McCaffrey	Peter O'Donoghue	Mary Furlan	Mark Aiello
	Donna Richardson	Margaret Bradley	Elizabeth Williamson	Leo Cosio
	Marco Di Cesare	Alice Wong	Geraldine Manuel	Charito Cosio
	Adrian Daly	Pauline Griffiths	Brian McIntosh	Jenny Hollaway
Counters	11 Aug: Vincent Chung, Bill Barnes, Peter O'Donoghue & 18 Aug: Stephen Devenish, Nicole Pelizzaro, Thomas Bechelli.			
Collection Weekly Average for July			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		August: Cath 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,171.46	Stewardship	\$548.72	September: Marilyn 0490 254 928
Loose	\$631.12	Loose	\$315.00	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

AUSTIN MASS: next Sunday 18th August. Volunteers please meet at 8:30am for 9:30am Mass. Parishioners are also invited to participate in this Mass to minister to the sick by their presence.

CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY APPEAL: This weekend 10th/11th August. Donations help to support the most vulnerable people in our community.

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES: The next instalment is ready to be picked up from the porch of the church. The envelopes are in alphabetical order, it also includes the monthly, quarterly and yearly envelopes for next year. Thank you for your generosity. Your continued contributions help the parish meet all its financial commitments.

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. Donations to the parish are not tax-deductible. Thank you for your support.

MEETING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH: from year 4 and older. Saturday 31st August after 6:00pm Mass. Meeting for a BBQ dinner and a movie in the parish hall. All welcome. RSVP: stjohnsyouth@hotmail.com or ring the parish office. Parents also welcome as helpers—Working with Children Check required.

ANNUAL MASS OF ALL NATIONS: Sunday 25th August. Rosary at 2:00pm followed by Mass at 3:00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral. Pope Francis explains: 'when we show concern for migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum, we also show concern for ourselves, for everyone; in taking care of them, we all grow; in listening to them, we also give a voice to a part of ourselves.' All welcome to reflect and celebrate the lives and stories of those seeking protection and safety in our communities.

PILGRIMAGE TO AMBON: Together with another 23 people Des O'Brien visiting the Indonesian island of Ambon in early September to visit sites and memorials dedicated to family members who died there as prisoners of war. Although not an underdeveloped island there are many needs in schools hospitals and orphanages. The group takes with them some items for boys (aged 11 to 18) at an orphanage. We take second-hand shorts, shirts or footwear. We are also seeking donations of tooth brushes and tooth paste. Donations will be appreciated and put towards those in needy circumstances. Items may be left at the parish house or contact Des (0438 796 986). Thank you.

CHARISMATIC MASS: on Thursday 15th August at St Thomas the Apostle Church, 251 Diamond Creek Rd, North Greensborough. The evening starts at 7:30pm with praise & worship, followed by Mass. Prayer ministry and supper available afterwards. Further details: Rose (0411 650 339) or Emilia (0418 120 902).

CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST: Friday the 20th September; speaker Fr Leo Patalinhug. A high profile chef, TV host and martial arts exponent; his tools of evangelising. Cost: \$50, group discounts available. From 7:00am to 9:00am. At Athenaeum Club, 87 Collins St Melbourne. Topic: 'be a man and feed your family.' Enquiries: michael.bohan@menalive.org.au

WALKING WITH GOD IN NATURE: Saturday 17th August, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Participants meet at the Bush Hut, at 110 Studley Park Rd, Kew. This is a two-loop walk beginning in the morning from the Bush Hut, returning there for lunch and finishing there after the second walk in the afternoon. This is a contemplative walk where you will have time to stop and take in the beauty of Creation. Cost: \$35. Bookings: Campion Centre for Spirituality secretary@campion.asn.au / 98548110.

FIRST READING

Wisdom 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; or by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32:1.12.18-20.22

TOGETHER: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

LEFT SIDE

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own

RIGHT SIDE

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine

LEFT SIDE

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

TOGETHER: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant

the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'