



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH  
& PRIMARY SCHOOL

# 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.

## 14TH / 15TH SEPTEMBER - 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR C

Dear Parishioners, Visitors and Friends,

### ROVING REFILLS PRODUCT & INGREDIENT INFORMATION

Visiting St John's Heidelberg—Car Park on  
Sunday 29th September from 9:00am to 12:00noon

The objective of Roving Refills is to change the way we access and consume products that are unnecessarily packaged, usually in plastic containers. By adding to the growing BYO container movement, we hope to reduce waste created by single-use bottles/containers and to conserve the natural resources used to make them. We hope to provide an affordable alternative to packaged detergents, cleaners and shampoo/conditioner.



We do not make any products ourselves—we choose our suppliers based on the quality of their products, their ability and willingness to take back the containers we buy from them, and their location (in an effort to reduce the distance products travel).

### CONTAINER CONTAMINATION:

To avoid cross contamination, it is best to use a clean, dry container which has not contained bleach, or other strong chemicals.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

**Palm oil**—Euca products are palm oil-free. Robyn's Soaphouse uses sustainably-sourced palm oil. Some other products we use contain ingredients made from vegetables and plants—some of that vegetable or plant matter could be palm, and therefore we cannot guarantee that all other products are 'palm oil-free.'

**Natural ingredients**—The most natural cleaning agent in the world is water. The next-best thing is to choose products that are as environmentally friendly as possible. We aim to sell products that contain as few ingredients as possible, which are derived from natural sources and do not contain artificial components like fillers, colouring or synthetic fragrances.

**Vegan /organic ingredients**—We do not currently stock any products that are 'certified' vegan or 'certified' organic.

**Chemicals**—We look for products that do not contain artificial additives. Chemical compounds, however, are often ingredients in soap and cleaning products (for example, potassium hydroxide or 'lye'—the basis for most soaps). This does not necessarily mean the substance is harmful or toxic—it just means it does not naturally occur in this form. Some products may contain fragrance or colouring to offset natural ammonia scent or unappealing natural colour.

Let us support this initiative, another way to live social justice and protect our environment!

.... Mario

**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/stjohnnheidelberg  
**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.*

**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

**PLENARY COUNCIL 2020:** Listen to what the Spirit is saying. You can download the Final Report for the first phase of the Plenary Council: Listening and Dialogue from <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports>

**SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY:** As a lead in to Social Justice Sunday on 29 September 2019 in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, **Sunday 15 September 2019 is acknowledged as Social Services Sunday** within the archdiocese. On this day we are invited to acknowledge and pray for all the Catholic social services agencies across the archdiocese that offer professional and volunteer services and support to those most needy and marginalised in our society. More information and support possibilities can be found at [www.css.org.au](http://www.css.org.au)

**DISCOVER PALMS:** Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am, Jenny Florence Room, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne. Call Palms now on 02 9560 5333 or see [palms.org.au/assignments-abroad](http://palms.org.au/assignments-abroad). Qualified medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins are always required.

**REFLECTION DAY BY MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL:** Saturday 12th October, 10:00am to 3:00pm at St James the Apostle Parish, 330 Derrimut Road Hoppers Crossing. Topic: Joseph De Piro - Charism, Mission and Service within our contemporary world. Facilitator Joan Jennings. Donation \$10.00, including lunch. RSVP 9th October  
[hopperscrossingnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:hopperscrossingnorth@cam.org.au)

**FINAL MASS BY CANDLELIGHT FOR 2019:** at St Thomas the Apostle Church, 251 Diamond Creek Road, North Greensborough on Thursday, 19th September. Celebrated in the spirit of Taize, Mass will commence at 8pm, following a time of quiet reflection beginning at 7.15pm. Prayer ministry and supper will be available after Mass. Enquiries, please contact Rose 9434 3962 or Emilia on 9435 7475.

**SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT:** 14th to 21st November, directors: Marlene Marburg and Bernadette Miles at Holy Cross Centre, Templestowe. Cost: \$1,390 for full retreat / \$199 per day, includes accommodation, meals and daily spiritual direction. A privileged time to tune out the noise and distractions of our regular routines to more intentionally focus on our relationship with God. A beautiful environment, silence and daily spiritual direction in which you can rest and reconnect to the source of life. Also possible to make a shorter retreat during this time. Information and bookings: Kardia, Holy Cross Centre, 208 Serpells Rd, Templestowe.  
[enquiries@kardia.com.au](mailto:enquiries@kardia.com.au)

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John J Betts.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Fr Burns Huggan, Andreina Birsá.

*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.*

14/15 Sep	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Sue Lew-Kee	Peter Penson	Bob Dowling	Matthew Sanders
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Grace Lew-Kee	Michael Leonard	Michelle Robertson	Catie Nesbitt
Communion	Adrian Daly	Bill Barnes	Ann Domaingue	Olivia Sanders
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Barbara Barnes	Tim Boyle	Jenny Hollaway
	Maria Basilone	Peter O'Donoghue	Mary Furlan	Sally Tramontana
	Noel Micallef	Val Wallis	Elizabeth Williamson	Leela Cherubim
21/22 Sep	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Garry Sproules	Michael Leonard	Rosemary Vecchies
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Pietro Sciotto	Claire Newsome	Peter Penson
Communion	Jan Mc Caffrey	Alice Wong	Geraldine Manuel	Michelle Penson
	Sue Lew-Kee	Pauline Griffiths	Brian Mc Intosh	Des O'Brien
	Maria Basilone	Chris Ratnayake	Yannick Jonas	Matthew Sanders
	Donna Richardson	Margaret Bradley	TBA	Olivia Sanders
Counters	15 Sept: Garry Sproules, Janice McGrath, Giuseppe Amoroso & 22 Sept: Graeme Foote, Michael Tilley.			
Collection Weekly Average for August				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		September: Marilyn 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,953.13	Stewardship	\$709.29	October: Marilyn 0490 254 928
Loose	\$726.95	Loose	\$375.00	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

**FR BURNS HUGGAN:** died this week. He used to say mass often at St John's until his health deteriorated. May he rest in peace. The funeral arrangements are being finalized.

**AUSTIN MASS:** Communion Service at the chapel this Sunday 15th September. Volunteers please meet at 8:30am for 9:30am . Thank you.

**ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP:** On Monday 16th September we are going to explore the beautiful Jells Park after which we will have lunch at Madeleine's Café. The group will meet outside the Parish House at 10am and carpool to travel to Jells Park. You are very welcome to join us. Contact Jan 0423478504.

**GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): Footy Morning Tuesday September 17th.** To celebrate the upcoming AFL Grand Final join us for footy games and footy lunch. Come in your team colours and enjoy the fun. All welcome.

**UPCOMING OUTING. Cinema Morning:** Tuesday October 8th 'Downton Abbey' Palace Cinema Balwyn at 11.00am 231 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn Cost \$20 - movie and lunch. Following on from the television series, 'Downton Abbey' follows the Crawley family and the servants who worked for them at the turn of the 20th century in an Edwardian English country house. Please add your name to the sheet in the foyer if you would like to attend. Transport available. Elizabeth 0447195553

**ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT:** 43 yr old woman seeks long term accommodation in exchange for rent. Self contained bungalow/granny flat or possible house share/long term house sitting arrangement. Willing to help out with light duties such as gardening, shopping, attending appointments etc. Currently working at St Vincents Hospital. Police check, working with children check and references available. Must be pet friendly. Please contact Tracy 0411727763.

**HOME MASSES:** For the past couple of months Father Mario has celebrated mass in a parishioner's home. These masses have been prayerful and joyful experiences in an intimate setting - a family home. If you would like to host a home mass next year or ask questions about doing so please contact parish office 94571066, heidelberg@cam.org.au

**WOMEN AND SPIRITUALITY:** All women are encouraged to participate in these engaging and informative sessions on the 2nd October with Cecilia Tan and 7th November with Cath Connelly. To register please contact the Parish Office on 9457 1066 or Jan on 0423478504.

**NEED VOLUNTEERS:** Each Sunday there are a number of ministries individuals perform in support of the Mass. Volunteers are needed to welcome parishioners and visitors and handout the newsletter. As well we need volunteers to help with the PowerPoint presentation. Training will be provided. To volunteer please contact the Parish Office on 9457 1066. Please consider helping in these practical ways. Thank you.

**BOTTLE TOPS TO MAKE PROSTHETIC HANDS FOR CHILDREN:** Thank you for your kind work. Please note: only caps with a '2' or '4' on the actual cap (not the bottle) can be used. The number must be stand alone, not within a code. This generally includes soft drink, water and milk bottle caps. Numbers are located on the underside of the cap. Caps without numbers are unusable as we have no way of knowing what grade plastic they are. Please rinse caps and ensure that no extra plastic, metal or other material is attached.

**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 at least a week prior to the celebration.

**FIRST READING**

Exodus 32:7-11. 13-14

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried, "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.'

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.' So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Psalm 50:3-4.12-13.17.19***TOGETHER:** I will rise and go to my father.**LEFT SIDE**

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

**RIGHT SIDE**

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

**LEFT SIDE**

O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.  
My sacrifice is a contrite spirit;  
a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

**TOGETHER:** I will rise and go to my father.**SECOND READING***1 Timothy 1:12-17*

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call me into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL***Luke 15:1-10*

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance.

'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'

**RECLAIMING THE LOST**

The Gospel for today (if the longer version is read) contains all three 'Parables of the Lost' from Luke 15. Each focuses upon a person who loses something personally precious and who then responds in what seems a foolish and extravagant way: leaving ninety-nine sheep to fend for themselves while going after the one who is lost; turning the house upside-down to find a small coin; running out to welcome home a son who has ruined and disgraced the family. The final act in each case is a summons to a joyful communal celebration.

Jesus tells the parables to defend the welcome he is giving to 'tax collectors (social outcasts) and sinners' and his festive celebration of their being 'found' or 're-found' by God. What he doing is simply an earthly reflection of a much greater celebration going on in heaven.

Taken together, the parables show that, as far as God is concerned, the chief issue is not so much sin and its forgiveness but the loss and then the recovery of human beings, who are so precious in God's sight.

The third parable, commonly but somewhat inadequately known as 'the Prodigal Son,' introduces a further character, the older brother. His behaviour shows the difficulty human beings have in coming to terms with such a vision of God.

True conversion is not just a matter of turning from overt sinfulness (like that of the younger brother). It can also mean confronting resentment at God's generosity to others. What human beings might be thought to 'deserve' does not control the action of God.

*Fr Brendan Byrne sj*