



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.

23RD / 24TH NOVEMBER— OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Dear Parishioners, Visitors and Friends,

Parish Pastoral Council

Over the past few weeks we have been going through the process of appointing new members on our parish council. The pastoral council in our parish is made up of eight parishioners chosen for a term of three years. In order to maintain continuity in leadership, only four members are changed while the other four remain for another year. The school principal is an ex-officio member of the council; I thank Maureen Stella for her participation and contribution to our council discussions.

Since 1st October 2016, the council members have been: Bob Dowling, Mary Harty, Maureen Hegarty, Chris Ratnayake, Domenica Ashworth, Adrian Daly, Moira Di Cesare and Michelle Robertson. At our last meeting, Bob, Mary, Maureen and Chris have ended their term in council and have stepped down from their role. I thank them for their years of service and ministry as we discussed issues pertaining to our parish community. I also thank Maureen and Chris who have served as chairpersons of the council. I have invited these four members to prepare a short reflection about their time in leadership, to be published in the March edition of our parish magazine.

As a council we looked around to invite and nominate four new members to replace the out-going ones. As we looked around we tried to keep in mind and invite parishioners with different experiences to bring into our council. Last Thursday was the first official meeting of the new council, constituted of the four remaining council members and four new ones: Timothy Boyle, Margaret Bradley, Karen Frost and Russell Lew-Kee. The new members will also have the opportunity of introducing themselves to the parish community in the first issue of the parish magazine in 2020.

As leaders in our parish community their names are listed in the information section of our weekly newsletter, and on our parish website, and their photos will be on the notice board in the church foyer.

At our first meeting as a new parish council, we discussed the role of the council, spoke about the need to be an inclusive and safeguarding parish, where children and vulnerable adults are respected and can feel safe, and signed the related documents. We appointed Michelle Robertson as our new council chairperson, with Karen Frost as deputy chairperson. The council chairperson is an annual appointment and can be renewed any number of times. We also appointed the members of our parish safeguarding committee: Michelle Penson (coordinator), Adrian Daly and Moira Di Cesare.

The role of the parish pastoral council is to join me, as parish priest, to make decisions about the future of our parish community. Although according to the Church Canon Law I am responsible for the running of the parish, it is very important for the whole community to have a voice in the discussions and decisions taken in our community. I appreciate the robust discussions that take place at our council meetings as we study different issues that arise and try to find the most suitable way forward, keeping in mind that the principal aim of our faith community, parish and council is to continue to move forward and grow as disciples of Jesus, as individuals and as a community.

.... Mario

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
CHAIR: Michelle Robertson
COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Domenica Ashworth;
Timothy Boyle
Margaret Bradley
Adrian Daly
Moiria Di Cesare
Karen Frost
Russell Lew-Kee
SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:
Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)
PARISH PROGRAMME COORDINATORS:
Jan McCaffrey (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.com/stjohnheidelberg
Instagram.com/stjohn.heidelberg
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
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.*

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE MASS: Each year on Christmas Eve St John's Parish celebrates the Family Christmas Eve Mass. We invite your child/children to take an active part in this year's mass. Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 24th December at 7:00pm in the OLMC Naleijerring Centre OLMC, on Yarra Street. Students from Year Prep to Year 12 are welcome to take part in one of the following ministries: reader (Year 4—12); prayer of the faithful (Year 2—12); offertory procession (Year P—12); altar server. If your child is interested in taking part, please email their name, year level and the ministry they would like to be involved in: elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au

ADVENT—A TIME OF PREPARATION: Soon we will be starting the time of Advent—a time to prepare for the great celebration of Christmas. There are many ways we can prepare ourselves. Decorating our houses and setting up our nativity sets are an important part of our preparation. We invite you to a time of prayer and reflecting on the Sunday readings starting on Monday 25th November at 7:00pm in the parish house. During Advent we will be meeting every Monday. Everyone is welcome to join. No prior preparation necessary. RSVP on heidelberg!@cam.org.au

BOTTLE TOPS TO MAKE PROSTHETIC HANDS FOR CHILDREN: Thank you for collecting and dropping off your '2' and '4' clean plastic bottle tops.

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: On Monday 25th November, will be walking on the Plenty Gorge trail. We meet at 10:00am on Yarra Str outside the parish house. Hope to see you then! Please RSVP: Jan (0423 478 504).

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): Our next gathering is on Tuesday November 26th at 10.00 in the Francis Xavier Meeting Room. All are welcome to join us for games, conversation and morning tea. Visitors are always welcomed and transport is available. Elizabeth 0447195553

WALKING TALL: A JOURNEY TOWARDS TREATY AND RECONCILIATION: Rerum Novarum Oration. Tuesday 26th November, 7:30pm, in the Philippa Brazil Theatre, Australian Catholic University, 8 Brunswick Str., Fitzroy. Orator: Ms Eleanor Burke; Respondent: Ms Sherry Balcombe. RSVP / Inquiries by Friday 22nd November, justice@cam.org.au / 99265727.

MOVIE FUNDRAISER: organised by OLMC Parents Association, in aid of the Olympic Village Exodus Community Family Camp. On Saturday 30th November at 4:00pm, in OLMC Mercedes Hogan Theatre, Yarra St, Heidelberg. Special pre-release screening of, *A Boy Called Sailboat*, a feel good film for all ages. \$20 adult; \$15 student/child; \$70 family. Complimentary popcorn included. Andrew Curry, the producer, will be present and will host a Q&A after the film about the challenges surrounding film production and getting it released. Tickets: trybooking.com/BGMLO

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Mary-Teresa Wright, Constance Anne Chang, Christopher Dabal, Gordon Eng, Giovanni Mirabella, Vita Nativo, Mary Wright.

ANNIVERSARIES: Pat Amos, Stephen Smith, Alan Ingram, Jayshila Mary, George John, Antony Moolayil.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Varghese Nanatt.

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.

23/24 Nov	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Pietro Sciotto	Elizabeth Williamson	Rosemary Vecchies
2 nd Reader	Pamela Smith	Barbara Barnes	Michael Leonard	Margaret Andrews
Communion	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Fiona Curry	Leo Hernandez	Jenny Hollaway
	Donna Richardson	Barbara Barnes	Brian McIntosh	Des O'Brien
	Noel Micallef	Alice Wong	Yannick Jonas	Matthew Sanders
	Leela Cherubim	Jack Naden	Tim Boyle	Olivia Sanders
30 Nov/ 1 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Marguerite Ryan	Joanne Martinez	Matthew Sanders
2 nd Reader	Peter Penson	Jack Naden	Robyn Laurie	Mark Aiello
Communion	Michelle Penson	Chris Ratnayake	Nigel Mant	Leo Cosio
	Jan Mc Caffrey	Pauline Griffiths	Marni Mant	Charito Cosio
	Domenica Ashworth	Margaret Bradley	Mary Furlan	Leela Cherubim
	Maria Basilone	Bobbie Bartkus	Elizabeth Williamson	TBA
Counters	24 Nov: Tim Booth, Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes & 1 Dec: Vincent Chung, Bill Barnes, Peter O'Donoghue.			
Collection Weekly Average for October				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		November: Joan 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$2,961.67	Stewardship	\$620.73	December: Elaine 0490 254 928
Loose	\$714.62	Loose	\$357.50	Morning Tea, 1st December: Wendy & Barbara
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: This weekend at all Masses. Money collected assists in the education of children and young adults in a poor area of the Philippines.

MORNING TEA & SAUSAGE SIZZLE: After 10:30am Mass next Sunday 1st December. All welcome. A gold coin donation to cover expenses will be appreciated.

ANOINTING MASS OF HEALING: will be held at our parish on Thursday 28th November at 9:15am. Sick and elderly members in our parish are invited to attend. Mass will be followed by morning tea at the Francis Xavier meeting room, hosted by our year 6 students. Transport is available if required, contact 94571066.

HEIDELCARE CHRISTMAS BREAKUP: Short meeting followed by supper 7:30pm, Monday 2nd December. In Francis Xavier meeting room at the parish house. Everyone welcome—come for a cuppa and a chat!

CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS: We give and receive many gifts during Christmas. Many gifts are simply put aside soon after. This Christmas you can give a gift that lasts! You can give your gift to those less fortunate by buying an MSSP Gift Card. Money donated go to support the education of the young adults, members of the Jose' De Piro Kabataan Orkestra in the Philippines. You can nominate the amount you would like to donate. For further information contact the parish office. Gift donations are tax-deductible

JOURNEYING IN HOPE: On Friday 6th December at 7:30pm, we gather as a parish community around parishioners who have lost a loved one during the past twelve months. Please contact parish office (94571066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au) to RSVP. Please come early before Mass and write down your name and the name of the person/s you have come to remember. Please bring a photograph of your loved ones. Everyone invited. Light supper after Mass.



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA
good works

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL: As Christmas approaches St John's Vinnies conference is preparing to assist those less fortunate in our area. Please donate non-perishable food items for the hampers to be given to needy families.

Kindly only donate items from this list: *tinned ham, tinned tuna, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, breakfast cereals, Christmas cakes, mince tarts, chocolates, tea, coffee, Milo, sugar, rice, pasta, and pasta sauce.* Donations by Monday 3rd December, latest. A money collection will be held on the weekend of 14/15 December. Thank you.

2020 COLUMBAN CALENDARS: can be purchased for \$10.00 from the parish office or the church vestry before or after Mass. Christmas cards are also available for \$7 a pack of 10. Proceeds support the work of our parish St Vincent de Paul society conference.

SPECIAL COLLECTION IN SUPPORT OF MINISTRY AMONG THE DEAF: The amount collected was \$711.85. Thank you for your generosity.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2020 FOR THOSE NOT ATTENDING ST JOHN'S PARISH SCHOOL: Enrolment for the following 2020 sacrament programmes, Reconciliation (Year 3), Eucharist (Year 4) and Confirmation (Year 6) open **Monday 25th November**. Application forms and further information available from the parish office 94571066 or heidelberg@cam.org.au Applications close on Monday 2nd March 2020.

DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO CAN'T GET TO MASS ANY LONGER? Would they like to be visited and perhaps have communion taken to them? Contact Elizabeth 0447195553

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 5: 1-3

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 121:1-5.

TOGETHER: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

LEFT SIDE

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

RIGHT SIDE

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact.

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.

LEFT SIDE

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David.

TOGETHER: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:12-20

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 23:35-43

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said, 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied, 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

CHRIST THE KING

Today's gospel reading takes us to the last moments of Jesus' life, as he hangs upon the cross. The mockery he endures from the soldiers and the leaders rests upon a very inadequate understanding of what it means to be Messiah and King. If this man is indeed the 'King of the Jews' as he has been made out to be and as the title above his cross asserts, then he ought to be able to bring the kind of 'salvation' the world understands: above all, his own escape from the death that now lies immediately before him.

While one of the thieves crucified with Jesus joins in the mockery, the other man responds differently. He proclaims Jesus' innocence and simply asks: 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' His plea acknowledges that Jesus is King but also recognises that his kingship is very different from that worldly authority which the mockery of the others presupposes.

In response Jesus does not ask about the man's life or demand repentance; the simple appeal made in faith is all. Hence the majestic assurance: not in some distant future nor even tomorrow but, 'Today, you will be with me in Paradise.' Salvation is not a matter of being saved from physical death, as the mockery suggests. Nor is it some remote future event. Rather, it is to be with Jesus, the true shepherd King of his people. He has joined us on our human journey, even to the point of death, so that we might join him on his journey to the Kingdom of the Father.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj