



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.

28TH / 29TH DECEMBER—FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY YEAR A

28 Dec / 29 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Brian Garrone	Jack Naden	Elizabeth Williamson	Leela Cherubim
2 nd Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Pietro Sciotto	Robyn Laurie	Matthew Sanders
Communion	Emma Chang	Oliver Kmita	Liz Sier	Des O'Brien
	Jeanette O'Sullivan	Jerzy Kmita	Vin Sier	Leo Cosio
	Donna Richardson	Val Wallis	Nigel Mant	Charito Cosio
	Noel Micallef	Jack Naden	Marni Mant	Jenny Hollaway
4 Jan / 5 Jan	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Peter Penson	Claire Newsome	Bob Dowling	Mary Kotefski
2 nd Reader	Leela Cherubim	Ronnie Maloney	Elizabeth Williamson	Rosemary Vecchies
Communion	Emma Chang	Jack Naden	Liz Sier	Matthew Sanders
	Michelle Penson	Bill Barnes	Vin Sier	Olivia Sanders
	Noel Micallef	Barbara Barnes	Geraldine Manuel	TBA
	Domenica Ashworth	Karen Frost	Leo Hernandez	TBA
Counters	29 Dec: Des O'Brien, Peter Peyton, Percival Makin & 5 Jan: Garry Sproules, Janice McGrath, Giuseppe Amoroso.			
Collection Weekly Average for November				
Parish	Presbytery		HEIDELCARE : 0490 254 928	
Stewardship	\$3085.28	Stewardship	\$723.08	
Loose	\$698.62	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.				

WISHING ALL PARISHIONERS, VISITORS AND FRIENDS,

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020

FILLED WITH GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS!

END OF THE YEAR / NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES: Masses on the last day of the year will be at 9:15am and 6:00pm. Mass on New Year's Day will be at 10:30am—there will be no 9:15am Mass on Wednesday.

PHILIPPINES MISSION IMMERSION TRIP: I, Fr Mario, will be accompanying a group of fourteen parishioners from St John's, from North Sunshine and from Hoppers Crossing North. We leave on 2nd January and will be back on the 20th of January. In my absence, Fr Ted has, once again, generously accepted to do our weekday and Sunday Masses. Mgr Franco Cavarra and Fr Edwin Agius mssp will also celebrate Masses on Sunday evenings. During these two weeks, there will be a Communion Service on Monday mornings at 9:15am.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Mary-Teresa Wright, Gordon Eng, Giovanni Mirabella, Vita Nativo.

ANNIVERSARIES: Adeline Sharkey, Mary Ellen White, Maureen O'Brien.

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Grindlay, Sr Joan Johnson rsm.

*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.*



St John's Catholic Parish

52 Yarra Street, Heidelberg Vic 3084
p: 03 9457 1066 e: heidelberg@cam.org.au w: www.cam.org.au/heidelberg

2020 YEAR PLANNER

JANUARY

- 01 Feast of Mary Mother of God – (Wednesday); Mass at 10:30am
- 26 Australia Day (Sunday)
- 29 Start of school year for students (Wednesday)

FEBRUARY

- 01 / 02 Blessing of school children, uniforms and school bags;
Blessing of families with young children; Parish safeguarding commitment
- 02 Commissioning Mass for St John's Parish Primary School staff
(Sunday 10:30am Mass followed by morning tea and sausage sizzle in the parish hall)
- 06 Beginning of the school year Mass at 6:00pm (Thursday)
- 26 Ash Wednesday - start of Lent - day of fasting and abstinence;
Masses at 9:15am, 2:15pm (primary school), 7:30pm
- 27 Parish Annual Meeting, Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm

MARCH

- 07 Parish community dinner, 7:00pm —venue to be announced
- 17 St Patrick's Day
- 23 Mass of Anointing of the Sick, (Monday) 9:15am followed by morning tea
- 27 End of school term one

APRIL

- 05 Palm Sunday
- 06 Reconciliation (Confession) - second rite with individual confession (Monday) 7:30pm
- 09 Holy Thursday - Mass at 7:30pm
- 10 Good Friday day of fasting and abstinence - Celebration at 3:00pm at Naleijerring centre
- 12 Easter Sunday - Vigil Saturday at 8:00pm; Sunday Masses at 7:00, 8:30 and 10:30am
- 14 School term two starts
- 25 Anzac Day (Saturday) followed by morning tea.

MAY

- 02 / 03 Children preparing for First Communion presented to the community (6:00pm and 10:30am)
- 10 Mother's Day
- 24 Volunteers' Thanksgiving Mass and sausage sizzle - (Sunday) 10:30am
- 25 Our Lady Help of Christians - patron saint of Australia
- 27 Parents' Faith Evening in preparation for the sacrament of Holy Communion
- 31 Pentecost Sunday
- 30 / 31 Children preparing for Confirmation presented to the community (6:00pm and 10:30am)

JUNE

- 13 First Communion for children from all parish schools (one session) (Saturday) 11:00am
- 15 St John's Primary School Year Prep applications for 2021 close
- 21 2020 Parish Luncheon, 12:30pm—venue to be announced
- 26 End of school term two



St John's Catholic Parish

52 Yarra Street, Heidelberg Vic 3084

p: 03 9457 1066 e: heidelberg@cam.org.au w: www.cam.org.au/heidelberg

2020 YEAR PLANNER

JULY

- 13 School term three starts
- 22 Parents' Faith Evening in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation

AUGUST

- 02 Sacrament of Confirmation at OLMC Nalleijerring Centre for children from all parish schools 2:00pm
- 03 Mass of Anointing of the Sick, (Monday) 9:15am followed by morning tea (with school)
- 08 Feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop
- 15 Assumption of Our Lady - holy day of obligation (Saturday) Masses at 9:15am, and 6:00pm
- 23 Parish Community Lunch, 12:30pm—Venue to be announced
- 29 / 30 Children preparing for Reconciliation presented to the community (6:00pm and 10:30am)

SEPTEMBER

- 06 Father's Day
- 18 End of school term three

OCTOBER

- 05 School term four starts
- 14 Parents' Faith Evening in preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation
- 29 First Reconciliation St John's Primary School (first session) (Thursday) 7:00pm

NOVEMBER

- 04 First of Parish Talks Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm-9:00pm
- 05 First Reconciliation St John's Primary School (second session) (Thursday) 7:00pm
- 11 Second of Parish Talks Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm-9:00pm
- 12 First Reconciliation other schools; (one session) (Thursday) 7:00pm
- 16 Mass of Anointing of the Sick, (Monday) 9:15am followed by morning tea (with school)
- 18 Third of Parish Talks Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm-9:00pm
- 21 Parish community dinner, 7:00pm—venue to be announced
- 29 First Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER

- 04 St John's Feast Day at the parish primary school
- 04 Journeying in Hope: Mass for parishioners and friends who lost a relative in the past 12 months - (Friday) 7:30pm
- 09 Parish Carols Night, hosted by St John's Primary School; 5:00pm byo picnic, 6:00pm carols
- 10 St John's Primary School End of the year Mass; 12:00pm
- 14 Grade 6 Graduation Mass
- 18 End of St John's Primary School year
- 21 Reconciliation (Confession) – second rite (with individual confession) (Monday) 7:30pm
- 25 Christmas Day (Friday) Vigil 7:00pm Nalleijerring centre; Midnight; 8:30am; 10:30am.
- 27 St John the Evangelist – parish feast day
- 31 New Year's Eve: (Friday) Masses 6:00pm

*Follow St John's Catholic Parish on facebook: facebook.com/stjohnheidelberg/
and on Instagram: instagram.com/stjohn.heidelberg/*

FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6. 12-14

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord. My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 127:1-5

TOGETHER:

Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways

LEFT SIDE

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

You will be happy and prosper.

RIGHT SIDE

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

LEFT SIDE

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life!

TOGETHER:

Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-15. 19-23

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled:

FAMILY LIFE IN GOD

The glimpse of Jesus' family life that we read in today's gospel presents a picture that is far from idyllic. The Holy Family lives in a brutal and violent world. The coming of the wise men (magi) from the East, with their consoling homage and gifts for Mary's newborn child, has provoked suspicion and violence on the part of King Herod. His murderous intent requires Joseph to flee with Mary and Jesus into a foreign country—to become, in effect, refugees.

But what the gospel brings out is that it is precisely the Holy Family's forced displacement to Egypt that enables the infant Messiah to replay the experience and captivity of his people, Israel, in Egypt, and to experience directly the liberating and saving power of God. Israel was metaphorically 'God's child' (Hos 11:1), but Jesus is truly the Son of God. In the person of Jesus, God is 'with us' (Emmanuel) in the intimacy and immediacy of family relationships, and in circumstances of danger and anxiety with which many families can identify.

Matthew's presentation of Jesus' family life in this way may, then, be for us a greater consolation than if it were 'idyllic.' Holiness, according to the scriptural understanding, is where God is. Today's Gospel brings out the way in which God is present to the family of Jesus amid violence, forced movement, and perplexity. If our own family life is not perfect nor totally immune from such trials that is perhaps all the more reason to believe that God's saving presence is also 'with us.'

Fr Brendan Byrne sj