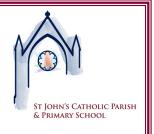


## ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

# 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.

Central to the mission of St John's Parish is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe and supportive environment in which to flourish.

PARISH PRIEST Fr Joel Peart

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Mary Peeris

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** 

Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)

PARISH OFFICE:

52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084

t: 9457 1066

e: heidelberg@cam.org.au

w: pol.org.au/heidelberg Facebook.com/stjohnheidelberg

**OFFICE HOURS:** 

Tues—Fri 9:30am to 2:30pm

MASS TIMES: Tues to Sat: 9:15am & Sat Vigil 6pm, Sun: 8:30am, & 10:30am & Sunday 5pm.

**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):** Sat 9:45-10:30am & 5:30-6pm

**WEDDINGS:** By appointment

FIRST RECONCILIATION.

FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION: Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

**LEGION OF MARY:** Tue 7:30pm at Francis Xavier Meeting room, Parish House. Pilgrim statue of Mary:, Contact Sue 0449260206

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP:

regular Monday morning walks leaving from outside the Church in Yarra Street at 9.30am. To register please contact Jan on 0423478504.

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

Maureen Stella (Principal) 55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084 t: 9459 2963;

of fice @sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

HALL HIRE:

Contact parish office during

15TH AUGUST. THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

"Man must not be forced to act contrary to his conscience" - Dignitatis Humanae, Vatican II

Dear brothers and sisters,

One thing I have found rather interesting over the years of celebrating and preaching on the lives of the saints, is how often family members did their best to prevent these holy men and women from taking up religious life. Francis of Assisi, Thomas Aquinas, Rose of Lima, Rita of Cascia to name just a few. Another is a saint we honoured during the week, that is Saint Clare of Assisi.

I've no doubt these family members meant well: marriages often meant security and future wellbeing and ensured that family alliances and levels of class were maintained. But those things mean nothing to those on fire with love of God. The stories of each of these saints is quite inspirational, but Saint Clare was particularly dramatic in her refusal to do anything other than give her life to Christ through prayer and penance. She went so far as to cutting off her hair to make herself less attractive to potential suitors. Shortly after having made her profession and taken up the veil at the age of 17, Clare's father marched over to the church to bring her back home. This young girl literally clung to the altar as her father tried to drag her out. Clare would not be moved.

From these beginnings, the Order of St Clare was formed, known commonly today as the Poor Clares. There are roughly 20,000 nuns of this order spread across 75 countries throughout the world today. Not bad for something that started with a teenage girl being inspired by a sermon over 800 years ago! It's a testament to what can happen when someone has a deep love of Christ and a determined will. It proves as well that great things can happen when you ignore the opinions and pressures of those around you and pursue that which you know to be right in your heart and mind.

There are plenty of strong opinions and pressures put on people today to do all sorts of things because of Covid. The taking of the vaccine is one of those. I have friends - both lay and cleric - who have had the jab, others who haven't yet and a number who likely never will. Good luck to all of them. I just hope none of them have made a decision or will make a decision that goes against their will and what they believe to be right. For those who are struggling to follow their conscience on this because of coercion from those around them, hang in there. You have plenty of friends in heaven on your side, with Saint Clare being one of them.

God speed,

Fr Joel.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**THE SICK:** Robert Sciacca, Concetta Molinaro, Joan Geoghegan, Marie Caldwell, Jacob Draper.

ANNIVERSARIES: Fransi Widjanarko.

Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by Thursday

#### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

FIRST READING Apocalypse 11:19; 12:1-6, 10

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 44:10-12. 16.

**Response:** The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones. On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: forget your own people and your father's house. R./

So will the king desire your beauty:
He is your lord, pay homage to him.
They are escorted amid gladness and joy;
they pass within the palace of the king.

#### **SECOND READING** 1 Corinthians 15:20-25

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order; Christ as the first-fruits and then, after

the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-56

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home went back home'

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

21/22 Aug	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Joanne Martinez	John McGrath	Robyn Laurie	Mary Kotefski
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Pamela Smith	Pietro Sciotto	Claire Newsome	Des O'Brien
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Bobbie Bartkus	Ann Domaingue	TBA

R./