



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.

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;
 office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au
HALL HIRE:
 Contact parish office during

4TH/5TH SEPTEMBER, TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Happy
Father's
Day

A Giant Mistake

Dear brothers and sisters,

The big sports story this week was undoubtedly Toby Greene's tribunal hearing after he made contact with umpire Matt Stevic during Saturday's elimination final. I find it so interesting the way tribunal hearings generate the attention they do. Everyone involved has strong opinions and many want to have it heard. People can get very passionate about sport to say the least; couple that with a moral argument and it's no wonder things blow up.

Putting in my own two cents, I have to say the decision to give him 3 weeks was reasonable. It was always going to be about whether he got to play any part in the rest of the season with the possibility of taking part in the Grand Final. Those sitting in judgment made sure they dished out that penalty and no more. I'm rather amazed the AFL has taken the course to appeal the decision, citing it as "manifestly inadequate". What I am hearing from some and what is certainly unjust is the idea of using this case to "set an example". The idea that we should punish someone particularly severely and trod on their right to a fair and just outcome for some perceived greater good is simply scapegoating. It echoes the high priest Caiaphas in the trial of Our Lord. "Better for one man to die than have the whole nation destroyed..." (John 18:14). It's utilitarianism and it is opposed to Catholic moral teaching.

The topic of contact with an umpire is rather close to home for me. For a couple of years there I umpired for the Essendon District Football League. I got into it after I realized they were paying a lot better than my Sunday morning paper round did! Reporting a player was rare, mostly because it meant having to turn up to the tribunal in Airport West on a Tuesday night. (It's why they introduced the send-off rule during games instead.) But I did report a player once and go through the process when a Taylors Lakes under 16 player made deliberate contact with me. I remember it fairly well. I had paid a 50m penalty against him and he mouthed off using some ordinary language. So I paid another 50, which was standard practice for the League in junior footy. Whilst jogging towards the mark (which was the goal line) the player kicked my heels from behind, having me fall flat on my face. I was stunned (and a little embarrassed) to say the least. The other players were shocked too. I remember the Glenroy opposition letting him know, as I got my book out, that he probably won't be playing footy for a very long time.

The process was relatively simple. I turned up that Tuesday night, gave evidence for about 5 minutes and then left. I didn't hang around to hear the verdict, but I believe his suspension was in the realm of 4 to 6 weeks. Which I personally think was manifestly inadequate!

God bless,
Fr Joel.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:4-7

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid.
'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the
retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then
the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the
deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water
gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the
scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land
springs of water.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:7-10.

Response: Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

R./

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger.

R./

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age.

R./

SECOND READING

St James 2:1-5

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in
Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of
distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose
a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully
dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same
time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and
you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say,
'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the
poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the
floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have
used two different standards in your mind, and
turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at
that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor
according to the world that God chose, to be rich in
faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he
promised to those who love him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

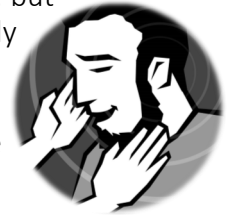
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went
by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right
through the Decapolis region. And they brought him
a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech;
and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took
him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his
fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue
with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed;
and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.'
And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his
tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus
ordered them to tell no one about it, but
the more he insisted, the more widely
they published it. Their admiration
was unbounded. 'He has done all
things well,' they said 'he makes the
deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most
Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I
desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at
this moment receive You sacramentally, come at
least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You
were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Prayer for Fathers

*Blessed are you, Lord and Father of all life,
who has given to us the gift of the father of our
family. Today, we honour him, and we thank you
for the numerous good things that are ours
because of him. May we, the members of his
family, assist him in his holy duties as a parent
with our respect,
our obedience and our deep affection.
Bless him, Lord, with happiness and good health,
with peace and with good fortune. This blessing
and all graces, we pray, descend upon the father
of our family: in the name of the Father, and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Elizabeth Finn, Robert Sciacca, Concetta Molinaro, Marie Caldwell, Jacob Draper.

ANNIVERSARY: Sereno Pellizzaro.

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