



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

11TH/12TH SEPTEMBER, TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

***"Love covers a multitude of sins..." (1 Peter 4:8)***

Dear brothers and sisters,

This past Friday's Gospel from St Luke is one we are likely familiar with. Our Lord implores us to be wary of the hypocrisy that points out the splinter in the eye of others whilst failing to remove the plank in our own. The idea of a plank of wood being stuck in someone's eye is quite the visual, no pun intended. A good reminder that Our Lord had a very wry sense of humour, which made him such a good teacher!

What Christ touches on here is what is called in the spiritual life "fraternal correction". That is, the correcting or pointing out of a fault or defect in another's behaviour and even character for their benefit. Note that Jesus here doesn't say that we should never be so audacious as to correct our fellow being, but that it needs to be done prudently. On doing just that, here are five tips to help in the practice:

**STEP ONE. Admonish yourself first.** Examine your conscience. Go to confession if need be. Before you talk the talk, make sure you walk the walk!

**STEP TWO. Only admonish close friends and relatives.** Don't make it your business to admonish mere acquaintances. It is love which will give your correction authority, so make sure anyone you admonish *knows* you love them. Consider building up some capital: 9 words of gratitude or encouragement, for every word of admonishment or correction.

**STEP THREE. Don't sweat the small stuff.** See the minor defects of others as opportunities to foster patience, rather than cause for complaint. Admonition is only called for in the case of substantial sins and defects, which are causing real harm.

**STEP FOUR. Pray on it.** Spend time alone, or before the Tabernacle, examining your motivation. Why do you propose to admonish this person? Is it borne of charity, or envy? Charity, or vengeance? Charity, or pettiness? If the answer is anything other than charity, ABORT MISSION.

**STEP FIVE. Admonish a person in private.** Fraternal correction is always *humbling*, but it should never be *humiliating*. Don't admonish others at a dinner party or in front of work colleagues. Nor should it be done via Facebook or Twitter. Speak to them one on one.

I'd like to take credit for the insights here, but alas they are from a greater font of wisdom than mine. They are an adaptation of a post from a blog authored by a priest friend from Ballarat, Fr John Corrigan. Though his updates are not as regular as some, all of his posts are something you can take some great spiritual insights from. Check out [acountrypriest.com](http://acountrypriest.com) when you get the chance.

In Christ,  
Fr Joel.

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,  
that your prophets be found true.  
Hear the prayers of your servant,  
and of your people Israel.

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 114:1-6. 8-9.

**Response:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him.

R./

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord my God, deliver me!

R./

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me.

R./

He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

R./

## SECOND READING

St James 2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'



## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How precious is your mercy, O God!  
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of  
your wings.

## 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.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Jenny Porecca, Alain Bozelle.

**THE SICK:** Brett Ralph, Margaret Ralph, Jim Artinopoulos, George Cassamity, Elizabeth Finn.

**ANNIVERSARY:** Wal Kennedy, Fahed Nehme, Dalal Nehme, Fouad Nehme.