



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 9:30am

& 10:30am

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: Weekly meeting

Wed 10:30am from mid January

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 office

hours.

1ST/2ND JANUARY, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, YEAR C

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.*

BRINGING GIFTS TO THE LORD

The ancient Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the truth that Israel's Messiah is also the Saviour of the entire world. The wise men from the east have seen a star heralding the birth of ruler of great significance. They have followed this star to Jerusalem but that is as far as their own natural wisdom (astronomy) can get them. They need the biblical wisdom of Israel (an interpretation of the prophecy of Micha) to find and worship the infant Messiah in Bethlehem. A combination of their own secular learning and biblical revelation has finally led them to the Saviour.

Beyond the reverence due to any ruler, the homage the wise men pay to the child is genuine worship. In the person of this child they acknowledge that God is "with us" ("Emmanuel" [Matt 2:23]) in a unique way. They place before him the rich gifts of their culture and these are graciously received. Joseph has faded from view; it is Mary, the mother of Jesus, who receives their gifts on his behalf.

The journey of the magi has been one of faith and risk. The treacherous and murderous figure of Herod looms over all, foreshadowing the Passion that is to come. But the riches of God's salvation will go to the nations (Matt 28:18-20) and the nations will bring their own wisdom to the understanding and appreciation of the Gospel.

We walk in the footsteps of the wise men, sharing their longing, their faith, and the joy of their discovery. We too have gifts to bring reverently to the Lord.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022

*May God Continue to
Bless us all*



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13.

Response: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement . R./

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds . R./

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. R./

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. R./

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been

revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of
Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will
shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Patricia Wong, Sepfianto Arifin, Margaret Ryan, Aileen Powell, Jerzy Baczkowicz.

ANNIVERSARY: Frank Piermarini.

*Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by **Thursday morning** latest. Thank you.*