



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 Vinh Nguyen

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Mary Peeris

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:**

Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)

**SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:**

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

**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 &

5pm

**ADORATION:** After Friday morning Mass with Benediction.

**EXPOSITION:** Wednesday 7.30pm-8.30pm

**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):**

Friday during Adoration, Sat 9:45 am & 5:30pm

**WEDDING, BAPTISM, FIRST**

**RECONCILIATION, FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:**

Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

**LEGION OF MARY:** Meet every

Wednesdays at 10.30am at parish house in the Francis Xavier Room.

All Welcome. Fatima Statue

Enquires, Contact Sue

0449260206

**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.

*26th /27th NOVEMBER 2022, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A*

### 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.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last Sunday we celebrated the Solemnity of the great Feast of Jesus Christ our King, bringing the liturgical year to a close. It was with overwhelming joy that we celebrated this Feast when Fr Vinh Do offered his first Mass for us in our parish church here at St John's after his ordination to the Priesthood. We give thanks to God for his such great love through his beloved Son Jesus Christ King of the universe, Eternal and High Priest to show us the way to the Father. We give thanks to God for the gift of the Priesthood to the Church so that he continues his love and care for us. Let us pray specially for Fr Vinh Do as he begins his priestly ministry that he may always follow faithfully in the footstep of our Lord Jesus Christ the King of love, to serve God's people with a humility, care, compassion and love as our Lord Eternal Priest did.

This Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent.

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus* which simply means 'coming'. But whose coming are we talking about? Obviously we are beginning to prepare to remember God coming among us, with us and like us. And yet, although the Scripture for today does speak of the coming of God, it makes no mention of the coming of Christ as Christmas.

Actually, at this time we can speak of three comings of God. The first, is when Jesus, the Son of God came to be born in the stable at Bethlehem. But, today's Mass also speaks of the final coming of Jesus at the end of the world. And, there is still a third kind of coming we need to be aware of, namely, when God enters our lives every day. Every single experience can be an opportunity to make contact with God. And we are reminded of that ongoing contact with God especially in the celebration of the sacraments, including the Eucharist.

In his pastoral letter, "Welcome Home!", regarding the lifting of the general dispensation from our Sunday and Holy Day obligations as of the first **Sunday in Advent – 27 November 2022**, our Archbishop Peter Comensoli says, "*Our communities of grace look forward to welcoming you this Advent. As the anticipation of Jesus' nativity grows, might we also extend our arms in invitation and welcome to others. Many family, friends and neighbours still experience uncertainty at this time. Being a people who can warmly provide a place of refreshment, hope and light is a gift in all the messiness of parish life. Here we can know that the door of grace is opened for us, the medicine of healing is there for us, and the hand of help is outstretched towards us.*"

A new year in the Church's calendar begins today. So, Happy New Year to all and welcome home!

Fr Vinh-Parish Priest

## ENTRANCE HYMN: O COME O COME EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

### Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who orderest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go.

Ref..

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.



### RESPONSE TO LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

R./ Jesus come to us, lead us to your light.  
Jesus, be with us, for we need you.  
ready for Him when he comes.

Lord we come before you, listen to our prayer.  
Fill us all with hope, and your love.

### Prayer for all to pray:

Dear God, as we light this candle and begin this new  
Advent season, shine the light of your hope in to our  
hearts and into our world. Amen.

### CONFITEOR

I confess to almighty God and to you,  
my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
(*And, striking their breast, they say:*)

through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;

(*Then they continue:*)

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints, and you,  
my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 2:1-5*

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning  
Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the  
mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower  
above the mountains and be lifted higher than the  
hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples

without number will come to it; and they will say:  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to  
the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us  
his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the  
Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord  
from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the  
nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these  
will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their  
spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against  
nation, there will be no more training for war. O  
House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the  
Lord. light of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalms 121:1-2.4-5.6-9.*

**Response:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

R./

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David.

R./

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

'Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!'

R./

For love of my brethren and friends

I say: 'Peace upon you!'

For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your  
good.

R./

### SECOND READING

*Romans 13:11-14*

You know 'the time' has come: you must  
wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was  
when we were converted. The night is almost over, it  
will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we  
prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm  
ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently  
as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no  
promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or  
jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

*Matthew 24:37-44*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's  
day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in  
those days before the Flood people were eating,  
drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to  
the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected  
nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will  
be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two  
men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women

at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'



#### NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*(At the words that follow, up to and including and became man, all bow.)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen

#### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess you Resurrection until you come again.

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

#### COMMUNION HYMN: BE STILL

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The Holy One, is here;  
Come bow before him now  
With reverence and fear  
In him no sin is found  
We stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around;  
He burns with holy fire,  
With splendour he is crowned:  
How awesome is the sight  
Our radiant king of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place:  
He comes to cleanse and heal,  
To minister his grace -  
No work too hard for him.  
In faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place.

#### RECESSIONAL HYMN: HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed,

#### REFRAIN:

Then sings my soul my Saviour God to thee  
How great thou art, How great thou art,  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee  
How great thou art, How great thou art.

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. Ref.

#### GOSPEL FOCUS – GET READY!

Jesus draws a parallel between the people in Noah's time and the people of his own time. What it reflects is a complacency that periodically overtook the Jewish people. When the people bound themselves to God in covenant their lives gradually became better. Inevitably, their lives improved to such a state that they forgot God was responsible for their blessings. They ignored their relationship with God and became complacent about their good fortune. Ultimately, their comfort was brought to an end and they recognised once again their need for God. Jesus calls the people to get ready because the pattern is repeating itself.

26 / 27 Nov	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5pm	
Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Marguerite Ryan	Claire Newsome	Leela Cherubim	
Communion	Michelle Penson	Christopher Ratnayake	Brian McIntosh	Sally Tramontana	
3/4 December	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5pm	
Reader	Vernon Curtis	John McGrath	Jacqueline Lewis	Mark Aiello	
Communion	Michelle Penson	Marni Mant	Elizabeth Williamson	Leela Cherubim	
<b>MORNING TEA:</b> 4th December -Tina & Barbara.					
<b>COLLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDED 20TH NOVEMBER 2022</b>					
<b>ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERY CHEQUE- BSB 083-347 A/c 659225267</b>			<b>ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - BSB 083-347 A/c 658806318</b>		
Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct	Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct
144.50	1028.95	735.00	596.00	724.85	1825.00

**First Collection** is for the support of our parish priest, the Archbishop, the sick and retired priests and priests in less fortunate areas around our Archdiocese of Melbourne (it is taken up after the prayers of the faithful).

**Second Collection** is for the support of our parish, its welfare and maintenance (it is taken up after Communion).

**LIFTING OF DISPENSATION:** From the 1st Sunday of Advent, 27 November 2022, the general dispensation from our Sunday and Holy Day obligations will be lifted. As always, the ordinary individual exemptions will remain in place (e.g for reasons of ill health, family care of the vulnerable, etc) .... *Archbishop Peter A Comensoli*

**EXPOSITION:** Every Wednesday from this week we'll have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

**MORNING TEA AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE:** Next Sunday, 4th December there will be morning tea and a sausage sizzle following the 10.30a.m. mass. Parishioners are welcome to attend and socialise with others.

**SAFEGUARDING:** All volunteers are asked to undertake Safeguarding training either by attending one of the two sessions to be held in Francis Xavier Meeting room at St John's Presbytery on 29th November 7-8pm or on Wednesday 30th November 10am-11am or online with you WWCC Card Number at [www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/](http://www.safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/) Please contact parish office on 94571066 during office hours or email [heidelberg@cam.org.au](mailto:heidelberg@cam.org.au) for enquiries or assistance. Thank you volunteers.

**THANK YOU:** to those who were able to contribute to Father Vinh Do's ordination gift. For your information we gave him a cheque for the amount of your donations and a Book of Blessings. Thanks also to all who helped with the celebration in the hall and at Mass.

**THE PURPOSE AND SYMBOLISM OF THE ADVENT WREATH**  
Advent, which begins the Church's liturgical year, begins this Sunday, November 27th. Advent encompasses the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the anniversary of the Lord's birth at Christmas. The use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding Catholic tradition that was originally adopted by Christians in the Middle Ages as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ. The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday.



#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**RECENTLY BAPTISED:** Roman Aloise, Alexis Kandi, Evelina Kelly, Julius & Georgiana Cotter.

**RECENTLY MARRIED:** Cameron Sobey & Valerie Villarosa.

**THE SICK:** David Morck, Alan Briges, Mary Stella, Margaret Thomas, Joan O'Donoghue, Alice Hyland, Rosalie Prince, Aileen Powell, Helen Griffiths, Noah Thorley, Judy Catlow.

**ANNIVERSARY:** Kay Dennis.

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