



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 8.45am & 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.

3RD/4TH DECEMBER 2022, SECOND 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 Friends,

I often receive a message on my pager from the Austin Hospital or from other local hospitals and try to respond as soon as I can. One of the calls this week surprised me because it was unusual. Normally, when staff from the hospital or a pastoral care member pages me to come, they often ask me to come as soon as possible and provide some necessary details of the patient, so that it would save my time when I arrive. This time, a pastoral care worker paged me and said something like, "Fr Vinh could you please see....N... at Talbot, Mellor Ward... bed... for communion in the next day or two." When I checked the pager I saw that it was not an emergency call. So the next day, I checked it again and I asked myself: Is the message missing something? There was no ward number as normal and I had never heard the name of the ward before. I called the staff member who paged me and she said it was in Kew and was one of the campuses which belongs to the Austin Hospital. I did not know about that campus and so found out that I have one more place of responsibility!

Anyway, what I would like to share with you today is that: On Tuesday afternoon, I made my way to visit that patient at a "new place". It took me a while to find the place in Kew and the location of the ward, room and bed number. When I came in I introduced myself as Father Vinh, a Catholic Priest from St John's Catholic Parish Heidelberg and that I had come to give her the sacraments and asked her would she like to be anointed and receive communion. The patient suddenly responded and joy appeared on her face and she thanked me for coming and told me that she would love to receive the sacraments. Then I offered her all the sacraments she would like to have. I could see another moment of joy and emotion of tears on her face after receiving Holy Communion. She said that for such a long time she had missed all these. This touched me as well, such is the grace that God has given to her as she hungered and longed for. I had a few more words with her and promised to pray for her and asked her also to pray for me. Then I left for home and felt God's grace touching me as well. It was a such grace moment that God manifested to us his love and care.

The reason why I shared with you about this case is because this is a special time of grace that God wants to give us. Many of our brothers and sisters have missed something like this for a long time. We have begun our Advent. It is a time we are all welcomed back to receive his grace. It is the time of "WELCOME HOME" as our Archbishop Comensoli reminded us in his pastoral letter a couple of weeks ago.

Let us spread this time of grace to our brothers and sisters, relatives and friends... so that they too, together with us, may come to know that God's love and care for all of us and return to Him to receive His grace and blessings to strengthen our journey of faith.

May God bless you all,
Fr Vinh-Parish Priest

ENTRANCE HYMN: PREPARE YE, THE WAY OF THE LORD

Prepare ye, the way of the Lord
 Prepare ye, the way of the Lord (Thrice)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold,
 the Lord will come to save the nations,
 and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
 in the joy of your heart.

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 11: 1-10*

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loin cloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious. and its home will be glorious.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17.*

Response: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

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 the earth's bounds. 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./

May his name be blessed for ever
 and endure like the sun.
 Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
 all nations bless his name. R./

SECOND READING*Romans 15:4-9*

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
 all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL*Matthew 3:1-12.*

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way

to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

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

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

COMMUNION HYMN: AS THE DEER

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength, my shield,
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: GLORY BE TO GOD IN HEAVEN

Glory be to God in heaven,
Peace to those who love you well;
On the earth let all his people
Speak his grace, his wonders tell:
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
Mighty Father, heaven's king;
Hear our joyful adoration
And accept the thanks we bring.

Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sins away,
Now with him n triumph seated
For your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Saviour, you are God alone
In the glory of the Father
With the Spirit: Three in One!



LIVING THE GOSPEL – PREPARE YE!

John the Baptist's call to 'Prepare the way of the Lord' is a summary of the purpose of the season of Advent. Every year, as we celebrate the Nativity, we celebrate once again the presence of God in our world. God became incarnate in the world through Jesus but also always was and continues to be incarnate in the world through each person. If we are to accept this reality and live it out, we need to remind ourselves this Advent to prepare the way for the Lord to be present in and through us every day of our lives.

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
10/11 December	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5pm
Reader	Pamela Smith	Pietro Sciotto	Margaret Andrews	Annaliza
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Christopher Ratnayake	Brian McIntosh	Sally Tramontana

MORNING TEA: 4th December -Tina & Barbara.

COLLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDED 27TH NOVEMBER 2022

ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERY CHEQUE- BSB 083-347 A/c 659225267			ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - BSB 083-347 A/c 658806318		
Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct	Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct
914.05	590.30	250.00	2504.00	356.10	550.00

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).

MORNING TEA AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE: This 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.

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION APPEAL: Next weekend 10th/11th of December at all Masses in support of the mission fund of the Melbourne archdiocese.

ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROLS: on Tuesday 6th December at 7:00pm. Members of the Parish are welcome to attend.

GEMS 50+: will meet on Tuesday 6th December at 10.00a.m. in the St Francis Xavier Parish Room. New members are always welcome.

ST JOHN'S SOCIAL NIGHT: Tuesday, 6th December at St Xavier Room; everyone welcome. Join us for cards, board games, a chat or for a tea/coffee, from 7 - 8.30 pm.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) BEFORE CHRISTMAS: the Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated at our parish on Friday 16th December at 7:00pm. We gather to pray and prepare ourselves as a community and then have time for individual reconciliation.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:

Friday 16th December 7:00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE: Saturday, 24th December, 6:00pm Mass, Carols 8:30pm, 9:00pm Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY: Sunday 25th December
Masses at 8:30am & 10:30am

No evening Mass on Christmas Day

NEW YEAR'S EVE: Saturday 31st December
6:00pm Mass

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Sunday 1st January
8:30am, 10:30am & 5pm



SAFEGUARDING PRAYER

Lord..... You asked that the little children be allowed to come to you.

Guide us individually and as a Parish Community, to ensure that the well-being and safety of our children, young people and vulnerable adults is at the forefront of all we do.

Help us to hear their needs and be vigilant and fearless in protecting them from harm.

Amen.



Happy 80th Birthday Margaret Thomas



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY MARRIED: Christie Hoy & Andrew Salvucci.

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

ANNIVERSARY: Kay Dennis, Reynolds Fernandez.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rosalie Prince.

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