



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):

Will resume after Fr Vinh returns.

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.

28TH/29TH JANUARY, FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YR 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.*

THE BEATITUDES ... A CALL TO ACTION

Jesus doesn't start in a fantasy dream world of perfection. Jesus looks at the world as it often is for many people, perhaps for most people around the world: 'the poor in spirit', 'those who mourn', 'those who are gentle', 'those who hunger and thirst for justice'.

Jesus astonishes the crowd by saying that such people are 'Blessed'. How can this be? The answer lies in our Lord's emphasis on the new community he is establishing under the reign of God: what he calls 'the Kingdom of God'.

Those in such wretched circumstances will have things set right, but only if followers of Jesus do everything possible to lift the poor out of the poverty which crushes their spirit, do everything possible to comfort those who mourn, do everything possible to make sure the gentle share the earth's resources, do everything possible to satisfy the craving for justice.

We could pause for a moment to pray the 'Our Father' pledging ourselves to help construct this new society where the Beatitudes can come true:

'Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate



ENTRANCE HYMN: CHRIST BE BESIDE ME

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, Never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, Shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, Light of my life.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

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.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and
on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our
prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
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

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek
humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of

the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a
humble and lowly people, and those who are left in
Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They
will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured
tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But
they will be able to graze and rest with no one to
disturb them disturb them.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 145:7-10

Response: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of
heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
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 bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **R./**

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **R./**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 1:26-31

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you
were called: how many of you were wise in the
ordinary sense of the word, how many were
influential people, or came from noble families? No, it
was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish
by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that
he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those
whom the world thinks common and contemptible
are the ones that God has chosen – those who are
nothing at all to show up those who are everything.
The human race has nothing to boast about to God,
but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and
by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our
virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As
scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast
about the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 5: 1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There
he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he
began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How
happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of
heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth
for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall
be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for

what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

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

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

COMMUNION HYMN: O GOD YOU SEARCH ME

O' God, you search me, and you know me
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze
When I walk or lie down, you are before me
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising
You discern my purpose from afar
And with love everlasting, you besiege me
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord
You have known its meaning through and through
You are with me beyond my understanding
God of my present, my past and future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me
Still I search for shelter from your light
There is nowhere on Earth I can escape you
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me
Gave me life within my mother's womb
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new..

RECESSIONAL HYMN: CITY OF GOD

Awake from your slumber!
Arise from your sleep!
A new day is dawning for all those who weep.
The people in darkness have seen a great light.
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night. **Ref.**

Refrain

Let us build a city of God.
May our tears be turned into dancing!
For the Lord, our light and our love,
has turned the night into day!

We are sons of the morning;
We are daughters of day.
The one who has loved us has brightened our way.
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be a light
for his people to set their hearts free. **Ref.**

HISTORICAL CONTEXT – PURITY

Purity and impurity was a major issue in 1st Century Jewish society. The Priests and Pharisees maintained that only pure adherence to the Law could make a person acceptable in God's eyes. Impurity came to be associated with physical disease and injury. Those with severe disease or disability were regarded as sinful and punished by God. Jesus' statement, 'Happy are the pure of heart', would have scandalised those who maintained that purity came through strict observance of Law. Jesus suggests that purity (and impurity) comes from within a person rather than from the outside – regardless of their observance of the Law.

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 28 /29 January | Sat 6:00pm | Sun 8:30am | Sun 10:30am | Sun 5pm |
| Reader | Pamela Smith | John McGrath | Vernon Curtis | Mary Kotefski |
| Communion | Domenica Ashworth | Christopher Ratnayake | Brian McIntosh | Sally Tramontana |
| 4 / 5 February | Sat 6:00pm | Sun 8:30am | Sun 10:30am | Sun 5pm |
| Reader | Vernon Curtis | Pietro Sciotto | Jacqueline Lewis | Annaliza |
| Communion | Lorraine Mascarenhas | Elizabeth Williamson | TBA | TBA |

Morning Tea : 5th February 2023 - Barbara & Liz (H)

COLLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDED 22ND JANUARY 2023

| 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 |
| 62.05 | 556.75 | 430.00 | 505.75 | 470.75 | 985.00 |

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: In parish hall next Sunday 5th February, following the 10.30a.m. Mass. You are invited to join fellow parishioners for the first time in this New Year. Parishioners and visitors warmly welcome.

GEMS (GREGARIOUS ENERGETIC MEMBERS OF ST JOHN'S) 50+: Following our lunch outing last week we return to the Francis Xavier room this coming Tuesday, January 31st at 10.00am for fun and friendship. New members always welcome.

VACANCY – FLOWER ARRANGING: We currently have a vacancy on the “flower roster”. If you are interested in doing the church flowers once a month we would love to hear from you. The Thursday / Friday can be flexible. Please ring the Parish Office or Michelle on 049989110.

SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES: If you or a loved one are celebrating a significant birthday (18th, 21st, 30th, 40th...) or a wedding anniversary please let us know at the parish office (Heidelberg@cam.org.au) so we can celebrate and pray for you as a community.

DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO CAN'T GET TO MASS ANY LONGER? Would they like to be visited and perhaps have communion taken to them? Contact: Elizabeth 0447195553.

'THE WAY' PRAYER GROUP: Free Lenten course on Zoom “A Journey to Freedom” , Thursdays 8.00-9.30pm, 23rd Feb, 2,9 & 23 March. To receive the course booklet by email book before 22nd Feb at <https://www.trybooking.com/CFNKH> Further information contact Emilia 0418120902 or email emilia.sacchetta@bigpond.com

BEGINNING OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR PRAYER

Loving God, Bless + students everywhere as they begin the new year with their friends and teachers. Bless their school and keep them safe. Be with them as they journey each day. May the new beginning of this school year remind them that you give us chances to start over again and again.

Help them to learn and collaborate together. Help them to listen when they should and to know the best words when they speak and when it is better not to speak. Let Your Holy Spirit give them light and lead them to You. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Cath Kemp, Margaret Frigo, Vicky Huffman, Sonia Robinson, Paula Staples, Marie Hankin, Vin Sier, Agnes Fernandez, Mary Stella, Joan O'Donoghue.

ANNIVERSARY: Margaret Power (Peg), Pierrot Auguste, Lise Ferriere, Genevieve Ferriere, Frances Booth.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kevin Downey.

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