



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

**ASSISTANT PRIEST:** Fr John Pereira

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Mary Peeris

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:**

Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)

**SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:**

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

**ST JOHN'S PARISH OFFICE:**

52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084

t: 94571066 & 70643906

e: heidelberg@cam.org.au

w: pol.org.au/heidelberg

Facebook.com/stjohnheidelberg

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesday to Friday

9:30am to 2:30pm

**MASS TIMES:**

**Weekdays:** Tuesday to Saturday:

9:15am

**Weekend:** Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am & 5pm

**ADORATION:** After Friday morning

Mass with Benediction.

**EXPOSITION**

Wednesday 7.30pm

**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):**

Friday 9.45am (during Adoration)

Sat 9:45 am & 5:30pm.

**WEDDING, BAPTISM, FIRST**

**RECONCILIATION,**

**FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:**

Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

**ST JOHN'S HALL HIRE:**

Contact parish office.

**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**

Elizabeth Whiting (Acting

Principal) 94592963

55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084

2ND/3RD DECEMBER, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

### 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-a great Feast of Jesus Christ our King, bringing the liturgical year to a close. This Sunday we commence our season 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 as a human being 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.

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. 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. We are reminded of that ongoing contact with God especially in the celebration of the sacraments, including this Eucharist.

As I mentioned last weekend, we received the good news that Archbishop Comensoli has appointed a new Assistant Priest to St John's Parish Heidelberg. With great joy we welcome Father John Pereira who has arrived and is with us now. Please see his short message of introduction below.

God bless,

Fr Vinh-Parish Priest

*"Greetings to one and all,*

*Being the new 'kid' on the block, I was asked by Rev. Vinh to pen a few words to introduce myself. Well, I am Rev. John Pereira and I hail from Malaysia. I was ordained as a diocesan priest for the diocese of Malacca-Johore which is on the Southern part of West Malaysia. This year marks my eight years of priesthood and I am especially delighted and excited to serve here at St. John's, Heidelberg. I have met some of you over the course of these past few days and I already feel welcomed. I thank God for this opportunity and to Rev. Vinh for having me here. I hope and pray that, as a parish family, we'll journey and get to know each other more as time unfolds. God's blessings upon each and every one of you dear parishioners of St. John's. Godspeed." Rev John Pereira*

**CHILD SAFETY:** St John's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all our children, young people and vulnerable adults. Children are to be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times in the church and when leaving the church for any reason.

**ENTRANCE: 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 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8*

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our  
Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us  
to stray from your ways and harden our hearts  
against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your

servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you  
would tear the heavens open and come down – at  
your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has  
heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this  
for those who trust him. You guide those who act  
with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were  
angry when we were sinners; we had long been  
rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all  
that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all  
withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like  
the wind. No one invoked your name or roused  
himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face  
from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And  
yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the  
potter, we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

**All reply:** Thanks be to God.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Psalms 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19.*

**Response:** Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your  
face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help.

R./

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted.

R./

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name.

R./

**SECOND READING**

*1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ  
send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God  
for all the graces you have received through Jesus  
Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so  
many ways, especially in your teachers and  
preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been  
strong among you so that you will not be without any  
of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our  
Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you  
steady and without blame until the last day, the day  
of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you  
has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is  
faithful.

The word of the Lord.

**All reply:** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

*Mark 13:33-37*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All reply:* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## 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

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

### COMMUNION: TABLE OF PLENTY

#### Refrain.

Come to the feast of heaven and earth  
Come to the table of plenty  
God will provide for all that we need  
Here at the table of plenty

O come and sit at my table  
Where saints and sinners are friends  
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely  
To share the cup of my love.

Ref.

O come and eat without money  
Come to drink without price  
My feast of gladness will feed your spirit  
With faith and fullness of life

Ref.

My bread will ever sustain you  
Through days of sorrow and war  
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness  
To flood the depths of your soul.

Ref.

Your fields will flower in fullness;  
your homes will flourish in peace.  
For I, the giver of home and harvest,  
will send my rain on the soil.

Ref.

### RECESSIONAL: PRAISE THE LORD, MY SOUL

Praise the lord, my soul,  
Let fire and rain give praise to Him,  
Give praise to Him who is merciful, slow to judge;  
Bless the lord, O my soul!

Bless the Lord, my soul,  
Let all I am give praise to Him,  
And not forget he is kind, He forgives our sins;  
Bless the Lord, O my soul!



2/3 DEC	SAT 6:00PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader	Pamela Smith	Pietro Sciotto	Jacqueline Lewis	Mark Aiello
Communion	Michelle Penson	Bobbie Bartkus	Margaret Bradley	Elizabeth Williamson
9/10 DEC	SAT 6:00PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader	Margherita Bechelli	Marguerite Ryan	Peter Greenham	Leela Cherubim
Communion	TBA	Chris Ratnayake	Marni Mant	Sally Tramontana

**MORNING TEA**, 3rd December: Margaret & Elizabeth

**COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK ENDED 26TH NOVEMBER 2023**

<b>First Collection</b> is for the support of our Parish Priest, the Archbishop, the sick & retired priests, priests in less fortunate areas around Archdiocese of Melbourne <i>(It is taken up after Homily)</i> ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERY CHEQUE- BSB 083-347 A/c 659225267			<b>Second Collection</b> is for the support of our Church, its operating expenses, staff wages, church & ground maintenance etc. <i>(It is taken up after Prayers of Faithful)</i> ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - BSB 083-347 A/c 658806318		
<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>Loose Collection</b>	<b>Bank Direct</b>	<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>Loose Collection</b>	<b>Bank Direct</b>
\$232.00	\$867.95	\$362.00	\$1043.50	\$539.35	\$668.00

**MORNING TEA & SAUSAGE SIZZLE:** This Sunday 3rd December following the 10.30am Mass. Come along to welcome and meet our new Assistant Priest, Father John Pereira

**COLLABORATION MEETING:** The Archdiocese of Melbourne has met with many parishes to encourage collaboration of parishes making good use of people and programs where possible. On Friday 24th November St. John's hosted a meeting with surrounding parishes. Father Wayne, Parish Priest of St Pius' West Heidelberg, Father Michael, Parish Priest of St Martin of Tours Rosanna/ Macleod and their leadership teams met with us to discuss the possible ways the three parishes could collaborate into the future. Cath Garner from the Archdiocese of Melbourne facilitated the meeting. Together we decided on a few things we could action immediately: Advent Reflection Group, Publishing each other's Christmas timetable in our newsletters. We also discussed actions for the following twelve months in the Safeguarding area and sharing the hospital chaplaincy. The parishes and leadership groups will meet again in February.

**ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROLS:** on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> commencing at 6.00p.m. parishioners are welcome to attend.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

**Second Rite of Reconciliation:**

*Tuesday 19th December*  
7.00p.m

**4th Sunday of Advent**

*Saturday 23rd December:*  
Vigil Mass 6pm

*Sunday 24th December :*  
Masses 8.30am, 10.30am

**Christmas Eve**

Masses at 6:00pm, 9.00pm  
Carols 8:30pm

**Christmas Day: Monday 25th December -**

Masses at: 8:30am, 10:30am

**New Year's Day : Solemnity of Mary,  
The Holy Mother of God**

Mass at 10.00a.m.



**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

**Wednesday December 6<sup>th</sup>** during the 9.15a.m. mass followed by morning tea in the Francis Xavier Room in the Parish House.

**MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION:** A special collection will be taken up next weekend December 9th /10th at all masses.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**THE SICK:** Margaret Sinclair, Joan O'Donoghue, Samantha Bryan, Frank Dempsey, David Morck, Caterina Chincarini, Domenica Ashworth, Sean O'Leary, Val Wallis.

**ANNIVERSARY:** Kay Dennis, Frances Monahan, Patricia Kay.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Father Gerard Dowling.