



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

**ST JOHN'S PARISH OFFICE:**

52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084  
Phone: 94571066 & 70643906  
Email: heidelberg@cam.org.au  
Website: pol.org.au/heidelberg  
Facebook.com/stjohnheidelberg

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Mary Peeris

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:**

Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)

**SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:**

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

**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—10.15am (during  
Adoration)

Sat 9:45 am & 5:30pm.—5.50p.m.

**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**

Ms Alison Dean Principal

55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084

t: 9459 2963;

office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

## 23RD/24TH MARCH, PALM SUNDAY, 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.*

Palm Sunday-What might it mean to us as we begin this Holy Week?

The day is called both "Palm Sunday" and "Passion Sunday." The first name comes from the fact that it commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, when the crowd had palm branches. The second name comes from the fact that the narrative of the Passion is read on this Sunday.

It is on Palm Sunday that we enter Holy Week, welcoming Jesus into our lives and asking Him to allow us a share in His suffering, death and Resurrection. This is the time of the year when we stop to remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation.

The Holy Week liturgies present us with the actual events of the dying and rising of Jesus. These liturgies enable us to experience in our lives here and now what Jesus went through then. In other words, what we commemorate and relive during this week is not just Jesus' dying and rising, but our own dying and rising in Him, which results in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption.

Just as Jesus did, we, too, must lay down our lives freely by actively participating in the Holy Week liturgies. In doing so, we are allowing Jesus to forgive us our sins, heal the wounds in us caused by our sins and the sins of others and transform us more completely into the image and likeness of God. In this way, we will be able to live more fully the Divine life we received at Baptism. Attentive participation in the Holy Week liturgies will also deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. But let us remember that Holy Week can become "holy" for us only if we actively and consciously take part in the liturgies of this week. During this week of the Passion-passionate suffering, passionate grace, passionate love and passionate forgiving-each of us is called to remember the Christ of Calvary and then to embrace and lighten the burden of the Christ whose passion continues to be experienced in the hungry, the poor, the sick, the homeless, the aged, the lonely and the outcast.

Today's liturgy combines two contrasting moments, one of glory, the other of suffering-the welcome of Jesus into Jerusalem and the drama of His trial which ends in His crucifixion and death. Let us rejoice and sing as Jesus comes into our life today. Let us also weep and mourn as His death confronts us with our sin.

Have a blessed Holy Week,

Fr Vinh-Parish Priest

**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.

COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE  
INTO JERUSALEM

*Mark 11:1-10*

When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, and said to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat; untie it and bring it.

If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" say, "The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately". And they went away, and found a colt tied at the door out in the open street; and they untied it. And those who stood there said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' And they told them what Jesus had said; and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their garments on it; and he sat upon it. And many spread their garments on the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed cried out,

'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest!'

**ENTRANCE: LET HEAVEN REJOICE**

**Refrain**

Let heaven rejoice and earth be glad;  
Let all creation sing.  
Let children proclaim to every land:  
Hosanna to the King.

Sound the trumpet into the night;  
The day of the Lord is near.  
Wake His people, lift your voice,  
Proclaim it to the world.

**Ref.**

Rise in splendor, shake off your sleep;  
Put on your robes of joy.  
And in the morning you shall see  
the glory of the Lord.

**Ref.**

**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.

**FIRST READING**

*Isaiah 50:4-7*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Psalms 21:8-9.17-20.23-24*

**Response:** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me.

They curl their lips, they toss their heads.  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him if this is his friend.'

**R./**

Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.  
I can count every one of my bones.

**R./**

They divide my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe.  
O Lord, do not leave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me!

**R./**

I will tell of your name to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel's sons.'

**R./**

**SECOND READING**

*Philippians 2:6-11*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL**

*Mark 14:1 – 15:47*

*The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God,  
 the Father almighty,  
 Creator of heaven and earth,  
 and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
*At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.*  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died and was buried;  
 he descended into hell;  
 on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
 from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and life everlasting. Amen.

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION**

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

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

**COMMUNION: BREAD OF LIFE**

**Refrain**

Bread of life, hope of the world,  
 Jesus Christ, our brother;  
 feed us now, give us life,  
 lead us to one another.

As we proclaim your death as we recall your life,  
 We remember your promise to return again.

**R.**

The bread we break and share was scattered once as grain:  
 Just as now it is gathered, make your people one.

**R.**

We eat this living bread, we drink this saving cup:  
 Sign of hope in our broken world, source of lasting love.

**R.**

Hold us unity, in love for all to see;  
 That the world may believe in you, God of all who live.

**R.**

You are the bread of peace, you are the wine of joy,  
 Broken now for your people, poured in endless love. **R.**

**RECESSIONAL : HAIL REDEEMER**

Hail Redeemer, King divine!  
 Priest and Lamb, the Lord of time,  
 King, whose reign shall never cease,  
 Prince of everlasting peace.

**Refrain:**

Angels, saints and nations sing :  
 “Praised be Jesus Christ our King;  
 Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,  
 King of love on Calvary!”

King, whose name creation thrills,  
 Rule our minds, our hearts, our wills,  
 till in peace each nation rings  
 With your praises, King of Kings.

**Ref.**

**FRANCIS’ FOCUS**

‘Let us ask for the grace to be amazed’, reflects Pope Francis. ‘A Christian life without amazement’, he warns, ‘becomes drab and dreary’. Palm Sunday is about so much more than an annual waving of branches.

Whether our faith has become what the Pope styled ‘dull from habit’, or we find ourselves ‘trapped in our regrets’, or ‘crippled by our disappointments’, or easily inclined to ‘take refuge in legalisms’, the Pope suggests we return our gaze to Jesus’ self-sacrifice and allow ourselves to be amazed.

‘Let us be amazed by Jesus so that we can start living again,’ the Pope says, ‘for the grandeur of life lies not in possessions and promotions, but in realising that we are loved.’

When we allow ourselves to embrace this fact our lives will be changed. As the Pope points out, many of those who welcomed Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem quickly abandoned him. They were, he suggests, ‘following an idea of the Messiah rather than the Messiah’. Their public demonstrations seem to have proved self-oriented and shallow.

‘To admire Jesus is not enough’, the Pope declares. ‘We have to follow in his footsteps, to let ourselves be challenged by him; to pass from admiration to amazement.’ This, he says, enables us to really ‘know that we are not alone: God is at our side in every affliction, in every fear; no evil, no sin will ever have the final word.’

‘And with the grace of amazement’, the Pope adds, ‘we come to realise that in welcoming the dismissed and discarded, in drawing close to those ill-treated by life, we are loving Jesus.’

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23 / 24 MARCH	SAT 6:00PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader 1	Vernon Curtis	Marguerite Ryan	Christine Soosairaj	Mark Kotefski
Reader 2	Peter Penson	Marnie Keenan	Laurette Kairouz	Leela Cherubim
Reader 3	Pamela Smith	Pietro Sciotto	Peter Greenham	Annaliza
Communion	Michelle Penson	Bobbie Bartkus	Olivia Musitano	Sally Tramontana
			Mary Furlan	
31 / 31 MARCH	EASTER VIGIL 7:30PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader 1 & 2	Kevin & Margaret	Claire Newsome	Peter Greenham	NO MASS
Reader 3	Marguerite Ryan	Vernon Curtis	Elizabeth Williamson	
Reader 4	Elizabeth Williamson	-	-	
Reader 5	Cassandra Abeynaike	-	-	
Communion	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Marni Mant	Brian McIntosh	

### COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK ENDED 17TH MARCH 2024

**First Collection** is for the support of our Parish Priest, the Archbishop, the sick & retired priests, priests in less fortunate areas around Archdiocese of Melbourne

*(It is taken up after Homily)*

ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERY CHEQUE- BSB 083-347 A/c 659225267

**Second Collection** is for the support of our Church, its operating expenses, staff wages, church & ground maintenance etc.

*(It is taken up after Prayers of Faithful)*

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - BSB 083-347 A/c 658806318

Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct	Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct
\$541.15	\$1,065.00	\$697.00	\$944.00	\$529.40	\$698.00

**GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION MARCH 29TH:** This annual collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians, parishes, orphanages and to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus.

**EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES:** are available in the pews. Money from the Easter Offering (together with the collections to priest support) goes to support priests in our parish, sick and retired priests, priests in poorer parishes and the ministry of the archbishop. Thank you for your generosity.

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Contributions (boxes and Envelopes) for Caritas Australia can be returned from Holy Thursday to Second Sunday of Easter. It can be placed in the collection plate or into the basket on the sanctuary or return them to the sacristy or the parish office. Thank you.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7TH APRIL:** celebration at St John's from 3pm.

**The Eyrie:** Free copies of our parish magazine "The Eyrie" are available at the rear of the church and at the side entries. Thanks to our generous sponsors who support our Parish Magazine.

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CELEBRATIONS



#### PALM SUNDAY: 23rd/24th March

Saturday 23rd March Vigil at 6:00pm,  
Sunday 24th Masses at 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

#### HOLY THURSDAY: 28th March

**Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm** - After the "Prayer after Communion" the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession to the Parish Hall for Adoration concluding at 10.30pm with Night Prayer.

#### GOOD FRIDAY: 29 March

**Stations of the Cross 10:30am** in the church gardens & school grounds.

Confessions 11.30am to 12.30pm

**Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 3.00pm**

#### HOLY SATURDAY: 30th March

**Easter Vigil Mass at 7.30pm.**

Please join us in the parish hall following the Easter Vigil to celebrate the greatest feast in the Church's Year and to congratulate Cassie on her full initiation into the Catholic Church.

#### EASTER SUNDAY 31st March

Masses at 8:30am & 10:30am

*(Please note- No Evening Mass on Easter Sunday)*

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**THE SICK:** Jacques Coomans, Frank Viola, Bill Barnes, Kevin Andrews, Margaret Sinclair, Joan O'Donoghue, Samantha Byran, Frank Dempsey, Davis Morck, Caterina Chincarni, Domenica Ashworth, Sean O'Leary, Val Wallis.

**ANNIVERSARY:** Dominic Hoi Duong, Gregory Seymon, Shane Whitbread.

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