



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street

HEIDELBERG

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.*

PARISH OFFICE:

52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084
t: 9457 1066
e: heidelberg@cam.org.au
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PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit

SACRAMENT COORDINATOR:

Sr Loreto Lynch RSM

PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris

CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:

Michelle Robertson t:0409 533 100

OFFICE: 9:30am-2:30pm, Mo, Tu, Th, Fr

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Maureen Hegarty

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL:

55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
t: 9459 2963;
e: office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au
PRINCIPAL: Maureen Stella

HALL HIRE: Fran mob: 0417972317
10:00am-5:00pm (Mon-Fri only)

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 6:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

AUSTIN HOSPITAL MASS:

3rd Sunday of the Month at 9:30am.

WEEKDAY MASS: 9:15am

ROSARY: Monday to Saturday after Mass.

LECTIO DIVINA: Every second and fourth Monday of the month at 7:00pm, in the parish house.

LEGION OF MARY: Tuesday night at 7:30pm in the parish house. Info: Sue 9459 8604

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesday: 7:30pm - 9:00pm;
Thursday: 9:40am - 11:00am,
Friday: 8:00am - 9:00am

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturday at 9:45am & 5:30pm
or by appointment

BAPTISMS: On Sundays at 11:45am, by appointment.

BAPTISM INFORMATION EVENING:

Last Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the parish house, except Dec and Jan.

WEDDINGS: By appointment (9457 1066).

PARISH PILGRIM STATUE OF MARY: In order to have the statue of Mary in your home for one week please contact Marj McBroom on 0414 289 304.

2nd / 3rd December 2017 - First Sunday of Advent

Dear parishioners, visitors and friends,

The Church liturgical year does not run from January to December, as our civil year does, but starts with the first Sunday of Advent, four Sundays before Christmas.

In many ways the Church year is an image of our life; we start by celebrating the birth of the God-child and we conclude with a reflection about death and the end of times, as we have just done in the past few weeks.

Every birth is preceded by a time of waiting. Every family waits and prepares for the birth of a new child. Within the People of God, the Old Testament is a record of the people's wait for the birth of the Messiah promised by God in the book of Genesis. As we celebrate our own journey through life, we too live in expectation of the moment when we too have to meet the Christ, our God.

Each year the four Sundays of Advent remind us of this time of waiting and for our own need to be alert and wait. The gospel in this Sunday's Mass tells us of the need to 'stay awake.' The image Jesus uses is that of the householder who goes abroad but expects his door keeper to stay awake to be ready to welcome him on his return.

Once again we need to remind ourselves of this need to be prepared and ready. Christ the Son of God is born again each day in our life. It is very easy to forget this reality as we bury our heads in the business of life. Advent is a good time to shake ourselves up and open our eyes to be aware of God's presence in our life every day.

Advent and Christmas gives us a chance each year to remind ourselves to see God in all those around us. As we go around giving and accepting gifts, let us also remember those in our midst who are less needy and who are a very clear image of God in our daily life.

Happy Advent!

Fr Mario

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY MARRIED: Tom Cooper with Elise Mc Garvie.

THE SICK: Patricia Mulholland, Ruth Mc Guire, Brendan O'Kane, Patricia Wong.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Genevieve Fitzpatrick, Michael Carran, Alan Maxwell Ingram, John Wright.

Names on the sick list remain for six weeks, unless otherwise advised.

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

2 Dec/ 3 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Sue Lew-Kee	Max Chester	Elizabeth Williamson	Candida Rowlands
2 nd Reader	Maddy Lew-Kee	Claire Newsome	Peter Penson	TBA
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Fiona Curry	Adrian Daly	Leo Cosio
	Emma Chang	Margaret Bradley	Nigel Mant	Charito Cosio
	Noel Micallef	Karen Frost	Marni Mant	Leela Cherubim
	TBA	Pauline Griffiths	Yannick Jonas	Sally Tramontana
9 Dec/ 10 Dec	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Sharon D'Souza	Marguerite Ryan	Michelle Robertson	Des O'Brien
2 nd Reader	John James	Pietro Sciotto	Sue Lew-Kee	Margaret Andrews
Communion	Jeanette O'Sullivan	Val Wallis	Maureen Howard	Margaret Hansen
	Maria Basilone	Alice Wong	Doris Schembri	Jenny Hollaway
	Donna Richardson	Stanly Devasia	Leonore Giliberto	Philip Johnson
	Michelle Penson	Peter O'Donoghue	Leo Hernandez	Jack Naden
Counters	3 Dec: Mark Mc Carthy, Peter Symes, Paul De Stefanis & 10 Dec: Graeme Foote, Michael Tilley, James Watson.			
Collection Weekly Average for October			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		December 2017: Elaine 9459 6721
Stewardship	\$3348.55	Stewardship	\$659.95	January 2018: Elaine 9459 6721
Loose	\$737.41	Loose	\$376.00	Morning Tea 3rd Dec: Carmel & Heather
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

MORNING TEA: available in the parish hall after 10:30am Mass this Sunday. Please join us!

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION APPEAL: on the 9/10 December. Since 1969 Melbourne parishioners have supported Melbourne's own mission fund to help developing nations. Major beneficiaries: Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Gambia, Ghana, Pakistan, Botswana, Nigeria, Peru and Jerusalem. Archbishop Denis Hart commends the fund to your continuing support. Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. Envelopes available at each entrance.

ST JOHNS CATHOLIC PARISH PLAYGROUP: is available to pre-schoolers from St John's parish and school. An "Open Play Session" is organised for Monday 4th December 9:00am to 11:00am in the parish hall. All welcome to come and play. Bring your morning tea and a sunhat. Enquiries: Christie Tran sjcplaygroup@gmail.com

ANOINTING MASS: we invite the sick and elderly members in our parish for Mass with the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick on Thursday 7th December at 11:30am, followed by a light lunch at St Monica's Hall, hosted by St John's Primary year 6 students. Kindly ring the office with numbers attending. The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will also be celebrated during the 9:15am Mass.

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS CAROLS: hosted by the parish primary school on Wednesday 13th December at the school oval. 6:00pm BYO picnic dinner and drinks. Carols 7:00pm.

BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING: Julie is a bereavement counsellor in private practice and the Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement. She holds qualifications in psychology and post-graduate in counselling, psychotherapy, with specialisation in bereavement counselling. She provides counselling at St John's by appointment. Julie can be contacted on 0411 241 005 or julie@changesinbetween.com



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA
good works

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL: As Christmas approaches St John's Vinnies group will be preparing to assist those less fortunate in our area. It is customary to give hampers to these families. Over the coming weeks we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the hampers. A basket with names of items required is in the church porch. Kindly donate the items requested so that we can organise balanced hampers. Please bring your donations by Monday 11th December, latest. A collection will also held on the weekend of 16/17 December. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CALENDARS: Members of our Vinnies Conference will be selling Christmas Cards and 2018 calendars. Proceeds support the work of the conference. The Christmas cards feature two stained glass windows in our parish church.

HEIDELCARE CHRISTMAS BREAKUP: Short meeting 7.30pm Monday 4th December in the Francis Xavier meeting room at the Parish House, followed by supper. Entry via the back door. All most welcome.

YARRA DEANERY ADVENT GATHERING: Wednesday 6th December 7:30pm at St Kevin's church, 22-44 Herlihy Road, Lower Templestowe. Join us for a brief time of simple worship and a lovely supper with friends. Pizzas provided; contact Fr Wayne (9457 5794) or Merle (9497 1691) with numbers attending. Please bring sweets to share and BYO drinks.

CHRISTMAS SINGING GROUPS: We need more people to join us at the Sunday 10:30am and the 5pm masses. If you would like to help us prepare for Christmas by joining one of these groups you are most welcome.

2018 SCHOOL FETE GARDEN STORE: you can contribute by starting some plantings to donate to the garden store for next year's school fete on 3rd March.