



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street
HEIDELBERG

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which our parish stands, the Wurundjeri-Balluk clan of the Woi wurrung people in the Kulin Nation. We respectfully recognise elders, both past and present, and join in a silent prayer for healing of the pains caused by our ancestors.

St John's parish is a child-friendly community and we gratefully welcome young children and their families; we are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults in our midst.

25TH / 26TH AUGUST — 21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME 2018

Dear Parishioners, Visitors and Friends

Last week we have come to the end of our five week Stewardship / Thanksgiving Campaign programme. Thank you to all who put their weight behind this programme once again. Various parishioners have addressed the community and others have worked behind the scene.

Parish life is based on our faith in God. We share this faith each time we come together to share Eucharist. It also leads us to reach out to other members in the community. We have a number of ministries we can participate in and we need to keep supporting each of these groups and ministries.

Parish life also needs our financial support to be able to plan into the future. The parish has no other income except from what parishioners generously donate during our weekly collections. We ask parishioners to pledge weekly, monthly or annual contributions to help us budget for our day to day costs and for future projects.

As has been explained, in our parish we have one collection. Our envelopes have two parts: one part supports the parish the other part supports the presbytery. The loose collection is split two thirds for the parish and one third for the presbytery.

At the end of each financial year a summary of parish finances is printed in our newsletter and discussed in our annual parish meeting. The financial year in the Melbourne Archdiocese runs from January to December.

The money in the presbytery collection is shared 12.5% to help other priests, 12.5% to support retired priests, 5% to support the Melbourne bishops, and the remaining 70% to support my living expense and my stipend.

I thank you all for your continued support to our parish. We enjoy what those before us invested in our parish, it is now our time to invest in the future of our parish.

PRAYER FOR OUR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME

*Lord, we thank you
for calling us to be
your Church.*

*Through our Baptism
we are called to
service and to
witness.*

*In the Eucharist we
sustain and strengthen that call.*

*By serving others we follow your example and
proclaim our beliefs.*

*By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our
love and care.*

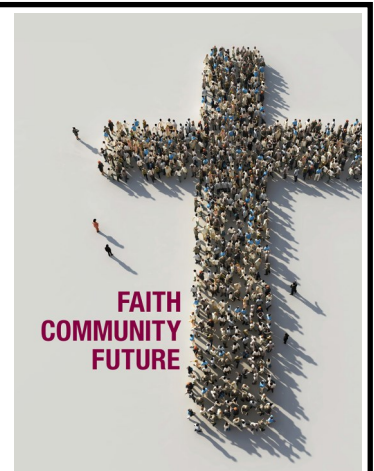
*Lord, help us always to worship you as you
deserve,*

to grow in faith and service

and to give without counting the cost.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR:
Maureen Hegarty
CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:
Michelle Robertson m:0409 533 100
SACRAMENT COORDINATOR:
Sr Loreto Lynch rsm

PARISH OFFICE:
52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084
t: 9457 1066
e: heidelberg@cam.org.au
w: cam.org.au/heidelberg
facebook/stjohnheidelberg
OFFICE HOURS:
Mo, Tu, Th, Fr; 9:30am to 2:30pm

MASS TIMES:
WEEKEND: Saturday: 6:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
AUSTIN HOSPITAL:
3rd Sunday of the Month at 9:30am
WEEKDAYS: 9:15am

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):
Saturdays at 9:45am & 5:30pm
or by appointment
BAPTISMS: 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

ROSARY: Monday to Saturday after
morning Mass
**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT:**
Wednesday: 7:30pm - 9:00pm;
Thursday: 9:40am - 11:00am,
Friday: 8:00am - 9:00am

LECTIO DIVINA: Every second and
fourth Monday of the month at
7:00pm, in the parish house
LEGION OF MARY: Every Tuesday
night at 7:00pm in the parish house;
contact Sue 9459 8604
PARISH PILGRIM STATUE OF MARY:
To have the statue of Mary in your
home for one week contact Marj
McBroom m: 0414 289 304

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH PRIMARY:
PRINCIPAL: Maureen Stella
ADDRESS:
55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
t: 9459 2963;
office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

HALL HIRE:
Fran Gasior: m:0417972317
10:00am-5:00pm; Mon-Fri only

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME:
Please contact parish office to
introduce yourself

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.*

MEDITATION ON JESUS: One day retreat on Saturday 29th September from 9:30am—4:00pm. Breathing exercises and gentle postures cleanses and heals body, mind and soul. Both retreats are guided by Fr Gilbert Carlo svd and will be held at Janssen Spirituality Centre, 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia. RSVP and for information: gilbertcarlo@gmail.com / enquiries@janssencentre.org / www.janssencentre.org / 9762 6625

Discovering Prayer through the Labyrinth: The labyrinth becomes a spiritual journey on many levels, leading the person inward to their own centre, and then back out into the world. Come join us at Heart of Life Spirituality Centre in Box Hill on Saturday, 15th September from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Cost \$60.00 (BYO Lunch). Enquiries and bookings can be made by reply email to holsc@bigpond.com or to 9890 1101 or on www.heartoflife.melbourne.

PALMS AUSTRALIA: Teach with Timorese teachers! Take your teaching skills to new heights in the mountains of Timor. Contact Christine on 02 9560 5333. For more opportunities, visit palms.org.au/volunteer. Can't commit just yet? Check out palms.org.au/encounters

A DAY OF REFLECTION: at Holy Cross Retreat Centre, 207 Serpells Road. On 29th August, from 9:30am to 2:30pm approx. The theme is 'The most beautiful song the world has ever known?' BYO lunch—beverages available— and a donation of \$20-25 is welcomed. No need to book unless you are a group. For further information ring Holy Cross on 98466014

ARCHBISHOPS CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES: 13th September 2018 featuring our new Archbishop, Peter A Comensoli. The title of his address is "Being a man; a man of God!" at CQ Club 113 – 123 Queen St Melbourne. Cost \$45. Time 0700 – 0900 sharp. Enquiries Michael Bohan 0439 172 465. The Catholic Man Breakfast Series is an opportunity for men to gather and be encouraged and inspired in their faith.

GEMS: Sing, converse and play on Tuesday 4th September from 10:00am to 12:00noon. New members are always welcome. Join us in the Francis Xavier meeting room at the back of the parish house. For information: Elizabeth 0447195553 /Jan 0423478504

ST JOHN'S PLAYGROUP: meets in the parish hall every Monday during school terms from 9:00am to 11:00am.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY MARRIED: Giuseppe De Maria with Michelle Barrile.

THE SICK: M. Cooke, Aurette Ferriere, Bern Green, Francis Micallef, John Pikines.

ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Monteleone, Elsa Di Domenico. Veronica Joyce, Donald Hansen, Ernest Abayakoon.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dorothy Santamaria.

*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.*

25 Aug/26 Aug	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Jack Naden	Jan McCaffery	Matthew Sanders
2 nd Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Marguerite Ryan	Grace Lew-Kee	Catie Nesbitt
Communion	Marco Di Cesare	Fiona Curry	Geraldine Manuel	Melania Mugamu
	Noel Micallef	Chris Ratnayake	Erin Manuel	Charito Cosio
	Maria Basilone	Teresa Lincoln	Leonore Giliberto	Leo Cosio
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Leo Hernandez	Sue Lew-Kee	Sally Tramontana
1 Sept /2 Sept	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Moira Di Cesare	Karen Frost	Bob Dowling	Mary Kotefski
2 nd Reader	Michael Leonard	Garry Sproules	Harsha Dilip	Peter Penson
Communion	Donna Richardson	Pauline Griffiths	Doris Schembri	Tony Rowlands
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Peter O'Donoghue	Beena Dilip	Jenny Hollaway
	Marco Di Cesare	Chris Ratnayake	Marni Mant	Charito Cosio
	Maria Basilone	Margaret Bradley	Nigel Mant	Leo Cosio
Counters	26 Aug: Vincent Chung, Bill Barnes, Peter O'Donoghue & 2 Sept: Stephen Devanish, Nicole Pelizzaro, Thomas Bechelli.			
Collection Weekly Average for July			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		September: Marilyn 9459 1950
Stewardship	\$3290.62	Stewardship	\$586.78	October: Marilyn 9459 1950
Loose	\$635.47	Loose	\$317.52	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

PLEDGE CARDS: Over the past two weeks we have been encouraged to pledge our contribution to the parish and the presbytery collections. Parishioners who have not put in a pledge card are being contacted by phone or by mail to ask them if they intend to place a pledge. Thank you for your generosity towards our parish. You can find pledge cards in the church foyer.

THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS STORY!: On Sunday 2nd September, as we celebrate Father's Day, we gather for a sausage sizzle in the parish hall to hear the final results and to thank and congratulate each other for the faith filled community we share. Once again thank you for your generous response.

NEW SET OF STEWARDSHIP / THANKSGIVING STEWARDSHIP / ENVELOPES: The new pledges take effect on Sunday 16th September. Letters of confirmation and, where appropriate, new sets of envelopes, will be available at all Masses on the weekend of Sunday 9th September. As there is a two-week gap between our old and new Stewardship Programmes envelopes for 2nd and 9th September are available in the church foyer in alphabetical order.

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR TAX RECEIPTS: are available upon request from the parish office. Please call or email on Heidelberg@cam.org.au or 94571066. Thank you for your support.

CARITAS INDIA: is one of the agencies providing support for the people of Kerala at this time of need. Caritas Australia is supporting to Caritas India, and will continue to monitor the needs of the people of Kerala. You can support this effort through Caritas website: www.caritas.org.au. Let us pray for our distressed brothers and sisters in Kerala.

CATHOLICARE COLLECTION: This weekend, 25th/26th at all Masses we have our CatholicCare Special Collection. This collection helps support youth in our communities build a brighter future.

THIS SUNDAY WE CELEBRATE MIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUNDAY: This is an occasion for the Church and people of faith to reflect upon the role migration has played in our tradition; express concern for migrants, refugees, and people on the move; and build awareness about the challenges and opportunities migration presents. In his message Pope Francis has written about welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating migrants and refugees. The Pope's three-minute video, with subtitles in each language, explains our basic response to migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and the displaced. This video can be found at <https://migrants-refugees.va/2018-migrants-refugees-message/>

New ministries in our parish: How do we continue to reach out and create a more warm, caring and welcoming community in our parish. We are looking at creating three new ministries: bereavement groups, sacristans and welcomers. **Welcomers** are asked to stand in the church porch before and after Mass, welcoming parishioners as they come in and leave our celebrations. **Sacristans** help prepare for Mass and ensure all the ministries required are covered. Members of **bereavement** groups are invited to reach out to families who have lost loved ones, offering them prayer and support. Please consider taking part in one of these ministries, or any other ministries on our time and talent sheet. Contact parish office for more information.

ELECTRIC MOBILITY SCOOTER: in good condition, available for free. Contact parish office 9457 1066.

FIRST READING*Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 33:2-3, 16-23*

R./ Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. R./

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. R./

They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. R./

Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken. R./

Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned R./

SECOND READING*Ephesians 5: 21– 32*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother

and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL*John 6: 60 - 69*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

GOD IS LOVE

Today's Gospel describes the mixed reaction Jesus' instruction on the Bread of Life receives. Many of his hearers, including some disciples, describe it as 'intolerable' and leave him.

But what precisely is the hard teaching' that they find impossible to accept (v. 60)? At first sight it might seem to be Jesus' claim that his flesh is real food and his blood real drink. Yet his response, 'What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?' (v. 62) suggests that, beyond the Eucharistic reference, the problem is his more fundamental claim to be the 'Bread of Life come down from heaven,' a new 'Manna' superior in life-giving power to the Law of Moses.

Many of his audience, it would seem, felt more comfortable with precepts to live by such as the Mosaic Law. God would remain in heaven, they would keep the laws, and all would be well. Jesus' response (v. 62) implies, 'If you have difficulty with this idea of a divine descent from heaven to live 'among us' (1:14), how will you cope when the same Son of Man returns to where he has come from via a cross!'—the ultimate revelation that 'God is love' (1 John 4:8).

The negative reaction of the crowd reflects their inability, without the Spirit, to accept the image of God revealed by Jesus.

Peter, however, gets it right. Apart from Jesus, where else would one turn to find life and love? His response has comforted many down the ages.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj