



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH
& PRIMARY SCHOOL

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.

Central to the mission of St John's Parish is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

29TH / 30TH SEPTEMBER - 26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

Dear Parishioners, Visitors to our parish, and Friends

WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD IS ASKING OF US IN AUSTRALIA AT THIS TIME?

I wrote about the invitation to listen and pray in an effort to understand, as a People of God and a Body of Christ, what God is asking of us here in Australia at this time.

The process of discernment and listening to the Holy Spirit is not a popularity contest or a democratic process, where the idea with most votes is put forward and agreed to. It is, rather a prayerful process where we all listen and discern together.

The Church in Australia has suggested a process for this collective listening. This process can be found and downloaded from <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/>. I will explain the process briefly here.

We start with prayer. A prayer for the 2020 Plenary Council has been prepared for all to pray as we reflect and move forward. (Find the prayer is below.)

The group that gathers is then invited to pray and think about the question: 'What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time? Each individual in silence reflects on his or her own experience and makes notes about what they think should be put forward. What is your heart craving for? How does the Spirit move you today? These 'topics' are shared with the whole group and then a topic is chosen to be considered.

The members of the group are invited to listen to each other's stories and experiences around the topic being considered. As we listen we understand how God has been working and speaking to other members of the group and also to ourselves. As we listen in a respectful silence we are encouraged to remind ourselves that God speaks in different ways to each one of us.

At the end of the exercise we are invited to share our reflections by going to: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say/> Let us all make an effort to participate!



PRAYER: Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land. O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. 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.*

PALMS INFORMATION NIGHT: On Tuesday 16th October 5:30pm at Ross House, Jenny Florence Room, 247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne. To find out about assignments abroad, how could your skills assist communities overseas and how does the Palms approach work. More at www.palms.org.au/events or 02 95605333

VOLUNTEER OVERSEAS: The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco: seeking volunteers for January 2019 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, Zambia and Solomon Island. Applications close 15th October 2018. Send inquiry on www.cagliero.org.au

CALL OF GUADALUPE: An inspirational, pro life musical, invites anyone, any age, ability to act or help. Coming in 1st and 2nd December. Free drama classes for anyone with interest to learn to act, write, and sing. Classes and rehearsals most Saturdays in Glen Iris by experienced professional actors. RSVP: 0413398528 or geraldine343@gmail.com Info: www.callofguadalupe.com.

GARAGE SALE: On 6th October, 9:00am to 5:00pm at Unit 8, 69 Hawdon St, Heidelberg. Strictly NO early birds.

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE: Mercy Works Ltd. is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The commitment is approximately half a day per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr Mary Lewis RSM for application and further information at 9326 1895 / (preferred) somml@bigpond.com www.mercyworks.org.au

SPIRITUAL LEADERS FORMATION PROGRAM: One-year, part-time program held on Friday mornings in Box Hill offered to people in various positions of leadership, spiritual formation and outreach ministries. Suitable for lay ecclesial ministers, chaplains, community leaders, principals and nurses. The program, starting on 22nd February 2019, focuses on personal integration of the theory and practice of a contemplative, discerning approach to pastoral ministry. Applications close 16th November 2018. Contact Heart of Life for the brochure and application form: holsc@bigpond.com or 9890 1101.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Keith Ashworth, Jenny Ferriere, Francis Micallef, Noeline Zerna.

ANNIVERSARIES: Theresa Browne, Paul Byrnes, John Whelan, Joy Meacham, Fred Meacham, Giuseppe Farinotti, Pasquale Piermarini.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dr Vincent Mc Kenna.

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.*

29 Sept/30 Sept	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Jan McCaffrey	Garry Sproules	Melania Mugamu	Peter Penson
2 nd Reader	Sharon D'Souza	Michael Leonard	Bob Dowling	Margaret Andrews
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Margaret Bradley	Sue Lew-Kee	Margaret Hansen
	Emma Chang	Alice Wong	Geraldine Manuel	Charito Cosio
	Donna Richardson	Val Wallis	Erin Manuel	Leo Cosio
	TBA	Stanly Devasia	Leonore Giliberto	Catie Nesbitt
6 Oct/ 7 Oct	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Pietro Sciotto	Harsha Dilip	Mary Kotefski
2 nd Reader	Moira Di Cesare	Claire Newsome	Jan McCaffrey	Mark Aiello
Communion	Marco Di Cesare	Leo Hernandez	Beena Dilip	Sally Tramontana
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Pauline Griffiths	Doris Schembri	Johanna Nesbitt
	Maria Basilone	Jack Naden	Marni Mant	Jenny Hollaway
	Leela Cherubim	Chris Ratnayake	Nigel Mant	Melania Mugamu
Counters	30 Sept: Graeme Foote, Michael Tilley & 7 Oct: Tim Booth, Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes.			
Collection Weekly Average for August				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		October: Marilyn 9459 1950
Stewardship	\$3527.50	Stewardship	\$733.55	November: Joan 9459 3889
Loose	\$699.53	Loose	\$367.50	Morning Tea 7th Oct: Barbara & Liz
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

GOLD COIN COLLECTION: This weekend at all Masses.

PARISH GROUP TRAINING SESSIONS: In our parish we have already started having Child safety training sessions for parish volunteers. It is now necessary to meet with all groups active in our parish. Two training nights are being organised for Monday, 15th October and Monday, 29th October, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. These training nights are designed to meet the Child Safety Standards for groups / organisations working within St John's Parish. Both sessions need to be attended by all members. All parish groups need to RSVP on mrobertson@siena.vic.edu.au by Monday, 8th October with the names of the group members attending. For further information contact Michelle Robertson (0409533100). Victorian state legislation requires that all groups comply with this requirement. Thank you to Michelle Robertson, Moira Di Cesare and Silvana Micallef of the parish Child Safety Committee for organising and running these workshops.

GEMS: 2nd October. No gathering due to school holidays.

GEMS, PARISHIONERS FRIENDSHIP GROUP: 9th October cinema outing viewing 'Ladies in Black' at the Balwyn Cinema, \$20, including lunch. Adapted from the best-selling novel by Madeline St John, 'Ladies in Black' is an alluring and tenderhearted comedy drama about the lives of a group of department store employees in 1959 Sydney. Anyone requiring transport please meet in the parish house car park at 10:00am. Bookings close Thursday 4th October. Contact: Elizabeth (0447195553) to book.

MORNING TEA & SAUSAGE SIZZLE: After 10:30am Mass next Sunday 7th October. All welcome. A gold coin donation to cover expenses will be appreciated.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY: is celebrated by the Church on 30th September. For further details and for the Australian Catholic Bishops' 2018-19 Justice Statement, entitled 'A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land' visit website <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au> or call 8306 3499.

TWO TALKS ABOUT THE GOSPEL OF LUKE: by Fr Brendan Byrne, a Jesuit priest and biblical scholar. On Thursday 25th October and Thursday 1st November, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm, at the Francis Xavier meeting room in the parish house. Entrance free. Fr Brendan will talk about the narratives about Jesus' childhood in the first two chapters in the gospel according to Luke. All welcome!

THANK YOU LETTERS: confirming pledges, for all parishioners contributing by direct debit, credit card or envelopes are available in the church porch. If you have not received a new set of envelopes or if your direct debit or credit card contributions are not being drawn, please contact the parish office at 9457 1066. Please note that the envelope numbers have changed. Kindly throw away any left over envelopes from past years. Please only use the new set of envelopes issued after 1st September. Parishioners who would like to start contributing using direct debit, credit card or envelopes please call the parish office on 9457 1066. Thank you for your generosity to our parish.

HEIDELCARE MEETING: on Monday 1st October at 7:30pm in the parish house Francis Xavier meeting room. All welcome.

FIRST READING*Numbers 11: 25-29.*

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look', he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalms 18:8 10. 12-14.***R./ The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.

So in them your servant finds instructions;
great reward is in their keeping.
But who can detect all his errors?
From hidden faults acquit me

From presumption restrain your servant
and let it not rule me.
Then shall I be blameless,
clean from grave sin.

SECOND READING*James 5:1-6.*

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL*Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48.*

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

R./

REJOICE IN GOODNESS WHEREVER IT BE

R./

The disciples are disturbed when they see someone using Jesus' name—and hence his authority—to cast out demons. They try to curtail his activity because, they explain, he is 'not one of us.'

R./

This over-zealous action on the part of the disciples earns rebuke rather than approval from Jesus. He does not mind his name being used for good. The main thing is that, whatever the means, human beings are set free from the power of Satan and reclaimed for the fullness of life. The disciples, on the other hand, are less focused upon the objective good done and more upon an outsiders use of what they see as their own prerogative and possession.

R./

Jesus drives home the point by speaking about outsiders who give members of the community (possibly travelling missionaries) a cup of water to drink because they belong to Christ. Such outsiders show the kind of service to others that ought be a hallmark of Jesus followers. What determines the reward one will receive (at the judgment) is not whether one is inside or outside the community but whether one has performed the service to fellow human beings expected of the community.

Both instructions, taken together, show remarkable openness on Jesus part to goodness and effective ministry outside the community of believers, strictly defined.

The second part of the Gospel takes up what really *is* to be feared and addressed: scandal *inside* the community. In language of prophetic exaggeration, not to be taken literally, Jesus makes clear the need for vigorous action in this regard.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj