



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 DECEMBER

Epiphany of the Lord YEAR C

A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!

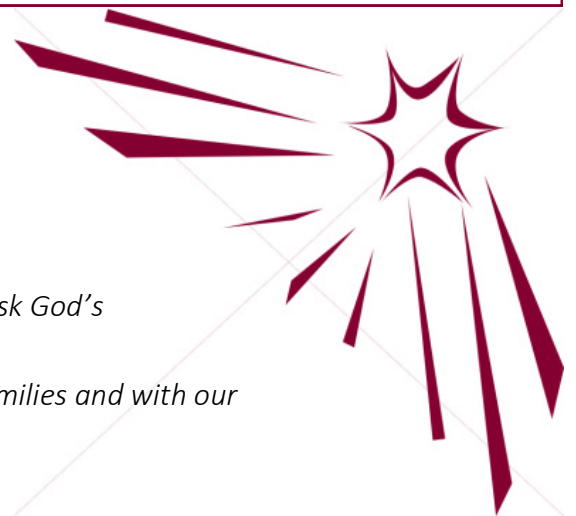
Dear Parishioners, Visitors to our parish, and friends,

As we thank God for the opportunity to start a new year, we ask God's abundant blessings on us and our families.

May we continue to journey in faith as individuals, with our families and with our parish community.

May we all have a new year 2019 full of God's many blessings.

Fr Mario



5 Jan / 6 Jan	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Leela Cherubim	Jack Naden	Robyn Laurie	Mary Kotefski
2 nd Reader	Zen Zebrowski	TBA	Bob Dowling	Sandra D'Souza
Communion	Maria Basilone	Margaret Bradley	Tim Boyle	Des O'Brien
12 Jan / 13 Jan	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Claire Newsome	Elizabeth Williamson	Rosemary Vecchies
2 nd Reader	Pamela Smith	Pietro Sciotto	Michael Leonard	Candida Rowlands
Communion	Leela Cherubim	Stanly Devasia	Leonore Giliberto	Tony Rowlands
Counters	6 Jan: Graeme Foote, Michael Tilley— 13 Jan: Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes			
Collection Weekly Average for November			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		January: Elaine 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$2965.34	Stewardship	\$599.69	February: Joan 0490 254 928
Loose	\$638.68	Loose	\$320.00	N.B. No morning tea in January
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Jenny Ferriere, Marie Hankin, Elizabeth Larkin, Francis Micallef, Joyce Quinn, Frank Walton, Noeline Zerna.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jacob Schembri, Cyril S. Brown, Patrick Kenny, Dorothy Collier (nee Harris), Sr Imelda Greene, Frank Piermarini, Gino Piermarini.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Fay Smeaton.

*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.*



St John's Catholic Parish

52 Yarra Street, Heidelberg Vic 3084

p: 03 9457 1066 e: heidelberg@cam.org.au w: www.cam.org.au/heidelberg

2019 YEAR PLANNER

January

- 01 Feast of Mary Mother of God – (Tuesday); Mass at 10:30am
- 26 Australia Day (Saturday)
- 29 Start of school year

February

- 02 / 03 Blessing of School Children—uniforms and school bags—at all Masses
- 03 Commissioning Mass for St John's Parish Primary School staff
(Sunday 10:30am Mass followed by morning tea and sausage sizzle in the parish hall)
- 16 / 17 Blessing of families with young children—at all Masses.
- 23 Serve the Servers movie night
- 28 Parish Annual Meeting, Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm

March

- 06 Ash Wednesday - start of Lent - day of fasting and abstinence;
Masses at 9:15am, 2:30pm (primary school), 7:30pm
- 17 St Patrick's Day
- 28 Masses of Anointing of the Sick, (Thursday) 9:15am and 11:30am

April

- 05 End of school term one
- 14 Palm Sunday
- 15 Reconciliation (Confession) - second rite with individual confession (Monday) 7:30pm
- 18 Holy Thursday - Mass at 7:30pm
- 19 Good Friday day of fasting and abstinence - Celebration at 3:00pm at OLMC Nalleijerring Centre
- 21 Easter Sunday - Vigil Saturday at 8:00pm; Sunday Masses at 7:00, 8:30 and 10:30am
- 23 School term two starts
- 25 Anzac Day (Thursday) followed by morning tea in the Francis Xavier meeting room, parish house

May

- 12 Mother's Day
- 17 St John's Primary School Year Prep applications for 2020 close
- 18-22 Parish Mission with Fr Richard Leonard sj in OLMC Performance Arts Theatre
- 19 / 20 Children preparing for Confirmation presented to the community (6:00pm and 10:30am)
- 25 Our Lady Help of Christians - patron saint of Australia
- 25 Serve the Servers movie night
- 26 Volunteers' Thanksgiving Mass and sausage sizzle - (Sunday) 10:30am

June

- 09 Pentecost Sunday
- 15 First Communion for children from all parish schools (one session) (Saturday) 11:00am
- 15 Philippino Kabataan (Youth) Orchestra concert at OLMC Sr Hogan Arts Centre
- 22 2019 Parish Luncheon
- 28 End of school term two

Last printed on 30 December 2018. Please note that, due to unforeseen circumstances, some of these dates may change.

Please confirm dates closer to the event. Thank you.



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2019 YEAR PLANNER

July

15 School term three starts

August

01 Masses of Anointing of the Sick, (Thursday) 9:15am and 11:30am

08 Feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

11 Sacrament of Confirmation at St Patrick's Cathedral for children from all parish schools 2:30pm

15 Assumption of Our Lady - holy day of obligation (Thursday)

Masses at 9:15am, 12:00noon (school) and 7:00pm

31 Serve the Servers movie night

September

01 Father's Day

20 End of school term three

October

07 School term four starts

17 First Reconciliation St John's Primary School (first session) (Thursday) 7:00pm

24 First Reconciliation St John's Primary School (second session) (Thursday) 7:00pm

30 2019 Parish Talk 1 Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm-9:00pm

November

06 2019 Parish Talk 2 Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm-9:00pm

07 First Reconciliation other schools; (one session) (Thursday)

13 2019 Parish Talks 3 Francis Xavier meeting room, 7:30pm-9:00pm

28 Masses of Anointing of the Sick, 9:15am and 11:30am

30 Serve the Servers movie night

December

01 First Sunday of Advent

06 Grief and Loss Mass for parishioners and friends who lost a relative in the past year; 7:30pm

20 Reconciliation (Confession) – second rite (with individual confession) (Friday) 7:30pm

25 Christmas Day (Wednesday) Vigil 7:00pm at the OLMC Nalleijerring Centre;
Midnight; 8:30am; 10:30am.

27 St John the Evangelist – parish feast day

31 New Year's Eve: (Wednesday) Masses 9:15am and 7:00pm



Follow parish events on parish web site: <http://pol.org.au/heidelberg/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnheidelberg/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/stjohn.heidelberg/>



FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 79: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19*

TOGETHER: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

LEFT SIDE (AMBO SIDE)

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

RIGHT SIDE (PRIEST'S SIDE)

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

LEFT SIDE (AMBO SIDE)

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

RIGHT SIDE (PRIEST'S SIDE)

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

TOGETHER: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

BRINGING GIFTS TO THE LORD

The ancient Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the truth that Israel's Messiah is also the Saviour of the entire world. The wise men from the east have seen a star heralding the birth of ruler of great significance. They have followed this star to Jerusalem but that is as far as their own natural wisdom (astronomy) can get them. They need the biblical wisdom of Israel (an interpretation of the prophecy of Micha) to find and worship the infant Messiah in Bethlehem. A combination of their own secular learning and biblical revelation has finally led them to the Saviour.

Beyond the reverence due to any ruler, the homage the wise men pay to the child is genuine worship. In the person of this child they acknowledge that God is 'with us' ('Emmanuel' [Matt 2:23]) in a unique way. They place before him the rich gifts of their culture and these are graciously received. Joseph has faded from view; it is Mary, the mother of Jesus, who receives their gifts on his behalf.

The journey of the magi has been one of faith and risk. The treacherous and murderous figure of Herod looms over all, foreshadowing the Passion that is to come. But the riches of God's salvation will go to the nations (Matt 28:18-20) and the nations will bring their own wisdom to the understanding and appreciation of the Gospel.

We walk in the footsteps of the wise men, sharing their longing, their faith, and the joy of their discovery. We too have gifts to bring reverently to the Lord.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj