



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.

11TH / 12TH MAY, 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YR C



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



BLESSING PRAYER FOR MOTHER'S DAY

God of Love, listen to our prayer

Bend down your ear to this request and bless the mother of our family.

Bless her with the strength of your Spirit,

She who has taught her children how to stand and how to walk,

how to speak, how to sing and how to pray to you.

Bless her today, now, in this lifetime with good things and with health.

Bless her with joy, love, laughter and pride in her children and surround her with many good friends.

This blessing and all graces, we pray, descend upon the mother of our family:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

We remember in our prayers mothers in our community who have returned to the Father, mothers who cannot be with their families, and women for whom motherhood was not possible.

RECENTLY MARRIED: Paul Sita with Stephanie Smeriglio.

THE SICK: Jean Webb, Lina Poon, Elizabeth Larkin, Cederick (Ced) Legg, Francis Micallef, Joyce Quinn, Cheryl Stern, Paul Sullivan, Noeline Zerna.

ANNIVERSARIES: Russell Byrnes, Alexander Mooner, John Lewin, Stephen Byrnes, James Clifford, Kathleen Lanigan.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Cliff Jones, Margaret Spain, Henry Garrone, Pierre Ferriere.

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.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR:

Christopher Ratnayake
CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:
Michelle Robertson m:0409 533 100

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
**FIRST RECONCILIATION,
FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:**
Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

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

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.*

MASS BY CANDLELIGHT: The first Mass by candlelight for 2019. on Thursday, 16th May, celebrated in the spirit of Taize. Mass starts at 8:00pm, following a time of quiet reflection. Please note Mass will now be held at St Thomas the Apostle Church, 251 Diamond Creek Rd, Greensborough North. Contact: Rose 9434 3962 or Sandra 9434 7553.

MISSION IMMERSION TRIP 2020: Experience faith in action while working among the poor in Manila city and in Bataan province in the Philippines. The immersion trip leaves on 2nd January and returns on 19th January 2020. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 35 will be given first preference. Applicants over 35 will be considered if there is availability. For details and to express interest email: mission2020@mssp.org.au or speak to Fr Mario. In the Philippines the group will be hosted by the Paulist Missionaries (MSSP) whose work is supported by St John's parish. Applications close 31st May.

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: On the following two Mondays the Walking Group is having a rest, on the 13th May owing to lack of numbers and on the 20th to give walkers the opportunity of attending the Parish Mission. We will be back on track on Monday 27th May when we will walk part of the Anniversary Rail Trail. For further information contact Jan 0423478504.

2019 ST JOHN ANNUAL PARISH FAMILY LUNCH: This year is planned to be held at Four Leaves Café, on Sunday 23rd June from 12:30pm. Adults \$26, children \$10, preschoolers free. To book a place please put your name down on the sheet in the church foyer or contact the parish office.

OUR PARISH MISSION: This month we are invited to participate in a parish mission which is being organised together with the parishes of Heidelberg West, Ivanhoe, Rosanna and Bulleen. The speaker at this mission is Fr Richard Leonard, a Jesuit priest who holds degrees in arts and education and a Master's degree in theology. Fr Richard did graduate studies at the London Film School and has a PhD from the University of Melbourne. On the weekend of 18th and 19th May, Fr Richard will be celebrating the Saturday 5:30pm Mass at St Clement's Bulleen, the Sunday 10:00am Mass at St Martin's Rosanna, and the Sunday 5:00pm Mass at St John's Heidelberg. The mission talks will be on Monday 20th May, Tuesday 21st May and Wednesday 22nd May. Morning sessions, at St Pius X Heidelberg West, start at 9:30am with Mass. The talks will be repeated in the evening at St Clement's Bulleen starting at 7:30pm. Transport will be available to both venues. If you require transport, please inform the parish office on 94571066 or heidelberg@cam.org.au. If you can provide transport, please inform the parish office. (There will be no morning Masses at 9:15am on these three days.) Fr Richard will be talking about: 'Going out to the world: we need all the help we can get' (Monday). 'Nine steps to making better choices for my life' (Tuesday). 'Where the Hell is God? Holding to Faith through the Tough Times' (Wednesday). Come along and join your parish community for a time of renewal of faith.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: in this region continues to assist families and individuals through programmes that support and encourage. Come and See. Tuesday 4th June 7:30pm Francis Xavier meeting room in the parish house.

11 May/ 12 May	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Adrian Daly	Karen Frost	Robyn Laurie	Rosemary Vecchies
2 nd Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Claire Newsome	Adele Boyle	TBA
Communion	Emma Chang	Ronnie Maloney	Geraldine Manuel	Charito Cosio
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Alice Wong	Tim Boyle	Leo Cosio
	Michelle Penson	Jack Naden	Doris Schembri	Sally Tramontana
	Domenica Ashworth	Peter O'Donoghue	Brian McIntosh	Des O'Brien
18 May/ 19 May	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Ronnie Maloney	Michael Leonard	Catie Nesbitt
2 nd Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Marguerite Ryan	Claire Newsome	Matthew Sanders
Communion	Adrian Daly	Pauline Griffiths	Nigel Mant	TBA
	Maria Basilone	Fiona Curry	Marni Mant	Claire Aboueid
	Donna Richardson	Leo Hernandez	Mary Furlan	Jenny Hollaway
	Jan Mc Caffrey	Margaret Bradley	Yannick Jonas	Olivia Sanders
Counters	12 May: Jack Naden & A Team 19 May: Des O'Brien, Peter Peyton, Percival Makin.			
Collection Weekly Average for April			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		May : Jenny 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,134.63	Stewardship	\$576.42	June : Jenny 0490 254 928
Loose	\$751.59	Loose	\$390.00	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY APPEAL: next weekend 18/19 May, to support the vital work of Catholic Chaplains among young people in youth justice facilities, patients and their families in hospitals, people living with HIV/AIDS, men and women in prisons and seafarers. Thank you for your donation.

AUSTIN MASS: next Sunday 19th May. Volunteers please meet at 8:30am for 9:30am Mass. Parishioners are also invited to participate in this Mass to minister to the sick by their presence.

THE MARIAN MONTH OF MAY: Parishioners are invited to put down their name and contact number, so that they can invite the pilgrim statue of Mary to their home for one week. For more information contact Marj McBroom (0414 289 304).

ANNUAL PARISH RAFFLE: A 120 Litre bar fridge (valued at \$250) full of drinks to the value of \$300. Bar fridge is padlocked and 170 keys are sold for \$10.00 each. The holder of the key that unlocks the padlock wins the bar fridge! Please buy your keys after weekend Masses. Try your luck with the padlock at the parish lunch on 23rd June. Proceeds go towards the planned church renovations.

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): next Tuesday May 14th at 10:00am in the Francis Xavier meeting room. All welcome to join us for a Chair Zumba session. There are many benefits of Zumba including improved muscular strength and endurance, improved cardiovascular system, improved range of motion, improved posture, reduction of stress and anxiety and of course - enjoyment. Transport available. Contact: Elizabeth (0447195553).

RCIA: a year-long programme for adults who would like to learn about the Catholic faith. Contact Fr Mario.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA: Tuesday 21st May between 10:00am and 12:00noon in the Parish Hall. \$5 entry on the day, door prizes and games. Monies raised donated to cancer research. We possibly all know someone touched by cancer. Maybe you can get a group of friends together so as a caring community we are able to make a significant donation to Cancer Research. Bookings: Elizabeth (0447195553), add your name to the list in church foyer or contact the parish office.

SERVE THE SERVERS: Our next Serve the Servers night, where we celebrate with our young altar servers and readers, will be held on 25th May after the 6:00pm Mass. Young servers are invited to bring a friend with them. This is our way of thanking these young members of the parish for their commitment. RSVP: stjohnsyouth@hotmail.com

THANKSGIVING MASS: followed by a sausage sizzle at the parish hall on Sunday 26th May at 10:30am to thank all volunteers who have in any way offered ministry to our parish community. A special blessing will be offered for our volunteers. All our parish volunteers are encouraged to celebrate with us. All parishioners are invited to join as we show our appreciation for the contribution of these volunteers. For catering purposes please put down name and number on sheet in church porch or contact the parish office 9457 1066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au

JOSE DE PIRO KABATAAN ORCHESTRA 2019 TOUR OF MELBOURNE AND REGIONAL VICTORIA: A talented youth orchestra from Bataan, Philippines started by Fr Joe Cremona will perform a concert at Our Lady of Mercy College Performing Arts Centre, Heidelberg on Saturday 15th June. No cost to attend but donations to assist the orchestra to continue to develop appreciated. To book please go to: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=489205&> or contact the parish office.

FIRST READING Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 99:1-3

TOGETHER: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

LEFT SIDE

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy.

RIGHT SIDE

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

LEFT SIDE

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age.

TOGETHER: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

SECOND READING Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people

who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 10:27-30

Jesus said: 'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.'

UNDER THE CARE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

In last week's gospel we heard Jesus reinstate Simon Peter as chief shepherd of the flock. Today's gospel continues the image of members of the Christian community as 'sheep' belonging to the flock of the risen Lord.

The image is not so congenial for us today as it was in the Palestine of Jesus' time when shepherds and the sheep they guarded had a far more intimate relationship. We can pick up the essentials of what the image wants to say without pressing the details too far.

As 'sheep' belonging to the Lord's flock, we listen to the voice of the Shepherd, who is constantly addressing us in the Scriptures and the sacramental life of the Church. We attune our hearing to the sound of that voice and the message it imparts.

Further, we are confident that the Good Shepherd has intimate knowledge of each one of us—knows our individual strengths and weaknesses, our capacities and liabilities. Confidence in his knowledge and love leads to trust and readiness to follow whenever and wherever our Shepherd calls.

The image moves in a fresh direction when Jesus presents himself as the one who gives his sheep 'eternal life,' that is, a share in God's own eternal being and the communion of love that is the Trinity. Beginning here and now, this is something that will ensure that the flock will not be lost (from eternal life) or stolen from the Good Shepherd. Since he and the Father are one, our ultimate Shepherd is God.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj