



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 MAY, 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YR C

VOLUNTEERS are the glue of the community; they keep our different activities going. Last week Australia celebrated National Volunteers week, this weekend we join in as we pray for, bless and thank all volunteers in our parish community. When we extend ourselves for others and perhaps even risk a little, God's love moves along in ever wider circles. Whether we volunteer at the parish or in the larger community or simply are a good neighbour, we are responding to our baptismal call to serve and we go in the name of the community. Thank you to all St John's volunteers; your names and roles are too numerous to mention! As a community we deeply appreciate the hands, hearts and spirit offered for the benefit of our parish and parishioners. Your time and talent are truly appreciated!

Fr Mario, Chris Ratnayake, Chairperson Parish Pastoral Council and community of St John's Parish.

SOME OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE IN OUR PARISH

VINNIES: Heidelberg Conference of the Saint Vincent De Paul Society, brings together a group of lay people with a shared mission to live the gospel through service. Vinnies provides an opportunity to visit the less fortunate and offer them spiritual and material support. President: Sally Tramontana (contact). For assistance call: 1800 305 330

HEIDELCARE: a voluntary community organisation in the City of Banyule offering short term assistance to the elderly, disabled, socially and economically disadvantaged, families in need and people living alone. Services offered include driving to therapy, hospitals, doctors, taking people shopping or shopping for the housebound, visiting the lonely, ill and disabled. Can also supply a meal to people in temporary need and offer family support in emergency or sickness. Coordinator: Rosemary Vecchies (9459 0729).

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Parishioners visit the sick, elderly and homebound in their own homes, offering them spiritual support and Holy Communion. Contact: Fr Mario.

JOURNEYING IN HOPE: A group of volunteers who offer to journey with members of the parish who have lost a loved one. Contact: Jan MacCaffrey (0423478504).

Austin Hospital Volunteers: Parishioners visit sick Catholic patients offering them spiritual support and prayers, and the opportunity to receive Holy Communion. Chapel volunteers assist in bringing patients to the hospital chapel (level 2) for Mass on the third Sunday of each month at 9:30am. (December Mass on Christmas day.) Parishioners are also encouraged to support patients at the Austin Hospital by attending Mass at the hospital chapel. Contact: Fr Mario.

LITURGY COMMITTEE: meets to prepare for our worship and celebrations. Contact: Elizabeth Williamson (elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au).

CHILDREN LITURGY: Every Sunday at 10:30am Mass (during school terms) children are invited to participate. Under the guidance of a qualified adult and assistant (both with current WWCC), children meet in the school library and together they are assisted to read the gospel and understand God's message. This is a great way for our children to participate. Contact: Jan MacCaffrey (0423478504).

POWERPOINT OPERATORS: Volunteers, young and old, who help running our powerpoint presentations during Sunday Masses. Contact: Fr Mario.

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.*

ALTAR SERVERS: Girls and boys who have celebrated their first Holy Communion are encouraged to minister as altar servers. At St John's we have a large number of young people who serve across all our weekend Masses. The current age of servers is from year 4 and upwards including young adults. Contact: Elizabeth Williamson (elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au).

YOUNG READERS: Year 5 students are introduced to reading and understanding scripture through a program involving parish and school. At the end of this programme many of our young people ask to participate in our liturgy by proclaiming God's Word at our Sunday Masses. Contact: Elizabeth Williamson (elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au).

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD / READERS: Parishioners dedicated to the ministry of proclaiming the Word of God at our Sunday Masses. From year 5 onwards. Training provided. Contact: Ronnie Maloney (rimaloney1537@gmail.com).

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: Parishioners dedicated to the ministry of giving Communion at our Sunday Masses. From year 12 onwards. Training provided. Contact: Fr Mario.

CHOIRS AND SINGING: Parishioners committed to leading music and singing at our Sunday Masses. Contact: Sr Loreto Lynch rsm (9457 1066).

CHURCH SACRISTANS: Volunteers who offer their time to prepare before and after Masses, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. Contact: Fr Mario.

ALTAR SOCIETY, FLOWERS AND CLEANING: parishioners who serve our community by preparing our church environment for our Sunday Masses. Contact: Pauline Griffiths (roos2001@optusnet.com.au).

ST JOHN'S PLAYGROUP: meets on Monday mornings in the parish hall from 9:00am to 11:00am (during of school terms). Toddlers, pre-schoolers and their parents enjoy a relaxed morning together and it is a great way to meet others. The young ones often meet someone they may later find as school friends. Contact: Rachele Hitch 0431 810 771 / rachele.hitch@hotmail.com

ST JOHN'S GEMS AND FRIENDS: a group of people 50 years old and over who Meet every Tuesday from 10:00am to 12noon at the Francis Xavier meeting room (parish house). Contacts Elizabeth 0447 195 553, Jan 0423 478 504.

CATECHISM CLASSES: for children not attending St John's primary and are preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. Contact: Elizabeth Williamson (elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Ada Parente, Francis Micallef, Lina Poon, Jean Webb.

ANNIVERSARIES: Giuseppe Basilone.

*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 May/ 26 May	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Sue Lew-Kee	Jack Naden	Elizabeth Williamson	Leela Cherubim
2 nd Reader	Grace Lew-Kee	Michael Leonard	Michelle Robertson	Peter Penson
Communion	Leela Cherubim	Christopher Ratnayake	Ann Domaingue	Sally Tramontana
	Emma Chang	Peter O'Donoghue	Geraldine Manuel	Des O'Brien
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Val Wallis	Brian McIntosh	Michelle Penson
	Jeanette O'Sullivan	Margaret Bradley	Doris Schembri	TBA
1 June/2 June	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Peter Penson	Karen Frost	Joanne Martinez	Catie Nesbitt
2 nd Reader	Moira Di Cesare	Garry Sproules	Claire Newsome	Margaret Andrews
Communion	Michelle Penson	Jerzy Kmita	Tim Boyle	Charito Cosio
	Donna Richardson	Oliver Kmita	Mary Furlan	Leo Cosio
	Marco Di Cesare	Fiona Curry	Elizabeth Williamson	Leela Cherubim
	Domenica Ashworth	Pauline Griffiths	Yannick Jonas	Jenny Hollaway
Counters	26 May: Garry Sproules, Janice McGrath, Giuseppe Amoroso.& 2 June: Graeme Foote, Michael Tilley.			
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	Morning Tea,2nd June: Rosa & Maureen
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

VOLUNTEERS' DAY: Morning Tea and Sausage Sizzle: after the 10:30am Mass at the parish hall.

GOLD COIN COLLECTION: This weekend 25th/26th at all Masses. The April collection was \$455.00, thank you for your generosity.

ANNUAL PARISH RAFFLE: A 120 Litre bar fridge full of drinks, total value: \$550. The bar fridge is padlocked and 140 keys left to be 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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: is a worldwide charity that continues to develop new ways of reaching out to those seeking our support. Through our programmes, we are able to assist with educational expenses, utilities, access to holiday homes and network with other agencies. **Come and See.** Tuesday 4th June at 7:30pm in the parish house Francis Xavier meeting room.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL: next weekend, 1st and 2nd June. Please be generous as we support poorer sisters and brothers in our community.

HEIDELCARE MEETING: at 7:30pm Monday 3rd June in the Francis Xavier meeting room in the parish house. All welcome.

POSITION VACANT: Parish Secretary at St Martin of Tours, Rosanna / Macleod. Details at: cam.org.au/Jobs.aspx. Applications to: recruitment@cam.org.au by **Wednesday 5th June**. Please submit a cover letter along with a current resume. It may be beneficial to submit references to support your application.

REMINDER: MISSION IMMERSION TRIP 2020

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): this Tuesday 28th May at the Lower Plenty Hotel, 4 Main Rd, Lower Plenty for **Morning Melodies, 'Legends and Love Songs'**. Doors open at 9:30am and the show starts at 10:30am. Join us for entertainment, coffee/tea, Devonshire Tea, lunch and a complementary beer, wine or soft drink. \$17 per person. Transport available. Elizabeth (0447195553).

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: Monday 27th May will meet outside the parish house at 10:00am to leave for a walk along the Anniversary Rail Trail. We will have coffee at Town and Country part way through the walk. You are very welcome to join us. For further information please contact Jan (0423 478 504).

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 at 7:00pm. No cost to attend but donations to assist the orchestra to continue to develop appreciated. To book please go to: trybooking.com/489205 or contact the parish office.

2019 ST JOHN ANNUAL PARISH FAMILY LUNCH: This year is at Four Leaves Café, on Sunday 23rd June from 12:30pm. Adults \$30, children \$13, preschoolers free. To book a place please put your name down on the sheet in the church foyer, contact the parish office, or on trybooking.com/504050.

MORNING TEA & SAUSAGE SIZZLE: After 10:30am Mass next Sunday 2nd June. All welcome. Gold coin donation to cover expenses of sausage sizzle, appreciated.

REMEMBER: COLLECT PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS FOR KIDS

FIRST READING Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2.22-29

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders. Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 66:2-3.5-6.8
TOGETHER: O God, let all the nations praise you!

LEFT SIDE

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

RIGHT SIDE

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

LEFT SIDE

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

TOGETHER: O God, let all the nations praise you!

SECOND READING Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls

stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

LOVE, PEACE AND THE SPIRIT

Jesus' words in today's gospel are sparked off by a question from Judas (not Iscariot). He wants to know how, during Jesus' forthcoming physical absence, the community of believers will have a sense of his presence, even though to the rest of the world he will be entirely absent. In response, Jesus insists upon three things: love, the Paraclete (Holy Spirit) and peace.

First of all, believers who truly love Jesus have his word that he and the Father have made their 'home' within them. The 'community of love' constituted by Father and Son will 'dwell' (literally, 'set up house') within their hearts. While, unlike the original disciples, they may not see and hear and touch Jesus physically, faith will give them a sense of living constantly the extraordinary of being 'at home' with God and God's 'at home-ness' with them.

Secondly, to compensate for the loss of the teaching, guidance and encouragement under trial given by Jesus, they will have the presence of the Holy Spirit. The description of the Spirit as 'Paraclete' or 'Counsellor' takes its cue from the sense of a powerful and respected friend who stands by you when you are in trouble or under accusation—the sort of person you would like to have in court as both lawyer and character referee.

Finally, Jesus will bequeath to the community the gift of peace. This does not mean that there will never be disputes or disagreements but rather that there will be given a capacity for resolving such disputes in such a way that peace is restored or even more deeply secured.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj