



# ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street  
HEIDELBERG

We acknowledge the traditional 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.

## 22ND / 23RD JUNE—BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST, YR C

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

### 'A PENTECOST MOMENT!'

Last Saturday, at the Mercedes Hogan Performing Arts Theatre, Our Lady of Mercy College, we were treated to an excellent concert by the Jose De Piro Kabataan (youth) Orkestra that visited us from Dinalupihan, Bataan, in the Philippines.

Fr Joe Cremona, the parish priest who came up with the idea of this youth orchestra, explains that this is 'formation through music.' 'While it is good to promote professional musicians, it is much better to create musicians with human and Christian values.

Fr Joe carries out his ministry in a very poor area of the Philippines where the young people had no future. He started by turning his parish into a 'youth centre' welcoming children and providing them with a safe space.

When a guitar player visited the mission, he started teaching the children how to play music. This developed first into a folk band and then into the fully fledged youth orchestra that we were treated to.

The fast pace at which this development happened showed how important all this was for the children, giving them a new perspective and a new hope in life. Fr Joe insists that music is only the medium. While they participate in the centre, they also have to take part in programmes of Christian formation. Fr Joe also supports their families in their needs.

Pope Francis has once again brought mission and the preaching of the gospel to the forefront of the ministry of the Church. The preaching of the gospel is delivered in many shapes. This model used by Fr Joe is certainly one very valid way of spreading the good news in a very poor and financially disadvantaged region of the Philippines.

Since January 2017, as a parish, we have been supporting the education of these children through our monthly Gold Coin Collection. During the concert last Saturday, I presented Fr Joe with a cheque to the amount of \$6,847 representing the amount collected in 2018. Thank you for your generosity.

Fr Joe has also asked for any second hand instruments that could be donated for this cause. Two parishioners have already donated a violin and a flute. These will certainly be put to very good use.

Thank you.

Fr Mario



**PARISH RAFFLE:** A 120 Litre bar fridge full of drinks, total value: \$550. The bar fridge is padlocked and 83 keys still available at \$10.00 each. The holder of the key that unlocks the padlock gets the lot! Please buy your keys after weekend Masses. Raffle date has been extended to Sunday 4th August. Proceeds go towards the planned church renovations.

**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  
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.*

**St John's Walking Group:** Monday 24th June, leaving from outside the parish house at 10:00am driving to Studley Park Boathouse to walk to Dight's Falls. Coffee on return to the boathouse. Contact Jan (0423 478 504). All welcome.

**GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS):** Tuesday 25th June, last gathering for the term. Meeting in the Francis Xavier meeting room for fun, games and a delicious morning tea. Transport available: Elizabeth (0447195553).

**SHOW, SELL AND SHARE:** On weekend 3rd and 4th August, in the parish hall. Bringing together people who would like to show, maybe sell their handmade goods and share their skill to any who would like to have a go. So far we have volunteers who knit, crochet, scrapbook, make cards and paint. All goods must be made by you. Proceeds donated to the Jose De Piro Kabataan (youth) Orkestra. Contact Jan on 0423478504.

**OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE:** is taking enrolments for Year 7 2021. Students need to be enrolled in year 5. Book a tour of the college: Thursday 25th July 4:30pm to 6:00pm or Wednesday 14th August 9:00am to 10:30am. Enrolments close 23rd August 2019. Enquiries: Merri O'Halloran 9459 2511 / mohalloran@olmcheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

**ST JOHN'S PRIMARY: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR KITCHEN GARDEN CLASSES.** The success of food education relies on the support of volunteers. Nothing more satisfying than sharing a delicious meal created with fresh produce grown from seed to harvest. Every week our Year 3/4 students share in this experience. No need to be a green thumb or a chef, you just love growing food, eating and being with children. The classes every Thursday from 11.45am to 1.45pm. If you are able to assist and have your Working with Children Check, contact: Marisa: mveronese@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

**ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SEEKING HELP:** Our school is a finalist in the Heidelberg Leader Local Grants. We are vying for a project grant to inject more funds into our current Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Programme. Winning \$1000 would enable us to purchase important resources for our garden and kitchen programme and provide more exciting, real-world learning opportunities for our students. We are counting on your votes – please vote now at <http://www.leaderlocalgrants.com.au>. Voting period 9:00am Monday 17th June to 5:00pm Friday 28th June. To vote: register, look up finalists and Heidelberg Leader. You have 10 votes - kindly give us all ten of them!

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**THE SICK:** Francis Micallef, Lina Poon, Jean Webb, Peggy Preston, Tom Suri.  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Bruno Scopeci.

*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.*

<b>22 June/23 June</b>	<b>Sat 6:00pm</b>	<b>Sun 8:30am</b>	<b>Sun 10:30am</b>	<b>Sun 5:00pm</b>
1st Reader	Jan McCaffrey	Michael Leonard	Robyn Laurie	Mark Aiello
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Karen Frost	Adele Boyle	Rosemary Vecchies
Communion	Michelle Penson	Jack Naden	Geraldine Manuel	Leo Cosio
	Maria Basilone	Val Wallis	Tim Boyle	Charito Cosio
	Emma Chang	Alice Wong	Brian McIntosh	Claire Aboueid
	Sue Lew-Kee	Pauline Griffiths	Doris Schembri	Jenny Hollaway
<b>29 June/30 June</b>	<b>Sat 6:00pm</b>	<b>Sun 8:30am</b>	<b>Sun 10:30am</b>	<b>Sun 5:00pm</b>
1st Reader	Sue Lew-Kee	Ronnie Maloney	Peter Penson	Mary Kotefski
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Grace Lew-Kee	Jack Naden	Michael Leonard	TBA
Communion	Adrian Daly	Leo Hernandez	Mary Furlan	Sally Tramontana
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Margaret Bradley	Elizabeth Williamson	Matthew Sanders
	Jan Mc Caffrey	Jerzy Kmita	Yannick Jonas	Olivia Sanders
	Donna Richardson	Oliver Kmita	Michelle Penson	TBA
Counters	<b>23 June:</b> Stephen Devenish, Nicole Pelizzaro, Thomas Bechelli & <b>30 June:</b> Leo Cosio, Leo Hernandez, Yannick Jonas.			
<b>Collection Weekly Average for May</b>			<b>Heidelcare Co-Ordinator</b>	
Parish		Presbytery		June : Jenny 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$2,961.48	Stewardship	\$604.90	July : Val 0490 254 928
Loose	\$743.07	Loose	\$325.00	
<b>Thank you</b> for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

**CATHOLIC MISSIONS APPEAL:** next weekend, 29th/30th June. Money collected will help the Church in Ghana, as they provide ongoing protection and development of children who are vulnerable. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Envelopes available at the church entrances. Donations tax-deductible.

**MISSION IMMERSION EXPERIENCE—PHILIPPINES 2020:** Have you considered the possibility of joining the next group going to the Philippines from 2nd January to 19th January 2020. Few places left. Total cost of the trip: \$2,500.00. For details and to express interest email: mission2020@mssp.org.au or speak to Fr Mario. The group will be hosted by the Paulist Missionaries (MSSP). Applications close 30th June.

**JOURNEY IN HOPE SUPPORT GROUP:** To become a part of this group sharing our grief and loss experiences and learning from each other in a relaxed and informal setting on Thursday mornings at 10:30am in the Francis Xavier meeting room contact Jan (0423 478 504) or Elizabeth (0447 195 553). We welcome your presence.

**WE CARE** – Responding to the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act: The Bishops of Victoria have published a pastoral letter including practical guidance on ways we can be conscientious objectors to euthanasia. Please take a copy from the foyer.

**COLLECT PLASTIC LIDS:** please place in the container in the church foyer. (Kindly rinse all lids before dropping them off. Thank you.)

**COMMUNION MINISTERS AND READERS ARE NEEDED:** To participate in our weekend Masses. A training workshop for Communion Ministers will be organised in August. This is an important way to help our community in its time of prayer. Thank you to all Communion Ministers and Readers.

**URGENTLY NEEDED:** Each week we come into a church that has been lovingly prepared by a number of generous parishioners. Over a long number of years, Ann Wyatt has each week replaced the altar cloth and washed and ironed it ready for the next week. Due to a number of circumstances, Ann cannot carry on this important duty any longer. We thank Ann for her generosity and loving work. We urgently need other parishioners to step up and take up this very important role. Anyone interested please talk to Pauline Griffiths or to Fr Mario. Training will be provided.

**CELEBRATING DIVERSITY:** in this great land of the Holy Spirit we come from various cultures, speaking different languages and with different beliefs. We are dedicating the next issue of our parish magazine to celebrate this sense of diversity in our midst. Where did you come from? What are some customs that still remind your culture? Please write an article (around 500 words) describing who you are. Email: heidelberg.eyrie@cam.org.au.

**IN OUR PARISH WE STRONGLY VALUE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS:** We live busy lives and often do not have enough time to connect to one another. We invite parishioners to offer their home for a small group gathering. You can either invite a number of parishioners (three or four families) you are comfortable with, or we can organise a small group to gather at your home. These gatherings will be moments of prayer—Mass can be celebrated with you at home—and of friendship—we can share a light supper together. If you are interested, contact the parish office or Jan (0423478504). Thankyou.

**COMMUNION IN THE HOME:** Do you know of someone who is no longer able to attend mass and would like to be visited and to receive communion at home. Please contact Elizabeth (0447195553) with details.

**FIRST READING**

Proverbs 8:22-31

Melchizedek king of Salem brought bread and wine; he was a priest of God Most High. He pronounced this blessing:

‘Blessed be Abraham by God Most High, creator of heaven and earth, and blessed be God Most High for handing over your enemies to you.’ And Abraham gave him a tithe of everything.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 109: 1-4

**TOGETHER:** You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

**LEFT SIDE**

The Lord’s revelation to my Master:

‘Sit on my right:

I will put your foes beneath your feet.’

**RIGHT SIDE**

The Lord will send from Zion

your sceptre of power:

rule in the midst of all your foes.

**LEFT SIDE**

A prince from the day of your birth

on the holy mountains;

from the womb before the daybreak I begot you

**RIGHT SIDE**

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change.

‘You are a priest for ever,

a priest like Melchizedek of old.’

**TOGETHER:** You are a priest for ever in the line of Melchizedek.

**SECOND READING**

Corinthians 11:23-26

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, ‘This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.’ In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.’ Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming to his death.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;

whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia

**GOSPEL**

Luke 9: 11-17

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing.

It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, ‘Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.’ He replied, ‘Give them something to eat yourselves.’ But they said, ‘We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.’ For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, ‘Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.’ They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

**CELEBRATING THE HOSPITALITY OF GOD**

The gospel for today’s feast very appropriately tells of the divine hospitality Jesus provided for thousands of people, multiplying loaves and fishes to feed them (Luke 9:11-17).

The twelve apostles, genuinely concerned, for the crowd, make a practical suggestion. Send the people away to find food and lodging for the night. Jesus throws back the challenge: ‘*You* provide them with food.’ They are aghast. In human terms hospitality on such a scale is impossible. But Jesus is going to make them ministers of the hospitality of God.

The people are made to sit down in groups—a clear signal that they are about to be fed. Then, invoking heaven (to show the divine source), blessing and breaking the loaves and fishes (the language has clear Eucharistic echoes), Jesus miraculously makes it possible for the Twelve to feed the entire crowd—not merely adequately but so abundantly that even after all had eaten each of the Twelve has a full basket of broken pieces left over. God is never niggardly in hospitality; on the contrary, overflowing abundance is its mark.

It is significant that in the supply of food Jesus himself does not deal directly with the crowd. He leaves the distribution entirely to the disciples. He is apprenticing them to be ministers of God’s hospitality themselves when, after his ascension, he is physically removed from the scene. In this way the episode foreshadows the Christian Eucharist, the rite in which the Church will experience and celebrate God’s hospitality as a foretaste of the banquet of the Kingdom.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj