



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH
& PRIMARY SCHOOL

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.

29TH / 30TH JUNE—13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR C

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

'I WILL FOLLOW YOU WHEREVER YOU GO.'

As Jesus moves on, and Luke tells us that he is going towards Jerusalem—certainly not as a tourist or to do some shopping, but where he knew he was going to suffer and die—three people interact with him. The first one comes and declares: 'I will follow you wherever you go!'

If the young man's statements sounds a bit strange, so does the response it elicits: 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' What is happening here?

It is certainly nice and encouraging for the young man to want to follow Jesus. This is actually a declaration we all make at our Baptism and confirmed in us at the sacrament of Confirmation. But do we really understand what it means? At the time of Jesus this actually meant leaving everything behind and living the life of an itinerant.

Jesus' response comes as a warning: what do you really understand by accepting to be called a Christian? Do you think this is an adventure or are you really aware of what it entails? After all, while foxes and birds have a home to return to, the Messiah has no place to call home—and the same can be said of Christians who choose to take their calling seriously. This does not necessarily mean that Christians need to be travelling from one place to another—some do take that as their way of life, but it is not everyone's calling.

Yet, in a way that is what Jesus implies. Following Jesus does mean that we need to be constantly on the move. We cannot settle down in a comfortable place and sit there. Christian life invites us to be constantly challenged, and challenge brings with it pain and suffering, and even death. After all Jesus is facing Jerusalem and his own passion and death.

As Christians we are challenged to be open to listen to people around us. The best way to listen is to be able to 'sit' with those you encounter and welcome them. Often this challenges the way we experience life. How can I be faithful to what I believe in and at the same time be welcoming to those I encounter. How can I continually follow Jesus wherever he goes and wherever he invites me to?

Will I follow you wherever you go?

Fr Mario



PARISH RAFFLE: A 120 Litre bar fridge full of drinks, total value: \$550. The bar fridge is padlocked; The holder of the key that unlocks the padlock gets the lot! Only 28 keys left at \$10.00 each. Please buy your keys after weekend Masses. The fridge will be opened on the weekend of the 3rd and 4th August. Proceeds go towards the eventual 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: On Monday 1st July we will be walking along part of the Anniversary Rail Trail followed by coffee at Town and Country. We will car pool outside the parish house leaving Heidelberg at 10:00am. Information: Jan (0423478504). All are welcome to join us on our relaxed, chatty walks.

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): Taking a break over the next two weeks; resuming on Tuesday 16th July. Meeting for lunch at the Old England Hotel; booking essential by 12th July. Contact: 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 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. Food education relies on the support of volunteers. Nothing more satisfying than sharing delicious meals 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. Classes on 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

PALMS ENCOUNTER TIMOR LESTE: encounter with Timorese culture and communities. Experienced Palms participants will guide journey from 1st September and deepen understanding of how sustainable development makes a real difference for our neighbours. Special group encounters also available. Visit palms.org.au/encounters or call Palms now on 02 9560 5333.

HEART OF LIFE SPIRITUALITY CENTRE, 96 Albion Rd, Box Hill, offering 'Retreat in Everyday Life' from 5th August to 2nd September. Spend some time in prayer at home pondering your experiences of the day, and visit Heart of Life on Mondays between 1:15pm and 2:15pm to reflect with a spiritual companion on how God might have been present for you. Contact 9890 1101 / holsc@bigpond.com, no later than 29th July.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Christopher Dabal, Francis Micallef, Peggy Preston, Lina Poon, Tom Suri, Jean Webb, Shannol Sarikamis.

ANNIVERSARIES: Francesco Paonessa, Maria Polera.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Giuseppe Sperlungo, Giovanni Cusumano.

*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 June/30 June	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Sue Lew-Kee	Ronnie Maloney	Peter Penson	Mary Kotefski
2 nd 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
6 July/7 July	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Pietro Sciotto	Robyn Laurie	Catie Nesbitt
2 nd Reader	Peter Penson	Karen Frost	Adele Boyle	Rosemary Vecchies
Communion	Jeanette O'Sullivan	Jerzy Kmita	Tim Boyle	Leo Cosio
	Domenica Ashworth	Fiona Curry	Mary Furlan	Charito Cosio
	Maria Basilone	Pauline Griffiths	Elizabeth Williamson	Jenny Hollaway
	Michelle Penson	Leo Hernandez	Geraldine Manuel	Sally Tramontana
Counters	30 June: Leo Cosio, Leo Hernandez, Yannick Jonas & 7 July: Jack Naden & A Team.			
Collection Weekly Average for May			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		July : Val 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$2,961.48	Stewardship	\$604.90	August: Cath 0490 254 928
Loose	\$743.07	Loose	\$325.00	Morning Tea, 7th July: Françoise & Maria
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

CATHOLIC MISSIONS APPEAL: this 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.

MORNING TEA & SAUSAGE SIZZLE: Next Sunday 7th July after 10:30am Mass. Gold coin donation to cover expenses of sausage sizzle, appreciated. All welcome.

MISSION IMMERSION EXPERIENCE—PHILIPPINES 2020: 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.

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; an important way to help our community in its time of prayer. Thank you to all Communion Ministers and Readers. A training workshop for New Communion Ministers will be held on Monday 5th August at 7:00pm.

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS: We often welcome newcomers to our parish. If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to Fr Mario.

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.

THANK YOU: to all who supported our parish family lunch last Sunday. It was a good moment of building community and sharing stories. Thank you to Maureen and Rodney Van Oirschot of Four Leaves Café, for the beautiful food. The parish made a profit of \$226.50.

BIRTH OF A CHILD, MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES: As a parish family we are invited to thank God, acknowledge and pray for parishioners celebrating milestone birthdays, anniversaries or the birth of a child. Kindly inform the parish office of these occasions: 94571066.

FIRST READING

Kings 19:16, 19-21

The Lord said to Elijah: 'Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.' Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. 'Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you' he said. Elijah answered, 'Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?' Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15:1-2, 5, 7-11.

TOGETHER: You are my inheritance, O Lord.**LEFT SIDE**

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.'
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.

RIGHT SIDE

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

LEFT SIDE

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay.

RIGHT SIDE

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever.

TOGETHER: You are my inheritance, O Lord.**SECOND READING**

Galatians 5:1, 13-18

When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery. My brothers, you were called, as you know, to liberty; but be careful, or this liberty will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Serve one another, rather, in works of love, since the whole of the Law is summarised in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself. If you go snapping at each other and tearing each other to pieces, you had better watch or you will destroy the whole community. Let me put it like this: if you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia

GOSPEL

Luke 9: 51-62

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out, and they went into a Samaritan village to make preparations for him, but the people would not receive him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing this, the disciples James and John said, 'Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn them up?' But he turned and rebuked them, and they went off to another village.

As they travelled along they met a man on the road who said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus answered, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

Another to whom he said, 'Follow me,' replied, 'Let me go and bury my father first.' But he answered, 'Leave the dead to bury their dead; your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.'

Another said, 'I will follow you, sir, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home.' Jesus said to him, 'Once the hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

A PASSION FOR LIFE

Today's Gospel begins at a turning point in the Gospel of Luke. Like the Servant figure in Isaiah 50:7, Jesus 'sets his face' as he sets out on the long journey to Jerusalem that will climax in his suffering and death. When a Samaritan village proves inhospitable to messengers that Jesus sends before him, two disciples propose a violent response: call down fire from heaven. But violence is not Jesus' way to deal with rejection. What he would bring—to Jerusalem and to the world—is peace (19:41-44;2:14). But Jesus does give very demanding responses to three people who offer themselves as companions on his journey. To the first he responds that following him will mean a wandering life of risky reliance on hospitality, with no guarantee of secure lodging. The prophet Elijah allowed his disciple Elisha to go home and bid farewell to his parents (1 Kings 19:16,19-21). Jesus, by contrast, insists to two other would be followers that even the most sacred family obligations must yield to the claims of the Kingdom, which is about rescuing human beings for life. The Jesus who confronts us here may seem unusually harsh. But it is important to keep in mind that the other side of this stance is the passion for human lives that drives him on. He is on the march now to a conflict with demonic forces that seek to dehumanise and destroy the world. Those who would seek to rescue people for life and for love must share both his passion and the hardships it entails.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj