



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.

*31ST AUGUST/ 1ST SEPTEMBER - 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR C*

## Happy Father's Day

We remember and pray for fathers in our community.  
We also pray for those who would have loved to father children.  
We are invited to light a candle in memory of absent fathers.

### ***Prayer for Fathers***

*Blessed are you, Lord and Father of all life,  
who has given to us the gift of the father of our family.  
Today, we honour him, and we thank you for the numerous good  
things that are ours because of him.  
May we, the members of his family, assist him in his  
holy duties as a parent with our respect,  
our obedience and our deep affection.  
Bless him, Lord, with happiness and good health,  
with peace and with good fortune. This blessing and all graces, we  
pray, descend upon the father of our family:  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.*

*Families may like to use the above blessing on Father's Day as they gather together for a meal.  
Children could extend their right hand towards their father/grandfather as the blessing is prayed.*

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Mario Zammit  
**PARISH SECRETARY:** Mary Peeris  
**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**CHAIR:** Christopher Ratnayake  
**CHILD SAFETY OFFICER:**  
Michelle Robertson (0409 533 100)  
**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**  
Domenica Ashworth  
Adrian Daly  
Moira Di Cesare  
Bob Dowling  
Mary Harty  
Maureen Hegarty  
**PARISH PROGRAMME COORDINATORS:**  
Jan McCaffery (0423 478 504)  
Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)  
**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

### **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.*

**GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS):** Tuesday September 3rd in the Francis Xavier Meeting Room at 10.00a.m. All welcome for a Bingo morning or just drop in for a cuppa. New members always welcome.

**ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP:** on Monday 2nd September we will be leaving from outside the Parish House to explore the Hays Paddock/Glass Creek area. Please meet us at 10am. To join us contact Jan 0423478504.

**STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES:** are available for collection from the church foyer.

**PARISH BOOK SWAP:** Please make use of the small collection of books in the church foyer. You are welcome to borrow any book.

**SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT:** 14th to 21st November, directors: Marlene Marburg and Bernadette Miles at Holy Cross Centre, Templestowe. Cost: \$1,390 for full retreat / \$199 per day, includes accommodation, meals and daily spiritual direction. A privileged time to tune out the noise and distractions of our regular routines to more intentionally focus on our relationship with God. A beautiful environment, silence and daily spiritual direction in which you can rest and reconnect to the source of life. Also possible to make a shorter retreat during this time. Information and bookings: Kardia, Holy Cross Centre, 208 Serpells Rd, Templestowe. enquiries@kardia.com.au

**Donations:** Thank you to three parishioners who donated \$720 towards the cost of the new church piano. Your donations have covered the expenses of the new piano.

**LAUDATO SI' (ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME):** 4-week seminar Tuesdays 3rd, 17th and 24th September, and 1st October, from 7:30 to 9:00pm. At Janssen Centre, 22 Woodvale Road, Boronia. Pope Francis has established the 'Season of Creation' from 1st September to 4th October. We are invited to reconsider our relationship with God's Creation, particularly with Earth. We look at Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si'. The Pope invites us into an ecological conversion of our heart that inspires us to live differently with Earth and all of Creation. This seminar will prayerfully reflect on Pope Francis' encyclical and how it can apply to our lives and our parishes. Cost: \$40 (including workbook). Bookings: 9854 8110 or secretary@campion.asn.au

**WOMEN AND SPIRITUALITY:** Women of all ages invited to gather to explore and deepen their spirituality in a relaxed, welcoming environment. On Wednesday 2nd October, 1:00 to 3:00pm, Jane Ormonde, a spiritual director and pastoral carer, will explore with 'Listening to self, Listening to God and Listening to Nature.' On Thursday 7th November, 1:00 to 3:00pm, Cath Connelly, a spiritual director, retreat leader and one of the world's finest harp players, will explore Celtic Spirituality and introduce her beautiful harp playing. Sessions in the Francis Xavier meeting room. Donation of \$5.00 appreciated. To register contact Jan (0423478504).

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**RECENTLY MARRIED:** Robert Aldelnour & Bianca Robinson, Joseph Villani & Stefanie Lorenzin.

**THE SICK:** Giuseppe & Cynthia Amoroso, Sheila Mc Grath, Keiran Mc Grath, Peter Crowley, Christopher Dabal, Peggy Preston, Tom Suri, Jean Webb, Shannol Sarikamis, Lina Poon, Eleanor Bowring.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Joyce & John Overend.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** John Spencer, Damian Zavaro, Mary Mc Brearty, Peter Clifford.

*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.*

31 Aug/1 Sep	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Pietro Sciotto	Elizabeth Williamson	Peter Penson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Adrian Daly	Karen Frost	Joanne Martinez	Matthew Sanders
Communion	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Bill Barnes	Liz Sier	Michelle Penson
	Donna Richardson	Barbara Barnes	Vin Sier	Leo Cosio
	Domenica Ashworth	Margaret Bradley	Tim Boyle	Charito Cosio
	TBA	Alice Wong	Mary Furlan	Jenny Hollaway
7 Sep/8 Sep	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Moira Di Cesare	Marguerite Ryan	Elizabeth Williamson	Mark Aiello
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader	Brian Garrone	Claire Newsome	Joanne Martinez	TBA
Communion	Sue Lew-kee	Jerzy Kmita	Leo Hernandez	Leo Cosio
	Marco Di Cesare	Oliver Kmita	Yannick Jonas	Charito Cosio
	Leela Cherubim	Fiona Curry	Nigel Mant	Matthew Sanders
	Donna Richardson	Margaret Bradley	Marni Mant	Olivia Sanders
Counters	<b>1 Sep:</b> Jack Naden & A Team & <b>8 Sep:</b> Des O'Brien, Peter Peyton, Percival Makin.			
Collection Weekly Average for July				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		August: Cath 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,171.46	Stewardship	\$548.72	September: Marilyn 0490 254 928
Loose	\$631.12	Loose	\$315.00	
<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.				

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!** This weekend we remember and pray for all fathers and father figures in our families. We will have the opportunity to light a taper in remembrance of fathers who are physically absent in our life. As we light the taper we offer a silent prayer for all who cared for us in this role. We also pray for all departed fathers in our community. Let us also remember all those men who would have loved to be fathers, but did not have the opportunity to father any children.

**PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL:** This weekend 31st August / 1st September, we are invited to support retired priests in our archdiocese. These priests have faithfully ministered in our parishes and are now being cared for at this stage of their life. They need our financial support to be able to be sufficiently looked after. Please be generous with this appeal as we 'caring for those who care.' The appeal is being held at all Masses. Contributions over \$2.00 are tax deductible; receipts will only be forwarded for donations over \$5.00. You can use envelopes at each of the Church entrances.

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE:** This Sunday 1st September after 10:30am Mass we celebrate Father's Day. Come and join us as we continue to share community over a small meal. Gold coin donation to cover expenses of sausage sizzle, appreciated. All welcome.

**BOTTLE TOPS TO MAKE PROSTHETIC HANDS FOR CHILDREN:** Thank you for your kind work. Please note: only caps with a '2' or '4' on the actual cap (not the bottle) can be used. The number must be stand alone, not within a code. This generally includes soft drink, water and milk bottle caps. Numbers are located on the underside of the cap. Caps without numbers are unusable as we have no way of knowing what grade plastic they are. Please rinse caps and ensure that no extra plastic, metal or other material is attached

**ANNUAL LEAVE:** I will be taking my annual leave during the month of September. I will be away from the parish from the 3rd to the 29th of September. Please thank Fr Ted Teal, Monsignor Franco Cavarra and Fr Edwin Agius mssp who will be celebrating weekday and weekend Masses in my absence. There will be no morning Mass on the Mondays during the month of September, a communion service will be held at 9:15am instead. The parish office will remain opened as usual. Thank you for your continued support. Fr Mario.

**ROVING REFILLS:** will be at St John's church car park on Sunday 29th September from 9:00am to 12 noon. The objective of Roving Refills is to change the way we access and consume products that are unnecessarily packaged, usually in plastic containers. By adding to the growing BYO container movement, it is hoped to reduce waste created by single-use bottles/containers and to conserve the natural resources used to make them. It is hoped to provide an affordable alternative to packaged detergents, cleaners and shampoo/conditioner. Roving Refills does not make any product—they choose suppliers based on the quality of their products, their ability and willingness to take back the containers we buy from them, and their location (in an effort to reduce the distance products travel).

**ORGAN CONCERT:** at St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 6th September, at 6:30pm. Featuring renowned organist Thomas Trotter who has been city organist for the city of Birmingham since 1983 and is also organist at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. Tickets: \$20.00 (no concessions). Children under 15 free. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BEUKN> or at the door.

***HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!***

**FIRST READING**

Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM***Psalm 67:4-7. 10-11*

**TOGETHER:** God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

**LEFT SIDE**

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,  
they shall exult and dance for joy.

O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;  
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

**RIGHT SIDE**

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,  
such is God in his holy place.

God gives the lonely a home to live in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom.

**LEFT SIDE**

You poured down, O God, a generous rain:  
when your people were starved you gave them new life.

It was there that your people found a home,  
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

**TOGETHER:** God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

**SECOND READING***Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24*

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL***Luke 14:1. 7-14*

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

**PREPARING FOR GOD'S HOSPITALITY**

As so often in Luke's gospel, the event described in the gospel takes place at a banquet to which Jesus has been invited. He notices that the guests, as soon as they arrive, inevitably choose the highest, most honourable places.

His comment on this behaviour may seem to be simply a piece of commonsense wisdom: choose the lowest place because if there has to be a rearrangement (to seat everyone according to rank), it is much better to be promoted to a higher place than to be demoted. Think of the humiliation, the loss of face involved!

However, the fact that this episode has been introduced as a 'parable' means that something more significant than everyday advice is at stake. The parable refers to the great reversal that is to come with the full arrival of the Kingdom, when God will enrich the poor and uplift the lowly (see the Magnificat [1:51-53] and the Beatitudes [6:20-26]). Those who choose now to sit with the poor and marginalised are destined for 'promotion'; those who sit with the rich and powerful will find themselves sent down to the lowest places.

Jesus has taken an image from everyday life and made of it, not so much a moral maxim, as a profound statement of the implications of the gospel. Associate now with the poor and befriend them. At present they may seem to have nothing to offer. But being hospitable to them now stores up for you the welcome that truly matters: the welcome into the hospitality of God that lasts forever.

*Fr Brendan Byrne sj*