



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.

21ST / 22ND SEPTEMBER - 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR C

Dear Parishioners, Visitors and Friends,

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

In the Church community we have three sacraments of initiation that introduce us into our community: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Some of us may be aware that in certain traditions (rites) Baptism and Confirmation are celebrated as one sacrament at birth. For others, while Baptism is celebrated at birth, what has been given at Baptism is confirmed by the Bishop (or his representative) at Confirmation, usually received in Year Six of the primary school.

The celebration of the sacraments is a very important moment, not only for the individual and the family, but for the whole parish community. It is a moment when we come together to welcome new members in our midst or celebrate with them the milestones in their life. Whenever possible, the celebration of the sacraments is done in a way that involves the parish community. When we celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist and Reconciliation, candidates are introduced to the community and before they start their preparation for the sacraments.

At the sacrament of Confirmation, when the bishop or his representative visits the parish, he also confirms the life and the ministry that happens in the parish. The sacrament of Confirmation expresses the connection of the life in the parish with the life of the whole church, represented in the bishop.

Over the past number of years, since we have not have a suitable venue that caters for the numbers, we have not been able to express this link with our bishop. Often we have had to use venues outside our parish for the celebration of Confirmation. We are grateful that since 2016, Our Lady of Mercy College have been sharing with us, their sacred space in the Nalleijerring Centre. Every year, as a parish, we have been using this space for our Christmas Vigil, Good Friday and First Communion celebrations.

It is now time for us to start celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation also in this space. Apart from the opportunity for the bishop to visit our parish on a yearly basis, as he is expected to do, this change brings with it other advantages. The space is more familiar, bringing us all closer to the altar where the celebration happens and it also means that we do not have to battle the traffic and parking issues we face, each time we go into the city. From past experience, we know that the Nalleijerring Centre is very appropriate for these types of family and parish celebrations and is a big enough space for us to be able to invite all our family and friends.

From 2020 the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in the Nalleijerring Centre. Moreover, from 2020, as part of the preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, Year Six students will be participating in a visit to St Patrick's Cathedral.

I trust that this move will allow us to continue celebrating the life and sacraments of our parish to the best of our abilities.

Thank you

... Mario

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.*

MARCH FOR THE BABIES: Love all Babies Saturday 12th October 2019 at 1pm Treasury Gardens, Cnr Spring St & Wellington Pde Melbourne

THANK YOU to all who generously donated to the request for items to take on our pilgrimage to the Indonesian island of Ambon, a place where Australian soldiers fought and were prisoners of war in World War 2.

Goods and donations received were provided to a school, hospital and an orphanage. The 30 children in the orphanage aged from 3 years to 20 years were an inspiration the way they cared for each other, the older children looking after the younger ones. The children were given clothing and sporting equipment, soccer and basketballs. Those old enough attend local schools and university. They so welcomed us and particularly appreciated the sporting equipment.

Des O'Brien

www.gullforce.org.au

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020: Listen to what the Spirit is saying. You can download the Final Report for the first phase of the Plenary Council: Listening and Dialogue from <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports>

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.

REFLECTION DAY BY MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL: Saturday 12th October, 10:00am to 3:00pm at St James the Apostle Parish, 330 Derrimut Road Hoppers Crossing. Topic: Joseph De Piro - Charism, Mission and Service within our contemporary world. Facilitator Joan Jennings. Donation \$10.00, including lunch. RSVP 9th October
hopperscrossingnorth@cam.org.au

DISCOVER PALMS: Sunday October 27th @ 10:30am, Jenny Florence Room, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne. Call Palms now on 02 9560 5333 or see palms.org.au/assignments-abroad. Qualified medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins are always required.

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Gordon Eng, Mary Wright, 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: Vincent Cannuli, Frank Merlino, Brendan Sullivan, Marta & Peter Brejta, Len Garner, Norman Collier, Mary Collier, Theresa Browne, Paul Byrnes, Jack Whelan.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Adele Staples, Eva Crowe, Dorothy Alva.

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.

21/22 Sep	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Anita Metcalf	Garry Sproules	Michael Leonard	Rosemary Vecchies
2 nd Reader	Domenica Ashworth	Pietro Sciotto	Claire Newsome	Peter Penson
Communion	Jan Mc Caffrey	Alice Wong	Geraldine Manuel	Michelle Penson
	Sue Lew-Kee	Pauline Griffiths	Brian Mc Intosh	Des O'Brien
	Maria Basilone	Chris Ratnayake	Yannick Jonas	Matthew Sanders
	Donna Richardson	Margaret Bradley	TBA	Olivia Sanders
28/29 Sept	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Noel Micallef	Ronnie Maloney	Elizabeth Williamson	TBA
2 nd Reader	Zen Zebrowski	Barbara Barnes	Robyn Laurie	Mary Kotefski
Communion	Leela Cherubim	Bill Barnes	Tim Boyle	Jenny Hollaway
	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Jerzy Kmita	Mary Furlan	Sally Tramontana
	Maria Basilone	Oliver Kmita	TBA	Philip Johnson
	Domenica Ashworth	Peter O'Donoghue	TBA	TBA
Counters	22 Sep: Graeme Foote. Michael Tilley & 29 Sept: Tim Booth, Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes.			
Collection Weekly Average for August			Heidelcare Co-Ordinator	
Parish		Presbytery		September: Marilyn 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,953.13	Stewardship	\$709.29	October: Marilyn 0490 254 928
Loose	\$726.95	Loose	\$375.00	
Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.				

GOLD COIN COLLECTION: Next weekend 28th/29th September, at all Masses. The August collection was \$578.50. Thank you for your generosity.

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: As the next two Mondays are during the school holidays we will be taking a break from our organised walks. We will next meet to walk on Monday 7th October outside the Parish House at 10am. Destination to be advised. You are very welcome to join us. Contact Jan 0423478504.

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): The **GEMS** will be taking a break over the next two weeks. We will meet again on Tuesday October 8th (see entry below).

UPCOMING OUTING. Cinema Morning: Tuesday October 8th 'Downton Abbey' Palace Cinema Balwyn at 11.00am 231 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn Cost \$20 - movie and lunch. Following on from the television series, 'Downton Abbey' follows the Crawley family and the servants who worked for them at the turn of the 20th century in an Edwardian English country house. Please add your name to the sheet in the foyer if you would like to attend. Transport available. Elizabeth 0447195553

PLenary COUNCIL: Over the next two to three months groups will be gathering to talk about the actions we would like to see implemented as a result of the coming Plenary Council. If you would like to participate in a group or form your own group please contact the Parish Office on 9457 1066.

ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT: 43 yr old woman seeks long term accommodation in exchange for rent. Self contained bungalow/granny flat or possible house share/long term house sitting arrangement. Willing to help out with light duties such as gardening, shopping, attending appointments etc. Currently working at St Vincents Hospital. Police check, working with children check and references available. Must be pet friendly. Please contact Tracy 0411727763.

HOME MASSES: For the past couple of months Father Mario has celebrated mass in a parishioner's home. These masses have been prayerful and joyful experiences in an intimate setting - a family home. If you would like to host a home mass next year or ask questions about doing so please contact parish office 94571066 heidelberg@cam.org.au

WOMEN AND SPIRITUALITY: All women are encouraged to participate in these engaging and informative sessions on the 2nd October with Cecilia Tan and 7th November with Cath Connelly. To register please contact the Parish Office on 9457 1066 or Jan on 0423478504.

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.

NEED VOLUNTEERS: Each Sunday there are a number of ministries individuals perform in support of the Mass. Volunteers are needed to welcome parishioners and visitors and handout the newsletter. As well we need volunteers to help with the PowerPoint presentation. Training will be provided. To volunteer please contact the Parish Office on 9457 1066. Please consider helping in these practical ways. Thank you.

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 at least a week prior to the celebration.

FIRST READING*Amos 8:4-7*

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat? Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.' The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Psalm 112:1-2.4-8***TOGETHER:** Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.**LEFT SIDE**

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!

RIGHT SIDE

High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?

LEFT SIDE

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people.

TOGETHER:**SECOND READING***1 Timothy 2:1-8*

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL*Luke 16:10-13*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?'

'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

ENSURING A WELCOME

In what way exactly was the manager in the parable we hear today 'dishonest?'

We might think that it had to do with what he does with his master's creditors—getting them to write down reduced amounts of what they owe? Yet the master finds fault with the manager *before* he has recourse to this stratagem.

By reducing the amounts owed, the manager was not defrauding his master but stripping away the commission he himself would normally (and legitimately) earn in transacting his master's business. He acts against his own immediate interest to ensure that in the future, when he is out of work and needy, he will have the goodwill of people and a welcome into their homes. He 'buys' their goodwill and, in this respect at least, earns his master's praise.

The parable presupposes the great reversal connected with the coming of the Kingdom as proclaimed by Jesus. In this reversal, 'the hungry will be filled with good things and the rich sent empty away' (Luke 1:53). In light of this reversal the steward's behaviour is somehow exemplary. Rogue he may be (a 'child of this world'), but in taking vigorous action in view of a coming crisis, he shows himself 'more shrewd' than 'the children of light.'

With so much more at stake (eternal life), the wealthy among the children of light would be well advised to strip themselves of their wealth now in order to win friends among the poor. When the poor have their privileged places in the Kingdom, these same poor will welcome them into 'eternal dwellings.'

Fr Brendan Byrne sj