



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.

19TH / 20TH OCTOBER—29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR C MISSION SUNDAY

Dear Parishioners, Visitors and Friends,

This Sunday we celebrate Mission Sunday. Well, actually, for us Christians, every day of the year is Mission Sunday. Through our Baptism have been born again in Christ and called forth to proclaim the good news that God has saved us, and invites us to live his life here on earth, and in the resurrection.

Mission Sunday is declared and celebrated by the Church in the whole world so that, at least once a year, we can stop and remind ourselves of our duty to live our Baptism through our witness. Pope Francis reminds us that we all have a mission.

The word 'mission' is derived from the Latin word 'missio,' which translates as 'I send.' We are all sent to different mission fields, depending on our calling. For many among us mission is near at home. Many are called to give witness in their family, among friends and at their place of work. We are all called to witness to our belief that God himself became one like us—in all things but sin!—in order to act as the bridge uniting us to God! This indeed is good news!

Some are called to a different mission, accepting the call to be catechists, teachers, spiritual authors, theologians and preachers. After people are inspired to put their faith in this saving God, they need to learn about this loving merciful God. This is the role of those who teach and help those who believe to deepen their faith relationship with God.

Others are called to travel to foreign countries. We are aware that not all people have heard about the Jesus story, while other peoples have been baptised and live as Christians, but do not have teachers to lead them in their faith. We call this type of mission 'ad gentes'—'to the nations.' This group of missionaries often seek the assistance of the rest of the faith community to support them through prayer, materially and financially.

In our parish we have been helping missionaries witness to the gospel through our monthly gold coin collections. This money has been forwarded to assist missionaries in their work. Earlier this year we have also welcomed the Jose De Piro Kabataan Orkestra from the Philippines, another project reaching out and witnessing to the good news. In January 2019, and again in January 2020, a group of parishioners, together with parishioners from Hoppers Crossing North and from North Sunshine, will be participating in a missionary experience to give witness and to experience for themselves how the faith community reaches out to people in need in the Philippines.

This Mission Sunday our parish faith community will be blessing and sending forth seven members of our parish who will form part of this mission immersion experience in January 2020. Among this group are three young adults (ages: 14 to 17). I invite you to support these parishioners in prayer. We can also support our young adults financially, helping them cover the expenses incurred in this experience.

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; Timothy Boyle
Margaret Bradley
Adrian Daly
Moira Di Cesare
Karen Frost
Russell Lew-Kee
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.*

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

MARCELLIN COLLEGE: Memorial Mass for Deceased students at college chapel, on 31st October at 7:30pm followed by supper. Enquiries to Mrs Mary Norden. 9842 3080.

STUDY TOUR OF THE BIBLICAL LANDS: organised by Catholic Theological College. 14th November to 7th December 2020. Visiting Jordan, Israel & Palestinian Territories and Greece and option for 3 days in Crete and Delphi. Tour Leaders: Dr Rosemary Canavan & Rev. Anthony Dean CM. Information Session: Saturday 19th October 2019: 2:00pm to 4:00pm. RSVP & information: Jenny Delahunt 94123314 /jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

HOME VISITS / FAMILY BLESSINGS / HOME MASSES: Fr Mario is available to visit, pray with you in your family and share faith. To invite Fr Mario and book a date please contact the parish office 9457 1066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au

BOTTLE CAPS: We can now stop collecting plastic tops for time being. Thanks for the beautiful effort.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: our Year 12 students who will be sitting for their VCE exams. As a community we journey with you in prayer.

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: On Monday 21st October, we will take in the Elliston Estate developed by Merchant Builders. We will stop for coffee in Macleod. Please meet outside the parish house at 10:00am. Contact: Jan (0423 478 504).

GEMS 50+ (AND FRIENDS): 22nd October, games morning. All invited to join us for fun and games in the Francis Xavier meeting room, followed by morning tea. Scrabble, Rummikub, UNO, cards or join in the conversation; 10:00am—12:00noon.

UPCOMING EVENT: 'Morning Melodies' Abbasession Duo' Abba Tribute Show. Tuesday 29th October at the Lower Plenty Hotel, 4 Main Road Lower Plenty. \$20 Devonshire tea, entertainment, hot lunch, drink. Doors open at 9:30am. Bookings essential. See booking form at the back of the church.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Kevin & Margaret Andrews, who celebrate their 40th Wedding anniversary. May God Bless you both abundantly.

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, (accommodation, meals and daily spiritual direction). Also possible to make a shorter retreat during this time. Info and bookings: Kardia, Holy Cross Centre, 208 Serpells Rd, Templestowe. enquiries@kardia.com.au

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTIZED: Matisse Mazzarella, Selena Petridis, Ari Marsili, Martina Tagliamonte.

THE SICK: Cynthia & Giuseppe Amoroso, Christopher Dabal, Gordon Eng, Sheila Mc Grath, Keiran Mc Grath, Mary Wright.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Nanette Tighe.

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.

19/20 Oct	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Sue Lew-Kee	Barbara Barnes	Robyn Laurie	Catie Nesbitt
2 nd Reader	Grace Lew-Kee	Garry Sproules	Michael Leonard	Matthew Sanders
Communion	Leela Cherubim	Bill Barnes	Nigel Mant	Matthew Sanders
	Noel Micallef	Oliver Kmita	Marni Mant	Olivia Sanders
	Jan Mc Caffrey	Peter O'Donoghue	Tim Boyle	Sally Tramontana
	Donna Richardson	TBA	Mary Furlan	TBA
26/27 Oct	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Adrian Daly	Ronnie Maloney	Bob Dowling	Mry Kotefski
2 nd Reader	Brian Garrone	TBA	Michelle Robertson	Mark Aiello
Communion	Lorraine Mascarenhas	Bobbie Bartkus	Leo Hernandez	Leo Cosio
	Emma Chang	Val Wallis	Liz Sier	Charito Cosio
	Domenica Ashworth	Alice Wong	Vin Sier	Leela Cherubim
	Jeanette O'Sullivan	Pauline Griffiths	TBA	Philip Johnson
Counters	20 Oct: Leo Cosio, Leo Hernandez, Yannick Jonas & 27 Oct: Jack Naden & A Team.			
Collection Weekly Average for September				Heidelcare Co-Ordinator
Parish		Presbytery		October: Merilyn 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,116.38	Stewardship	\$310.70	November: Joan 0490 254 928
Loose	\$688.79	Loose	\$345.00	

Thank you for supporting St John's financially. Please advise if your credit card is lost/stolen or the expiry date has changed.

AUSTIN MASS: this Sunday 20th October. Volunteers please meet at 8:30am for 9:30am Mass. Parishioners are also invited to participate in this Mass to minister to the sick by their presence.

GOLD COIN COLLECTION: Next weekend 26th/27th October, at all Masses. The September collection was \$578.75. Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: This week we bid farewell to four members who have served on our council for over three years: Bob Dowling, Mary Harty, Maureen Hegarty and Christopher Ratnayake. For the last twelve months Christopher was also chairperson of the council. We thank these four members for their generosity and commitment to our parish. They will be replaced by Timothy Boyle, Margaret Bradley, Karen Frost and Russell Lew-Kee. In our November meeting we will choose a new chairperson.

NOVEMBER MASSES: As the month of November approaches, we remember our loved ones who have died. November Mass envelopes are available in the porch of the church. Envelopes can be dropped off at the parish office, sacristy or in the Sunday collections. During the month of November you may also wish to write the names of your loved ones in the register next to the baptism font. During the month of November the names of our departed loved ones will be placed on the altar and remembered at all Masses.

COMMUNITY DINNER: time to build friendships, community ties, and celebrate together on Saturday 9th November at 7:00pm, after evening Mass. This time we meet at Café Matto, opposite Leo's. This is an informal evening, everyone orders their own meal from the restaurant menu and everyone pays his / her own way. To book please contact the parish office: 94571066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA
good works

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL: As Christmas approaches St John's Vinnies group will be preparing to assist those less fortunate in our area. It is customary to give hampers to these families. Over the coming weeks we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the hampers. A list of items required is in the church noticeboard. **Please only donate the items requested** so that we can organise balanced hampers. Donations are required by Monday 3rd December, latest. A collection will also held on the weekend of 14/15 December. Thank you.

2ND / 3RD NOVEMBER: on the first weekend of November we will remember our departed loved ones. Before all Masses that weekend, we will have the opportunity of lighting a taper in their memory.

WOMEN AND SPIRITUALITY: Women are encouraged to participate in this engaging and informative session. Thursday 7th November: Celtic Spirituality and Music presented by Cath Connelly with her harp. At Francis Xavier meeting room in the parish house, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. To register contact 9457 1066 / heidelberg@cam.org.au or Jan (0423478504).

PLENARY COUNCIL: 'Let's Listen and Discern' is the next phase leading up to the 2020 Plenary Council. Please join together to give input into this very important opportunity for us to contribute to future directions of the Church in Australia. Date: 23rd October At: 7:00pm in the Francis Xavier meeting room in the parish house. To register contact heidelberg@cam.org.au / 9457 1066.

SAVE THE DATE: Christmas Market 24th November from 9am at the parish hall. Contact Jan (0423478504).

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:8-13

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 120.

TOGETHER: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

LEFT SIDE

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

RIGHT SIDE

May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.

LEFT SIDE

The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.

RIGHT SIDE

The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever.

TOGETHER: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 3:25-4:2

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name

of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active;
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

THE PERSISTENT CRY FOR JUSTICE

The parable in the gospel for today commends praying to God with the kind of persistence shown by the widow in her dealings with the unjust judge. It does not mean that God, unwilling to respond, needs to be worn down like the judge. Rather, it commends an attitude of trust in God that motivates persistence in prayer, even when an answer may seem a long time coming.

In Jesus' society, widows were dependent on the sound working of the justice system since they lacked the support of a husband and possibly that of adult sons. Hence the plight of this woman, whose entreaties the judge so long ignores. As Jesus tells the story, the judge stirs himself on her behalf only when he suspects that she is going to become physically violent. Translated literally, what the judge says is '... lest she come and give me a black eye' (the Greek expression actually comes from the boxing arena).

The force of the parable flows from a kind of contrasting logic. If the unjust judge moves at long last to grant justice to the widow, albeit through base and self-serving motives, how much more readily and certainly will the God of all goodness move to grant justice to those who make appeal day and night?

In a world where the poor, like the widow, cry out for justice, the challenge of the parable is sharp. Those who actions or inertia allow many to suffer must reckon with a God firmly aligned with the cause of the poor.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj