



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street

HEIDELBERG

We acknowledge the traditional owners and 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.

Central to the mission of St John's Parish is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self-esteem and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

14TH / 15TH MARCH 2020—3RD SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR A

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

MONTHLY GOLD COIN COLLECTIONS

As you are aware, on the last Sunday of each month we take up a Gold Coin Collection in aid of a parish charity. Over the past few years we have been supporting the activities of St Catherine of Alexandria parish in Dinalupihan, Bataan, in the Philippines—the parish some members from our parish have visited in 2019 and 2020.

I few weeks ago I have forwarded the sum of \$6,000 from last years collections. Fr Joe Cremona mssp, the parish priest, is very grateful for your generosity. The money will be used to continue supporting the education of the young people in his parish. The members of the parish who have participated in this work can talk about the great ministry that is happening in this parish. Without the help of contributions like ours, many of these youths would not have a decent future. With our aid they are being given an opportunity of a better future.

Thank you.

.... Mario mssp

PROJECT COMPASSION, LET'S GO FURTHER, TOGETHER:

Father of four, Barry, embodies resilience and strength. Growing up in a tough environment, he had to look inside himself to make the right choices for himself and his family. Barry, and others like him, were able to take part in a cultural healing program called Red Dust Healing. This program encourages participants to examine their own personal hurt and allows them to heal from within, addressing family and personal relationships and what may be been life-long patterns of violence, abuse and neglect. Today, thanks to the Caritas support, he's an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

Please take home a donation box or a set of envelopes. Boxes and envelopes will be returned on Holy Thursday and after Easter. Tax-receipts available. Visit www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

GIFT OF LIVING WATER

Weary and thirsty from his journey, Jesus asks a Samaritan Woman to give him a drink. Soon, however, he begins to convince her that he has a far greater gift to give her: not the inert water of a well but 'living water', the life-giving gift of the Spirit.

The woman half grasps his meaning but can go no further. Like all who reach a certain stage in the spiritual life, her knowledge of Jesus cannot go forward until the truth of her own life has been owned and set on the way to healing. That is why Jesus instructs her, 'Go, call your husband'.

Jesus' knowledge of her personal life leads the woman to recognize him as a religious expert (a 'prophet'). So she brings up the subject of worship, a key matter of dispute between Jews and Samaritans. But Jesus speaks of a 'worship' transcending these divisions: a worship of God from hearts transformed by the Spirit of truth, the truth to which Jesus is gently leading her.

Later, the woman will exclaim to her townsfolk 'Come and see a man who has told me the story of my life'. That is not the usual translation of her words but it is a wonderful description of pastoral and spiritual direction: Come and see a man who shown me how my life, in all its ups and downs, its wrongs turns and failures, is nonetheless a meaningful story that God's grace is weaving through the power of the Spirit.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mario Zammit mssp

PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIR: Michelle Robertson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Domenica Ashworth;

Timothy Boyle

Margaret Bradley

Adrian Daly

Moira Di Cesare

Karen Frost

Russell Lew-Kee

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

PARISH PROGRAMME COORDINATORS:

Jan McCaffrey (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.com/stjohnheidelberg

Instagram.com/stjohn.heidelberg

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

55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084

t: 9459 2963;

office@sjohnheidelberg.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

'STILLNESS SATURDAY:' The Benediction of the Present Moment, Saturday 21st March, 10:00am-1:00pm at Heart of Life, 296 Glenferrie Rd, Malvern. Facilitated by spiritual director Ruth McIntosh. Cost \$30. Contact: info@heartoflife.melbourne.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS FORMATION: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a weekly religious formation program for 3-6 year old children. 'The Atrium' is a unique hands-on environment filled with sensorially rich materials for children's faith formation. The materials are focused on scripture and liturgy and based on the Montessori Method of Education. Sessions run on Thursday mornings at St Pius X in Heidelberg West. Contact Julie 0404 658701.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: 17th to 19th April, from 7:00pm Friday to 5:00pm Sunday. Accommodation and meals provided. Information and bookings: Mercy & James 0409 183 676 / vicbookings @wwme.org.au / wwme.org.au

LEGION OF MARY RETREAT: Enclosed Semi-Silent Retreat on March, Sat. 27th to 29th, at Pallotti College, Millgrove. See notice board in porch. Contact Caroline 0423 838 756 / Sue 0449 260206

CHARISMATIC MASS: Thursday 19th March in the parish house of St Thomas the Apostle, 251 Diamond Creek Rd, Nth Greensborough. 7:30pm praise and worship, 8:00pm Mass followed by prayer ministry and supper. Contact Rose (0411 650 339) / Emilia (0418 120 902).

SICK AND HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: Please let us know about them? Contact Elizabeth (0447195553) with the information.

ST PIUS X PARISH FAIR: Sunday 29th March 10:00am to 2:00pm. Animal farm, market stalls, face painting, sausage sizzle, Devonshire teas, cake stall. Indoor market stall—\$20 includes table & two chairs. Enquires edwmargaret@yahoo.com.au or 94975319.

PALMS AUSTRALIA: All trades and professions are requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Visit www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Ila Mc Keag, Alexander Cicutto, Amira Romeo-Bergami, Olivia Hodgson.

THE SICK: Sally Hodgson, Alan Castles, James Artinopoulos, Doreen Booth, Charles Garraid, Giovanni Mirabella, Vita Nativo, Matais Navajas, Brett Ralph, Naoise Wheeler, Mary-Teresa Wright.

ANNIVERSARIES: Peter Armitage, Maxwell Ingram, Anthony Rockford, Mary Byrnes.

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.***

14 Mar/ 15 Mar	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Michael Leonard	Ronnie Maloney	Robyn Laurie	Mary Kotefski
2 nd Reader	Anita Metcalf	Pietro Sciotto	Elizabeth Williamson	Rosemary Vecchies
Narrator	Adrian Daly	Marguerite Ryan	Claire Newsome	Margaret Andrews
Other Voices	Jan Mc Caffrey	Garry Sproules	Peter Penson	Mark Aiello
Communion	Noel Micallef	Stanly Devasia	Leo Hernandez	Jenny Hollaway
21 Mar/ 22 Mar	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Grace Lew-Kee	Michael Leonard	Joanne Martinez	Matthew Sanders
2 nd Reader	Madi Lew-Kee	Claire Newsome	Michelle Robertson	Margaret Andrews
Narrator	Sue Lew-Kee	Peter Penson	Robyn Laurie	Leela Cherubim
Other Voices	Noel Micallef	Karen Frost	Bob Dowling	Rosemary Vecchies
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Jack Naden	Geraldine Manuel	Leela Cherubim
Counters	15 Mar: Tim Booth, Nigel Mant, Shane Byrnes & 22 Mar: Vincent Chung, Bill Barnes, Peter O'Donoghue..			
Collection Weekly Average for February				
Parish		Presbytery		HEIDELCARE : 0490 254 928
Stewardship	\$3,303.74	Stewardship	\$564.39	
Loose	\$751.22	Loose	\$350.00	
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: Cancelled for the month of March.

ANOINTING MASS: Monday 23rd March at 9:15am. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be administered during Mass. Please note change of day Monday and there is only one Anointing Mass on that day. Following the Mass you are invited to morning tea in the Francis Xavier meeting room. Transport available: Elizabeth 0447195553

GEMS 50+ (Gregarious Energetic Members of St John's): Tuesday March 17th St Patrick's Day. Celebrate St Patrick's Day with us. Wear something green if you wish.

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: Every Monday, except for public holidays, we meet outside the parish house at 10:00am to walk, explore, chat and drink coffee. You are very welcome to join us. For more information please contact Jan (0423 478 504).

PRAYER DURING LENT: Monday evenings during Lent at 7:00pm in the parish house. Parishioners invited to join us for an opportunity to pray, prepare and reflect during Lent. Fr Mario will lead the evenings. Our theme for next Monday is 'Be Opened ... to Listen.' Everyone is welcome even if you did not put your name down to attend.

WAY OF THE CROSS: As we prepare for the passion and death of Jesus, we pray together the Stations of the Cross, every Friday at 7:30pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS: every Friday during Lent at St George's Anglican Church East Ivanhoe starting at 6:30pm. All welcome!

READERS AT OUR WEEKEND MASSES: parishioners who proclaim the Word of God at our Masses are needed. This is another important ministry as we lend our voice to God's word for us today. Parishioners from year six of primary school onwards are welcome for this ministry. Training is provided.

ASHES TO EASTER: St John's Parish, and our neighbouring parishes are organising a concert reflection with Peter Kearney. This consists of a prayerful sequence of songs and stories on Lenten and Easter themes, including Easter songs by Sydney Carter. Thursday 26th March, 7:30pm at the Mercedes Hogan Theatre (OLMC), 39 Yarra Street Heidelberg. Free admission; donations appreciated.

GOOD FRIDAY - 10TH APRIL: Each Good Friday the parish Stations of the Cross take place in the church and school grounds. You are invited either to carry the cross from one station to another or to participate as a reader at a station. A family may like to carry the cross together. If you are able to help out with either of these ministries please contact Elizabeth elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au / 0447195553.

'HOW POPE FRANCIS AND OTHERS ARE ATTEMPTING TO CHANGE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.' Tuesday 17th March 8:00pm at St Kevin's Parish, 26-44 Herlihy's Road, Lower Templestowe. Speakers: Br Mark O'Connor fms and Peter Johnstone. Details: stkevinsparish.org.au.

THEOLOGY IN THE PUB: St Therese of Lisieux, the Little Way with a Big Impact. Monday 6th April; speaker: Bernadette Micallef. Venue: at European Bier Café, Level 1, 120 Exhibition Street, CBD Melbourne. Doors open at 6:30pm. Talk starts at 7:30pm. Details: theologyinthepub.com.au

MUSIC FOR ORGAN AND TRUMPET: at St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 3rd April from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Featuring JS Bach, Buxtehude and Petr Eben. Musicians: Jennifer Chou organist and music director Toorak Uniting Church, and Bruno Siketa performed as guest principal trumpet with the Queensland Orchestra and Melbourne and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras. Tickets \$25.00 no concessions. Children under 15, free. Programme and bookings: www.trybooking.com/BGPWW.

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 94:1-2,6-9

TOGETHER: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

LEFT SIDE:

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

RIGHT SIDE:

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

LEFT SIDE:

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

TOGETHER: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 4: 5-15,19-26,39-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

TO PROTECT EACH OTHER FROM THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS / COVID19, it has been decided that:

We will no longer have the chalice available at Communion;

Communion can only be received on the hand;

Ministers of Communion and priest will use an alcohol based hand sanitizer before and after Communion;

We are encouraged to refrain from shaking hands at the sign of peace.

There will be no Holy Water in the water fonts.