

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9.11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9-14

RESPONSE: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

R./

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

R./

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

R./

SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'



COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.
or
The bread that I will give, says the Lord,
is my flesh for the life of the world.



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.

St John's Parish is committed to fostering the dignity, encouragement and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment.

8TH / 9TH AUGUST 2020, 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

A PRAYER FOR OUR UNCERTAIN TIMES:

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health and making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

And during this time when we may not be able to physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

Written by Rev. Dr. William J Barber II

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

PARISH PRIEST Fr Joel Peart
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
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: pol.org.au/heidelberg
Facebook.com/
stjohnheidelberg
Instagram.com/
stjohn.heidelberg

OFFICE HOURS:
Tues—Fri 9:30am to 2:30pm
MASS TIMES: No public masses at this time

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):
By appointment

WEDDINGS: By appointment
**FIRST RECONCILIATION,
FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:**

Parish Secretary (9457 1066)
LEGION OF MARY: Not meeting at this time

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 PRIMARY
Maureen Stella (Principal)
55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
t: 9459 2963;
office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

HALL HIRE:
Contact parish office during hours.

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.*

KEEP HOPE ALIVE: As time passes and we are kept apart longer, we are unable to nourish each other with the human touch necessary for our wholeness and well-being. We so often have taken for granted the smiling faces, shining eyes, kisses and hugs that keep us alive and connected. We are also kept from celebrating together the Eucharist, our great gift. So for now we pray, and hold each in our hearts and invisible arms, knowing we are all held in the heart of our loving God. We will come out the other side of this richer, stronger, more loving and more grateful for our many gifts. Keep hope alive and trust we will see the Light shine once again in every heart and eye... stronger than before. God is near.

PRAYER TO MARY: O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES: If you or a loved one are celebrating a significant birthday (18th, 21st, 30th, 40th...) or a wedding anniversary please let us know at the parish office (Heidelberg@cam.org.au) so we can celebrate and pray for you as a community.

NEW SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUIRED: We are looking for a new member to continue the important work of Moira di Cesare who has stepped down after four years on the committee and to help us ensure our parish remains a place where all are included and can prosper. If interested, please contact Fr Joel at the Parish House or Michelle on 0499 891 101.

EYRIE ADVERTISEMENT SPACE: We would like to thank our past and present sponsors of the Eyrie Magazine for their generous contributions in assisting us to print such a great colour magazine for our Parish.

We understand that it is a hard time for some businesses and we have a few spots vacant for our next editions in September and December. If you have a business and would like to advertise it in the magazine both on line and in hard copy we would be pleased to hear from you. Those in the know say.... this is THE TIME TO ADVERTISE

Email at heidelberg@cam.org.au or phone Michelle 0499 891 101 to discuss.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARIES: Terry Green. Peter Bortolin.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Colin Bolger, Giovanni Mirabella, Patrick Morel, Sandra Ashton, Sam Palmieri.

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



CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY APPEAL: This weekend is the CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Donations from our parish community will help CatholicCare to support the most vulnerable people in our community.

Please donate to CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help break barriers to social inclusion and strengthen families and communities to live life to the full.

You can donate online at www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal or call (03) 9287 5513.

All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible

PARISH OFFICE NEW WORKING HOURS: The Parish office will be closed on Mondays instead of Wednesdays. So herein after the parish office will function between Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am to 2:30pm.

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS: Thank you to all who have continued to support the parish through this time. You can also give your contribution by using the link on the parish web site (bottom left) or by using our parish bank account details are Account name: St John's Catholic Parish, BSB: 633 000 Account Number: 138400957. Please indicate purpose of donation in the comments sections. Thanks.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL: Every day at Vinnies, we see that ordinary people are able to make an extraordinary difference in their local communities. We are inspired by the joy of the gospels and our Catholic social teachings to do things that matter. The spirit to feed, heal, shelter, nurture, and inspire – the power to change lives – is in everyone. As we this winter are in the shadow of coronavirus, your commitment to helping those experiencing disadvantage, poverty, loneliness and homelessness is still very much needed and appreciated.

There will be no cash collection for this appeal this year, as there are currently no (or limited) Church Masses. You can donate by calling 13 18 12 or by visiting vinnies.org.au. You can also drop off your donations at the parish office or, outside office hours, by putting them clearly marked, in the chute at the parish office. We will forward these donations to Vinnies. Donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible.

You are also welcome to drop off non-perishable foods for our deliveries of hampers at the parish office during office hours between Tuesdays and Fridays, from 9:30am to 2:30pm. Thank you for your generosity.

LET'S GET TOGETHER: During this very challenging time where we are no longer able to gather together as community, I invite you to participate in a weekly Conversation Hour during which we will explore life as it is today and anything else you would like to share or discuss, with a cuppa and snack. As well, while at home we have plenty of time to watch our favourite TV shows and movies. The suggestion is that each month or fortnight we watch the same movie on Iview then gather to share our thoughts and reactions. Both these activities would be on Zoom, a digital way of being able to gather as a group, to talk and see each other face to face.....a way of gathering as community. For further information and/or to express your interest in joining one or both of these groups please contact the Parish House on 9457 1066 or Jan on 0423478504.

"WALKING ON THE SEA WITH JESUS"

Jesus sends his disciples off to cross the lake by boat, while he disperses the crowd.

When eventually he rejoins the disciples, now battling with a headwind and heavy seas, he does so by walking on the sea.

In biblical imagery to tread down water out of control is something only God can do (Ps 77:19; Job 9:8; Isa 43:16). Jesus' reassurance to the terrified disciples, "It is I; fear not", echoes the revelation of God to Moses at the Burning Bush (Exod 3:14).

What prompts Peter's desire to come to Jesus across the sea? Love or bravado? Perhaps a mixture of both—but also, surely, faith. Faith enables him to trample for a time the forces of destruction. But when he looks away from his Lord, to focus instead upon the wind and sea, doubt creeps in, and with doubt the gravest danger.

Peter 'models' the mixture of faith and doubt to which all believers are prone. Jesus' gentle rebuke, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?', applies to all. We can take our eyes off him and begin to falter.

We can also make our own Peter's cry for rescue and feel, as he felt, the Lord's strong hand reaching out to raise us up.

The whole episode foreshadows the situation of the Church down the ages: struggling against forces that threaten to engulf it, while keenly sensing the physical absence of its Lord. But the Lord is not absent: he is "with us" ("Emmanuel": 1:17; 28:19) to the end of time.

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ