



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.

Central to the mission of St John's Parish is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe and supportive environment in which to flourish.

16TH / 17TH JANUARY 2021

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

Dear brothers and sisters,

I sincerely hope the new year has begun well for you. We celebrated the feast of the baptism of the Lord last Sunday which marked the beginning of Our Lord's ministry to proclaim the kingdom of God and preach the Good News. It seems to have kicked off things here at St John's too: though it's only early January there has been much going on about the place which is great, albeit a little daunting!

In this bulletin I want to convey a message we received during the week from the Archdiocesan Chancellor Annie Carrett, on behalf of the Archbishop. It would seem there has been in a number of parishes some issues around the wearing and not wearing of face masks inside churches. I quote part of the letter here:

"These situations will be challenging for your parish communities as you work to respect the sensitivities and concerns of those who present with, and those who present without, face coverings. We should remain mindful of the distress and confusion that may arise as people question why there are particular individuals indoors without face coverings. Whilst it is not for people to know an individual's private reasons for exemptions, it may be something that could be respectfully and pastorally noted in a general manner at the beginning of any gathering."

It goes without saying that whilst living in this state, you have an obligation to follow the civil laws of the state, and there are currently laws in place here regarding the obligation to wear a face mask in certain contexts. But one is not *compelled* to wear a mask, as there are a number of lawful reasons why you might not wear one. Respecting the rights and privacy of all individuals in society is also something we should uphold, and so Annie rightly points out that it is not for anyone to question the particular reason or reasons why someone is not wearing a mask in our churches.

In addition to my encouragement for us all to be law-abiding citizens, I exhort all of us to uphold an aspect of the law of charity in your lives, which strives to assume good intentions on other's part. In practice, this would mean that if someone cuts you off in traffic, it's because they didn't see you and made an innocent mistake, not because they intensely dislike you and want to make your day that little bit worse. Likewise, if you see someone not wearing a mask at Woolworths, you shouldn't assume it's because they have scant regard for the safety and wellbeing of others, but because they have a just and lawful reason for doing so. Living life like this will save you a great deal of irritation and unrest I assure you.

As I understand it, the laws around this issue are changing again: let's hope this is forever a moot point. Regardless of what that future brings, I'd like us all to strive to make our church not a place of accusations and angst, but a place where people can feel at peace and are able to pray in a world that needs much of it at the moment.

With every blessing,

Fr Joel.

PARISH PRIEST Fr Joel Peart
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PASTORAL PASTORAL COUNCIL
CHAIR: Michelle Robertson
COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Domenica Ashworth;
Timothy Boyle
Margaret Bradley
Moiria 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
OFFICE HOURS:
Tues—Fri 9:30am to 2:30pm
MASS TIMES: Tues to Sat: 9am
(9:15am from the 2nd of Feb) &
Sat Vigil 6pm, Sun: 8:30am, &
10:30am. (Sunday 5pm mass
recommences on 7th Feb)
RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):
by appointment, Sat 9:30-10am
WEDDINGS: By appointment
FIRST RECONCILIATION,
FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:
Parish Secretary (9457 1066)
LEGION OF MARY, PARISH PILGRIM
STATUE OF MARY: Statue not in
circulation until further notice.
mob Sue 0449260206. Weekly
meeting Wed 10:30am at
Francis Xavier Meeting room,
Parish House.
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.*

In the Gospel the transfer of John's disciples to Jesus occurs in a scene that is at once very human and very divine. At every point a deeper meaning lurks beneath the surface. Sensing the two disciples following him, Jesus turns and asks them, 'What are you looking for?' In the circumstances, the question is natural but it is in effect the question that everyone desiring progress in the life of the spirit must constantly put to themselves: 'What am I really looking for? What are my deepest desires?' A vocation will not succeed unless and until it is seen to respond to a yearning in the depths of one's being.

The disciples are also asking more than they know when they say, 'Rabbi, ... where are you staying?' On the obvious level, Jesus is presumably 'staying' in some makeshift shelter, along with all the other people who have come to John for baptism. The word translated 'stay' (Greek menein) has, in this gospel, a far more profound meaning. As Son of God, Jesus 'stays' or 'dwells' eternally with the Father. As Word incarnate he has also 'pitched his tent among us', come to 'stay' with us so that God's power and presence ('glory'), once remotely and terrifyingly revealed to Israel on Sinai, might appear in human 'flesh' – in the life-giving words and actions of Jesus.

Jesus' response, 'Come and see', is then at one level a simple invitation to spend the day with him. In the deeper meaning of the gospel it is an invitation to a life-long 'contemplation' of God in the human life of Jesus. The whole sacramentality of the Fourth Gospel is here unveiled: the disclosure, to the eyes of faith, of God's presence and power in the human Jesus. To 'stay' with Jesus in this way is to come to share his eternal and life-giving 'staying' with the Father, a sharing in God's own eternal life.

In the continuation of the reading, one of the disciples (Andrew) shares his discovery with his brother Simon. The latter receives his own call from Jesus and, with it, a new name ('Rock' ['Peter']) indicative of the role he is to play

Scripture Commentary by Brendan Byrne SJ

LIVING THE GOSPEL – VOCATION

These days, the word 'vocation' seems to be applied to whatever job someone happens to find themselves in. More traditionally, the word carries with it a sense of undertaking work that has a deliberate purpose about it and that is outwardly focused. Usually, there is a sense that there is 'importance' to the work and that it is linked to God's dream for the world. The Church has tended to use vocation in reference to religious life. The word comes from the Latin, vocare, meaning call or name. Realising to what it is we are called can be one of the great challenges of life.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Valentina Bezzan.

THE SICK: Mary Teresa Wright, James Artinopoulos, Philomena Misale and Brett Ralph, Elizabeth Finn, Pauline Hewatt, Giovanni Mirabella.

ANNIVERSARIES: Peg and Con Power, Rita Nathan, Arthur Cargas.

*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.*

16 Jan / 17Jan	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Pamela Smith	Jan Mc Caffrey	Robyn Laurie	-
2 nd Reader	Adrian Daly	Karen Frost	Bob Dowling	-
Communion	Yannick Jonas	Margaret Bradley	Mary Furlan	-
23 Jan / 24 Jan	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Leela Cherubim	Wendy Hernandez	Elizabeth Williamson	-
2 nd Reader	Peter Penson	Claire Newsome	Margaret Andrews	-
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Barbara Barnes	Ann Domaingue	-

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN ST JOHN'S PARISH MAGAZINE: The Eyrie comes out quarterly and reaches all school families and parishioners on line as well as glossy hard copies. Single Advertisements \$75 per issue or advertise in each of our 4 issues for only \$200 per year. Phone Michelle on 0499891101 or email parish office: heidelberg@cam.org.au

ORGAN RECITAL: By Thomas Heywood on Friday 5th February, 2021, 6.00pm-7.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. Music by Bach, Elgar, Verdi, Grieg, Tchaikovsky, Guilmant, Cocker & Mulet. Tickets \$25. Children under 15 free. Bookings: www.trybooking.com/ BNSIT

TAP AND GIVE: thank you to parishioners and visitors who are using our "Tap and Give" to contribute to our weekly collections. Each time you tap your card, you donate \$10 to the parish. Two thirds of this goes to the parish collection and a third to the presbytery collection. Thanks.

ENVELOPE THANKSGIVING CONTRIBUTIONS: Parishioners who contribute through envelopes, the instalment of envelopes which started from January 2021 are available at the parish office. Please let us know if you want them posted to you by calling the parish office on 9457 1066 or email at heidelberg@com.org.au or it can be collected from the parish office during office hours. Thank you to all who have continued to support the parish through this time.

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.

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.

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES: As of Tuesday February 2nd the morning mass time (Tuesday to Saturday) will revert back to the usual time of 9.15a.m. Sunday 5.00p.m. mass will recommence on February 7th.

GEMS (GREGARIOUS ENERGETIC MEMBERS OF ST JOHN'S): A parish group for the more mature members of St John's 50+ We meet weekly on a Tuesday from 10.00 -12.00 for games, chatting, morning tea and outings. We are delighted to let you know that we are able to gather again this year. Our first gathering will be on Tuesday, February 2nd, in the Francis Xavier Meeting Room. Please enter at the back of the parish house. Present members and new members are most welcome. Transport available. Elizabeth 0447195553.

ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: On Monday 18th January we will recommence our regular Monday morning walks leaving from outside the Church in Yarra Street at 9.30am. To register please contact Jan on 0423478504.

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY MASSES: At each Sunday Mass volunteers are needed to go on rosters, to support parishioners in entering their information into the QR system, to be collectors (four are needed for each Mass), clean the seats after each Mass. Any help will be very much appreciated - we are all in this together. To volunteer please contact during office hours Tuesday to Friday, 9:30am to 2:30pm the Parish office on 94571066 or email at heidelberg@cam.org.au

CONSTRUCTION WORKS: As you may have noticed, there are some fairly significant works going on around St John's church and in the school grounds. Recently, much of the carpark as well as the entrance to the toilet and parish hall has been inaccessible. We are sorry for the inconvenience it has caused. Thankfully, work is progressing well, so the new walkway and landscaping should be complete before the beginning of the school year. A makeshift path will be put in place before this weekend so that parishioners have access to the toilet, but do exercise due care and offer assistance if needed to those less sure of foot. Both Maureen our principal and I appreciate your patience and understanding on this.

...Fr Joel

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 3:3-10.19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am'. Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 39:2. 4. 7-10

RESPONSE: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord.
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

R./

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

R./

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

R./

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

R./

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you since you have received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:35-42

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

