



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street

HEIDELBERG



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH
& PRIMARY SCHOOL

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.

PARISH PRIEST Fr Joel Peart
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris
PASTORAL PASTORAL COUNCIL
CHAIR: Michelle Robertson
COUNCIL MEMBERS:
 Domenica Ashworth;
 Timothy Boyle
 Margaret Bradley
 Moira Di Cesare
 Karen Frost
 Russell Lew-Kee
SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:
 Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)
PASTORAL WORKER:
 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: 9:15am &
 Sat Vigil 6pm, Sun: 8:30am, &
 10:30am & Sunday 5pm.
RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):
 by appointment, Sat 9:30-10am
WEDDINGS: By appointment
FIRST RECONCILIATION,
FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:
 Parish Secretary (9457 1066)
LEGION OF MARY, Weekly meeting
 Wed. 10.30am at Francis Xavier
 Meeting room, Parish House.
 Pilgrim statue of Mary:, Contact
 Sue 0449260206
ST JOHN'S WALKING GROUP: regular
 Monday morning walks leaving from
 outside the Church in Yarra Street at
 9.30am. To register please contact
 Jan on 0423478504.
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 office
 hours.

20TH/21ST FEBRUARY 2021, FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

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.*

Dear brothers and sisters,

I'm probably out of step with most on this one, but I'm actually a fan of Nick Kyrgios. As far as ability goes, it's undeniable he is a blinding talent. A huge serve and forehand, he also possesses unbelievable touch around the court when he needs it. He famously knocked off Rafael Nadal as a teenage wild card at Wimbledon back in 2014, which had him marked as the next great thing in Australian tennis. It might be an understatement to say he hasn't fulfilled his potential, but at the age of 25 there is certainly enough time to prove those people wrong.

There would, however, seem to be a fair number of people who would happily see that talent squandered. It may not be a surprise that at one stage he was in line to be the most hated athlete in the world, according to one international sporting magazine poll. He does provoke and exasperate on a number of levels, but I think his approach to the game is something that should be given more credit than it does.

On the surface, it's nice to see someone with a bit of character and personality – good or bad – and putting it on display. Given the game of tennis is played in the one confined area for anywhere between 2 and 5 hours, it doesn't hurt to inject a little drama into the equation to carry things along. Some might consider the antics of Nick Kyrgios as unsportsmanlike and disrespectful, but it is entertaining. Which, let's not forget, is what professional sport is supposed to be.

On a deeper level, Kyrgios' attitude towards tennis - both his own game and the game more generally - seems highly proportionate. In an interview with the *New York Times* back in 2017 he said, "I like going out on the practice court and training with my mates. But I don't know about fully engaging and giving everything to it. It's just a game. It's just a sport. It's such a small part of my life."

In his book *Orthodoxy*, Catholic theologian and philosopher G.K. Chesterton wrote, "Angels can fly because they can take themselves lightly". For me, there seems to be an oversupply of professional athletes who take themselves far too seriously. Though Kyrgios is often judged as someone arrogant, irreverent, immature and other things we might consider vice, I'd say that when it comes to his approach to sport, he is endowed with more wisdom than those who care to criticise him.

With peace,
Fr Joel.

20 Feb / 21 Feb	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Adrian Daly	Karen Frost	Michelle Robertson	TBA
2 nd Reader	Peter Penson	Pietro Sciotto	Joanne Martinez	TBA
Communion	Donna Richardson	TBA	Mary Furlan	TBA
27 Feb / 28 Feb	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5:00pm
1st Reader	Pamela Smith	Jan Mc Caffrey	Robyn Laurie	TBA
2 nd Reader	Leela Cherubim	Marguerite Ryan	Margaret Andrews	TBA
Communion	Marco Di Cesare	Jerzy Kmita	Ann Domaingue	TBA

YEAR 6, 2020 CONFIRMATION: I invite all parishioners to pray on this 1st Sunday of Lent for those who by anointing with the Sacred Chrism, will be confirmed this weekend here at St John's. The candidates are members of the class of 2020 who were unable to receive the sacrament last year. We thank those who have prepared them and we ask the Holy Spirit fill them with his gifts, that they may be faithful witnesses to Christ in the world. God bless them and their families....*Fr Joel*

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: St John's Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 4th at 7.30p.m.** in the Francis Xavier Meeting Room. In line with Co-vid regulations we ask that you register your intended attendance on the sheet at the back of the church.

SACRAMENT PROGRAMME FOR THOSE STUDENTS NOT ATTENDING ST JOHN'S SCHOOL: Applications are now open for the following: Reconciliation - Year 3, 2021, Eucharist - Year 4, 2021, Confirmation - Year 6, 2021. Please contact Elizabeth, elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au for an application form or to make an inquiry. Application close on Friday February 26th.

GEMS (GREGARIOUS ENERGETIC MEMBERS OF ST JOHN'S): Tuesday February 23rd 11.00a.m. Morning Tea at **Tea Society'** 97 Upper Heidelberg Rd, Ivanhoe Join us for tea/coffee, scones jam and cream or perhaps passionfruit sponge. Bookings essential. Elizabeth 0447195553

ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY DINNER: Our first community social gathering this year will be held at the Old England Hotel on Friday, March, 19th at 6.30p.m. Consider joining with other parishioners for an enjoyable night. Please register your intended attendance on the sheet at the back of the church.

Parking in Yarra Street: Just to let you know that we have heard of three parishioners who, in the past week (weekday), have been booked by the parking inspectors in Yarra Street. Please be aware that it is a two minute drop off zone until **9:30am**. During school days

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fridays of Lent at **6 pm**.

SIMPLY JESUS, REFLECT. RENEW. RECOMMIT: This Lent, across our archdiocese, we are being invited to reflect on the way and person of Jesus, renew ourselves in his love, and recommit ourselves to the path of discipleship. After a year where the regular structures that help us live a life of faith and grow in our relationship with Jesus were largely absent, we are encouraged to use Lent to reflect more deeply on our relationship with Jesus and be more attentive to nurturing its growth. To aid us in this, a Way of the Cross resource has been developed incorporating images, Scripture, music, reflection and prayer. The resource provides a meaningful way into the powerful story of Jesus' Passion, inviting a new or renewed intimacy with him. Along with other resources, it can be accessed at: www.melbournecatholic.org/lent2021.org/lent202

PROJECT COMPASSION: Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access to emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family. Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413 413.

SOCIAL JUSTICE: In February last year we formed a Social Justice Group but sadly owing to COVID19 we could only meet twice. All interested in exploring and acting on the Social Justice needs of our parish are invited to meet on Wednesday 24th February at 7pm in the Francis Xavier meeting room. If you are interested please contact Jan on 0423 478 504.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Danica Galante.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Kazik Radzikowski, John Filippi, William Foote, Mary Foote.

*Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by **Thursday morning** latest. Thank you.*

Hymns For Mass

ENTRANCE : HOSEA (COME BACK TO ME)

Come back to me with all your heart.
Don't let fear keep us apart.
Trees do bend, 'though straight and tall;
So must we to others' call.
Long have I waited for your coming home to me
And living deeply our new life.

The wilderness will lead you
To your heart where I will speak
Integrity and justice with tenderness you shall know.
Long have I waited for your coming home to me
And living deeply our new life.

You shall sleep secure with peace;
Faithfulness will be your joy.
Long have I waited for your coming home to me
And living deeply our new life.

COMMUNION : JESUS COME TO US

Refrain:

Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.
Jesus, be with us, for we need you.

Lord we come before you, Listen to our prayer.
Fill us all with hope, and your love. R.

Lord, we come to praise you
for your faithfulness through the night.
You will be with us, this we know. R.

Lord, you give us wonders, your glory to all.
We believe in you, come to us. R.

RECESSIONAL: PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Praise him, Praise him,
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favor
To his children in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him, Praise him,
Glorious in his faithfulness!

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his
only Son, our Lord,
*(At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin
Mary, all bow)*
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin
Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and
was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again
from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.
Amen.

Confetior

I confess to almighty God and to you,
my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
(And, striking their breast, they say:)
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
(Then they continue:)
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints, and you,
my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

A Prayer to Saint Joseph

*Glorious Saint Joseph, whose power
makes the impossible possible, come
to my aid in these times of anguish
and difficulty.*

*Take under your protection the
serious and troubling situations that I
commend to you, that they may have
a happy outcome.*

*My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be
said that I invoked you in vain and since you can do
everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your
goodness is as great as your power
Amen.*



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING

Genesis 9:8-15

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 24:4-9.

RESPONSE: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

R./

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.

In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

R./

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.

R./

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

CONFRONTING EVIL

In Lent the Church invites us to confront and bring before God's mercy all those aspects of our lives that separate us from God and stunt our growth in the ways of the Spirit. To encourage us in this task the Church sets before us on the opening Sunday of Lent each year Jesus' personal confrontation with the forces of evil. He has gone before us on this Lenten journey; he will remain our companion on the way.

Mark's sparse account of the Temptation actually contains a very great deal. Jesus has emerged from his baptism clad with the Spirit, the power of God's love, that is to energise his mission. Now that same Spirit begins this role by "driving" him into the wilderness, the habitat of wild animals ("the beasts") as well as evil spirits. In this dangerous situation, bereft of human comfort and resources, Jesus personally exposes himself to the onslaught of Satan, before taking up his mission to reclaim human beings from demonic control, that is, not only from the relatively rare cases of actual demonic possession but from all the captivities of body and soul that alienate us from God and our own true humanity.

Jesus is not alone in the struggle. Divine care surrounds him in the shape of the ministering angels. Emerging victorious from his personal conflict with evil, Jesus announces the "good news" of the imminent displacement of Satan's rule by the rule or "kingdom" of God.

Each Lent summons us to a new alignment with this reality through deeper conversion ("Repent!") and faith.

Fr Brendan Byrnes SJ