



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.

PARISH PRIEST Fr Joel Peart
PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:
Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:
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):
Sat 9:45-10:30am & 5:30-6pm

WEDDINGS: By appointment

**FIRST RECONCILIATION,
FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:**
Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

LEGION OF MARY: Tue 7:30pm
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

5TH/6TH JUNE, BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST, YR 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.

THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT

The Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ allows for a more sustained reflection upon the meaning Christ impressed upon the Eucharist than is possible on Holy Thursday. Take, for instance, the words Jesus pronounces over the cup, "This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many". "Blood of the covenant" alludes to the ritual that sealed the covenant God made with Israel. Moses read out to the people the Torah (Law) he had received from God on Mount Sinai. Following their consent to abide by all its commandments, he sprinkled them with blood from a sacrificial animal, saying "This is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you." The ritual sealed and confirmed Israel's entrance into covenant relationship with God and into all the blessings guaranteed to flow from it.

By describing the contents of the Eucharistic cup as "blood of the covenant" Christ indicated that the shedding of his blood on Calvary the following day would have the same symbolic effect as the ancient rite on Sinai. It would be the inauguration of a "new covenant" ratified in his blood. The Eucharist is the means whereby believers of subsequent generations come under the scope of that new covenant and receive the blessings of salvation flowing from it. We drink from the cup as "the many" for whom Christ's blood was "poured out" in sacrificial love. We commit ourselves to live by the values that he displayed in life and death.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj

CHURCH AND PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE: As a result of the Government directives the Church and parish office are closed and all ceremonies cancelled until further advice from them. You can contact us by email at heidelberg@cam.org.au

Let us find some time during this coming week for a fervent prayer or an on line Mass for those being most deeply affected - medically, socially, financially, mentally by the current lock down. It will be a valuable act of genuine care and love.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

PRAYER FOR THE SICK: Nancy Kennedy, Jacob Draper, Mary Teresa Wright, James Artinopoulos, Philomena Misale and Brett Ralph, Elizabeth Finn, Pauline Hewatt, Giovanni Mirabella.

*Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by **Thursday***

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

He fed them with the finest wheat
and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

FIRST READING

Exodus 24:3-8

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 115:12-13. 15-18.

RESPONSE: I will take the cup of salvation,
and call on the name of the Lord..

How can I repay the Lord
for his goodness to me?
The cup of salvation I will raise;
I will call on the Lord's name.

R./

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.

R./

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name.
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people.

R./

SECOND READING

Hebrews 9:11-15

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self

from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.' After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.



Art and Reflection by Jenny Close:

One of the most wonderful things about Eucharist is that bread and wine (the ordinary fruits of the earth and the work of human hands) are understood to have many layers of meaning. Their relationship to the earth is not broken at the consecration – on the contrary the earthiness of the elements is valorised and blessed.