



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.

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
hours.

30TH/31ST OCTOBER 2021, THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TWIN COMMANDMENT OF LOVE

Scribes are usually hostile figures in the Gospels but the scribe who questions Jesus seems to be a genuine enquirer. His question—which commandment of the Torah is the “first”?—was an item of discussion in the Jewish world of Jesus’ time. Jesus first gives a conventional response, quoting the commandment recited by Jews each day in the Shema prayer (Deut 6:5).

He then goes further, laying alongside the “first” commandment a “second” taken from Lev 19:18: “to love one’s neighbour as oneself”. The combination seems to have been something distinctive of Jesus—though Jewish parallels are not lacking from a later period.

Loving one’s neighbour “as oneself” may not seem all that demanding. One only has to put the neighbour’s interests on an equal level with one’s own, implying by the same token a healthy valuing of oneself.

But on closer inspection it is really asking an act of the imagination in high degree. It requires asking myself: “What do I really want from another person?—understanding, tolerance, respect, loyalty, compassion?”—then to ensure that all my actions in regard to that person enact, rather than contradict, such qualities.

There is an attractive moment of mutual affirmation at the end. The Jewish legal expert acknowledges that Jesus’ teaching conforms to the claim of Israel’s prophets that the rituals of sacrifice, such as those practiced in the Temple, are worthless unless accompanied by justice and love. This renders the scribe “not far from the kingdom of God” in the sense that the onset of the kingdom is rendering such rituals obsolete through the twin commandment of love.

Fr Brendan Byrne

ALL SOUL'S DAY 2ND NOVEMBER: Additional mass at 7pm. Kindly book in by emailing heidelberg@cam.org.au or call parish office on 9457 1066, 2nd November between 9:30am –2:30pm. In the month of November we remember our loved ones who have died. November Mass envelopes are available in the porch of the church. Envelopes can be dropped off at the parish office, sacristy or in the Sunday collections.

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PARTNER-IN-COMMUNITY

FUNDRAISER: Together with Alpine Valleys Fine Foods are bringing delicious handmade Christmas treats from Regional Victoria. Gluten-free plum puddings and Christmas cakes also available. Orders will be available for pick up at the school office, or can be delivered locally from 1 December. Orders close 16 November at <https://st-johns-pic.square.site>



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY FR TED

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51.

Response: I love you Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes.

R./

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be to the God that saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown love for his anointed.

R./

SECOND READING

Hebrews 7:23-28

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

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 here, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

COVID MARSHALS REQUIRED: Though I know it is not exactly a highly sought-after position, we are in real need of volunteers to help with COVID Marshalling at our masses. We can't leave it to dear Elizabeth all alone! We don't need you to be Judge Roy Bean, just simply stand out the front and say hello to people with a smile. You may need to help parishioners sign in if they request your assistance. If there are ever any concerns or questions, feel free to bring them to my attention at any stage before mass begins. With thanks, Fr Joel.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Aileen Powell, Jerzy Baczkowicz.

ANNIVERSARY: Annelise Peyton.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: our Year 12 students who will be sitting for their VCE exams. As a community we journey with you in prayer.

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