



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 9:30am

& 10:30am

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: Weekly meeting

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 office hours.

4TH/5TH DECEMBER 2021, SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YR C

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.*

A SEASON OF PREPARATION

The message proclaimed throughout Advent is this: prepare your hearts, for our God is sending a Savior, Emmanuel, a name which means, God-with-us.

Put simply, if we are unprepared for the coming of Christ we risk forfeiting nothing less than eternal life. The gift of life in Christ is never forced on us, though, but lovingly offered by God, with a hope that those who truly desire, even if ever so slightly, shall find all that satisfies the restless heart seeking for something beyond itself.

What must we avoid in order to recognize truly the signs that accompany the coming of the Lord? We are to counter such things as indifference, the temptation to give up along the way, to fall asleep spiritually, or to just drift through life without fervour or zeal for the things of God.

How easy it is to be distracted by what is of little or no consequence and be weighed down with troubles, without hope or trust in the God who made us to know, love and serve him. Of course God knows our shortcomings and struggles and is eager to bestow grace for us to bear our burdens, even joyfully, in the footsteps of our Lord who has shown us the way we should walk: with faith, hope and love always in our hearts, since we belong wholly to God and can accomplish all things because of that.

But there is one thing that can really block the action of God in our lives: an attitude of resistance or passivity, not caring, doing nothing when we could be up and doing much to seek the face of God, walking in the way of joyful abandonment to Divine Providence.

In this new Advent season, God is ready to give us a fresh vision and the grace we need to lose self and find God. God wants to work in and through us for the greater honour and glory of God. That is why God expects great things from us, which are in fact possible by the grace of God at work in our lives.

May the Lord strengthen us to overcome temptation, and to persevere in our life of prayer and service in the Church. God is always ready and willing to fill us with grace, strength and power.

This is an adaptation of an Advent Homily given by a priest of the Monastery of Christ in the Desert, a Benedictine Community in the state of New Mexico, USA.

Morning Tea, 5th December : Rosa, Barbara, Maureen

MORNING TEA: is back again after 10:30am Mass this Sunday 5th December. All welcome.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL COLLECTION: Next weekend, 11th /12th December, at all Masses. Thank you for your continuing support towards the St John's Vinnies Christmas appeal.

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL: Many thanks for your generous response to the Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal last weekend. The total donated was \$861.55.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) Before Christmas: the Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated at our parish Wednesday 22nd December at 7:30pm. We gather to pray and prepare ourselves as a community and then have time for individual reconciliation.

GEMS (50+): Our next gathering will be in the Francis Xavier Parish Meeting Room on Tuesday December 7th at 10.00a.m. Join us for board games, conversation and morning tea. All welcome. All attendees are required to be double vaccinated.

LOOKING FORWARD, GEMS 50+: Christmas Melodies at Hamer Hall, Victoria Arts Centre David Hobson, Daisy Valerio and Luke Haberecht accompanied by the Salvation Army Melbourne Staff Band. Monday December 13th. Leave St John's at 10.00 by bus to Victoria Arts Centre. Concert 11.00 - 12.00. Arrive back at St John's at 1.00 to share a 'Christmas' luncheon in Francis Xavier Meeting Room. Cost \$20. Bookings essential: Elizabeth 0447195553.

FESTIVE MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS: Presented by St Patrick's Cathedral & Cathedral Brass. On Wednesday 15th December, 7-8pm. Conductor Brett Kelly, Organist Anthony Halliday. For program details, bookings & enquiries at www.trybooking.com/BVJPD Tickets \$25 available at the door. Children under 15 free.

STEWARDSHIP (THANKSGIVING) ENVELOPES: The January to April instalment of Stewardship Envelopes is ready to be picked up from the porch of the church. Envelopes are in alphabetical order. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

MASS FOR HEALING AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Tuesday December 7th, 11.00a.m. at St Pius X Parish Church, 419 Waterdale Road, West Heidelberg.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE:

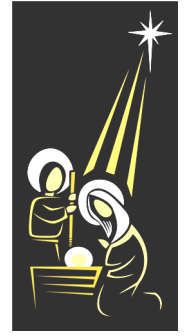
Friday, 24th December,
Mass at 6:00pm, 9pm

MIDNIGHT MASS:

starting at 11:30pm with Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY:

Saturday, 25th December
Masses at 8:30am, 9:30am
& 10:30am



BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

Call 9457 1066, Tuesday to Friday 9:30am– 2:30pm
or email Heidelberg@cam.org.au

MASS GUIDELINES

- Current Covid Regulations allow for 50 people in St John's Church for mass. These masses are Vaccinated Status Unknown. Booking not required.
- Must check in using QR Code through the Service Victoria app upon arrival.
- Do not attend if you are unwell or awaiting a COVID-19 test verification (even without presenting symptoms) or closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.
- Masks are optional.
- Please remember to sanitize the pew before you leave. Thank you.

QR SCAN CHURCH ATTENDANCE



ARCHDIOCESE STREAMING OF MASS: The daily 1pm is livestreamed from St Patrick's Cathedral at <https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb>

On Sundays, the 11am Mass is livestreamed, televised and broadcast on community channel C31 (channel 44 on digital Television).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Alliannah Laguesma, Rebekkah Hall, Ariana Aiello.

THE SICK: Sepfianto Arifin, Margaret Ryan, Aileen Powell, Jerzy Baczkowicz.

ANNIVERSARY: Peter Bortolin.

RECENTLY DECEASED: .

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

ENTRANCE : PREPARE YE, THE WAY OF THE LORD

Prepare ye, the way of the Lord
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord (Thrice)

COMMUNION: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy one is here
Come, bow before him now,
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found,
we stand on Holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy one is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.
He burns with Holy fire,
With splendor He is crowned
How awesome is the sight,
Our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him,
In faith receive from Him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.

RECESSIONAL : ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS

O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph
And sadness flee away

Dear Savior, haste!
Come, come to earth
and show your face; Dispel the night
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph
And sadness flee away.

O come, desired of Nations,
Whom priest and prophet long foretold
Come break the captive fetters,
Redeem the long-lost fold.

Dear Savior, haste!
Come, come to earth
and show your face; Dispel the night
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph
And sadness flee away.

CONFITEOR

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.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
(*At the words that follow, up to and including and
became man, all bow.*)
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin
Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING

Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'. Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125.

Response: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

R./

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad.

R./

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

R./

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

R./

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how

much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.



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.

KINDLY TAKE THE NEWSLETTER WITH YOU AFTER USING IT AT MASS. THANK YOU