



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.

11TH/12TH DECEMBER 2021, THIRD 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.*

Dear brothers and sisters,

You might recall from my article in the Eyrie a few months back that I was planning to establish a lawn in the back yard here at the presbytery. After some struggles with the weather turning things to mud over the winter and some fair procrastination on my part, I'm pleased to say we finally laid the new and certified Sir Walter Buffalo turf last week. It looks great, at least at the moment! Now we just have to make sure we keep the stuff alive.

You might also recall my learning about how important sunlight is to the health and quality of a good lawn. It's been a relief to see that at this time of year, the backyard gets several hours of full sunlight every day. With a good soak of water here and there, it should establish itself well in the coming weeks. With the rain we've been having though, the Good Lord is taking care of that job for me!

Big shout out needs to go to my brother-in-law Angus who - with the help of his Dingo digger - levelled out the yard, re-laid some drainage, ordered the top soil and lawn needed, as well as roll out the final product with a couple of extra hands. Landscaping is far from cheap these days but all we had to pay for was costs. A champion effort on his part. He's a carpenter by trade, and a good one at that. If you need any work done, do feel free to give him a call at **Angus Grigg Carpentry** on **0400 937 152**.

The journey was something of a lesson to me in humility. I was adamant early on that I wouldn't need any help with the project, but would manfully dig and level the yard out myself with nothing else but a mattock and rake and the sweat of my brow. If we did depend on that, the lawn would have been lucky to be finished before 2030. I was finally convinced to get the help I clearly needed and, surprise-surprise, within a week or so the job was done. As a priest, I am often exhorting others to be more generous and giving with their time and talents. It only stands to reason that every so often I need to be gracious enough to be the recipient of that charity and goodwill of others when the time comes.

With every blessing,

Fr Joel.

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

READERS AND MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES: If you are a reader or minister of communion and would like to minister at either one of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day masses please contact Elizabeth: elizabeth.williamson@cam.org.au

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 last gathering for the year is on Monday December 13th. We will reconvene on Tuesday February 8th, 2022.

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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE: St John's parish office will be closed from Wednesday, 22nd December to Friday, 31st December. For any urgent requests, please email: heidelberg@cam.org.au

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES: are available in the pews. Money contributed to the Christmas Offering supports our parish priest, sick and retired priests, priests in poorer parishes and the ministry of the archbishop. Thank you for your generosity. These envelopes can be placed in the weekly collection baskets.

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. Elizabeth 0447195553

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY MASSES: are needed to support parishioners in entering their information into the QR system and clean the seats after each Mass. 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

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

CHRISTMAS MASSES AT ST JOHN'S: I'm pleased to say that we will be having a total of 6 masses here at St John's for the solemnity of Christmas. There will be three vigil masses on the evening of the 24th at 6pm, 9pm as well as the traditional midnight mass. On Christmas morning we will have masses at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30am.

The 6pm vigil will be a mass for people who are happy to declare a fully vaccinated status. I invited our much loved former parish priest Fr Ted to say one of the masses for us over the feast and he's most happy to say that 6pm vigil mass. Many thanks to him.

For all other masses it will be important to book in, so as we can spread the numbers as evenly as possible. **To book in, please call Mary at our parish office on 9457 1066.** Please be understanding if you don't get the exact time you would like. Putting on the extra mass Christmas morning should help get a few more numbers there, to make holy this most sacred day.

Bless,
Fr Joel.

QR SCAN CHURCH ATTENDANCE



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Elsie Hazelman.

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

ANNIVERSARY: Keith Ashworth, Rita Foote, John & Catherine Smith, Joy & Fred Meacham, Ronald Berry, George O' Callaghan, Joan Anne Shanahan.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Mary Cutajar, Marie Mc Lean, Michael Goldie, Alan Abbot.

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

ENTRANCE : REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say, Rejoice!
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say, Rejoice!

COMMUNION: LOVE IS HIS WORD

Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with men, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
Love, only love, is his way.

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.

Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast,
Christ at his table, host to the twelve.
Love, only love, is his mark.

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.

Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
"This is my body, this is my blood",
Love, only love, is his sign.

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.

RECESSIONAL : GALILEE SONG

Deep within my heart, I feel voices whispering to me.
Words that I can't understand; meanings I can't
clearly hear!
Calling me to follow close, lest I leave myself behind!
Calling me to walk into evening shadows one more
time!

So I leave my boats behind!
Leave them on familiar shores!
Set my heart upon the deep!
Follow you again, my Lord! (rpt)

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

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of
Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he
has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of
Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious
warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew
you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for
you as on a day of festival.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125.

Response: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among
you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

R./

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name.

R./

Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds,

make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. R./

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I
repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your
tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very
near. There is no need to worry; but if there is
anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with
prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God,
which is so much greater than we can understand,
will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ
Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must
we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he
must share with the man who has none, and the one

with something to eat must do the same.' There were
tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these
said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to
them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers
asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must
we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No
extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the
people, who were beginning to think that John might
be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I
baptise you with water, but someone is coming,
someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am
not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise
you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is
in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather
the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a
fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were
many other things he said to exhort the people and
to announce the Good News to them.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



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*