



ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH
& PRIMARY SCHOOL

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH

52 Yarra Street
HEIDELBERG

Happy
Mother's Day



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 ASSOCIATE:

Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

PARISH OFFICE:

52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084

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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 & 5pm

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

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

WEDDING, BAPTISM, FIRST

RECONCILIATION, FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:

Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

LEGION OF MARY: Meet every

Wednesdays at 10.30am at parish

house in Xavier Room. All

Welcome. Fatima Statue

Enquires, Contact Sue

0449260206

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.

7TH / 8TH MAY 2022, FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, 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.*

HONOURING ALL WOMEN, BIOLOGICAL AND SPIRITUAL MOTHERS ALIKE

Each year during Mass on the second Sunday of May, in parishes across the country, priests mark the celebration of Mother's Day by asking all of the mothers in the church to rise to their feet as they read from the Book of Blessings. The occasion of this blessing is an all-too-rare public recognition of the tireless work done by mothers, as well as their willingness to give fully of themselves purely out of their love for their families. St. Oscar Romero called this sacrificial, life-giving love a "maternal martyrdom" to which each of us should strive. "To give your life does not only mean to be killed," St. Oscar said during a homily in 1977, just years before the Salvadoran archbishop was assassinated for his faith. "Giving your life, having the spirit of martyrdom, is to give in duty, in silence, in prayer, in the honest fulfilment of one's duty; in the silence of everyday life; giving life little by little? Yes, just as a mother gives."

But as many mothers proudly stand to receive the priest's blessing on Mother's Day, others remain still and seated — conflicted as to whether they deserve to stand shoulder to shoulder with the other moms, or unwilling to reveal publicly the loss they have suffered, or wondering whether they deserve to be called a mother at all. While Mother's Day is a celebration for many, for those who have suffered the tragic loss of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth or death after birth, it is yet another painful reminder of their broken hearts. The motherhood of these women, however, is undeniable.

Just as Mother's Day can be an occasion of grief to those who have lost a child, so, too, can it be for women who are unable to conceive. Their motherhood — a spiritual motherhood — has been entrusted to them by God, as Pope St. John Paul II wrote in *Mulieris Dignitatem*, his 1988 apostolic letter on the dignity and vocation of women. This spiritual motherhood can take on countless forms: From being a loving, nurturing aunt or godmother, to caring for friends and neighbours, to dedicating oneself to pray for the needs of others, the opportunities to express this spiritual motherhood are boundless. And while there may still be a longing for children of their own, knowing that God has entrusted every woman "by reason of their femininity" to the care of those around her can help to soothe that heartache. So as we offer our mothers a fitting and important tribute this Mother's Day, let us especially remember those who, for whatever reason, might be silently suffering on the inside. Let us ask Mary, the mother of us all, to be with them, offering them the peace and consolation that can be found through her son — the child born to the Virgin who was sent to save us.

'The Priest' Sunday Visitor Editorial Board: Gretchen R. Crowe, Scott P. Richert, Scott Warden, York Young

7/ 8 May	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5pm
Reader	Domenica Ashworth	John McGrath	Margaret Andrews	Mary Kotefski
14 / 15 May	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5pm
Reader	Pamela Smith	Marguerite Ryan	Elizabeth Williamson	Leela Cherubim

GEMS 50+: Tuesday May 10th outing to the Palace Cinema, Balwyn to see 'Downton Abbey: A New Era.' 10.00a.m. session. Bookings close Monday May 9th at 10.00a.m. Transport available. Elizabeth 0447195553.

FIRST COMMUNION: Over the next two Saturdays of May, our younger parishioners will be making their First Communion. Please keep these young people in your prayers.

REMEMBERING THOSE WE HAVE LOST: On Sunday 22nd May at 11am St Patrick's Cathedral, Archbishop Comensoli will celebrate a memorial mass for all those who have died during the COVID pandemic and could not be mourned properly due to pandemic restrictions. You are invited to submit the name(s) of those you would like remembered during this Mass by visiting the Holy Souls Chapel at St Patrick's Cathedral or submitting the names online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZKP7QF>

The names will be placed in a basket at the base of the altar, to be prayed for during all Masses over the weekend of 21-22 May.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY: Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis tells us: *There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.* Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

Pledge to Pray: The Vocations Office in Melbourne has partnered with some others in a project, 'Pledge to Pray' - an on-line platform for individuals to pledge prayers for vocations. It is based upon the idea of the 'Invisible Monastery'. I invite you to 'pledge a prayer' for vocations at www.pledgetoprayer.com.au this is a site dedicated to encouraging prayer for vocations in Australia.

ST JOHN'S SOCIAL CLUB: 10th May 2022 at St Francis Xavier Room, everyone welcome. Join us for cards, board games, chess, a chat or a coffee/tea. Each fortnight on Tuesday from 7 pm - 8.30 pm.



THIRD ANNUAL BIGGEST MORNING TEA AT ST JOHN'S—MAY 31ST

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea is one of Australia's most well known fundraising events and plays a vital role in raising money towards Cancer Council's work in research, education, prevention and support. As an independent, not-for-profit organisation, the Cancer Council play a leading role in reducing the impact of all cancers on all people. Here at St John's we are hosting a **BIGGEST MORNING TEA** in St John's Hall on Tuesday May 31st at 10.30a.m. Entrance \$5 (on the day). Enjoy a delicious morning tea, raffle, games, door and lucky seat prizes. At this stage we are looking for donations of goods towards door and raffle prizes. If you could help out in this way please leave items in the basket in the church foyer. Examples of items include sweets, chocolate, wine, champagne, tea, gourmet biscuits, pantry sauces, jam, pasta, movie tickets, department store gift voucher, or an idea of your own. Thank you to those who have already contributed.



PRAYER TO MARY

O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.

'Protectress of the Roman people,' you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Ellie Crawley.

THE SICK: Stanislaw Dabal, Aileen Powell, Patricia Wong, Michael Kemp, Judy Catlow, Gertruda Krzysik.

ANNIVERSARY: Peter Krzysik.

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

ENTRANCE : EASTER GLORY FILLS THE SKY

Easter glory fills the sky; alleluia;
Christ now lives, no more to die; alleluia;
Darkness has been put to flight, alleluia;
By the living Lord of light, alleluia!

COMMUNION: THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.
Over the mountains, the waters and byways, valleys
and highways he's waiting for me.
I want to go to meet him there,
to lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.

And while on the journey to where we are going, he
promised to be there to help us along.
And over the mountains we'll walk on together, to
know all the wonders he's given to me.
I want to go to meet him there,
to lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.

RECESSIONAL: EASTER SONG

My Lord he died for a kingdom
To redeem the hearts of men
Now my people don't you weep
He has risen from his sleep
he lives again alleluia
Sing alleluia, the Lord is risen
He is risen indeed alleluia!

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.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to
people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of
God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION: We proclaim your Death, O
Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come
again.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats. When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said: I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside. But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 99:1-3. 5.

Response: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy. **R./**

Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R./**

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age. **R./**

SECOND READING Revelation 7:9, 14-17

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through

the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

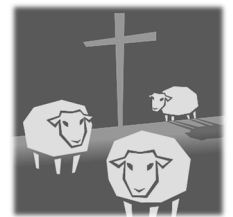
Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 10:27-30

Jesus said: 'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.'



UNDER THE CARE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

In last week's gospel we heard Jesus reinstate Simon Peter as chief shepherd of the flock. Today's gospel continues the image of members of the Christian community as "sheep" belonging to the flock of the risen Lord. The image is not so congenial for us today as it was in the Palestine of Jesus' time when shepherds and the sheep they guarded had a far more intimate relationship. We can pick up the essentials of what the image wants to say without pressing the details too far. As "sheep" belonging to the Lord's flock, we listen to the voice of the Shepherd, who is constantly addressing us in the Scriptures and the sacramental life of the Church. We attune our hearing to the sound of that voice and the message it imparts. Further, we are confident that the Good Shepherd has intimate knowledge of each one of us—knows our individual strengths and weaknesses, our capacities and liabilities. Confidence in his knowledge and love leads to trust and readiness to follow whenever and wherever our Shepherd calls. The image moves in a fresh direction when Jesus presents himself as the one who gives his sheep "eternal life", that is, a share in God's own eternal being and the communion of love that is the Trinity. Beginning here and now, this is something that will ensure that the flock will not be lost (from eternal life) or stolen from the Good Shepherd. Since he and the Father are one, our ultimate Shepherd is God.

Fr Brendan Byrne sj