



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 Vinh Nguyen

ASSISTANT PRIEST:

Fr. Kishore Reddy Gade Msfs

PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

ST JOHN'S PARISH OFFICE:

52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084
t: 94571066 & 70643906
e: heidelberg@cam.org.au
w: pol.org.au/heidelberg
Facebook.com/stjohnheidelberg

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday to Friday 9:30am to 2:30pm

MASS TIMES:

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday:
9:15am

Weekend: Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am & 5pm

ADORATION: After Friday morning
Mass with Benediction.

EXPOSITION

Wednesday 7.30pm

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Friday during Adoration, Sat 9:45 am
& 5:30pm.

**WEDDING, BAPTISM, FIRST
RECONCILIATION,**

FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION:
Parish Secretary (9457 1066)

ST JOHN'S HALL HIRE:

Contact parish office.

LEGION OF MARY: Meet every
Wednesdays at 10.30am at parish
house in the Francis Xavier Room. All
Welcome. Fatima Statue Enquires,
Contact Sue 0449260206

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

Elizabeth Whiting (Acting Principal)
55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
t: 9459 2963;
office@sjheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

15TH / 16TH JULY, FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

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 teaching of Jesus is grounded firmly in the Jewish world of the 1st Century. For most of his listeners, that world was an agricultural one and so the stories Jesus told were about the everyday realities of peoples' lives. He told stories about vineyards, wheat fields, building houses, planting seeds and reaping harvests. The imagery he used was drawn from the lived experience of those he taught. Jesus used a style of storytelling that was popular at the time: parable. A parable is a story with a moral or a lesson. A parable usually involves an extended metaphor and, at its heart, is teaching the listener about how to live or how to behave.

Another feature of parables is that they can be understood at different levels. At one level, there is the literal meaning of a parable – what it says is what it is about. In today's gospel, the parable of the sower can be read or heard as a literal story about sowing seed and the lesson one might take from it is to be careful where you throw the seed when sowing. At another level, parables have a metaphoric meaning. In this instance, Jesus actually explains the symbolism of the parable to his disciples. There is a further, interpretive level of a parable where a modern reader asks, 'What has that story got to say to me here and now?'

In his conversation with the disciples, Jesus makes clear that only some people are open to understanding the depth of the message contained within his parables. Some people will only ever hear the story and never hear the message. Mind you, he still has to explain the parable to the disciples! He has just chastised those who fail to understand and yet walks the disciples through the parable step by step!

The parable of the sower is as true for us today as it was in its original context. The word of the kingdom continues to fall on people who are at various stages of readiness to receive it. What Jesus suggests to his disciples – and to us – is that the 'good soil' can't always be predicted. Jesus doesn't tell his disciples to only sow the word in people who are receptive. Rather, he wants them – and us – to scatter the word everywhere and to rejoice when it does find good soil and yields a rich harvest.

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CHILD SAFETY: St John's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all our children, young people and vulnerable adults. Children are to be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times in the church and when leaving the church for any reason.

ENTRANCE: ALL ARE WELCOME

Let us build a house where love is found
In water, wine and wheat.
A banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow
come down from the heavens and do not return
without watering the earth, making it yield and
giving growth to provide seed for the sower and
bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my
mouth does not return to me empty, without
carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was
sent to do.'

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 64:10-14.

Response: The seed that falls on good ground will
yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain.

R./

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth.

R./

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

R./

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

R./

SECOND READING

Romans 8: 18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never
be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is
waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting
for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on
the part of creation that it was made unable to attain
its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still
retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its
slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and
glory as the children of God. From the beginning till
now the entire creation, as we know, has been
groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only
creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of
the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our
bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever..
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but
such crowds gathered round him that he got into a
boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach,
and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he
sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and
the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on
patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang
up straight away, because there was no depth of
earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were
scorched and, not having any roots, they withered
away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew
up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and
produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty,
some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All reply: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim
your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

COMMUNION: SEED, SCATTERED AND SOWN

Refrain

Seed, scattered and sown,
Wheat, gathered and grown,
Bread, broken and shared as one,
The Living bread of God.
Vine, fruit of the land, wine,
Work of our hands, one cup that is
Shared by all; the Living Cup,
The Living Bread of God.

Is not the bread we break,
A sharing in our Lord?
Is not the cup we bless,
The blood of Christ outpoured?

Ref.

The seed which falls on rock
Will wither and will die,
The seed within good ground
Will flower and have life.

Ref.

As wheat upon the hills
Was gathered and was grown,
So may the Church of God
Be gathered into one

Ref.

RECESSIONAL : FOR THE FRUITS OF THIS CREATION

For the fruits of this creation, Thanks be to God;
For these gifts to every nation, Thanks be to God;
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe keeping, Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done;
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done;
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God' will is done.

15 / 16 July	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5pm
Reader	Sheila Serrao	John McGrath	Claire Newsome	Mark Aiello
Communion	Elizabeth Williamson	Margaret Bradley	Brian McIntosh	Sally Tramontana
22 / 23 July	Sat 6:00pm	Sun 8:30am	Sun 10:30am	Sun 5pm
Reader	Pamela Smith	Marnie Keenan	Peter Penson	Mary Kotefski
Communion	TBA	Marni Mant	Mary Furlan	TBA

MORNING TEA in Parish House Meeting Room: 16th July - Marguerite & Tina

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK ENDED 9TH JULY 2023

First Collection is for the support of our Parish Priest, Asst Priest, the Archbishop, the sick & retired priests, priests in less fortunate areas around Archdiocese of Melbourne <i>(It is taken up after Homily)</i> ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERY CHEQUE- BSB 083-347 A/c 659225267			Second Collection is for the support of our Church, its operating expenses, staff wages, church & ground maintenance etc. <i>(It is taken up after Prayers of Faithful)</i> ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - BSB 083-347 A/c 658806318		
Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct	Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct
\$106.40	\$875.60	\$377.50	\$482.00	\$502.95	\$1167.50

REGULAR CREDIT CARD/DIRECT DEBIT THANKSGIVING TRANSACTIONS: Dear Parishioners due to a technical glitch the transaction schedule for Church for June did not go through. Please be advised that there will be two transactions on your July statement / account for those accounts which have not been charged in June. Please contact parish office on 94571066 if you have any concerns. Thanks for understanding.

MORNING TEA: at the parish house meeting room this Sunday 16th July after 10.30am Mass. All are welcome.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS APPEAL: next weekend, 22nd/23rd July at all Masses. Partnered with the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste to help continue life-saving program like the Maria Auxilliadora Clinic run by them for families from disadvantaged background. Envelopes available at the church entrances. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

IN HONOR OF ST JOHN BOSCO'S RELICS: being at the Don Bosco Retreat Centre, personal prayer and celebration of the Eucharist on Tuesday 18th July at 465 Lysterfield Rd, Lysterfield. Personal prayer from 6pm and Mass at 7pm.

MASS BY CANDLELIGHT: in the spirit of Taize will be celebrated at St Thomas the Apostle Church, 251 Diamond Creek Rd, North Greensborough on Thursday 20th July. Quiet music will commence at 7.30pm, followed by Mass at 8pm including the Sacrament of Anointing. All welcome. Enquiries: Rose 0411 650 339 or Emilia 0418 120 902

WORLD YOUTH DAY — LISBON, PORTUGAL 1ST-6TH AUGUST 2023:

World Youth Day (WYD) is a worldwide encounter with the Pope celebrated about every three years in a different country. WYD is open to all young people who want to take part in a festive encounter centered on Jesus Christ together with their peers. The parish of St John's has four young parishioners, Bella Mathai, Hannah Thorley, Mikaela McGowan and Madeline Kos attending WYD. They will receive a blessing from the parish for their pilgrimage at 10.30AM Mass this Sunday. Please keep these young pilgrims in your prayers.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Volunteers are the lifeblood of our parish. Their generosity of time and talents allows us to be the physical presence of Christ in our world today. The various roles as to how you can get involved are: Lectors (readers), Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Welcomers, Collectors and Sacristans. Training will be provided. We invite you to take the first step in this journey of volunteering by talking to Father Vinh after mass at the weekend or by contacting the Parish Office.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Alice Hyland, Cynthia and Giuseppe Amoroso, Desmond Ralph, David Pauloski, Peter Newton, Charlie Catajur, David Morck, Eamon Whealan, Daisy & Tyler Sanderson, Shelby Jentz, Michael Spence, Joan O'Donoghue.

ANNIVERSARY: Aleksander Midera, Peter Morck, Tom Dennis, Brian Thomas and Frank Sharkey.

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