

CELEBRATING 165 YEARS

Our history lives on.....

“Nor could it fail to meet the eye
And reverent thoughts instil
As there above the township high
And pointing always to the sky
It stood upon the hill”

John O’Brien

This year as we celebrate 165 years of our parish may we be reminded of the efforts our forbears, strong in their faith and commitment that today sees our parish still thriving, alive and a vibrant part of our community.

Our beautiful bluestone building is cause for celebration and much admired by all who enter. It is however ageing and in need of some major maintenance in the coming years.

Just like those who were visionary when they built it, we need to be visionary in its ongoing care so that we can hand it on in good order to future generations.



The recording of our living history is also important for future generations. We really need **your help** to put together a commemorative journal, particularly the years from early 80’s onwards as that is when the History “St. Johns on the Hill” was completed by Eileen Vaughan.

If you can help with any photos or memorabilia. Please contact Michelle 0499 891 101 or pmpenson@hotmail.com.

You can also help by sponsoring a page in our special anniversary publication. Sponsorships by businesses cost \$250, sponsorships by parishioners cost \$100. For details please contact the parish office on 9457 1066 or email: Heidelberg@cam.org.au

Many thanks.



To help

***give thanks for our past,
celebrate the present and
give hope to the future***

we will be holding a:

**165th Celebration Mass 10:30am on
Sunday 17th April.....**

**Followed by a FREE Parish Picnic,
BBQ 11:30am**

All are warmly invited.

***Please invite past parishioners, past pupils
and friends along as well.***

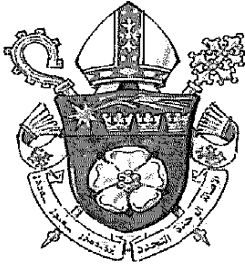
Being there for our 165th Mass and BBQ, sharing and celebrating a meal together is part of our parish life as we share a meal with God when we go to Mass and are enriched by the Eucharist.

For catering purposes please RSVP at <http://www.trybooking.com/184292>

Come along and be part of history



St Johns School, Heidelberg



بطريرك بابل للكلدان
 فطريركا دبيل دكلديا
Patriarcha Babylonensis Chaldaeorum

No. 16
 Date. 22 Jan. 2016

The war in Iraq and Syria is taking on apocalyptic dimensions. Without a doubt, we are already facing the largest humanitarian catastrophe since the end of World War II. Once thriving cities such as Mosul and the villages on the Nineveh plains have been reduced to rubble. Those who could flee, did. Millions of children in refugee camps are waiting for their daily bread, but they thirst for a future, they want schools and a home. They want to return to their homelands, as do their parents and relatives. Aid organisations are tirelessly caring for the refugees. They are buying basic foodstuffs, clothing, drinking water, blankets and medicine.

We are all very thankful for this help. However, what is most needed is mercy. For this reason I would like to ask you at the beginning of this Lenten period and especially on Ash Wednesday: pray and fast for peace in our country! Pray and fast that God has mercy on us! Pray and fast that we may remain in our homelands, that the refugees may return to their villages and cities.

You have helped enormously and we need this help to survive. Without you, without ***Aid to the Church in Need***, many of us would be dead, have starved to death, frozen or already fled. ***Aid to the Church in Need*** is like a mother to us. I know that you are also doing this out of love for Christ. And that is the reason for my request: pray and fast that we may remain in our beloved homeland. So that we may also experience a resurrection from the rubble, an Easter in the Land of Abraham.

I wish you an abundance of strength and joy.

+Louis Raphael Sako

Easter Sunrise Surprise

He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:6a (NIV)
 The puzzle is based on Luke 24:1-12 (NIV).



Y	L	X	Y	P	K	W	G	P	R	X	I	F	L	W
D	B	A	R	H	V	N	E	S	P	I	C	E	S	K
P	W	V	S	L	I	P	U	E	F	Z	S	Z	U	T
A	R	W	A	N	U	S	V	T	K	Q	A	E	F	N
G	D	O	R	C	K	T	Z	O	W	T	J	O	N	A
Y	R	O	L	T	Q	O	K	M	B	O	D	Y	L	Z
G	M	O	W	L	D	N	E	B	S	S	T	B	Q	J
Y	D	B	U	G	E	E	V	N	R	T	H	K	E	Z
W	L	Z	O	N	Q	D	U	L	T	W	H	J	M	T
F	O	I	Q	W	D	J	U	F	O	E	R	X	S	C
R	R	M	V	R	E	M	E	M	B	E	R	R	S	I
J	D	I	E	I	U	D	P	R	E	C	I	E	P	K
G	F	E	G	N	N	B	D	D	F	C	G	D	O	
O	D	A	H	S	G	C	Q	A	A	I	X	I	V	
L	A	T	F	D	T	M	P	J	F	Y	Z	T	F	L



Colour me in!

living	tomb	rolled	risen	dead
women	first	spices	away	bowed
faces	stone	entered	ground	remember
morning	week	body	fright	day

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Your Gold Coins Count!

The letter below and on the previous page show just how much assistance and help your Gold Coin Collection given at St John's every month means to those in Syria. In this Year of Mercy more than ever, we need reach out to those less fortunate than ourselves. We need to be generous in our monetary giving as well as our prayers for them in their sufferings.



Aid to the Church in Need

a Catholic Charity dependent on the Holy See

providing pastoral relief to needy and oppressed churches

Kirche in Not/Ostpriesterhilfe
Kerk in Nood/Oostpriesterhulp
Aide à l'Eglise en Détresse
Aiuto alla Chiesa che soffre
Ayuda a la Iglesia Necesitada
Ajuda à Igreja que Sofre

Postal Address: PO Box 7246, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153. Ph/Fax: (02) 9679 1929
e-mail: info@aidtochurch.org Web: www.aidtochurch.org

00536265

Rev Mario Zammit
Saint John's Catholic Parish
52 Yarra Street
HEIDELBERG VIC 3084

Please visit our website at www.aidtochurch.org and click on the News & Features button to keep you informed on a regular basis on the work of ACN.

You can now also donate Online and order items at the On Line store.

27 January 2016

Dear Father Zammit,

Thank you for your most generous donation of \$11,400.00 to help the projects of ACN in the Middle East particularly those supporting our poor and persecuted brothers and sisters in Syria.

A succession of crisis is threatening the survival of the Faith in the sacred lands revered as the cradle of Christianity. Bitter civil war in Syria/Iraq, political strife in Lebanon and increasing tension in the Holy Land is forcing a mass exodus of Christians who are no longer able to cope with the escalating oppression and religious hatred.

As a Papal Foundation, ACN takes its lead from Pope Francis. The crisis in the region has caused the Pope to strongly condemn the actions of extremists groups like Islamic State. Pope Francis said: "Thousands of people, including many Christians, have been chased from their homes in a brutal way; children die of thirst and hunger during the flight; women are kidnapped; people are massacred..."

As requests for help continue to pour in, ACN is inspired by the memory of our founder Fr Werenfried van Straaten, who called on people to help "dry the tears of the abandoned Jesus who suffers on the crosses of this century".

Supporting religious Sisters working in schools, helping priests in poor and sometimes dangerous outlying parishes, helping to build churches, providing assistance to refugees fleeing persecution - are just some of the projects ACN is supporting in this troubled region.

Thank you for your support, please keep the work of Aid to the Church in Need in your prayers.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Collignon
(Secretary)

* Also enclosed are leaflets about the work ACN is doing in assisting the Church on the ground in Iraq & Syria. Your parishioners may find this information of interest. Accompanying the leaflets are two letters from Patriarch Louis Sako of Iraq and Patriarch Gregorius Hatham from Syria. God bless!

ST JOHN'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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.

Parish Office:

Ph: 9457 1066 Fax: 9459 7874

Email: heidelberg@cam.org.au

Web: www.cam.org.au/heidelberg

Parish Priest: - Fr Mario Zammit

Assistant Priest: - Fr Arockiaraj Viagulam

Sacrament Coordinator: - Sr Loreto Lynch RSM

Parish Secretary: Mary Peeris

(Parish Office is open Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri from 9:30am to 2:30pm)

Parish Primary School

55 Cape St, Heidelberg 3084

School Principal: - Mr Nick Marinelli

Ph: 9459 2963 Fax: 9459 0133

School Secretaries:

Teresa Mattei / Melanie Sharples

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sat: 6:00pm,

Sun: 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

Mass at the Austin Hospital at 9:30am on the third Sunday of the month.

(On Christmas Day in December.)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon to Sat: 9:15am

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 9:45am & 5:30pm.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

Wednesday: 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Thursday: 9:45am – 11:00am

Friday: 8:00am – 9:00am

BAPTISMS: On Sundays at 11:45am, by appointment.

Baptism Information Evening:

Last Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the parish house, except the months of December and January.

WEDDINGS

By appointment

Articles for the next Echo most welcome. Please email to the parish secretary or hand in at the parish office.

Altar Servers – Fr Mario – 9457 1066

Altar Society – Pauline Griffiths – 9459 7093

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Sr Loreto 9457 1066

Choir & Music – Sr Loreto – 9457 1066

Cycling Group – Peter Symes – 9458 2332

Echo Magazine – Michelle Penson – 9457 2351

Finance Committee – Des O'Brien (Chair) – 9457 1066

Hall Hire – Fran Gasior 0417 972 317

Heidelcare (Ecumenical) –

Rosemary Vecchies – 9459 0729

Legion of Mary – Tues 7.30 pm. New members welcome.

Liturgy Committee – Ronnie Maloney – 9459 1798

OSH Club – Deanna Bellen – 0401 333 932

Parish After School Religion classes –

Sr Loreto 9457 1066

Parish Council - Maureen Hegarty -

kumonheidelberg@hotmail.com

Playgroup – Vanessa Javier & Bernadette Inman –

sjcplaygroup@gmail.com

Readers' Roster – Mary Peeris – 9457 1066

St John's Youth - stjohnsyouth@hotmail.com

St Vincent de Paul – Sally Tramontana – 0419004405

School Education Board –

Adrian Daly & Kim Vespa 9459 2963

School Maintenance Committee –

Nick Marinelli – 9459 2963

Sunday Counters – Des O'Brien – 9499 9056

Sunday Morning Coffee – Barbara Dabal – 9459 3990

Tennis Club – Des O'Brien – 9499 9056

Thanksgiving Committee – Xavier Csar – 9455 1706