



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 Geo

ST JOHN'S PARISH OFFICE:
52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084
Phone: 94571066 & 70643906
Email: heidelberg@cam.org.au
Website: www.melbcatholic.org/heidelberg

Facebook.com/stjohnheidelberg

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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

PARISH SECRETARY: Mary Peeris

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Elizabeth Williamson (0447195553)

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Michelle Penson (0499 891 101)

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 9.45am -10.15am (during
Adoration)
Sat 9:45 am & 5:30pm.—5.50p.m.

**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

Ms Alison Dean Principal
55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
Phone: 9459 2963

21ST /22ND FEBRUARY, FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, 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.

IT IS WRITTEN

Jesus was offered three shortcuts for his ministry. Firstly, exceptional powers to satisfy his own needs (bread out of stones). Secondly, when he needed to take risks, angels to keep him safe. Thirdly, when he wanted to change the world, absolute political power. These were the Temptations of Christ, but also for us. If you or I are tempted to sin, we will find the marks of this threefold pattern. We want the whole world to change to satisfy us, or we want to take stupid risks and come out unscathed, or we want to exercise total power over others. How can we try to follow Jesus without the shortcuts of the fantasy world which the Devil may offer? Note that Jesus resisted each temptation with: 'It is written'. The forty days of Lent are a perfect opportunity to read what 'is written' in the Gospels about the episodes and pattern of the life of Jesus Christ. We could pause for a moment to find what is written and to imitate what we find. That is how the Devil is defeated.

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A GREAT WAY TO ENRICH OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

As part of our 175th Anniversary Celebrations in 2026

THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN: A UNIQUE VISION OF FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP

**Associate Professor Joel Hodge, National Head, School of Theology
Faculty of Theology and Philosophy Australian Catholic University**

(Joel is a parishioner of St. John's and on our Parish Pastoral Council)

He will give a series of 3 individual talks

Tuesday March 3rd – Who is Jesus for St John's Gospel?

Tuesday March 10th – Jesus' Passion, Death & Resurrection in St John's Gospel

Tuesday March 17th – Being a Disciple for St John's Gospel
Talks will be held in

St. John's Church 52 Yarra St. Heidelberg - commencing at 7pm
and go for approximately 1 hour

Whether you are a parishioner, a friend of St. John's or from the surrounding parishes, we warmly encourage you not to miss this great opportunity. No booking required

ST JOHN'S PARISH MISSION

"Like St John, we are called to Evangelize and Serve, as a community of faith, hope and love journeying with Christ in this life and into eternal life."

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: HOSEA (COME BACK TO ME)

Come back to me with all your heart.
Don't let fear keep us apart.
Trees do bend, 'though straight and tall;
So must we to others' call.
Long have I waited for your coming home to me
And living deeply our new life.

The wilderness will lead you
To your heart where I will speak
Integrity and justice with tenderness you shall know.
Long have I waited for your coming home to me
And living deeply our new life.

You shall sleep secure with peace;
Faithfulness will be your joy.
Long have I waited for your coming home to me
And living deeply our new life.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING *Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17.*

Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

R./

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.

R./

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

R./

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

R./

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and

forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

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

Save us, Saviour of the world for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

COMMUNION: TABLE OF PLENTY

Refrain.

Come to the feast of heaven and earth
Come to the table of plenty
God will provide for all that we need
Here at the table of plenty

O come and sit at my table
Where saints and sinners are friends
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely
To share the cup of my love.

Ref.

O come and eat without money
Come to drink without price
My feast of gladness will feed your spirit
With faith and fullness of life

Ref.

My bread will ever sustain you
Through days of sorrow and woe
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness
To flood the depths of your soul.

Ref.

Your fields will flower in fullness;
your homes will flourish in peace.
For I, the giver of home and harvest,
will send my rain on the soil.

Ref.

RECESSIONAL: BLEST BE THE LORD

Refrain:

Blest be the Lord, blest be the Lord
The God of mercy, the God who saves
I shall not fear the dark of night
Nor the arrow that flies by day.

He will release me from the nets of all my foes
He will protect me from their wicked hands
Beneath the shadow of His wings I will rejoice
To find a dwelling place secure

Ref.

I need not shrink before the terrors of the night
Nor stand alone before the light of day
No harm shall come to me, no arrow strike me down
No evil settle in my soul

Ref.

21/22 FEB	SAT 6PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader 1	Adrian Daly	Ophelia Le	Peter Greenham	Emily Andrews
Reader 2	Ammar Kazi	Peter Le	Kate Mathai	
Communion	Domenica Ashworth	Chris Ratnayake	Leo Cosio	Sally Tramontana
			Charito Cosio	
Collectors	Paul & Zen Zebrowski	Colin & Mary Ingram	TBA	TBA
28 FEB/ 1 MAR	SAT 6PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader 1	Vernon Curtis	Robyn Laurie	Jacqueline Lewis	Christine Soosairaj
Reader 2	Pamela Smith	Margherite Ryan	Margaret Andrews	
Communion	Donna Richardson	Bobbie Bartkus	Vin Sier	Olivia Musitano
			Liz Sier	

MORNING TEA 1/03/2026: Barbara & Francoise

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK ENDED 15TH FEB 2026

First Collection (It is taken up after Homily)			Second Collection (taken up after Prayers of Faithful)		
ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERY CHEQUE- BSB 083-347 A/c 659225267			ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - BSB 083-347 A/c 658806318		
Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct	Envelopes	Loose Collection	Bank Direct
\$214.35	\$864.75	\$609.00	\$359.00	\$592.35	\$851.00

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Each Friday during Lent - time to reflect on the Stations of the Cross from Friday February 20th at 7:00pm in the Church.

ST JOHN'S YOUTH GROUP: The next gathering will be on Wednesday the 25th of February at 6.30pm in St Francis Xavier meeting room, 52 Yarra Street (access through carpark behind the parish office) All youth Secondary School and above are warmly welcome.

175TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER: on **Friday 29th May, 7 -10.30pm** at The Centre Ivanhoe – (Heidelberg Town Hall) Upper Heidelberg Rd Ivanhoe. Singles, doubles, groups, tables of 8 or 10. 3 course dinner, wine, beer & soft drink inclusive. \$150 per head. Dress – Gala Dinner worthy! Any queries ring Michelle 0499891101 or Wendy 0423153310.

Booking through Trybooking scan QR code or at <https://www.trybooking.com/DIYEK>



PRESBYTERY KITCHEN RENO DONATION: If you wish to make a donation, please take an information sheet available at each church door. Thank you for your generosity.



Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza. Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate Or by calling: 1800 024 413



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Tony Romanella, Glory Packianathan, Anne Fusca, Gabriel Aloise, Gianna Yee, Sergio Furlan, Max, Gomez, Daisy Coote, James Bourke, Cherie Corke, Charmaine Hawke, Margaret Sinclair, Wendy Wales, Betty Matthews, Gail Pearson, Liza Sutherland, Chris Barnett, Wendy Hankin, Carmel Finley, Romy Deveza, Matthew John, Ross Pace, Emma Williamson, Bill Barnes.

ANNIVERSARY: Michael Hall.

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