



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 MARCH, FIFTH 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.*

SYNOD CORNER



6. Who participates in a Synod?

A Synod involves the whole People of God: bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and lay faithful. Each has a distinct role, but all share responsibility for the Church's mission. Synodality does not blur roles—it helps each vocation flourish in service of the Gospel.

7. Synodality and bishops

Bishops remain shepherds and teachers of the faith. Synodality does not weaken their authority; rather, it enriches their ministry by grounding leadership in prayerful listening and communal discernment. A bishop who listens walks more closely with his people, as Christ the Good Shepherd does.

8. Synodality and priests

For priests, synodality is not an added burden but a way of exercising ministry in communion. When priests foster listening and participation, parishes become more alive, missionary, and joyful. The priest presides at the Eucharist, but the whole community contributes to the Church's mission.

9. Synodality and the laity

Synodality affirms that the Holy Spirit is at work in the lives of all the baptised. Lay people are not simply helpers of clergy; they are active disciples called to witness to Christ in families, workplaces, and society. A synodal Church takes this vocation seriously.

10. Synodality is about mission

The purpose of synodality is not internal reform for its own sake. Its goal is evangelisation—helping the Church become more faithful, more welcoming, and more effective in proclaiming the Gospel to today's world.

11. What synodality is NOT

Synodality is not about changing doctrine according to popular opinion. The faith handed down through the centuries is not negotiable. What synodality seeks to renew is how we live, communicate, and embody that faith in changing times.

12. Synodality and unity

Walking together does not mean everyone thinks the same way. The Church has always held unity alongside diversity. Synodality helps us learn how to disagree respectfully, discern patiently, and remain united in Christ even amid differences.

To be contd....

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: COME TO THE WATER

Refrain:

Come to the water! You who are thirsty!
Though you have nothing, I bid you come!
And be filled with the goodness I have to offer!
Come! Listen! Live.

Why spend your money on what cannot fill
The emptiness deep in your heart?
Listen to My word and you will enjoy
Goodness and peace in your heart!

Ref.

Just as the heavens are high above earth;
My ways and thoughts beyond you!
Call me your Father and know I am near!
I will be Father to you!

Ref.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 129.

Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption .

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

R./

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.

R./

My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.)

R./

Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity.

R./

SECOND READING

Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things
can never be pleasing to God. Your interests,

however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord.

All reply: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in 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

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Everyone who lives and believes in me
will not die for ever, says the Lord.

COMMUNION: AS THE DEER

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

You alone are my strength, my shield,
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.

I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver,
And the apple of my eye.

You alone are my strength, my shield,
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.

You're my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a King.
I love you You more than any other,
So much more than anything

You alone are my strength, my shield,
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you.

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 by-ways,
valleys and highways he's waiting for me.

Refrain

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 **Ref.**

RECESSIONAL: NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices;
Who wondrous things hath done!
In whom his world rejoices.
Who from our mothers' arms,
Hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this gracious God
through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us,
Preserve us in his grace,
And guide us in distress,
And free us from all sin,
Till heaven we possess.

Please use the link given below or the QR code to subscribe if you want to receive our weekly Newsletter through email. The weekly Newsletter is also available in our website.
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj5RAAT&req=subscribe>



21/22 MARCH	SAT 6PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader 1	Adrian Daly	Ophelia Le	Kate Mathai	Emily Andrews
Reader 2	Wendy Hernandez	Peter Le	Peter Greenham	-
Communion	Leo Hernandez	Marni Mant	Leo Cosio	Sally Tramontana
			Charito Cosio	
Collectors	Paul & Zen Zebrowski	Colin & Mary Ingram	TBA	TBA
28/29 MARCH	SAT 6PM	SUN 8:30AM	SUN 10:30AM	SUN 5PM
Reader 1	Peter Penson	Elizabeth Williamson	Margaret Andrews	Christine Soosairaj
Reader 2	Margherita Bechelli	Margherite Ryan	Michelle Burns	Emily Andrews
Reader 3	Amelia Bechelli	Robyn Laurie	Peter Greenham	Annaliza
Communion	Donna Richarson	Bobbie Bartkus	Brian McIntosh	Olivia Musitano
			Mary Furlan	

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK ENDED 15TH MARCH 2026

First Collection <i>(It is taken up after Homily)</i>			Second Collection <i>(taken up after Prayers of Faithful)</i>		
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
\$391.45	\$992.55	\$545.00	\$540.00	\$487.30	\$735.00

WORKING BEE SATURDAY 28TH MARCH FROM 11.00AM:

If you have some time to help prepare the church and grounds for Easter, we would be most grateful. Equipment needed - gardening tools, brooms, buckets, leaf blowers, dusters, buckets, secateurs and anything else that you think may be useful. Please add your name to sheet in the porch. It is not just about working, but an opportunity to interact and meet up with other parishioners while having lots of fun and laughs while helping to maintain the church and garden. Lunch will be provided.

EASTER RAFFLE: Tickets are available this weekend for our Easter Raffle. Proceeds will go towards our St John's Youth Group. Tickets \$2 each, 3 for \$5 or 6 for \$10.

RCIA: Please keep our catechumens, Jacob, Amy, Mark and Amy in your prayers that they may be filled with the hope of the life-giving Spirit and prepare themselves thoroughly for the Sacraments of Initiation and Full Communion with the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER CELEBRATIONS

LENTEN SERVICE AND

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION



26TH MARCH - THURSDAY 7:00pm

PALM SUNDAY

29TH MARCH - Masses

Saturday 6:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am & 5:00pm

HOLY THURSDAY

2ND APRIL - Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm

GOOD FRIDAY

3RD APRIL - Stations of the Cross 10:30am

Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY

4TH APRIL - Easter Vigil 7:30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY

5TH APRIL - Masses 8:30am, 10:30am & 5pm

SIGN- UP SHEETS FOR THE EASTER LITURGIES ARE IN THE MAIN FOYER OF THE CHURCH! PLEASE SIGN UP FOR ROLES IF YOU ARE HERE FOR EASTER!!

PROJECT COMPASSION 2026: Please support using donation boxes, envelopes or scanning the QR code , online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate Or calling: 1800 024 431



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE SICK: Gloria Torres, Fr Michael Anghel, Michael Foley, Anne Fusca, Tony Romanella, Glory Packianathan, 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.

ANNIVERSARY: Dominico Hoi Duong, Greg Seymon, Shane Whitbread, Patricia & Frank Betts, Anthony Betts.

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