From the Principal

Gospel of Saint John 3: 14-21
One does not live on bread alone, but on every word
That comes forth from the mouth of God

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful few days we’ve had this past week with the great event of the National Ride to School Day last Friday (A report is in this Newsletter) I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Connie Costa, Karen Fraser, Danni Mallia and Giovanna Di Nuzzo for their great work in ensuring the success of the morning, as well as the Young Leaders Day, and the School’s Catholic Education Week Mass.

Unfortunately, I was unable to be present as the School Captains and I attended the National Young Leader’s Day at the Melbourne Convention Centre. It was a great day with excellent speakers such as Bindi Irwin, Andy Griffiths, Jess Gallagher and Coen Ashton who all spoke about passion and leadership.

The school Captains will be writing a reflection on their experience for next week’s Newsletter.

LEAVE

After a great deal of thought and consideration, I have recently decided to confirm my participation in the Catholic Education Office of Melbourne endorsed Primary principal’s Learning Program (P.P.L.P).

The PPLP I will be participating in runs for five weeks and will be held at All Hallow’s College in Dublin, Ireland. The focus of the study will be on personal spirituality with elements on Theology, and Justice in a Christian Framework.

Towards the end of Term 2, the North Eastern Principal’s Network will be attending the International Conference On Thinking which is being held in Bilbao, Spain.

As a result of these two opportunities, I have decided to connect the two with Long Service Leave, which means I will be away from Week 2 of Term 2 through to the beginning of Term 3.

Mrs Carmel Armiento will be Acting Principal and Mrs Connie Bandiera will be acting Deputy Principal during my Leave.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

Catholic Education Week is an annual state-wide event that promotes the distinctive mission of Catholic schools throughout Victoria. The week is celebrated by all schools through a range of activities, liturgies and events. One of the events that we have participated in was by sending some of our students to the St Patrick’s Day Mass at the Cathedral. Thousands of students from across Victoria participate in this celebration of the Eucharist. A highlight of the Mass is the procession of Banners.

My thanks to Elizabeth Williamson for coordinating our participation in this event and to the children for being such wonderful representatives of our school.
CLASS CONTACT LIST

A flyer will be sent home tomorrow regarding the use of your details to be distributed to other families in your child’s classroom. Classroom representatives will also use these details from time to time to enhance communication between home and school.

If you **DO NOT** want your details distributed you will be required to inform the school on tomorrow’s flyer.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

A reminder that the catch up day for remaining Family Photographs will take place on Tuesday, 24th March.

Children who will be having sibling photographs will be required to wear their summer uniform on that day. Those children who have sport on Tuesday will need to bring their runners and change into these for their lesson.

Yours sincerely

Nick Marinelli
Principal

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**Student Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Callum S</td>
<td>4F</td>
<td>For writing such a beautiful prayer. Not only did your words rhyme, but they had wonderful meaning as well. You made me cry!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polly M</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>For always attending to her learning with enthusiasm and detail. What a great student you are Polly!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom R</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>For all his efforts as a member of our class and for always diligently completing his work tasks. Way to go Tom!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea C</td>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>For asking deep thinking questions when reading a difficult text. I'm so impressed by your persistent attitude and willingness to overcome challenges. You're a star!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan C</td>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>For being a persistent mathematician when learning about factors and multiples. I'm so impressed by your hard working attitude.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick C</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>For your contribution to Inquiry discussions about the Australian Government. Your thoughts are highly valued.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massimo C</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>For building such a creative narrative about World War II from such a simple seed. Your planning and background knowledge was amazing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liana S</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>For your focus and dedication in mathematics this year. You have displayed your skills and shared your strategies very well.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**TO ALL PREP FAMILIES:**

Come along to an end of term get together!

Where: Possum Hollow Warringal Park!

When: Thursday 26th March

Straight after school. BYO picnic!

See you there!
'Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus'.

'Keep It Simple' Food Day
Thank you for your support of 'Keep It Simple' Food Day both financially and in the food you provided for your child on the day.

The senior grades reflected on this experience some noting they felt hungry, lethargic and less motivated.

Holy Week Celebration
On Friday March 27th (the last day of the term) we will be celebrating Holy Week remembering the last few days of Jesus' life. You are most welcome to join us for this, commencing at 12.00. Every child is invited to bring a piece of palm, olive branch or other piece of greenery for a Palm Procession.

Catholic Education Week
This week is Catholic Education Week. As part of the week a special mass is celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral by Archbishop Hart at which student representatives from primary and secondary schools have been invited. This is an annual event. On St Patrick's Day nine of our Year 5/6 students represented St John's School at this mass.

Easter Eggs
We are asking again this year that if you were thinking of giving your child's teacher an Easter egg, would you please do so when we return from holidays after Easter. Your child's teacher will do likewise. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter so that we can celebrate with your child the church seasons of Lent and Easter.

Class Masses Term 1
When attending your child's class mass we ask that you sit beside your child within the class group. The class will be seated in the first two or three seats on both sides of the church. Ideally it would be best if you met the class at 9.00a.m. outside the church prior to mass. All masses are at 9.15a.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Grade 2D and P</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 19th</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Grade 4C and 4F</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 23rd</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Prep N and PV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 26th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These mass dates and times are correct at time of publication. Sometimes unforeseen circumstances occur to change these dates/times.

Family Offertory Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday 6.00pm</th>
<th>Sunday 8.30a.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 10.30am</th>
<th>Sunday 5.00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 21st &amp; March 22nd</td>
<td>Tarau Family</td>
<td>Comito Family</td>
<td>Johnson Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28th &amp; March 29th</td>
<td>Montalto Family</td>
<td>Taouk Family</td>
<td>Piaia Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4th &amp; April 5th</td>
<td>Vincent Family</td>
<td>White Family</td>
<td>Bechelli Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are you buying slavery-free Easter chocolate?
Did you know that much of the chocolate available in Australia comes from cocoa beans picked by children, many of whom have been trafficked or forced to work in exploitative conditions? The International Labour Rights Forum (ILRF) estimates that there are 500,000 – 1,500,000 children working in the cocoa sector in West Africa.

Want slavery-free Easter chocolate? Look for these certification labels.
**Family Mathematics Challenge 4 - Answer**

The son solved 10 questions correctly.

**Family Mathematics Challenge 5**

How much is a smile worth??

\[
\begin{align*}
\smile + \smile + \smile & = 40 \\
\smile + \smile & = 32 \\
\smile & = 15 \\
\smile + \smile & = 37 \\
& = 52
\end{align*}
\]

Work out the answer as a family. Record how you worked it out and your answer and put it in the Mathematics Family Challenge Box near the front office by Friday. Don’t forget to put your name on it!

Well done to Daniel 3W, Charlie 5/6S and Edward 5/6C and their families for taking on last week’s Family Mathematics Challenge!

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**BIRTHDAYS**

March 20  
Lara E 1T

March 21  
Lucy C 5/6C  
Miller F 5/6C

March 24  
Leonardo T PV

---

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Wednesday**  
March 18  
School Advisory Council  
7.00pm

**Friday**  
March 20  
Harmony Day
Swimming

Last week several students from St John’s competed at the Regional Swimming Championships at Northcote pools.

Congratulations to Olivia, Rachel, Lucy B, Eliza, Luca and Alicia who all competed. A big congratulations to the medley and freestyle relay teams who have made it through to the State finals next term and to Olivia N who has made it through for her individual events as well as the relays. Good luck next term girls. What a wonderful achievement!

Inter School Sport

We are having a very successful start to the summer inter school sports this year! After 6 rounds I have seen great improvements in teamwork and individual skill levels. Keep it up everyone!

This week we have an away game against Mother of God (MOG). Mother of God is a small Primary School who this year can’t fill a volleyball team so this week the St Johns volleyball team will play against Alphington Grammar school’s (AGS) 2nd volleyball instead of MOG, therefore they will play at AGS. Softball and cricket will be held at Chesworth Park and bat tennis will be played at MOG.

After 6 rounds, cricket is sitting on top of the ladder, boys volleyball equal 1st, girls volleyball equal 4th, bat tennis girls are 10th, boys softball are sitting equal 2nd and girls softball are 3rd. Keep up the great work everyone and well done to all the coaches. Only two more games left for this term, have fun and keep up the great team work.

IDSSA Trials

Several students have been selected to represent St John’s at the Ivanhoe District trials next week. Good luck to those students. Only a handful of students can be selected so have fun and give it your best, it is a great achievement to make it to the trials.
Last Friday 13th March, we celebrated a very successful Ride-Walk-Scoot to School Day. A total of 245 children participated in the event. That means 75% of our students walked to school on this day. We are so impressed by this amazing response by our students and the incredible number of parent helpers who helped to make this day so successful and safe.

We would like to sincerely thank our APPLE team, Karen Fraser, Danielle Mallia and Giovanna Di Nuzzo who worked tirelessly to organise the event and sponsors of the event that kindly donated some fantastic prizes.

Thank you to the following sponsors: Banyule Council, Lime Fresh Produce, Bicycle Network Victoria, Growers Fresh, Eaglemont Fruits, Peak Cycles, Latitude, Jets Eltham, Halls Taekwondo Heidelberg, Team Brunetti (cycle club) and Little School of Dance.

On behalf of the students, staff and the St John’s community, we would like to sincerely thank you for sponsoring and supporting our Ride-Walk-Scoot to School Day. Your generous contributions helped to ensure that our event was such a great success. We hope that Ride-Walk-Scooter to School Day has encouraged the whole school community to develop greater environmental awareness and recognise that by walking, riding or scootering to school, the students and families were doing their part to reduce their carbon footprint.

Harmony Day - National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

At St John’s we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone. This Friday, 20th March is the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. Our school will use this day to build on the understandings of our KidsMatter theme: “Every face has a Place”. Harmony, Friendship and the anti-bullying focus of the National Day of Action will be our focus for the day.

We encourage students to behave positively and safely every day but on the National Day of Action we will be shining the spotlight again on our anti bullying strategies. The children will be participating in activities that promote friendliness and kindness, as well as age appropriate discussions about bullying (e.g. what it is/is not, bystander behaviour) The children will be asked to dress in multi-colours to celebrate the concept of diversity.

Parents are invited to stay for a cuppa and a chat at 9:00am and then at 9:45am come down to the oval to join in with a Prep to Year 4 games session – should be lots of fun! The Bullying. No Way! website has information for parents and students about the National Day of Action and how we can all help create a supportive school environment free from bullying, harassment and violence.
Bully-proofing KIDS

Bullying is an issue to be discussed around the meal table, in the context of keeping kids safe. Talk to kids about their right to feel safe; how to recognise if they feel unsafe and what to do if they experience or witness bullying.

Despite the fact schools are very proactive when it comes to making them safe places for kids, bullying unfortunately, is something that’s still with us. According to the 2009 Australian Covert Bullying Prevalence Study one in four kids from Years 4 to 9 experiences some type of bullying at school.

Frequent bullying is highest in Year 5 (32 per cent experiencing some bullying) and Year 8 (29 per cent) so it is something that parents and teachers need to understand. Bullying is an insidious behaviour that transgresses a child’s right to feel safe and secure. It can adversely affect children’s learning, further peer relations and their emotional well-being.

Often children will tease, argue and sometimes fight, which shouldn’t be confused with bullying.

Bullying is selective and intentional. It’s also repetitious rather than a one-off or occasional event. It can be physical, verbal or social exclusion. It also now happens online, which means some kids no longer feel safe at home. Kids generally feel powerless when they experience bullying.

Bullying is an issue to be discussed around the meal table, in the context of keeping kids safe. Talk to kids about their right to feel safe; how to know when they feel unsafe and what to do if they experience or witness bullying.

Knowing when kids are being bullied?

Some research suggests that around 20 per cent of bullying goes unreported so it can be difficult spotting children who experience bullying. However, kids will usually show signs in three ways:

1. Acting out: outward signs such as displays of unusual aggression at home, talking about hating school and getting into trouble more often.

2. Acting in: subtle behaviour changes such as sullenness, withdrawing from usual activities, being uncommunicative, feigned illness, bed-wetting and altered sleep patterns.

3. Telltale signs: more obvious physical signs such as torn clothes, items missing, altered school routes and physical injuries.

Children who are bullied usually display a combination of signs. Children often find it hard to communicate that they are being bullied. Some don’t have the language required. Many kids feel ashamed, or even believe what bullies tell them. Sometimes kids are also reluctant to tell adults about bullying, as they fear that they will take the matter out of their hands, so your approach needs to be gentle and non-judgmental.

Here are six things to do if you suspect your child is being bullied:

1. Listen to their story

It really is important to stay calm and get the real story. Kids need to be believed when they are bullied, so make sure they get the chance to talk.

more on page 2


parentingideas.com.au

© 2014 Michael Grose
... Bully-proofing kids ...

2 Get the facts
Bullying behaviour usually follows patterns. An accurate picture will help you determine your next course of action, for example, whether you need to give your child some avoidance or coping strategies or gain assistance from your child’s school.

3 Recognise & validate their feelings
(anger, fear & sadness are common)
Bullying always elicits strong feelings so make sure kids can share their thoughts and feelings with you.

4 Give them some common coping skills & defense mechanisms
Look for some simple ways to help them handle the bullying such as making sure they stay in pairs, practising a comeback line or even walking and talking confidently.

5 Get the school involved
If your child continues to struggle with bullying contact your child’s school. Resist the temptation to confront suspected bullies, or their families. Teachers generally have very practical, tried and true ways to tackle bullying.

6 Help build your child’s support networks & their self-confidence
Positive peer groups are great protective factors for kids when they are bullied so do all you can to encourage and build their friendship groups inside and outside school.

Michael Grose
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vienna T</td>
<td>PN</td>
<td>For listening carefully for the sounds in words. Well done Vienna!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian S</td>
<td>PN</td>
<td>For trying hard to work quickly to complete tasks on time. A great effort Adrian!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James T</td>
<td>PV</td>
<td>For being a great listener and following instructions carefully. Keep up the super effort James!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarlett V</td>
<td>PV</td>
<td>For being such a kind and caring friend to everyone in PrepV. What a beautiful nature you have Scarlett!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noah H</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>For displaying confidence and pride when sharing your autobiography. We so enjoyed learning more about the wonderful person you are, Noah.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spencer N</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>For tuning in during our class discussions and feeling more confident to share your thinking. We love hearing from you!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara C</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>For always having such thoughtful ideas to contribute to our class discussions. We love hearing about your thinking!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angus R</td>
<td>1T</td>
<td>For cooperating well with the others during group tasks. Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel B</td>
<td>1T</td>
<td>For being a super star writer and writing many writing pieces this term.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah B</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>For your very hard work and determination. I love how you are giving everything a go and enjoy training. Keep it up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice C</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>For the hard work you're putting into your writing. I love how you are editing your writing. Can't wait to read more of your work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris H</td>
<td>2P</td>
<td>For the way he conducts himself during group activities. Chris, you should be proud of the way you lead by example and help those around you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliza B</td>
<td>2P</td>
<td>For the way you have persevered to develop your handwriting and Writes Craft. Keep up the super efforts Eliza.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalie G</td>
<td>3P</td>
<td>For being such an enthusiastic and active participant in all classroom activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James C</td>
<td>3P</td>
<td>For doing an amazing job with completing his homework. I'm so impressed with the content and presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver T</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>For the wonderful start he made to Year 3 written homework! Keep up the great work Oliver.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte E</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>For her thinking when reflecting on fair and unfair situations. Great work Charlotte!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylah G</td>
<td>4C</td>
<td>For her positive attitude to everything! I love seeing your smile each morning Taylah. Stay gorgeous!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson F</td>
<td>4C</td>
<td>For his excellent discoveries on the Banyule Council website - so many fabulous resources for us to use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alec I</td>
<td>4F</td>
<td>For writing such a beautiful prayer. Not only did your words rhyme, but they had wonderful meaning as well. You made me cry!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy C</td>
<td>4F</td>
<td>For her beautiful, focused work of charcoal art. Wonderful concentration and effort Amy!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hi everyone,

This week at OSHClub has been awesome! We made some delicious cheese and vegemite scrolls, we cooked up some orange cupcakes and we made up some playdough that the children made some whacky Masterchef creations.

Please be aware that as our numbers are increasing significantly (particularly on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays) it is becoming more important for parents to book their children in online or to give more notice for an on the day booking. This gives us enough time to ensure we are adequately staffed and able to provide a quality program for you and your children.

If your child/ren are absent from school or other arrangements are made for them, could you please let us know that they will not be attending afterschool care. On the day cancellations/bookings must be made with a phone call or text to the program number on 0401 333 932.

You will not be able to make online bookings or cancellations on the day. Online bookings or cancellations can be made up until midnight the night before.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEXT WEEKS ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Easter Egg Race</td>
<td>Baby Dino Eggs</td>
<td>Sun Moon &amp; Earth Model</td>
<td>Dyed Easter Eggs</td>
<td>Pancakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Friendship Bracelets</td>
<td>Bouncy Ball Making</td>
<td>Pizza Scrolls</td>
<td>Easter Egg Hunt</td>
<td>Easter Cards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0401 333 932
Coordinator: Trent Harkom
Assistants: Recruiting
OSHClub Head Office: 03 8564 9000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
15 March 2015 (Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B)
2Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23; Psalm 136:1-6; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Easter, the celebration of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection, is the clearest manifestation of God’s infinite love for humanity. Out of love God created us and out of love God became one like us in order to reveal himself to us. This extreme love led him to be raised up on a cross.

Today’s readings speak out to us of this infinite loving mercy of God. The reading from the Old Testament reminds us of God’s journey of love with his people Israel. Like us today, the people of Israel often denied God and broke their promises; what we today define as sin! Yet God never gave up on them; he constantly sent them messengers to call them back to be faithful to him. At times God even chastised his people in order to win them back, like the loving parent who chastises the disobedient child: “if you do not carry out the work assigned to you, then you will be grounded for a week!” The parent does not chastise the child out of hatred, but out of love!

The exile into Babylon is seen by the Old Testament as one of these moments of chastisement by God. In their exile the people of God repent and turn back to God: “By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion!” In response God inspires the Persian King Cyrus to release his people from their exile and allow them to return to their home country. In the gospel Jesus is the new Cyrus releasing us not from the exile in Babylon, but from our own sinfulness.

Paul too reminds us of this great divine love in which we live. It is through grace that we are saved! Grace is a total and absolutely free gift from God; nothing we can ever do could gain us our salvation. Our role is simply to accept and respond to God’s love.

Reflecting on his own passion, death and resurrection, Jesus reminds Nicodemus of the incident in the Old Testament were the people of Israel in the desert were once again chastised because of their lack of faith in God. God sent serpents among them and those who were bitten died. As a result of this, the people of Israel turned back to God, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation. Forgiveness and healing came in the form of a bronze serpent that Moses was instructed to place on a pole in such a way that all who had been bitten could look at the serpent and be healed.

The serpent becomes an image of Christ; like the serpent Jesus too will be raised up for all to look at and the crucified Christ becomes an image of salvation. All who look up at Jesus on the cross will be saved from their sins and reconciled with God. Jesus is lifted up on the cross and also raised up in glory; the cross is the throne from which Jesus reigns and leads us. (The Greek word hypsoun used here means both lifted and glorified.)

Standards and banners are lifted up to be seen from a distance for people to follow them. Jesus lifted up on the throne of his cross is for us all the one banner to follow. All who choose to follow Christ become children of God and are reconciled with God. This is the light that Jesus brings into the world, the light of healing and reconciliation, the light of God’s mercy.

Lent is our time to repent, to re-focus our eyes on the banner of the cross to remind us of this great love that God has for us. If God loves us so much as to be ready to die for us, are we ready to once again recommit our life to him?

Fr Mario
ST JOHN’S CATHOLIC PARISH
52 Yarra Street
HEIDELBERG

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.

Parish office:
52 Yarra Street Heidelberg 3084
t: 9457 1066; f: 9459 7874
e: heidelberg@cam.org.au
w: www.cam.org.au/heidelberg

Parish Priest: Fr Mario Zammit
Assistant Priest: Fr Longinus Onyechesi
Sacrament Coordinator: Sr Loreto Lynch RSM
Parish Secretary
Office Hours: 9:30am-3pm, Mon-Tue, Thu-Fri
Parish Primary School:
55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
t: 9459 2963; f: 9459 0133
e: office@stheidelberg.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Nick Marinelli
Hall Hire: Fri mon: 0417972317
10am-5pm (Mon-Fri only)

Weekend Mass times:
Saturday: 6:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
Austen Hospital Mass: 3rd Sunday of the Month at 9:30am.
Weekday Mass: 9:15am
Reparation Hospital Mass:
Tuesday only at 12noon
Rosary: Monday to Saturday after Mass.
Praying the Gospels: Every second and fourth Monday of the month at 7:30pm, in the parish house.
Legion of Mary: Tuesday evening at 7:30pm in the parish house. Info: Sue 9459 8804
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Wednesday: 7:00am - 9:00am;
Thursday: 9:40am - 11:00am;
Friday: 8:00am - 9:00am
Reconciliation:
Saturday at 9:45am & 5:30pm
Baptism: On Sundays at 11:45am, by appointment.
Baptism Information Evening: Last Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the parish house, except Dec and Jan.
Weddings: By appointment.
Parish Pilgrim statue of Mary: In order to have the statue of Mary in your home for one week please contact Marj McBroon 9440 8885.
If a priest is urgently needed and Fr Mario is not available, please contact Fr Wayne Edwards at West Heidelberg Parish on 9457 5794.

14th / 15th March 2015 - 4th Sunday in Lent Yr B
Dear parishioners, visitors and friends,

As we get closer to Good Friday, we are asked to reflect on this great act of love: Jesus who gives himself up for us to reconcile us with the Father. This is the greatest expression of God’s love for us. I am sure that if we were sitting in Jesus’ place, we would have tried everything to run away from the hands of our executioners. Yet Jesus follows through and allows the soldiers to crucify him on the cross.

In today’s gospel passage Jesus refers back to an incident in the Old Testament. When the people of Israel were crossing the desert after leaving Egypt, they protested against God and God sent fiery serpents among them. This led them to ask for forgiveness and God instructed Moses to make a bronze serpent and put it on a pole so that anyone who was bitten by a snake could look up at the bronze serpent and be healed.

Jesus tells us that in the same way as the serpent was lifted up, so also will he be raised up for all to look at him; just as in the Old Testament people looked up at the serpent and were healed, so also now, when we look up at Christ on the cross, we too are healed from our sins.

Jesus on the cross is the sign of God’s ultimate love for us. God who loves us to much that he did not try to stop Jesus from dying on the cross but gave him up for us so we are all saved from our sins and can enjoy our renewed relationship with God.

As we approach this wonderful feast of Easter, am I preparing myself to be reconciled once again with my loving God?

Fr Mario

Making Connections
The darkness of ungodliness and the light of truth are contrasted in this reading. Jesus is called the light of the world because he is the bringer of God’s truth. This Gospel invites us into this light.

Light a candle each night this week as you pray. Proclaim God’s truth and act for the light this week. Carry the light of the Gospel wherever you go.

Please Remember in your prayers
Newly Baptised: Mila Zakanj
Newly Married: Vanessa & Angelo Russo, Melissa & Steven Pardi, Marianne & Sebastian Lofaro.
The Sick: Bernice Clifford, Geraldine Gannon, Bev Wales, Liam Hall (Footo), M J McCann, Carmen Flores, Margaret Turnbull, Umberto & Angela Selva.
Anniversaries: Maxwell Ingram, Mary Ruby Byrnes (nee Collier), Anthony Rochford, Phyllis May Clifford.

Names on the Sick List remain for six weeks, unless otherwise advised.
Please submit any items for the newsletter, including sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, by Thursday morning latest. Thank you.
### Rosters for the weekend: 14 / 15 March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 6.00pm</td>
<td>1st Reader: Peter O’Donohue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 8.30am</td>
<td>2nd Reader: Joan Vandenberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Brendan Harty</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Elizabeth Williamson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Leela Cherubin **</td>
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<td>Michael Leonard</td>
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<td>Xavier Csr</td>
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<td>Margaret Andrews</td>
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### Rosters for the weekend: 21 / 22 March

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Reader</td>
<td>Peter Penson</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Reader</td>
<td>Tom Campbell</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bernadette Ntenza **</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Karen Frost</td>
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<td>Mary Kotefski</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Michelle Penson</td>
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<td>Joan Vandenberg</td>
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<td>Marie Hankin</td>
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<td>Jenny Hollaway</td>
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### Counters

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Bill Barnes, Vincent Chung, Peter O’Donohue</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 March</td>
<td>Jim Cross, Des O’Brien, Peter Peyton</td>
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### Collection Weekly Average for February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Envelopes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loose</td>
<td>$812.64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Envelopes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loose</td>
<td>$405.75</td>
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### Heidelcare Co-ordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 2015</td>
<td>Joan</td>
<td>9459 3889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2015</td>
<td>Rosemary</td>
<td>9459 0729</td>
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</tbody>
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Thank you to everyone who supports St John’s financially.

Please advise the parish office if your credit is lost/stolen or your credit card number or expiry date has changed.

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**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CELEBRATIONS**

**Palm Sunday:** Saturday 28 March, 6:00pm Blessing of the palms in front of parish house garages followed by procession and Mass; Sunday 29 March, 8:30am Mass; 10:30am Blessing of the palms in front of parish house garages followed by procession and Mass; 5:00pm Mass.

**Holy Thursday 2 April,** 7:30pm: Mass of the Lord’s Supper and Washing of the Feet followed by Adoration. Evening Prayer at 10:00pm. Adoration continues after Evening Prayer.

**Good Friday 3 April,** 11:00am: Stations of the Cross in the church and school grounds; 3:00pm: Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion at the OLMC Gym.

**Holy Saturday 4 April,** 9:00am: Morning Prayer; 8:00pm: Easter Vigil.

**Easter Sunday 5 April,** Masses at 8:30am and 10:30am Mass.

*(PLEASE NOTE: No evening Mass on Easter Sunday.)*

**Mass with the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick:** As we prepare for Easter, we will celebrate the Anointing of the Sick on Thursday 26th March at 11:00am. All who are sick and elderly are invited to participate. If you need transport to get to this celebration, please inform Sr Loreto or Fr Mario. Mass will be followed by lunch at St Monica.

**Holy Thursday - Washing of the feet:** Part of the Holy Thursday celebration includes the washing of the feet of twelve people. If you would like to participate in this celebration please put down your name on the sheet provided or speak to Fr Mario.

**Palm Sunday 29th March -** On Palm Sunday parishioners are invited to bring with them palm and olive branches or any other suitable greenery. These will be blessed before the Mass as we celebrate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring some extra pieces for parishioners who do not have access to suitable greenery.

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**Austin Hospital Mass:** will be celebrated this Sunday 15th March. Volunteers please meet at 8:30am for 9:30am Mass at the Chapel. Parishioners are also invited to participate in this Mass to minister to the sick by their presence. Thank you.

**Gold Coin Collection:** The February Gold Coin Collection for the charities in Syria supported by the parish amounted to $914.60. Thank you for your generosity. Our next Gold Coin Collection is on the 28 & 29 March.

**Stations of the Cross:** every Friday in Lent 7:30pm.

**Easter Hamper Raffle:** in aid of our parish charities. Tickets are on sale at all Masses. One ticket for $2, three for $5 and seven for $10. Thank you for all who donated Easter eggs and chocolates.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** On Monday 30th March we gather at 7:30pm for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We start together with a gospel reading and a reflection, followed by individual confession. This will be the last opportunity for Reconciliation before Easter.

**Project Compassion - Food For Life:** Please pick up a copy of each week’s story from the porch. This week we remember people in Nepal.

**St John’s Liturgy Committee:** has a very important role in the life of the parish as it works to enhance the worship of the community. Its role is to better organise our celebrations. Our Liturgy Committee is seeking new members to join and be part of this ministry. For information please contact Fr Mario.

During Lent you can practice penance by doing one of the following: Prayer - Going to Mass, family prayer, a visit to a Church or chapel, reading the Bible, making the Stations of the Cross, praying the Rosary; Self-Denial - not eating meat, sweets or dessert, giving up entertainment to spend time with family, limiting food and drink to give to the poor. Project Compassion is a major means of expressing self-denial in Australia; Helping Others - visiting someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over burdened.

**Free Individual Counselling:** Contact Julie Jensen on 0411 241 005 or julie@changesinbetween.com