Lenten Reflection for this week.

Loving God, we are changed because you love us. Help us to know the depth of your love so that we may never be afraid to speak and act in your name. Shine your light on us so that our hearts and minds are open to doing your will. Amen.

Dear Parents,

It’s just over a week to go to our school fete and no doubt the preparation and organisation of many aspects of the Fete will escalate dramatically over the next week. I have been so impressed with the organisation and enthusiasm of the parents who are working so hard to ensure the success of this event. I shudder to think of the many hours of commitment that they have put into the Fete.

When you enrolled into St John’s, we would have spoken about the importance of volunteering and supporting the school and your children. The fete is a perfect opportunity to commit yourself to one of the many ‘jobs’ that are still available and need to be accounted for on the day especially. Every contribution will be so beneficial and clearly take the load of other parents.

A key way to contribute is to volunteer at one of the many stalls on the day.

You can sign up at: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0848aaac2ba4fb6-stjohns

parents can also find the fete through searching with the following email maureenandonrodney@hotmail.com on signup genius.

I know any help and assistance would be greatly appreciated!

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS – TUESDAY, 1st MARCH

This year’s annual School Photographs will be taken next Tuesday, 1st March.

Summer uniforms MUST be worn by all children. Children who have sport on Tuesday may change into their runners for their P.E/Sports Lesson on that day.

A reminder that all children with shoulder length must have their hair tied back as is required in our School Uniform Policy – no exemptions!
‘Advanced Life Photography’ order envelopes have been sent home and instructions for ordering photographs are on the envelope. Spare envelopes are kept at the office if required.

** Sibling envelopes are also available from the office. You can either have one of your children collect an envelope from the front office or you can order the sibling package online up until 2 working days prior to the photo date.

We strongly encourage that ALL orders, that is, both individual and family/sibling orders be done on-line.

If you choose not to order online, envelopes should be returned NO LATER than Monday, 29th February.

ALL online orders are due by the day of photography, 1st March. (Sibling online orders close 2 working days prior to photo date).

For online orders go to:

advancedlife.com.au
Online code: CQL 7XW JL6

PREP INFORMATION EVENING
This information evening is a wonderful opportunity to be able to hear about Literacy and Numeracy and about some of the approaches that are currently undertaken in the classroom and what you can do to also enhance learning in the home environment.

I encourage all Prep Parents to come along tomorrow evening (Thursday, 25th February) commencing at 7.00pm in the Learning Resource Centre (Library).

Feel free to park in the school yard and you can then easily access the LRC via the main doors on the top yard.

ENROLMENTS FOR SIBLINGS NOW OPEN
Enrolments for siblings who are starting school in 2017 are now open.

Enrolment forms are available from the office. Please indicate to the Office staff that you require a sibling Enrolment Form when collecting your form.

It is imperative that Sibling Enrolment Forms be completed as soon as possible so that planning and determination of school structure for 2017 can take place.

A reminder that within the state of Victoria, your child must be five years of age by 30 April of the year they start school.

IVANHOE DISTRICT SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION (ISSSA) SWIMMING CARNIVAL
As I write this Newsletter, many of our children are taking part in the IDSSA swimming carnival I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the children who were selected into this year’s Swimming Squad. I would also like to thank ALL the children who trained and participated and who unfortunately missed out on selection on this occasion.

My thanks to the parents who made arrangements to ensure their children were able to take part in the ‘selection trials’ and to all those parents who assisted at the trials.

We hope that every member of the squad enjoys their day and swims to the best of their ability. Good luck everyone!!

My thanks to Ms Doutre for all her work at the selection trials and for coordination and planning for today.
SCHOOL FETE

RIDE WRISTBANDS - SAVE $10 ... by purchasing a wristband prior to the Fete!
THIS EARLY BIRD OFFER ENDS THIS MONDAY 29th Feb.

Be mindful, that once your children come to the Fete, they will want to make the most of the rides and the activities. Paying for a number of these over the time that they're here could end up being expensive, so I really encourage you to pre-purchase the 'Ride Wristband', which will give you great savings!!

The wristband gives your child UNLIMITED access to a wide range of rides and activities and you will certainly get great value from the wristband especially by choosing to buy the wristband prior to the Fete.

You can purchase a wristband in 3 easy steps:

Step 1: Go to our booking website at www.trybooking.com/172290
To order your wristbands (Visa, Mastercard and Amex are all accepted)

Step 2: Print a copy of your St John’s Fete wristband payment receipt and keep it somewhere safe until Fete Day - Saturday March 5

Step 3: Bring this receipt along to the Ticketbox at the School Fete and exchange it for your ‘unlimited access’ Fete wristband

You can visit www.stjohnsfete.weebly.com to view the rides.

SCHOOL FETE

EXTENSION CORDS WANTED

Fete organisers are in desperate need of 10m long extension cords or longer. If you could spare one or more, please label it with your name and drop into the school office.

RAFFLE TICKETS RETURNED THIS FRIDAY, 26th FEBRUARY

A reminder that all raffle tickets should also be returned no later than this Friday. Would be wonderful to see every raffle ticket sold!!

Yours sincerely

Nick Marinelli
Principal
Lent - Give of Yourself
In the previous two weeks we have reflected on prayer and fasting as two of the foundational practices of Lent. This week our focus is almsgiving.

Daily life also offers countless opportunities to give of yourself to others (alms), and most don’t involve dipping into your wallet. Give encouragement to the doubting, give a word of praise to the insecure, show kindness to someone who could use a friend, and offer a word of thanks to those whose service of others often goes unappreciated. Give the gift of your attention to someone who simply wants to be noticed. Tell your children stories about people whose values you admire when you gather at mealtime. Don’t be stingy with your smiles—give them freely to everyone you meet. And most important, give your love to those close to you. Hug them, hold them, and tell them what they mean to you. In this way you open your heart to God and others.

So no matter how busy your are in life, with some greater awareness and new perspectives you can consciously pray, fast, and give of yourself this Lent—and you will be ready to celebrate when a joyful dawn breaks upon you Easter morning.

St John’s Parish Family Offertory Gift Roster (Preps)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offertory Gift Roster</th>
<th>Saturday February 27th/Sunday February 28th</th>
<th>Saturday March 5th/Sunday March 6th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00p.m</td>
<td>Chiara Family (Ariana)</td>
<td>De Lucia family (Aden)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30a.m.</td>
<td>Boyd Family (Lucy)</td>
<td>Civitarese family (Ilana)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30a.m.</td>
<td>Daminato Family (Alessia)</td>
<td>Doyle family (Mitchell)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.00p.m</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dadius family (Zavier)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Masses Term 1 - All masses are at 9.15am

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Masses</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 1st</td>
<td>Years 3V and 3F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 3rd</td>
<td>Years 5/6B  5/6C and 5/6W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 8th</td>
<td>Years 4S and 4D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 10th</td>
<td>Years 2N and 2T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 17th</td>
<td>Years 1L and 1P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 22nd</td>
<td>Prep C and Prep P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCHOOL FEES - changes to BSB

The following information appeared in last week's newsletter - unfortunately, the BSB was incorrect.

Please find the correct details below.

2016 Payment Method:
Mastercard, Visa, Cash, Cheque \textit{(made out to St John’s School)} or Direct Banking \textit{(see details below)};

\begin{itemize}
  \item BSB: 083 347
  \item Account No: 657597374
  \item Account Name: St John’s School General Account
\end{itemize}

We can also arrange, through the Catholic Development Fund, the drawing of payments from personal bank or credit card accounts. For this option, you will be required to complete a form, which is available from the school office.

\textbf{ALL SCHOOL FEES AND ANY OUTSTANDING FEES MUST BE PAID BY OCTOBER 20TH, 2016}

\section*{Sport News - Steph Doutre, Sport & Physical Education}

\subsection*{Interschool sport}

Last week we had our first away game. It was a very successful day. It is great to see that the teams are getting stronger every week and students are gaining a better understanding of how the game works and putting that into play, well done everyone. This week we have an away game again against Ivanhoe Grammar, Buckley House. Bat tennis, volleyball and softball boys and girls will be played at the school and cricket will be held at Chelsworth Park. Good luck everyone!

\subsection*{Swimming}

This Wednesday, St John’s swimming team will compete at the Ivanhoe District Swimming Championships at Northcote Aquatic Centre. Thank you to all students who attended the trials and did their best and well done to those students who have made the team. We wish you good luck for your event! A big thank you to all the parents who brought the children and helped out at the trials your help was greatly appreciated and makes the trial run smoothly and more efficiently. A pair of grey goggles were left at the pool last week, please see me if they belong to you.

\section*{Carolyn Walsh - Student Wellbeing/Learning & Teaching Leader}

Parents, do you want to find out more about what your child is learning at school in each subject at each year level?

Need practical tips about what you can do at home to help support your child’s education?

SchoolMate is an essential App for parents of school-aged children in Victoria, Australia.

Produced by Victoria’s Department of Education and Training, SchoolMate will provide parents with a roadmap to help aid their child’s learning at home and at school.
About thinking and learning

Cognitive development
Cognitive development refers to growth in a range of thinking and learning skills, including language, attention, planning, problem-solving and memory. This overview outlines some of the key developments in children’s skills for thinking and learning and suggests ways that parents and carers can support children’s growth in these areas. One of the best ways for parents and carers to support primary school children’s thinking and learning is through taking an active interest in their learning at school so that they can support and build on it at home. International research has found that the involvement of parents and carers with their children’s schooling contributes to children’s achievement at school and has positive effects on their mental health and wellbeing.

How children learn
Although children are born with some inherited tendencies, an environment that stimulates learning and development is necessary to ensure children reach their learning potential. Adults play a vital role in providing stimulation and support for children’s learning. Parents and carers can nurture children’s development through understanding the importance of what children experience in the world around them, and providing experiences that arouse their curiosity and interest. Opportunities for children to be actively involved in learning from their experiences are especially important for their development.

Children’s knowledge grows over time as they build on earlier understandings. When they encounter new experiences, children look for information that they can use to confirm, add to, or change their ideas. For example, when a child experiences a new event, he or she first tries to understand the new experience by matching it to pre-existing ideas. If, however, the new experience doesn’t fit with what the child already knows, it stimulates the child to come up with new ideas or ways of understanding. By adding or adapting old ideas and putting ideas together children build knowledge.
# Developmental patterns in children’s thinking and learning

Most children tend to develop skills for thinking and learning in a predictable sequence (eg children start to tell stories by looking at pictures in a book before they learn to recognise words). However, it is important to remember that each child develops at a different rate and that individual differences are common. Differences may be due to children’s inherited tendencies, the experiences and opportunities they are exposed to, or a combination of both. As children learn to use language in increasingly complex ways it supports further learning and development. Language helps to organise children’s thinking. It allows them to use basic logic and gradually develops their capacities for thinking through situations, solving problems and developing their own ideas.

The following table shows some common examples of how children’s thinking and language develop over time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From 5 years of age, most children...</th>
<th>From 8 years of age, most children...</th>
<th>From 12 years of age, most children...</th>
<th>Skills developed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- can picture and think about objects and events in their minds, such as using realistic objects and/or reasonable substitutes during pretend play (eg they might use a banana as a telephone)</td>
<td>- can think logically about real objects and events that can be seen (eg can easily learn how to use the washing machine when you show them, but may not get it right if you just try telling them)</td>
<td>- are beginning to think in more hypothetical, creative and abstract ways</td>
<td>Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- have a vocabulary of 2,000 words or more, learning as many as 5–10 new words each day</td>
<td>- understand and carry out instructions with multiple steps</td>
<td>- can understand ideas without having hands-on experience</td>
<td>Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- use several words in a sentence</td>
<td>- like to describe personal experiences in great detail</td>
<td>- use longer and more complex sentences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- have a short attention span of approximately 15 minutes</td>
<td>- have an increased ability to focus on one thing at a time</td>
<td>- understand different ways of using language to communicate with others</td>
<td>Attention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- can make simple decisions on their own, (eg deciding what shoes to wear)</td>
<td>- are better at ignoring distractions</td>
<td>- have a longer attention span</td>
<td>Problem-solving and memory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- can memorise basic information (eg address and phone number).</td>
<td>- are proud to complete tasks</td>
<td>- can stay focused on completing a task (eg school assignments)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- have increased problem-solving ability, (eg they may be systematic in looking for a misplaced toy).</td>
<td>- like to solve complex problems</td>
<td>- have an expanded memory ability which improves their long-term recall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What if you have concerns about your child’s development?

The examples provided are a general guide only. It is important to remember that children develop at different rates and in different ways. Often children’s learning and development occur in bursts, with new skills appearing almost overnight. If you are concerned about your child’s development talk with your child’s classroom teacher, a psychologist or counsellor at your child’s school, and/or contact your family doctor to be referred for an assessment by a paediatrician.
The development of thinking skills

Although children already have certain knowledge and skills by the time they start school, school encourages the development of more complex skills. At school, children have new responsibilities, such as completing their work in class and bringing the things they need each day. This requires them to learn to organise themselves and to prioritise important tasks.

During the primary school years, children continue to have many opportunities to build on and improve their cognitive skills in the following areas.

Language

Though learning to read at school is important for developing literacy skills, conversation is also an important way for children to develop language skills. Conversation directs children’s attention to important details of an event or experience and so helps them learn. Parents and carers play a key role in their child’s language and cognitive development during the primary school years. Language involves more than just speaking. It also includes using body language and gestures, listening, and understanding what others say.

You can help children develop these important skills by making time for regular talks with your children where you listen and respond to what they say with full attention. Be sure to remove distractions (e.g., turn off TV, gameboy etc) so you can both focus well.

Attention

Learning to pay attention and to concentrate on one thing at a time for an extended period is an important foundation for children’s learning. Playing games like ‘I Spy’, ‘Simon Says’ and ‘What’s the time Mr. Wolf?’ are creative and effective ways of developing attention skills in young children. As children grow older, they mostly become better at focusing their attention on a particular task and are less easily distracted. Attention also becomes more purposeful, with children gradually becoming better at selecting and focusing on the information most important to a particular task.

Parents and carers can help children learn to focus their attention by pointing out things that are especially important or interesting, or by asking children for feedback about what they have noticed. For example, asking specific questions such as, “Which was your favourite animal at the zoo today?” and then following up with, “What did you notice that was special about it?” helps to cue children to pay attention and extends their thinking skills.

Note: It is normal for many young children to have difficulty focusing their attention. This can generally be addressed with guidance and practice.

Memory

Memory is crucial for learning as children need to be able to retain previously learned ideas so they can build on them. As children get older, the amount of knowledge they can keep in their long-term memory increases, but the amount they can hold in short-term memory is limited. When there is a lot of information to remember, giving children a catchy saying or rhyme to tie it to can be very useful. For instance, when you were in primary school you probably learned a way to remember the number of days in each month. Using strategies like these make it much easier to remember certain types of information.

Planning and problem-solving

Simple planning begins early in life and becomes more effective with age. Primary school-aged children are more able than preschoolers to plan what they will do before they act. Skills for planning and problem-solving continue to develop as children are taught at school to think through and solve problems. Parents and carers can support this kind of learning by asking questions such as, “What if...?” or “How could we solve this?” and then guiding children through the steps of problem-solving.
The development of thinking skills – continued

Thinking about thinking

Children’s cognitive development is boosted when they develop skills for keeping track of their own thinking processes. These skills help children to think through what to do, and know whether they are succeeding or when to ask for help. Thinking about their own thinking helps children become more independent learners. For example, if children can monitor their understanding of a story as they are reading it, they will know themselves if they need to re-read a particular section or look for clues in the surrounding text and pictures to help them understand.

Understanding the views of others

Understanding that other people have different views develops with age. Young children tend to believe that everyone thinks in the same way they do. Hearing the perspectives of others helps to stimulate children’s thinking. For this reason, children often benefit from classroom activities that involve them learning together in small groups. Cooperative learning with other children also encourages positive social behaviour.

Key points for supporting children’s thinking and learning

Parents and carers can support children’s learning in many ways. Taking an active interest in the process of learning (and not just the product or outcome) helps children see that learning is fun. Getting to know your children’s strengths and weaknesses allows you to match tasks to their level of ability and development. This also increases the likelihood that they will succeed, helping them build a belief in their own abilities and encouraging them to attempt further tasks.

Encourage children and build confidence

Praise and acknowledge children’s attempts and not just their successes. Showing children you value their effort helps to give them the confidence to keep trying.

Remove distractions

Children need focused time to learn and think. Help children develop attention and concentration by making sure that quiet time is set aside for homework and other learning tasks without TV or other distractions. Encouraging and rewarding children for concentrating and persisting with learning tasks will support good study habits and effective learning.

Provide ‘scaffolding’ for children’s learning

Extend children’s learning by asking questions, giving children hints and prompts and guide them step-by-step to build their skills so they can reach the point of completing the whole task on their own.
APPLICATION FOR INSTRUMENTAL TUITION 2016
St John’s Students
Years 3-6

1. Tuition is available for:
   Clarinet, Flute, Percussion, Saxophone, Trombone, Trumpet, Euphonium,
   Violin, Guitar, Voice and Piano.

2. Lessons are timetabled weekly (most often on the same day) and will be conducted
   after 11am where possible. The timetable will also endeavour to avoid lessons during
   specialist classes and Interschool Sports.

3. Lessons go for 30 minutes and are conducted on either a private or shared basis. Piano
   lessons are only offer on a private basis.

4. Where possible lessons will be conducted at St John’s however if this is not possible
   students will be picked up from St John’s office 5 minutes prior to their lesson time and
   taken back at the conclusion of their lesson by the OLMC Performing Arts
   Assistant/Music Teacher.

5. Lessons, which are missed because of school activities, will be made up provided the
   OLMC Music Office is given two school days notice. Where notice is not given for
   student absence, the lesson will not be made up

6. If your child is absent from school on the day of their lesson, you are asked to contact
   OLMC Music before 9.00am on 9455 7556, or send an email to
   music@olmcheidelberg.catholic.edu.au.
   All notifications after 9.00am will mean you will be charged for the lesson and no
   makeup time will be provided.

7. The Music program is an ensemble based program. Any student learning a band
   instrument is expected to be a part of a St John’s training band and attend band
   rehearsals. The commencement date of these rehearsals will be advised.

8. Invoices will be sent directly to Parents at the start of each semester. Payment is to be
   made within the first 2 weeks of semester. Any lessons not conducted of the initial 14
   lesson charge will be refunded at the end of semester.

9. It is expected students will undertake a semester of lessons. To discontinue lessons
   we ask for written notification a term in advance.

10. Private: 30 minutes $40.32 x 14 = $564.58
     Shared: 30 minutes $26.60x 14 = $372.40

Enquiries:
Ms Gabrielle Paton
OLMC Performing Arts Administration Officer
9455 7556 music@olmcheidelberg.catholic.edu.au

Mr. Nick Marinelli
Principal St John’s Heidelberg

Ms. Jo-Anne Mileto
Instrumental Music Coordinator at OLMC
APPLICATION FOR INSTRUMENTAL TUITION 2016
St John’s Students
Years 3-6

Student Name: ________________________________

Year Level: ______________________________

Instrument Preference: 1 __________________________________________

2 __________________________________________

3 __________________________________________

Experience: __________________________________________

______________________________________________

Lesson type (Please Circle)
Charge rate per semester:

Private: $548.80 or Shared: $352.80

Parent name: __________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

______________________________________________

Phone Number (H) ____________________________

(W) ____________________________

(M) ____________________________

Email address: __________________________________________

I request that my child take instrumental music lessons in 2016. I have read the conditions detailed on the Application for Instrumental Tuition, and agree to fulfill them. I agree to my child being escorted to and from music lessons by an OLMC staff member.

PARENT’S NAME: __________________________________________

SIGNATURE: __________________________________________

DATE: __________________________________________
All MONSTER RAFFLE TICKETS are due back Friday 26th February 2016.

All unsold tickets MUST be returned back to the school.

A MONSTER Thank you to everyone for all your efforts in selling raffle tickets to raise funds for our school!

* This monster raffle is running exclusively as part of our School Fete and we have 5 amazing prizes up for grabs

* The tickets are only $3 each (or 4 for $10). For every ticket sold, please ensure the name, address and phone number are recorded on each ticket stub.

**STUDENT AWARDS**


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**Italian School**

Associazione Culturale "L'Aurora" conducts Italian School at St Martin of Tours Primary School each Saturday afternoon from 1.30 - 4.00pm. If you are interested please check the information on the website below or attend in person to obtain further details. All new students regardless of age or ability WELCOME. (5yrs +)


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**BIRTHDAYS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 24</td>
<td>Hugh T</td>
<td>2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Venetia V</td>
<td>5/6W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>Aden D</td>
<td>Prep P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gus T</td>
<td>5/6W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td>Mackenzie</td>
<td>B 3V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mitchell D</td>
<td>Prep P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 28</td>
<td>Annabel</td>
<td>B 4D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Hugh L</td>
<td>4S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zara V</td>
<td>1P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Be in it to Win it...

Monster Raffle

Dear Students and Parents,

We have a fantastic Monster Raffle on offer, with 5 major prizes up for grabs:

1st Prize: La Hacienda Lorenzo Wood fired Outdoor oven AND Fisher & Paykel P120RS 115L SS Bar fridge (valued at $800). Donated by Masters Preston

2nd Prize: Xbox 360 Console (valued at $400). Donated by Good Guys Preston

3rd Prize: 2 x Slazenger Tennis racquets (valued at $200). Donated by St John’s Tennis Club

4th Prize: 4 x Village Gold Class Movie tickets (valued at $160). Donated by Riitano family

5th Prize: Luna Park Family pass (valued at $150). Donated by Luna Park

Please find attached a booklet of 12 tickets for $3 each (or 4 for $10). We would love for you, your family and your friends to purchase one or more tickets. For every ticket sold, please ensure the name, address and phone number are recorded on each ticket stub.

All ticket stubs, money (and any unsold tickets) MUST be returned to your child’s class in an envelope marked “Fete Monster Raffle” by Friday 26th February 2016.

The draw will take place on Sat 5th March at our School Fete (on the Main Stage at 4pm). Winners will be notified by phone.

Thanks for your support!!!

St John’s Fete Committee
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
• $125 for primary school students
• $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
As we journey deeper into this season of Lent, the readings today remind us of a reality much bigger than ourselves: our true homeland is in heaven. While we live, participate and enjoy life here on earth, we need to constantly focus our attention on our one true homeland: heaven.

In the gospel reading, Jesus invites three of his disciples to join him in prayer at the top of a mountain. There the three disciples participate in a vision that takes them beyond their human experience. In the gospel according to Luke, this story is strategically placed between two predictions of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection. As Christians we live our life in a healthy tension between Christ’s passion and death and his resurrection.

Like the Peter, John and James, we can easily identify with passion and death; it is part of our life, of our daily experience. We panic and try to run away from moments of misunderstanding, relationship breakdowns and pain, both physical and emotional. On the mountain Jesus wants his disciples to get a foretaste the resurrection: the whole person of Jesus shone with his glory. Resurrection and glory do not come without passion. Moses and Elijah, the whole Hebrew Scriptures, are join Jesus talking to him about his passing. Jesus has to suffer and die before he enters into his glory.

Peter takes the initiative and voices our own feelings: how good is this Lord! Forget about going back down to the others: let us stay here! But the voice of the Father from the cloud invites us to ‘Listen to Jesus.’ There are no short cuts to the resurrection and life; this can only be achieved through the passion and death.

The transfiguration is a foretaste of Jesus’ real glory. In life we too experience our moments of transfiguration and resurrection. We experience these moments in order to be encouraged to keep our focus fixed on our destination: our real homeland in God.

While it is easy for us to recognise our painful moments, we find it much more difficult to identify our moments of transfiguration and resurrection in this life. We feel the pain of the passion, but when the pain is over we struggle to recognise and honour the growth and new life that we have achieved. Like the disciples we are invited to live in this healthy tension between these two different moments, until we get to our one true homeland.

In the reading from Genesis we see God who enters into a covenant with Abram. Animals are cut in half and those entering into the covenant walk between the halves, as if to declare ‘this is what will happen to us if we renege on this covenant!’ The fire of God passes between the halves indicating God’s acceptance of this covenant. God promises Abram, and us, fullness of life. This fullness of life we experience first here in our small resurrections, and in its fullness in heaven.

In the New Testament, the sacrifice of Abram is offered by Christ on the cross and at the Eucharist. God continues his promise to us through Christ. But our experience of the resurrection can only be achieved by going through our passion and death.

As we continue on our journey towards the celebration of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection, let us continue to celebrate daily our own passion and death, as we look forward for our own experience of resurrection and transfiguration here on earth and in the new life to come.

Fr Mario
ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PARISH
52 Yarra Street
HEIDELBERG
Jubilee Holy Year of Mercy

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: 9457 7874
e: heidelberg@cam.org.au
w: www.cam.org.au/Heidelberg
facebook/stjohnheidelberg
Parish Priest: Fr Mario Zammit
Assistant Priest: Fr Arickiaraj Vigilam (Raj)
Sacrament Coordinator:
Sr Loreto Lynch RSM
Parish Secretary: Mary Peers
Office Hours:
9:30am-2:30pm, Mon-Tue, Thu-Fri
Parish Pastoral Council: Maureen Hegarty
Parish Primary School:
55 Cape St Heidelberg 3084
t: 9459 2863; f: 9459 0133
e: office@stjohnheidelberg.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Nick Marinelli
Hall Hire: 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
Repatriation 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 night at 7:30pm in the parish house. Info: Sue 9459 8604
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Wednesday: 7:30pm - 9:00pm;
Thursday: 9:00am - 11:00am,
Friday: 8:00am - 9:00am
Reconciliation:
Saturday at 9:45am & 5:30pm
or by appointment
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 McBroom 9440 8885.
If a priest is urgently needed and none is available at St John’s, please contact Fr Wayne Edwards at West Heidelberg parish on 9457 5794.

20th / 21st February 2016 - 2nd Sunday in Lent Yr C
Dear Fr Mario, Fr Raj, Fr Ted and parishioners of St John’s,
Last week, I had the opportunity to experience something of the life of St John’s. I was able to visit the primary school, to meet the principal of OLMC, to talk with the Catholic visitors of the local hospitals from the parish, to join with a parish weekday Mass and the Friday Stations of the Cross, to talk with the priests of the parish, to join you for the weekend Masses and to speak with parishioners.
There is so much that is vital and life-giving in the parish.
Among many other things, I want to mention your program of visiting patients and providing pastoral care for those in the hospitals. This is one of the works of mercy commended to us by the Church in this Jubilee Year of Mercy and is well organised and staffed. I was proud to come to understand the work and meet the participants.
I very much enjoyed meeting the students and staff of St John’s primary school – until recently schools were our natural environment – and was impressed with the manners, cheerfulness and intelligence of the students and the skill, generosity and friendliness of the staff. This ministry is a powerful way for the parish to reach out to our young people and to support them and their families in their fully rounded growth. I encourage the school to continue to look for ways to engage with the wider parish and to lead our families there to feel at home with our community and in our Church worship.
The religious ceremonies were marked by faith, devotion, friendliness and a sense of community – a lovely mix. The Church building is venerable and beautiful but it is also relatively small. I understand that on big occasions, in order to accommodate the community, you celebrate in the gymnasium. I affirm both the value of the community gathering and the value of reverence. We have to continue to work to build both of these goods in our liturgies and I ask you to work with Fr Mario as he tries to balance them in the best interests of the whole community.
Fr Mario, Fr Raj and Fr Ted, I thank you for sharing your life and your faith with this community. On behalf of the Church of Melbourne, I express my gratitude.
I take fond memories from my visit to Heidelberg and look forward to future visits.
God bless you all.
+ Mark Edwards OMI
Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne

Please Remember in your prayers
Recently Married: Josie and Brandon Franjic.
The Sick: Francesco Valsorda, Patricia Wong, Karmnu Galea, Bern Green, Young Ok Dowling, Elizabeth Larkin, M J McCann, Debbie Soric, David Kemp, Maree Doherty. Recently Deceased: Maureen Altamore.
Anniversaries: Angelo Vetrone, Francis Montalto, Timothy White, Rita Mant, Kazik Radzikowski, Wally Duff, Brian Hankan, Michael Hankan, Antina & Gino Plemarni.
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.
St John’s Fete: on Saturday 5th March. Buy wristbands for the rides from: www.trybooking.com All funds go to support works in the school.

Gold Coin Collection: The January Gold Coin Collection amounted to $772.80. Thank you for your generosity. Our next Gold Coin Collection is on the 27 & 28 February.

Stations of the Cross: During the Fridays of Lent we meet at 7:30pm to pray the traditional prayer of the Way of the Cross, in preparation for the celebration of the Lord’s passion and death.

Lectio Divina during Lent: As we journey through Lent to Easter, a session of praying with scripture is being offered at the parish house on Mondays at 7:30pm. During these meetings we gather to listen, reflect and pray the Word of God, allowing it to continue to take root and influence our lives. All welcome.

Celebrating the 165th Anniversary of Our Parish: As a way of celebrating this anniversary, we would like to print a pictorial memorial of our parish. This will comprise photos of different groups and activities. We appeal to any parishioners who have photos of events and activities to give us a copy. All originals will be returned to their owners.

St John’s Catholic Playgroup: available to the St John’s Catholic Parish and Primary School Community. Every Monday from 9:15am. Contact Vanessa Javier or Bernadette Inman sjcplaygroup@gmail.com

Fete Garden Stall: Thank you to all who have made enquiries or offers of plants for the Garden Stall. It is not too late to make a donation. There will be a donation point outside the front porch of the presbytery from next Sunday 28th February. Look out for the black box! Any queries, please contact Nicole Pellizzaro on 0407047878.

Austin Mass: will be celebrated this Sunday 21st February. 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.

An Evening with Francis Sullivan: CEO of the Truth, Justice and Healing Council, hosted by the Yarra Deaconry, on Wednesday 9th March from 7:30pm to 9:00pm at OLMC Mercedes Hogan Theatre - Yarra St, Heidelberg (parking available on the courts the rear of the building). In 2013 the Federal Government announced the establishment of a Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Consequently the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia established this Council in recognition of the imperative for the Church to address the past openly and honestly. The Council oversees the Church's engagement with the Royal Commission. Please put this important event in your diary.

St John’s Fete Raffle: First Prize single bed quilt by award winning quilt designer Christine Heffernan. Raffle tickets available after all Masses. One ticket for $3 or five tickets for $10.

St John’s Fete Cake Stall: Calling all Parish Bakers. We need your help with baked goodies. Please bake and donate a cake to the cake stall at the fete. Cake kits available at the church entrance. Thank you for your continuous support.

Free Counselling: available at the St John’s parish house by arrangement. Contact Julie Jensen, a registered counsellor, on 0411 241005.

With Open Hands: Friday 26th February 8:00pm to Sunday 28th 3:00pm at Pallotti College, Millgrove. Cost $190 inclusive all meals & accommodation (private room with shared bathroom). Contact Lorraine 0402 217123 or lorraine613@bigpond.com
Hello St John’s Families,

Our 165th Anniversary Book is now underway which will celebrate and remember the life & times of the last 165 years here at St John’s.

We would like to subsidise the cost of this special addition Anniversary Book for each family but we need yearbook sponsors to make this a reality. We are also giving 5th and 6th graders in the parish the opportunity to help add designs to pages which will be chosen by the 165th committee and added to the final product.

We have two levels of yearbook sponsors. Sponsors will have the opportunity to have their names or business name printed on the bottom of a page of the book. Business sponsors have the opportunity to place their business logo or card on the sponsor page of the yearbook.

Our levels of sponsorship are as follows:
Family/Individual: $100
Business: $250

If you or your business would like to sponsor the Anniversary Book, please complete the form below and return to Mary in the presbytery office with payment by THURSDAY 17th MARCH.

Thank you,

St John’s 165th Committee

I would like to Sponsor the 165th Anniversary Book
Name (as it should appear in the Yearbook): ____________________________
[eg. Donated by the Citizen Family or In Loving Memory of Jane Citizen or Proudly Supported by Citizen Cars]

Tick here if you wish your donation to remain anonymous: _____

Donation Amount: __________________
*Business donors, please send a jpeg of your logo/card to be included to pmpenson@hotmail.com

Credit Card Payment: ________________
Expiry: ________________ CSC: ________________

Name: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________
COME PLAY AT TEMPLESTOWE UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

Player registrations are now open for our EXCITING U6 & U7 PROGRAM

Templestowe United FC is offering a terrific program starting on the 9th of April 2016 for kids to learn soccer skills in a fun, safe and healthy environment.

The program runs at the Veneto Club on the synthetic pitch.

Come to our Pre Season sign up day to register at 10am till 11.30am on the 19th of March at the Veneto Club (near the kiosk).
Alternatively you can register by downloading a registration form at http://templestoweeunitedfc.com

Season commences Saturday 9th April 2016
Places are strictly limited. So hurry to secure your registration.

For further information/registration please email info@templestoweeunitedfc.com
www.templestoweeunitedfc.com
Or call: 0412 576 825

New Year, Fresh Wardrobe

Exclusive offer to St John’s Families and Friends, normally valued at $300.

Spend $250 on a Personal Wardrobe Integration and $50 will be donated to our 2016 School Fete.

To book now call Emma Doyle on 0412827595 or email emmad Doyle@thepersonalstylist.com.au
Promotion ends March 5 2016

Heidelberg Auskick Centre

Welcome to another fun filled and action packed season of Auskick at Heidelberg Auskick Centre.

When:
Friday Nights 5.30pm-6.30pm
KEEP THE WEEKENDS FREE.

This year our season will commence on Friday 18 March.
Please find below all the details you need to register to be part of the fun at Heidelberg Auskick Centre in 2016.

Where:
Heidelberg Football Club, Warringal Park, Heidelberg

Cost:
$85.00 Includes Home Delivery of Auskick Benefits Pack
(15 Weeks of fun and activities)

Register:
aflauskick.com.au: Heidelberg Auskick: Follow payment steps
All payment is to be made online.

Dates:
First Session: Friday 18 March
April: 15, 22, 29
May: 6, 13, 20, 27
June: 3, 17, 24
July: 15, 22, 29
August: Friday 5th Presentation Night.