



# ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

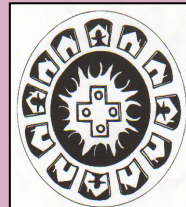
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Office Hours:

Mon & Tue 9am - 3pm | Wed - Fri, 9am - 4pm



*Christ in community...the  
heart of our faith*

Third Sunday of Easter

26 April 2020



Readings for  
this week:

Acts 2:14, 22-33  
1 Peter 1:17-21  
Luke 24:13-35



Readings for  
next Sunday:

Acts 2:14, 36-41  
1 Peter 2:20-25  
John 10:1-10



## Liturgical Jottings Spiritual Communion

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent anyone from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion means uniting oneself in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid sin.

During the COVID pandemic, many are viewing Mass at Home or over the internet. The celebrant invites the distance-congregation to join in the prayer of Spiritual Communion (see right column) so that they feel connected to the Mass and one another.

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## Looking at the Gospels

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus, proclaimed in today's Gospel, travel on a unique journey which has many implications for them, other disciples and for us today. Firstly it becomes a moment of conversion for them. They are despondent and shattered by the death of Jesus. Secondly after recognising the Risen Christ they are overcome with joy and enthusiasm. They quickly reversed their journey, despite the lateness of the hour to share their experiences with the Twelve.

Some years ago I had a day in London waiting for a flight home. Not to waste the opportunity I visited the NGA and arrived just in time to hear a lecture on Caravaggio's painting "The Supper at Emmaus" The art expert, an Australian, enthralled his audience for over an hour. He retold the story, and highlighted the genius of the artist in drawing the two companions out of the painting by the torn sleeve but at the same time drawing the viewers into the scene by the magnanimous arms gesture of the other. We are invited to share the meal, listen to the Lord and go out to spread the [good] news. The lecture and the painting gave me material for many a homily and much food for prayer. I was so impressed I bought the painting. Well, not really, but four A4 prints of the work.

## Good Idea for the Week: Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there And unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

*God of love and liberty, we bring our thanks this day for  
the peace and security we enjoy, which was won for us  
through the courage and devotion of those who gave their  
lives in time of war. We pray that their labour and sacrifice  
may not be in vain, but that their spirit may live on in us  
and in generations to come. That the liberty, truth and  
justice which they sought to preserve may be seen and  
known in all the nations upon earth. This we pray in the  
name of the one who gave his life for the sake of the  
world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*~ From [www.anzacday.org.au/prayers-for-anzac-day-services](http://www.anzacday.org.au/prayers-for-anzac-day-services)*



**We pray for the four Police Officers who tragically lost their lives this week in the line of duty.**

**We pray for their families that the Holy Spirit will give them strength to face each day.**

**We pray for members of Victoria Police that they may continue to serve the people with courage and commitment.**

*'During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you.'*

*~ Excerpt from the poem, Footprints.*

**May they rest in peace.**

## Youth and Young Adults News

### Stronger Tonight

We'll be bringing our next Stronger Rally right to you in the comfort of your own home! Keep **Friday 1st May** free from about 6.15pm until around 8.30pm and join us and our special guests for the evening! Bishop Shane Mackinlay, Gen Bryant, Fr Rob Galea, and a special international guest will all be making an appearance.

We invite all young people aged 14-26 to join us on the Stronger Youth YouTube Channel while we chat, listen to some music and pray.

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### Sandhurst Youth Ministry's Weekday Morning Prayer

To help everyone get their day started, Sandhurst Youth Ministry will be posting weekday Morning Prayer videos at 8:30am. Videos are posted on the Sandhurst Youth YouTube Channel. If you are aged 15-30 and would like to be involved, please get in touch with Ruth: [ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

**Mass with Bishop Shane at St Kilian's will continue to be livestreamed on Sundays at 10am**  
**[www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au](http://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au)**

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE

#### DROP OFF POINT BACK TO NORMAL!

The mail slot at the front of the Parish Office is accessible again and the plumbing issues have been resolved. Thanks for your patience.

**A sincere THANK YOU to those who have used this option to pass on your contributions.**

*A key was found in a Project Compassion box that had been handed in— if it's yours please phone the parish office to arrange collection.*

### Project Compassion

The parish has raised \$2,174.35 thus far for Caritas- Project Compassion.

If you would like to donate, can be dropped off through the mail slot near the Parish office or you can go online to: [caritas.org.au](http://caritas.org.au)



## ANZAC Day

Anzac Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand that broadly commemorates all Australians and New Zealanders "who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations" and "the contribution and suffering of all those who have served". Observed on 25 April each year, Anzac Day was originally devised to honour the members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps who served in the Gallipoli Campaign, their first engagement in the First World War.



Monday 27th April is the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Patroness of our Diocese.

### An update on Fr Ted Harte— keep him in your prayers

I have just returned from a visit to Fr Ted Harte. He recognised me and was able to talk briefly, before we prayed the Our Father together. He asked me to pass on his thanks to everybody who is praying for him and his appreciation of those who are caring for him at Bendigo Health. His nephew and sister were also able to visit him this afternoon.

~ Bishop Shane

### Men's Group

Our Men's group are continuing to meet via a conferencing app called Zoom, one of the group shares a reflection on the Friday which the group will read, then our normal meeting takes place on Saturday morning via zoom, if you would like to join in these meetings please email or call the Parish and I will include you, our group continues to look at ways we can support each other through this strange new world, believing there is always a light shining in the darkness if you have the courage to search for it.

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### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults "RCIA"

Our RCIA group are waiting patiently in the wings until we gather again for mass as a Parish community. The Parish RCIA team is in contact with them all, we share a weekly reflection and a topic for them to reflect on, they are a very strong group and long for the day of being fully initiated into the Catholic faith and join fully in the life of St Brendan's Parish please keep them in your prayers.

~ Anthony

**Recently Deceased:** Len Cummins, Betty Duncan, Sr Mary Sebastian (Josephite sister).

**Anniversaries:** John Kilmartin, Margaret McNally, Pelligrino & Pelligrina Vinduci, Eric Clohesy.

**Fr Joe will pray intentions at a Private Mass - please phone or email [shepparton@cdos.org.au](mailto:shepparton@cdos.org.au)**