



ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

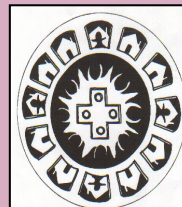
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*Christ in community...the
heart of our faith*

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)

3 May 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

Letters of St Peter

As the Gospels of third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent, Year A, focus on instruction about Baptism and particularly relevant for the RCIA, so too are the Second Readings of the Sunday of Easter Year A. They are taken from the first letter of St Peter. This letter addresses many themes of Baptism. We may call this letter a presentation of post-baptismal catechesis. From the Second to the Seventh Sundays of Easter the themes in the letter are

- rebirth in Christ,
- redeemed by his blood,
- healed by Christ and united by the shepherd,
- made a holy and priestly people,
- Risen Christ is our hope, and
- reception of the Spirit.

Looking at the Readings

The first reading is Peter's speech at Pentecost. We celebrate Pentecost in four week's time, but today we listen to St Peter's talk to the large gathering afterwards. The Lectionary doesn't follow strict chronological order but has a catechetical, theological pattern. The initial preaching of the Apostles after the resurrection is "Jesus is Risen! He is Lord!"

The Second reading (1 Peter) freely quotes the Prophet Isaiah's passage on the suffering servant (Is 53:5-12) and associates the servant with Christ and now with all Christians. By our baptism into Christ we take on Christ's suffering, death and resurrection.

This fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. This year we have the opening verses of John Chapter 10, an introduction to the Good Shepherd teaching. This week Christ says: "I am the Gate" to the sheepfold, to safety, to the fullness of life. Next year on this Sunday we read from John 10:11-18: "I am the Good Shepherd" and in year C, John 10:27-30, the conclusion: "I know my sheep, ... they listen to my voice ... and the Father and I are one." Christ's words today, I am the gate" offers his disciples authenticity, assurance and security over any other influences or powers in our world.

Prayer for the Week

O God, you never cease to call even those far away, for it is your will that all be drawn into one fold. Attune our ears to the voice of the Good Shepherd, who leads us always to you, that we may find under your tender protection life in all its fullness. (1998 ICEL Missal, Year A)

Pope Francis' Urbi et Orbi Message 2020

In these weeks, the lives of millions of people have suddenly changed. For many, remaining at home has been an opportunity to reflect, to withdraw from the frenetic pace of life, stay with loved ones and enjoy their company. For many, though, this is also a time of worry about an uncertain future, about jobs that are at risk and about other consequences of the current crisis. I encourage political leaders to work actively for the common good, to provide the means and resources needed to enable everyone to lead a dignified life and, when circumstances allow, to assist them in resuming their normal daily activities.

On the Lighter Side

At children's liturgy of the Word, after the gospel was read the leader talked about shepherds leading sheep to pasture, and protecting them from wild animals and thieves. She asked who is our Shepherd today? A child quickly replied: "Jesus!" Then what is our parish pastor? Another quick reply: "he is Jesus' sheepdog!"



Congratulations to all married couples who are celebrating their Wedding Anniversary.

Dom and Betty Segafredo are celebrating 60 years of marriage this week.

May is the month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Free Online Concert

On Saturday, 9th May, **Gary Pinto**, Aria award winning artist and musical mentor to the stars will lead an all-star music line-up for the Project Compassion COVID-19 online benefit Concert.

Gary recently penned a powerful tune for Caritas Australia, to support Project Compassion, with its theme of 'Let's Go Further, Together'. Called Walk With Me, it's a song about walking in solidarity with the poor. Now, Gary would like to Go Further, Together, by bringing Australian and International musicians from their lounge rooms to yours!

Don't miss it! To view the concert, you'll need to register at: caritas.org.au/loungeroomsessions

Serra Club

This week is known as *Good Shepherd Sunday* when a seminarian would often come out to the parishes and share his testimony with the faithful. Attached are some prayers for vocations and for our priests. Some of these prayers we recite at our monthly Serra Club gathering and during holy hour after 8am mass on Good Shepherd Sunday.

Pope Francis – Message for 2020 World Day of Vocations

'Take heart, do not be afraid! Jesus is at our side, and if we acknowledge him as the one Lord of our lives, he will stretch out his hand, take hold of us, and save us.'

'The Lord knows that a fundamental life choice - like marriage or special consecration to his service - calls for courage. He knows the questions, doubts and difficulties that toss the boat of our heart, and so he reassures us: "Take heart, it is I; have no fear".

Mass with Bishop Shane at St Kilian's will continue to be livestreamed on Sundays at 10am
www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au

If you have any stories that you would like to share in the bulletin eg: wedding anniversaries, we would love to hear from you! (Must be with permission)
Please phone 5821 2633 or email the parish: shepparton@cdos.org.au

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE

Envelopes can be dropped off into the mail slot near the Parish office.

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

Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter Update

Greetings from isolation. Many parishioners would be aware of our decision to continue with the planning for the Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter. Given our current challenges and necessary restrictions with COVID-19, we are unable to accommodate guests in 2020. All things being equal, we will implement the Winter Night Shelter in 2021.

10 churches and/or faith communities have committed to the Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter – Seventh Day Adventist Church, St Brendan's Catholic Church, St Mary's Catholic Church – Mooroopna, Shepparton Salvation Army, Shepparton Uniting Church, GV Christian Fellowship, St Augustine's Anglican Church, South Shepparton Community Church, St Mel's Catholic Church, Faith Church – Ice Breaker GV.

Greater Shepparton City Council – Community Matching Grant. Last week we were notified that we have been successful with our application for a Community Matching Grant. Our thanks are extended to the City Council for providing us with this grant. The grant will be used to purchase necessary equipment for the Winter Night Shelter.

Brenda Keenan, Project Coordinator

Recently Deceased: Mario Martin

Anniversaries: Nellie Gledhill, Albert Mori.

Fr Joe will pray intentions at a Private Mass - please phone or email shepparton@cdos.org.au