

**Recently Deceased:** Ann McCloskey, Hunter Boyle.

**Anniversaries:** Mary Hendy (Mother of Rosey Kilmartin), James Clurey, Mary & Maurice Boschetti, Bill & Martha Kreuger.



**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is beginning on Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September at 7.30pm. This process will look very different this year, with our meetings happening via zoom, until we can meet face to face again. We have five people very keen to begin learning what it means to be a Catholic in the church of today. I ask you to please keep them in your prayers and if you know of anyone who would like to join the RCIA please pass on their details and I can contact them. Email: [anthonypastoral@bigpond.com](mailto:anthonypastoral@bigpond.com) or phone 5821 2633 Thursdays and Fridays. Our RCIA group who were to be received in to the church back in April are waiting patiently until our churches are open again, please keep them in your prayers as well.

### The Pastoral View - Hope

The resurrection is the event as Christians that allows us to Hope when all seems dark and devoid of life. Hope captivates me, it is more than optimism, as Pope Francis says, it is a gift from heaven, which we could not have earned on our own. Throughout history there have been many times when situations have seemed hopeless, at times like these often a person or a community come forward with a new idea or vision for moving forward, out of the darkness into the light. It is inspiring to recall these times and the people, ordinary people who have had the courage to listen to the deeper voice and to respond with action that might go against what is seen as possible.

I recently heard Archbishop Mark Coleridge calling for an Apostolic imagination, something new is needed he said. I think this time of isolation and disruption is a time to invite this new vision into our own lives and in turn to change our view of the world around us. I am often amazed at the example creation and our seasons give us. Creation is constantly renewing itself reaching upwards. It inures all kinds of destruction, fire, flood, drought, human interference, and the coldness of winter prepares the fruits of a summer harvest.

Our creator God has a vision for all things including us, our hope must lie within the miracle of a rebirth or resurrection, the new growth will be different from before more beautiful, more life giving for ourselves and all around us this must be our hope, and how can we prepare our hearts for this grace.

Pope Francis said, "How many people, in these sad days, are sowing seeds of hope! With small gestures of care, affection and prayer."

~ Anthony Kilmartin

#### A Prayer by Michael Leunig

Dear God

We celebrate spring's returning and the rejuvenation of the natural world. Let us be moved by this vast and gentle insistence that goodness shall return, that warmth and life shall succeed, and help us to understand our place within this miracle. Let us see that as a bird now builds its nest, bravely, with bits and pieces, so must we build human faith. It is our simple duty; it is the highest art; it is our natural and vital role within the miracle of spring: the creation of faith. Amen

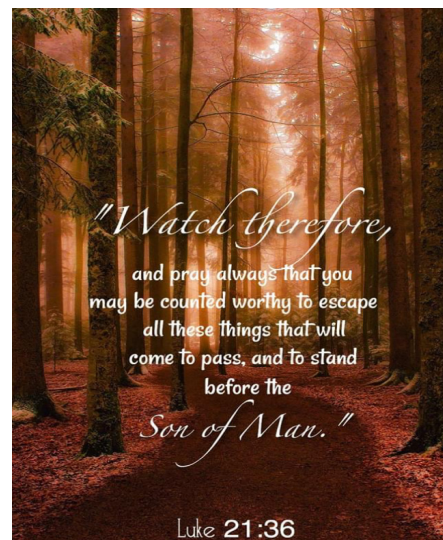


**Ashley & Vanessa Madeira**

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302 Wyndham St Shepparton  
5821 0311  
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Personalised thorough eye  
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#### AFL Tipping Competition Update

After Round 12, Damien Preston leads the field with 75 correct tips. Hot on his heels with 74 are Diane Teitzel and Matthew Bridges. Fr. Joe is saving himself for a late run, back on 64. The prizes this year are: 1st \$250 2nd \$125 3rd \$75.



WELCOME TO

# ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

23 August 2020



Readings for this week:

Isaiah 22:19-23  
Romans 11:33-36  
Matthew 16:13-20



Readings for next Sunday:

Jeremiah 20:7-9  
Romans 12:1-2  
Matthew 16:21-27



### Liturgical Jottings Solemn Blessings

Every Mass concludes with the final blessing and dismissal. The Blessing may be simple or solemn. The Roman Missal contains solemn blessings for seasons, feasts and sacraments: Advent, Christmas, New Year, Epiphany, Passion time, Easter time, Ascension, Holy Spirit, Ordinary Time 1-6, Blessed Virgin Mary, Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles, All Saints, Dedication of a Church, Confirmation, Ordination of Priests, Deacons and Bishops, Marriage, Blessing of Abbots, Abbesses, Virgins, Religious and Masses for the Dead. In Australia we have two more for the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Australia Day. These may also be used in the Divine Office and Liturgies of the Word at the discretion of the celebrant.

### Looking at the Readings

During the Season of Ordinary Time the first reading and the Gospel have a common theme or link or the first is the prophecy and the gospel is the fulfilment of the prophet's words. Today the link between the first reading and Gospel passage is the key: The Key of David and the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven are symbols of conferring authority. The one that holds the key is entrusted with the exercise of authority for the service of God's people. God does the conferral, Eliakim and Peter receive the authority to rule the earthly kingdom (Israel) and heavenly kingdom on earth (the Church) respectively.

Simon Peter is the Apostle who first speaks out: "You are the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus blesses Peter. As God confers the keys, God also reveals the mysteries to and endows Peter with faith, love and strength. This passage is important to understand the authority of the emergent church, which is both divine and human. Peter, which name means rock, is the rock on which Jesus will build the church and Peter will later lead. It is also a turning point in the life of the Apostles knowing Christ and for Jesus turning his focus on his impending suffering and death. The word "Church" occurs in the Gospels twice, both in direct speech of our Lord, here and in Matt 18:16. Jesus second question is addressed to all of us: "But who do you say that I am?"

### Keys of the Kingdom

Keys are found only once in the Hebrew Scriptures, twice in the Gospels and twice in the book of Revelations. Each time they are used metaphorically and not as a physical device to unlock a door. Keys have been around for centuries, but certainly not common in Old Testament times. Pegs were precursor to keys, a primitive device to secure doors and gates. Prophet Isaiah also mentions a peg in today's reading as a securing device. In recent time keys are used symbolically at 21st birthdays, official welcome to a city, and as a token in the transfer of a car or a new home.

### Quote of the week

What then is time? If no one asks me, I know what it is. If I wish to explain it to him who asks, I do not know.  
*Saint Augustine, Confessions Book XI Ch XIV*

### On the Lighter Side

In searching for keys in the bible, my search program also found donkeys and monkeys. Donkeys are mentioned 162 times and even a talking donkey in Numbers 22:30-33. Monkeys are mentioned only twice but no turkeys were found.

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## ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

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 Website: www.sheppartoncatholic.org.au  
 Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor  
 Deacon: Rev Francois Baguma  
 Priest in Residence: Fr Varghese Vithayathil



Christ in community...the heart of our faith



## ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS

121 Knight Street, Shepparton  
 Phone: 5821 2633 | Email: shepparton@cdos.org.au  
 Website: sheppartoncatholic.org.au Facebook: /sheppartoncatholic

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor  
 Priest in Residence: Fr Varghese Vithayathil  
 Deacon: Rev Francois Baguma  
 Office Manager: Diane Teitzel

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



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

20th August 2020

Dear Parishioners,

### PARISH FINANCIAL SUMMARY - 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR

I am pleased to share with you all our Parish Financial summary for the recently completed 2019/20 financial year.

I wish to firstly acknowledge the overwhelming and gracious support to the parish of all our planned givers who have maintained their contributions during this tough time. Our loose collection has understandably dropped significantly given the number of restrictions on our Mass attendances.

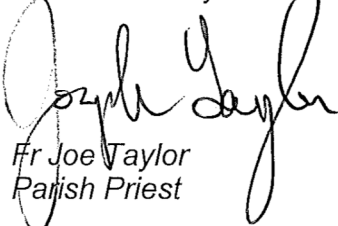
The Federal and Government financial support packages that the parish has been eligible to access (totalling \$50,000 thus far) has certainly been a welcome relief to assist the Parish through these challenging times. A significant portion of this support has passed through to our staff by way of Job Keeper assistance.

In 2019 we committed to undertaking a significant amount of Capital Works on the Church by way of replacing the guttering and downpipes. This work was completed mid July 2020 and tallied \$62,981. During this restoration work we were also able to take the opportunity to repair some slipped slate tiles on the church roof and store away some extra tiles for a rainy day - hopefully this will keep us water-proofed for another 50 years. We are also grateful to Greater Shepparton City Council Heritage Department which supported us with a grant of \$6,600 to assist with these works.

As we move forward, there continues to always be maintenance issues that need attention. The Finance Team recently met (via Zoom) and we are in the process of addressing an OH&S issue with the replacement/repair of the Presbytery verandah. As well as this, we are looking at re-painting the skirting boards around the perimeter of the inside of the church. The Finance Team are hopeful that this face-lift (painting work) will adequately address the rising damp issues that have presented.

I sincerely thank everyone who has supported the Parish through 2019/2020 Financial Year.

Yours sincerely in Christ

  
 Fr Joe Taylor  
 Parish Priest

## ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH, SHEPPARTON

### PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

### 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020

#### OPERATING INCOME

Collections - Envelopes, Direct Debits, Credit Cards, Loose	\$280,177.80
Special Collections - Donations, Christmas Collections	\$43,163.20
Sundry Income - Parish Centre Rental, Interest	\$12,534.64
Religious Ceremonies	\$36,374.65
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$372,250.29</b>

#### EXPENDITURE

General Administration of Church	\$62,924.36
(Printing, Stationery, Phone, Postage, Copyright, Liturgy, Insurance, Workcare, Thanksgiving Prog., Piety Stock etc)	
Pastoral Expenses (Sacraments, Adult Faith, RCIA etc)	\$8,089.07
Clergy Expenses	\$44,265.85
(Super, Health Insurance, Stipend, Car Running costs)	
Salaries for Staff (6 Staff Members)	\$127,221.49
General Property Costs	\$46,430.77
(Gardening, cleaning, Utilities, Repairs/Maintenance)	
Capital Repairs - Church	\$54,156.00
Capital Repairs - Presbytery	\$430.00
Capital Repairs - Land & Surrounds	\$5,780.50
Bank fees	\$1,147.12
Diocesan Levies	\$11,866.48
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>\$362,311.64</b>

**NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) \$9,938.65**

#### NON-OPERATING INCOME

Term Deposit Interest	\$14,545.46
Cash Flow Boost (Federal Government Funding)	\$10,000.00
Business Support Fund (State Government Funding)	\$10,000.00
JobKeeper (Federal Government Funding)	\$30,000.00
<b>Total Non-Operating Income</b>	<b>\$64,545.46</b>