

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-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

29 August 2021

First Reading Dt 4:1-2, 6-8

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. (R.)
2. He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)
3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation Jas 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Many religious leaders have thought that some foods or some people are such a threat to the holiness of their followers that contact with 'unclean', 'defiling' foods or people must be avoided. Our Lord was totally opposed to the idea that holiness was something secured or gained by being quarantined or separated from anything or any-person.

On the contrary, he could touch a leper or have a meal with a prostitute. Rather than defilement flowing from the leper or prostitute to Jesus, his life flowed into them repairing their broken humanity, healing them bodymindspirit, holistically, making *them* holy.

The fact is that God, embodied in Jesus Christ, is contagious. The contagion of Divine Life is meant to flow into the inner depths of personality, into the heart. When this occurs, the Divine Life in the human person causes 'holiness'.

We have to strive to put ourselves in the way of this contagion. We become holy when we allow ourselves to be touched by our Lord Jesus Christ. How do we do this?

By hearing of His life in the Gospel, by being nourished by His life in Holy Communion, by being touched by the plight of those in whom He is to be found. St James in the second reading describes some who are particularly vulnerable in a patriarchal society with no social security system: the widows and orphans. No doubt, we can identify equivalent groups in our own society and overseas.

We could take a moment to pray that we might be more conscious of the Holy Spirit germinating something in our hearts, making us holy from the inside out, that our holiness be authenticated by good works so that we may be holy as the Lord our God is holy.

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Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am & 11am

Saturday 8.30am *Syro Malabar Rite*, Sunday 5.30pm *Syro Malabar Rite*

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday mass.

Holy Hour— Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament— Fridays 5pm to 6pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation Saturday 10am to 10.30am

All
cancelled
for
now



Phone: 5821 2633; Email: shepparton@cdos.org.au

Website: www.sheppartoncatholic.org.au

Facebook: /sheppartoncatholic

Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9am to 2pm (Closed for now)

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries: Fr John Naughton, Imelda Mahony, Jerry Sexton, Sarah Smullen.



FIFTH PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AGENDA

Institutions • How might we better see the future of Catholic education (primary, secondary and tertiary) through a missionary lens? • How might we better see the future of Catholic social services, agencies and health and aged care ministries as key missionary and evangelising agencies?

Today, we celebrate **Social Justice Sunday** and the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or telephone (02) 6201 9845.



St Brendan's Parish Sacramental Program 2021

Sacramental Masses have been postponed for now. Please pray for the children and families involved especially those children who are still to receive their First Eucharist and Confirmation.



Ashley & Vanessa Madeira

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St Brendan's Parish AFL Tipping Competition

And the winners are....Brian Coppinger (138 correct) \$250, Steve McKenzie (134) \$125, Katherine Coppinger (133) \$75. Fr. Joe had a terrific personal-best season, finishing fifth, just one tip from the podium on 132.

We congratulate all the winners on their wonderful performances, and we thank all the participants for their contribution to the parish. This is a Parish Fundraiser, and the profit was over \$400. We look forward to the competition hopefully returning bigger and better next season.

~ Ashley Madeira, Co-ordinator

You may find this beautiful song an aid to your prayer in these difficult times. *Strength for the Journey* written by Michael John Poirier can be viewed in this YouTube clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g1UQ1g1HO9I>
The music is in *Spirit and Song Vol 1* or available online as mp3, lyric sheet and piano music at Willow Publishing <https://willowpublishing.com.au/product/strength-for-the-journey/>
~ From 'Living Liturgy' by Sophy Morley, Diocesan 'Gaudium et Spes' Plenary Council Convenor, Diocesan Coordinator for Liturgy & Pastoral Ministry, Catholic Diocese of Sale.

Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter

St Brendan's Parish

We unfortunately have had to cancel the last week of Winter Night Shelter at all venues, with too many of our volunteers having to go into isolation.

Fortunately we were able to put some guests into a motel for the last week and we have been taking food to them every couple of days. I have been talking to a couple of them that might not be coping with the lockdown, and one has also called me when he needs to chat.

I would like to say a massive thank you to all the volunteers. You have done a massive job and at times it hasn't been without challenges, but we have got there and you were all amazing.

It has been without doubt the best and most challenging few weeks I have been involved in.

It has also been the best and most rewarding weeks to have with some compassionate, kind caring people I now call my friends.

For someone to cook every week and do it with love, for someone to stay overnight and get at most 2 hours sleep and then go to work is just amazing. To have people interact with the guests and help them, make them feel welcome and safe was most humbling to watch, and to our drivers who most weeks stayed for tea, thank you.

To see one volunteer only 30 years old come even though not rostered on, bring cards so they can get a free dental check-up, then sit down with one of our more vulnerable guests and play chess was heart-warming.

I thank Fr Joe, Fr Varghese and all the Parish priests for your help and kindness.

I would also like to thank anyone who has donated anything in anyway, a huge thank you.

Also thank you for your prayers. Nothing has gone unnoticed.

Please stay safe, look after yourselves and your loved ones.

God Bless you all

Kind Regards,

Jenny Doherty

Volunteer Co-ordinator, St Brendan's Parish



Greater Shepparton
WINTER NIGHT SHELTER