



ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

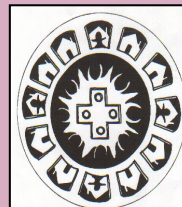
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*Christ in community...the
heart of our faith*

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 August 2020



*Readings for
this week:*

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27



*Readings for
next Sunday:*

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Roman 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20



Liturgical Jottings

Prayer over the People

As well as the Solemn Blessings (refer last week Liturgical Jottings) at the end of Mass there are optional "Prayers over the People". They may be used at the discretion of the celebrant at the end of Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, Liturgy of the Word or at the Sacraments. There are 28 options printed at the end of the Order of the Mass plus one for every day of Lent and Holy Week in the Proper of Time. The Mass in Time of Pandemic also offers a "Prayer over the People":

O God, protector of all who hope in you, bless your people, keep them safe, defend them, prepare them, that, free from sin and safe from the enemy, they may persevere always in your love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Pastoral View

With our Parish Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) process starting this week I thought it timely to write about how we reflect faith to others. There are a few different ways to this, one is talking at the person telling them they need God and this is how you get God. Another way is by leading a life lived closely with God we emit a presence we allow others to feel the spirit living in us by the way we react to life situations. I think this the way Jesus would want us to use. As others see the joy in our life they say I want what they have got I want God in my life, they are open to receive God because they need him. I, like many others, was born into the Catholic faith. My parents baptised me and schooled me in their faith, what it meant to them to be a Catholic. I have this grounding within me but on top of this I have come to my own lived experience of what it means to me to be a Catholic, what is God calling me towards.

The next phase of my faith is how I, or my example of faith, bring others to faith. I once heard a story of a person reaching the gates of heaven and being asked who else has he or she brought the faith too. I think this says to me that our faith is to be shared in the way we live our lives. St Francis of Assisi said to his companions "Go and teach the Gospel but only if necessary use words." Our RCIA process seeks to help others who are searching for a connection with a faith community, to get a picture or image of what it means to be a Catholic, what difference will it bring to their lives and how will it enhance their life.

As Catholics we seek a relationship with God, through prayer, scripture, celebration of mass, but also very importantly through relationships with each other. God is in every one of us so as we greet or interact with each other we are invited to see God. This can be challenging at times. Our RCIA Candidates and Catechumens' need to know the full story, their lives will not become perfect once they become a Catholic. Our faith is a journey of discovery. God has been in their life from the beginning of their life. God promises to be with us always in the joys and sorrows of life to help us navigate our way through this life and us as a St Brendan's Parish community commit to welcome, to nourish and walk alongside those who are searching for God in their lives. When we reach the pearly gates and are asked who have you drawn to faith with your life, what will our answer be?

~ Anthony Kilmartin, Pastoral Associate

On the Lighter Side

Three conspiracy theorists walk into a bar...

You can't tell me that's just a coincidence!

An infinite number of mathematicians walk into a bar. The first says, "I'll have a beer." The second says, "I'll have half a beer." The third says, "I'll have a quarter of a beer." And so on. The bartender hands them two glasses of beer and says, "You guys need to know your limits."

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Anniversaries: Thresia Ouseph (Fr Varghese' Mum),
Bryan McNamara, Imelda Mahony,
Mark Francis Roche, Concettina Ganino,
Jeremiah (Jerry) Sexton, Sarah Smullen.

Catholic Earthcare invites YOU



on a journey through the Season of
Creation by joining in for a special virtual
Convocation via Zoom – a significant church event
with a wide audience in mind and an amazing range
of speakers. You can register for all sessions or just
what appeals to you.

The program includes 'Formation' sessions looking
at the theological and moral imperative to care for
our common home; 'Foundation' sessions exploring
the financial, economic, political and social spheres
in which influence our common home;
'Action' sessions exploring the transformative ways
in which we can realise the need to care for
creation.

It's a unique opportunity to inform and inspire
yourself about 'care for creation' from a Catholic
perspective. To view the program and register go to
www.catholicearthcare.org.au/2020-convocation

Serra Club

This Friday, 4th September, is the first Friday of the
month. We are unable to meet together but please
pray for our Priests and Seminarians for strength and
courage and for more vocations in our Diocese.

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



Social Justice Sunday

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30
August. This year, the Australian Bishops'
Social Justice Statement is titled:
**To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in
Australia today.**

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the
mental health of many members of our
parishes, schools and communities.
Understanding mental health will help us
to be aware of those who need our
support. The Bishops invite us all to reject
stigmatisation, to work for the
transformation of social determinants of
mental ill-health, and to call for policies
and service provision that meets the
needs of the poorest and most
marginalised members of our community.

Download the Statement at:
http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020

CARE FOR CREATION STATEMENT

A Sandhurst Diocese 'Care for Creation Statement' is being
launched by Bishop Shane Mackinlay ready for the first
Sunday of the Season of Creation which will run from
1 September to 4 October, the Feast of St Francis Assisi.
The Statement, prepared at the request of the Sandhurst
Diocese Adult Faith Education Group, is addressed to the
People of God in the Diocese of Sandhurst with the aim of
encouraging a greater appreciation of Creation and a deeper
understanding of our responsibility to care for it,
our common home.

Resources will be sent soon to Sandhurst Diocese
parishes and agencies and available at
www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au



Ashley & Vanessa Madeira

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Personalised thorough eye

Examinations

*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 or
email the parish:
5821 2633 or
shepparton@cdos.org.au*

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON

following the Beirut blast

God of Compassion,

You are strength to those who suffer and comfort to those who grieve.
We pray for the people of Lebanon in this time of disaster.
Embrace those who died so suddenly and console those
who grieve for loved ones.

United in solidarity with our Lebanese sisters and brothers we pray:
For healing and strength for those injured and suffering
That the international community will respond with generosity
and compassion
And that stability and peace will be restored in Lebanon.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

- Jo Brady RSJ Caritas Australia

