



ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

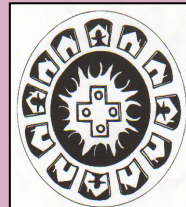
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*Christ in community...the
heart of our faith*

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 August 2020



*Readings for
this week:*

1 Kings 19:9,11-13

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:22-33



*Readings for
next Sunday:*

Isaiah 56:1,6-7

Romans 11:13-15,29-32

Matthew 15:21-28



Liturgical Jottings Silence

Silence is a necessary dimension of liturgy. Just as there should be no celebration without song, so too there should be no celebration without periods for silent prayer and reflection. Silence enables those at prayer to receive in their hearts "the full sound of the voice of the Holy Spirit" and unite their prayer to the word of God and to the prayer of the whole church. Active participation in the liturgy through gestures, words and symbols must also involve the renewed practice of silence, in the positive sense of receptive openness to God's mysterious presence. *Articles of Silence in The New Dictionaries of Sacramental Worship and Catholic Spirituality, The Liturgical Press 1993 & 2000.*

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Looking at the Readings

The Liturgy of the Word this Sunday opens with a wonderful account of the Prophet Elijah experience with encountering God. A theophany akin to Moses' experience of God at the burning bush (Exodus 3). We read in English: [that God was heard] in "the sound of a gentle breeze." (Jerusalem Bible - Australian Lectionary) or in "a sound of sheer silence" (New RSV). The Carmelites translate the Hebrew "qôl démâmâ daqqâ" as "a sound of thin silence" and offer us this commentary: "Elijah's ineffable experience had found expression in an oxymoron that has, for centuries, frustrated scripture scholars as much as it has delighted Christian mystics. What does silence sound like? And thin silence at that! The biblical author provoked centuries of reflection".

May we continue that reflection in light of today's Gospel particularly in the final verse: "And as Jesus and Peter got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'" It was not Jesus walking on the water but his calming of the storm and in the quietness of the sea that they recognised him as the Son of God".

We need silence in our daily life to allow God into our lives. During the COVID-19 restrictions with working from home, having enough of screen time with remote conferencing and schooling; less outings for shopping and visiting we find we have "New Time". We may not have church time but we do have prayer time and reading time.

Church Closure - stage 3 restrictions now in force

Churches must be **closed** to members of the public for liturgies and for private worship. Visiting a church is not a permitted reason for leaving home.

There are some limited exceptions, with continuing requirements for face coverings, cleaning and recording contact details of attendees:

- **Funerals** may be celebrated with a maximum of 10 attendees (in addition to the celebrant and funeral staff).
- **Weddings** may be celebrated with 5 people in total: bride & groom, celebrant, 2 witnesses.

Liturgies that are recorded for broadcast may be attended by those who are necessary for celebrating the liturgy and broadcasting it, up to a maximum of 5 people. The 10am Mass at St Kilian's will continue to be live-streamed.

~ Excerpt of letter from Bishop Shane 6th August, 2020

Face coverings must be worn in all parish buildings and grounds.

Recently Deceased: Bryan Matthew (son of Margaret Matthew), Carmel Phelan, Carmine (Charlie) Conti.

Anniversaries: Maria Cortese, Doug Partridge.

**Feast of
St Mary of the Cross
Mackillop**

Saturday 8th August

**This year is the 10th
Anniversary of her
Canonisation.**

Thank you for your prayers

Mary MacKillop Today supports thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and here in Australia, bringing hope to communities for generations to come.

Please pray for Mary MacKillop Today especially during the challenging times we all face, so that we can continue to transform lives through our vitals works carrying on the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop.

If you'd like to learn about Mary MacKillop Today please contact us via Ph: (02) 8912 2777
Email: hello@marymackilloptoday.org.au or visit:

www.marymackilloptoday.org.au

If you know anyone who would like to receive the bulletin by email, please let us know.



Planned Giving Envelopes

A big thank you to all parishioners who have continued to give to the parish whilst the church has had limited opening times and also whilst we are closed.

For those who use the envelope (cash) system, your envelope/s can be dropped into the mail slot, located along the wall next to the parish office door, at a time convenient to you.

If you would like to make a cash donation this can be placed in an envelope and also dropped into the mail slot.

Thank you again

Partnership in Projects (Parish/School)

The Parish is once again partnering with Notre Dame College VCAL students to work on the gardens around the grounds along with Frank Scott, the parish gardening/maintenance officer.

VCAL students will also be building a workbench of sorts for use in the large shed in the backyard of the Presbytery.

You may remember VCAL students built the beautiful 'Garden of Eden' in the church grounds that is enjoyed by so many.

Parishioners of St Brendan's raised \$3,636.20 for Project Compassion.

Thank you.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2020

concluded at the end of the financial year. As has been said many times, 2020 is a year like no other! Sadly, Project Compassion was cut short and, as expected, donations are well down. Nationally, Project Compassion raised \$8 million which is a loss of \$3 million - a decrease of 27%. Sandhurst Diocese can be very proud of its contribution to that total, \$393,000 compared to \$496,000 last year which is a decrease of 21%. **THANK YOU** for your particular part in this.

Overall, it was an amazing result given parish & school closures, event cancellations, and the economic effects of COVID as well as the impact of bushfires.

Thanks to the Diocese and Parishes who continued to show the PC Films following live-streamed Masses and those who continued publicizing the Project Compassion/COVID 19 Appeal via Parish Bulletins and Facebook pages, right up to June. The success of this was shown in our increased online donations. Last year \$189,000 was donated online but this year that increased to \$247,000 – a very significant jump.

~ Kerry Stone, Caritas Co-ordinator, Diocese of Sandhurst.



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