



ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

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Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/sheppartoncatholic

Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

Associate Priest: Fr. Joseph Alluri

Weekend Mass times: Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 8am and 11am

Weekday Mass times: Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation: Saturday mornings 9.30am to 10.30am and before 9.15am weekday Masses

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm (Closed Mondays & Public Holidays)



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 25 January 2015



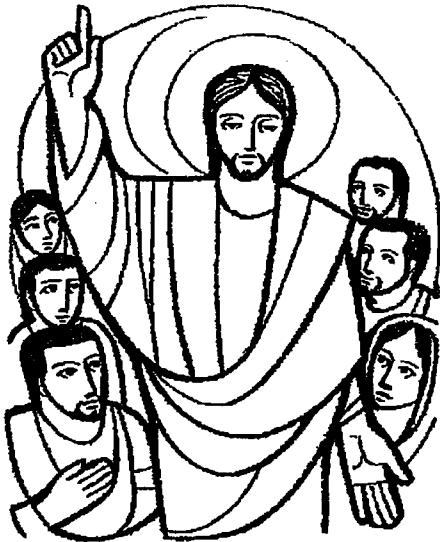
Readings for this week:

Jonah 3:1-5,10
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20



Readings for next week:

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 7:32-35
Mark 1:21-28



Liturgical Jottings

The Communion Procession is a sign of the pilgrim Church, the body of believers in Christ, on their way to the Heavenly Jerusalem. The assembly of the baptised that comes together for the Eucharist is a witness to, a manifestation of, the pilgrim Church on the way. It is an action of the Body of Christ. At Christ's invitation, extended by the priest: "Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb," the members of the community move forward to share in the sacred meal, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ which is the sign and the source of their unity. We join the countless ranks of all the baptised who have gone before us, the canonised and the uncanonised saints down through the ages, who at their time in history formed a part of this mighty stream of believers.

From United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website. 2014.

Focus on the Gospel

This week's Gospel clearly shows Jesus chose the most ordinary of people. Anyone today wanting to enter into some sort of public life would gather around them a team of advisers, a public relations expert, a market analyst, an accountant and a security officer. But Jesus choose a few fishermen, some friends of friends and even a tax collector – one the most despised occupations of his time. The very ordinariness of these disciples was a deliberate action on the part of Jesus. It was a clear statement that his message was not for the learned scholars and people in privileged positions but rather everyday people. Throughout the gospels we see many encounters and interactions that Jesus has are with common, everyday people. When he encounters the leaders and officials of the time it is inevitably in a conflict situation. He ministers to those who have felt the brunt of Roman oppression and the strict interpretation of Jewish Law.

The gospel passage also gives us an insight into what a charismatic figure Jesus must have been. Fishing was a good solid livelihood; supplying staple food would have provided a regular income. But on encountering this man Jesus, the fishermen abandon their nets and follow him. They must have immediately been impressed. Yet it seems hard to believe that these tough fishermen would have been easily impressed – much like today. So the impact that Jesus made on these men must have been quite special to make them walk away from everything that they knew.

Quote of the Week

At last I have found my vocation: My vocation is love.

St Thérèse of Lisieux

Feast of the Week: St Thomas Aquinas, 28 January

He is one of the great teachers of the Church, honoured with the title Angelic Doctor. He studied at Monte Casino, Naples, Paris and Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great. He showed in his writings the unity, harmony and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge. The *Summa Theologiae*, his last but uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology. He died 7 March 1274.

On the Lighter Side

When a parish priest visited a family for a meal, the hosts invited him to lead grace. It turned out to be a rather long prayer, until one of the children at table shouted out "Amen!" The visitor finished the prayer there and then!





Welcome to St Brendan's Parish

Happy Australia Day!
Australia Day will be celebrated at all Masses this weekend.
(Note: no Mass on Monday)

The **Questionnaire** for the **Ordinary Synod of the Church** to be held in October 2015, in Rome is now on line at the Diocesan website. I encourage all parishioners, to access the website and respond to the questions. Responses will be collated here in the Diocese before being sent on to the Australian Bishops' Conference in Canberra. Please note the date by which all responses must be submitted. The two bishops elected by the ACBC to represent them and Australia at the Synod are Bishop Eugene Hurley, Bishop of Darwin & Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane.

~ Bishop Les Tomlinson

www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au
Click on 'Synod 2015 Survey'

A warm welcome to Fr Joseph Alluri, our new Associate Priest.

Fr Joseph is a Diocesan Priest from Andhra Pradesh in India. He has been ordained for almost 10 years.

A Big Thank You from Fr Joseph Bigirwa

As time comes close for me to go back home in Uganda, I would like to appreciate and acknowledge the love, support, hospitality, care and friendly atmosphere I have enjoyed in Shepparton in these eight weeks.

Thank you for accepting me as a brother. I will leave on 29th January to Uganda.

May God reward you so abundantly.

~ Fr Joseph Bigirwa



Saturday morning Men's Group

Our Parish Men's Group will kick off the new year with breakfast, reflection and a walk around the lake, next Saturday morning 31st of January at 7.30am. We will gather at the BBQ nearest to the service station for breakfast.

If you are looking for a new year's resolution something to help grow your faith and a place to meet and get to know other men, maybe our Parish men's group is a good place to start. We meet fortnightly generally in the Mons Jeffrey Centre (Parish Centre) on Saturday mornings at 7.30am for breakfast and a reflection given by one of the group. Friendship is something that seems to flow from the group as we get to know each other. A meal and time to chat about faith and life's ups and downs is probably a good description for the group. If you have any questions please call Anthony on 0408 269426.

Recently Deceased: Erminio Sangalli, Eileen Kennedy Barry Hall (Numurkah), Millicent Hale (India).

Anniversaries: Paul Grace, Peter Murray, Winifred Kennedy, Michael Kennedy, Mary Murray, Nora Mai Ryan, Guiseppi Formica, Francesca Leo.

Holy Hour

Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Regular Meetings

Charismatic Prayer Group—Tuesdays 7.30pm

Mons Jeffrey Centre re-commencing 27th January.

Faith & Light Community—1st Sunday monthly

Friendship Group—Last Sunday monthly lunch 12.30

Mens Group—Saturday fortnightly 7.30am

Lectors & Commentators 31st January & 1st Feb

6pm I Garla, A Ferguson

8am A Madeira, V Fox

11am S Pivac, M Frizzell

Our **Faith and Light Community** will gather at 11am Mass next Sunday 1st February. You are welcome to come and join us for lunch after Mass in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. We are in need of a fishing net or something similar for some of our role plays. If you can help or you would like more information regarding our group, phone Denise on 0432 054003.

Counters A new roster is available in the narthex. Please collect yours as you leave Mass today.

Year of Consecrated Life: Diary Date—April 10th in the Evening To give thanks for the presence of The Marist Brothers and Mercy and FCJ Sisters.



MEALS FOR CHURCH FREEZER—containers are available in the narthex if you are able to provide meals for the freezer.

St Brendan's Parish and Friendship Group will meet for lunch this Sunday at Café 257 at 257 Wyndham Street at 12.30pm after Mass. All parishioners are welcome! Enquiries Graeme (58252816) or Pat (58211269)

PIETY STALL—Columban Calendars will only be available for purchase until the end of the month.

Celebration of the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus (Candlemas Day) Monday 2nd February at Seiter's Grotto, 11 Kaarimba Road, Wunghnu (200 metres from the highway). Beginning with Angelus at 6pm then Rosaries and hymns until Mass at 7.30pm (beginning with the Blessing of Candles). Cuppa afterwards. All most welcome. Enquiries to Alf Seiter on 5862 1740. Please see the photograph on the noticeboard.

St Vincent's College, Bendigo Reunion 7th & 8th February 2015. For details contact Chris Coughlan 0417 997 446 or email: ckcoughlan@bigpond.com.au