



WELCOME TO ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

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Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

Associate Priest: Fr. Joseph Alluri



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday 8 March 2015



Readings for this week:

Exodus 20:1-17

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

John 2:13-35

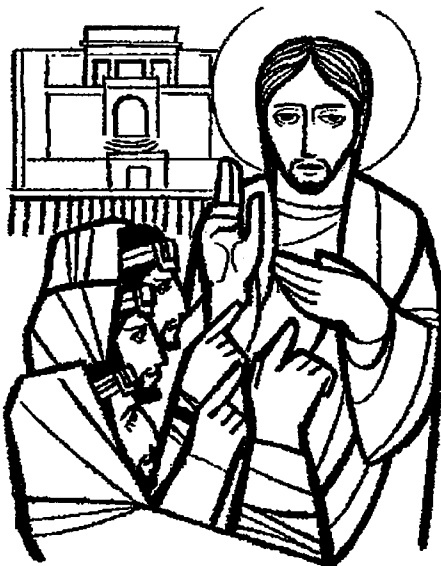


Readings for next week

2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

Ephesians 2:4-10

John 3:14-21



Year of Consecrated Life

During this year, a founder of a religious order or congregation will be featured on this page.

The gift given to Fr Chevalier (Founder of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart) is to see that in Jesus, God loves people with a human heart, and that he is the answer to their hopes, their questionings, their every need.

Jules Chevalier found in the Heart of Jesus, a deep appreciation and understanding of the infinite tenderness of God. Indeed, the love of the heart of Jesus is our light, our strength, our guide and our support. For it is in the humanity of Jesus that we see the compassion of God fully revealed.

Known as the OLSH Sisters, they arrived in Australia in 1885 as missionaries to Oceania. They have a convent in Elmore.

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Focus on the Gospel

The Temple in Jerusalem was (and still is) a powerful symbol of holiness and a symbol of the connection and relationship between God and the Hebrew people. It is often assumed that Jesus' anger was directed at the traders and moneychangers because their business had infringed on and desecrated the temple precinct. But the reality is a bit more complicated.

The Temple was the holiest site for sacrifice to God. The tradition dictated that sacrifice made by a priest on the altar was the highest form of worship. The best animal to sacrifice was a healthy, properly formed creature. Rather than walking a lamb all the way from somewhere like Galilee to Jerusalem, the faithful would purchase their sacrifice animal at the Temple itself – thus the presence of the people selling cattle, sheep and doves. However, to further complicate matters, the Temple traders would not accept Roman coins to purchase the sacrificial animals as they bore the image of the deified emperor. Therefore, money changers were required to exchange Roman currency for acceptable coinage – so the money changers were also playing their part in the prayer life of the Temple.

Jesus' outrage is not so much with the traders and the money-changers as with the whole religious practice and hierarchical structure that has developed to a point where the only way a person can pray in a 'valid' way is to purchase an animal and hand it over to a priest who goes behind a screened wall to sacrifice the animal. The only way to seek God's forgiveness and mercy was to 'buy' it at the Temple. This was what outraged Jesus. He could not stomach the injustice nor the barriers that had been erected between the people and their God. © Greg Sunter.

Quote of the Week

"Gentleness and strength appear in Jesus in an incomparably striking way". Our heart spirituality calls us to imitate Jesus, so that everyone we encounter will discover through us, the strength of his love to support them in their fragility, and the gentleness of his love to bring them the compassion and understanding for which they long. We are the hands and feet, and especially the heart of Jesus in our world. *Words and inspiration of Fr Jules Chevalier*

On the Lighter Side of Anger

- Always write angry letters to your enemies. Never mail them. ~ James Fallows
- Anger is never without a reason, but seldom with a good one. ~ Albert Einstein
- Speak when you are angry and you will make the best speech you will ever regret. ~ Ambrose Bierce



Notices

Stronger Youth – Trivia Night Fundraiser

The Stronger Youth are in the process of planning the Stronger Youth Trivia Night Fundraiser which will be held on **Friday April 17th**. We would really appreciate any donations that could be used as raffle prizes or silent auctions during the evening. If you are able to assist could you please contact Jess Alampi in the parish office. Thank you.

Stronger Youth – D Group Event 'Amazing G-Race'

The Shepparton Stronger Team would like to invite all youth to take part in our Amazing G-Race event. The event will begin with teams gathering at 4pm and then finish with a reflection and BBQ dinner at 7pm.
When: Friday March 20th. *Where:* Mons Jeffery Centre
Please contact Hannah on 0458 733640 or Mikaila on 0477 668101 before Tuesday March 17th to register your team of 3-4 people.

Our Parish **Men's Group** will meet next Saturday morning 14th of March at 7.30 am Mons Jeffery Centre. We meet for breakfast and the chance for one of the men to share a reflection with the group. All men are welcome to join us. Any questions please phone Anthony on 0408 269426.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Candidates will celebrate the first scrutiny this Sunday at 11am Mass. Please pray for them as they journey towards full initiation into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday 4th April.

Candidate

Dani Talarico
Courtney Wilkie
Meaghan Ritchie
Roxanne Lucas
Carmela Fasano
Irene O'Bree
Liz Grogan
Ron Collinson

Sponsor

Leanne Boschetti
Erika Collier
Tina Pelligrino
Hannah Chasemore
Josie Cortese
Graeme Quinlan
Anthony Kilmartin
Ern Cook

Catholic Women's League

Meeting next Thursday 12th March at 1pm in the Mons Jeffery Centre.

Coffee Morning Monday 16th March in the Mons Jeffery Centre at 10am. \$5 entry. All welcome.

"Autumn Melodies Operetta Toni Marchi and Jane O'Toole.

Ave Maria Fundraiser—Saturday March 21st at 6.30pm Italian Social club, Marungi Street. Tickets \$70.00 per person includes 3 course meal and drinks at bar price.

Enquiries and for tickets contact Tracey or Sharon at Ave Maria Village 58 313 000 or Shepparton@sccr.org.au

Spirituality in the Pub Terminus Hotel, Shepparton Monday 16th March 7.30–9 pm meals from 6pm.

Join the conversation with Sr Joanne Schatzlein **osf from USA** in Australia for Franciscan Schools Conference, speaking on **Clare of Assisi: Light Bearer for our World Today - Clare the Author, Teacher, Leader and Saint**. More information on fliers in the narthex. Enquiries to Kerry on 0408 579904 or Frank 5821 4362.

(I know this will be only 2 weeks after the last one however we have been asked to host this international speaker, and believe we are fortunate to have the opportunity, despite the timing. ~ Kerry)

Marists Brothers Old Boys Association

The annual reunion will be on Easter Sunday 5th April next, between 11.00am and 1.00pm at the former school yard of the Marist Brothers College (McCrae Street Bendigo) admission \$20.00. *Please come and enjoy the day.*

St. Brendan's Parish Sacramental Program 2015

~ Reconciliation Confirmation Eucharist ~

Enrolments will take place this weekend in the Monsignor Jeffrey Centre.

Saturday 7th March **after** 6.00pm Mass and
Sunday 8th March **after** 11.00am Mass

All enquires to Laura either Wednesday morning at the Parish house on 5821 2633 or email Laura at sacramental.coord@bigpond.com

Please note enrolments close on Sunday 8th March

~ Laura O'Sullivan, Parish Sacramental Coordinator.

Secondary School Students SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

St Brendan's Parish would like to provide secondary students with the opportunity to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist in 2015.

If you would like to be involved in the program, could you please contact Jess Alampi on 0413 242 398 before the end of Term 1 (March 27). *The program will begin with a Commitment Mass on Saturday April 18th at St Brendan's Church at 6pm.*

We would really appreciate it if you could please indicate your interest as soon as possible.

Be a GOOD EGG this EASTER and buy **SLAVERY-FREE CHOCOLATE**. Presently, many thousands of children as young as 12 years old are picking cocoa in West Africa to make the chocolate we eat. For more information and the identifying logos to look for, pick up an information sheet in the narthex.

Christian Meditation: Will be held every Monday night commencing March 16th at 7.30pm in Mons. Jeffery Centre. Everyone is welcome. Contact Marie Kleinitz 5823 2597.

Thanksgiving Program— Parishioners who give with the envelope system please collect your next envelopes in the narthex. Thankyou for your continued support of the parish.

Jesus Christ: The Way, The Truth and the Life "Living our Life in Jesus"

Date: 21st March **Guest speaker:** Mr John Duiker
Venue: Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre **Time:** 10am - 4 pm
All welcome to attend this day.

For information please phone Gerri on 02 6056 2442.
A Catholic Charismatic Renewal Sandhurst event.

'Time Out' – A Retreat Day for Lent and Holy Week FINDING GOD – LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS: PRAYING WITH ICONS,*

Michael Crowe, Lyn Breen. **SUNDAY 22nd MARCH 2015.**
11.30 am – 4 .00 pm at St Kilian's Presbytery, McCrae St, **BENDIGO**. Cost: Donation if / as you can afford. BYO Lunch.
RSVP: adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au, 5441 2544.

*Icons are sacred images (or pictures) for prayer.

'WHAT IS GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ME THIS HOLY WEEK AND EASTER?', Dr Kevin Messer. SATURDAY 28TH MARCH.

9.30 am – 3.30 pm, St Joseph's Hall, Wedge St, **BENALLA**.
Cost: \$15 (or gold coin - as you can afford). BYO Lunch.
RSVP: adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au 5441 2544

Third Sunday of Lent

Lenten Activities in the Parish

- ◆ *Gospel Discussion Groups*
 - ~ Mondays during Lent in the small meeting room in the Mons Jeffrey centre at 1.30pm.
 - ~ Tuesday nights during Lent 7.30pm at 42 Bouchier Street, Shepparton.****Note change of address****
New members most welcome, phone 5821 5343.
- ◆ *Meditation*
 - ~ Thursday mornings 7.15am to 7.45am in the Mons Jeffrey Centre.

Cleansing the Temple

The Jews revered the Temple in Jerusalem as the place where God was present in a special way. One day Jesus came to the Temple and found a lively trade going on in animals and birds for sacrifice and money changing. Taking a small whip Jesus drove the traders out of the Temple and overturned the tables of the money changers with the words "stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

The vigorous reaction of Jesus was due not only to the desecration of the Temple but also to the fact that these traders were part of a system that used the Temple to exploit the poor.

That same concern for the disadvantaged drives Caritas Australia to support programs such as the Centacare Wilcannia-Forbes Manage Your Income, Manage Your Life Program, which aims to break the cycle of poverty and malnutrition for First Australians in remote NSW.

While there is abundant food in Australian cities, the story is starkly different for First Australians living in rural communities, where low incomes and limited access to nutritious, affordable food reduces the health and well being of families.

Karen a sole mother of six living in remote Central NSW, had few places to buy food and prices were high due to freighting costs, and lack of local competition. Karen had neither the skills nor the money she needed to provide a nutritious diet for her family. However, things started to change for Karen two years ago, when she enrolled in the Centacare Program.

Through a series of budgeting and nutritious workshops, along with monthly budget planning sessions and cooking activities, Keren has gained the tools she needs to take control of her money, and provide her family with regular meals and healthy "Food for Life".

Caritas, Project Compassion

MARY, THE ANNUNCIATION AND SAYING 'YES'

Tuesday 10th March 7.30 – 9.15pm Mons Jeffrey Centre. Judith Dupré, (from the US and first of our 2015 Helder Camara Series visitors) explores Mary's journey of faith, with its unthinkable joys and sorrows and invites us to examine where we say 'yes' to God in our own lives. **Donation as you can afford.** RSVP: Adult Faith Education Sandhurst adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au 5441 2544.

Judith Dupre (US) is the author of "Full of Grace" a vivid portrait of Mary as a biblical figure and beacon of inspiration.



Easter Services at St. Brendan's

Reconciliation	31st March	6pm
Holy Thursday	2nd April	7.30pm
Good Friday	3rd April	3.00pm <i>Celebration of the Lord's Passion</i> 8.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Easter Vigil	4th April	7.00pm
Easter Sunday	5th April	8.00am and 11.00am

The Horizons of the Year of Consecrated Life

... cont

The year for the Consecrated Life concerns not only consecrated persons, but the entire Church. Consequently, I ask the whole Christian people to be increasingly aware of the gift which is the presence of our many consecrated men and women, heirs of the great saints who have written the history of Christianity. What would the Church be without Saint Benedict and Saint Basil, without Saint Augustine and Saint Bernard, without Saint Francis and Saint Dominic, Saint Ignatius of Loyola and Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Angelica Merici and Saint Vincent de Paul. The list could go on and on, up to Saint John Bosco and Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. As Blessed Paul VI pointed out: "Without this concrete sign there would be a danger that the charity which animates the entire Church would grow cold, that the salvific paradox of the Gospel would be blunted, and that the "salt" of faith would lose its savour in a world undergoing secularization" (Evangelica Testificatio, 3)

By Pope Francis.

..... To be continued

Mass at Tarcoola next Wednesday 10.30am

Stations of the Cross, Ecumenical Good Friday Service,

8pm on April 3rd at St Brendan's Church.
A reflection by the Parish youth on "Mary's way of the Cross" with St Brendan's Mass musicians and singers directed and co-ordinated by Les Billings and Dale Wright.

Divine Mercy Sunday: St Brendan's Church

- 1.00pm DVD Screening "Tears From Heaven"
- 2.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation
- 3.00pm The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction
- 3.30pm Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Joe Taylor
Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image after Mass

To fittingly observe Divine Mercy Sunday, we should precede the Feast by a nine day Novena of reciting The Divine Mercy Chaplet, beginning on Good Friday (Privately said)

Celebrating the Year of Consecrated Life

Can you help?

As you are aware we are planning a celebratory dinner on April 10th, honouring the contribution of the Fcl and Mercy Sisters, Marist Brothers, the Communita' dei Figli di Dio (Dookie). We would like to include in this celebration and men and women from our local Parishes who have joined Religious Orders. If you have any family members or friends who grew up in our Parishes and have since joined Religious Orders, please let us know so we can extend an invitation to them to join us for dinner on April 10th at 6.30pm. Names and contact details can either be left at the Parish office, or contact Kathy Hunt on 0416 058 431.



Stations of the Cross will be held on Fridays during Lent at 7.30pm in the Church.

Parish Office Hours Phone 5821 2633
Tuesday to Friday 9am -4pm
(Closed Mondays & Public Holidays)

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am and 11am

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am
Thursday at Ave Maria 4.30pm

Other Mass Times

Mass of Anointing, Wednesday preceding the first Friday of each month 11am

Mass at Tarcoola, second Wednesday of each month 10.30am

Syro Malabar Mass, third Sunday of each month 5pm

Stations of the Cross during Lent Fridays 7.30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday mornings 9.30am-10.30am
Before 9.15am weekday masses

Holy Hour Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Eucharistic Adoration Fridays 3pm to 6pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word 11am Mass during term

Sacraments

Baptism, 4th Sunday of each month except December which is the 3rd Sunday.

For information and bookings Contact the Parish Office.

First Eucharist and Confirmation, contact the Parish office.

Weddings, for information/bookings contact the Parish office.

Parish Schools

St Brendan's Primary School 5821 1926

St Luke's Primary School 5822 1834

Notre Dame College 5822 8400

Regular Meetings

Altar Society - Morning coffee & get together 1st Friday monthly

Catholic Women's League (CWL) - 2nd Thursday monthly
1pm, Parish Centre

Charismatic Prayer Group - Tuesdays 7.30pm, Parish Centre

Faith and Light Community - 1st Sunday monthly

Friendship Group - Last Sunday monthly for lunch, 12.30pm

Garabandal - 3rd Monday monthly 1.30pm, Parish centre

Gospel Discussion Group - each Monday during Lent at
1.30pm in the small meeting room in the Parish Centre

Mens Group - Saturday fortnightly 7.30am in the Parish
centre. Contact the Parish office.

Serra Club - 1st Friday monthly 7.15pm, Church & Parish Centre

Society of St. Vincent de Paul (St. Brendan's Conference) -
2nd Thursday monthly.

Lectors & Commentators 15th & 16th March

6pm Maureen Collins, F Scheibel

8am E Murphy, M Hicks

11am M Phillips, B Phillips



RECENTLY DECEASED: Fr Jim Nihill,
Allan Alford (Pyramid Hill), Angioletta (Jean) Sfirro,
Baby Sam Teague (great grandchild of Bidy McNamara).

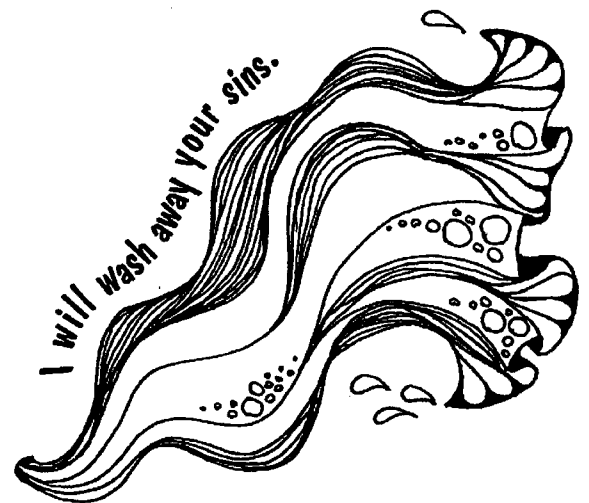
ANNIVERSARIES: Peter Clurey, Joyce Harrison,
Eugene Curtis, Giuseppe Antonio Lorenzini,
Judith Cobbledick, Pamela Sofra, Vincenzo Nappa,
Alma & Arthur Crawford, Patrick Frances Deane,
Brian Quinlan, Francis Patrick Hogan, Len Stein.

REFLECTION

*"While the common good
embraces all,
those who are weak,
vulnerable,
and most in need
deserve preferential concern.*

*A basic moral test
for our society
is how we treat
the most vulnerable
in our midst."*

*From "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship"
U.S. Catholic Bishops, 2007.*



Mass times in neighbouring Parishes

St. Mel's Shepparton South, Sunday 9.00am & 5.30pm,
Monday to Thursday 8am, Friday 9.15am, 1st Friday Devotions
Holy Hour 5pm Mass 6pm, Saturday 9.00am, 1st Saturday 9am
followed by Devotions.

Reconciliation, Saturday morning after 9am Mass.

St. Mary's Dookie, 1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays 9.30am

St. Bernard's Katandra West, 2nd Sunday 9.30am

St. Mary's Mooroopna, Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass,

Sunday 10.00am Mass, Monday No Mass,

Tuesday 5pm Adoration, 5.40pm Rosary, 6pm Mass,

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8.40am Rosary, 9.15am Mass.

Saturday 9.30 - 10.30am Reconciliation.

St. Joseph's Undera,