



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

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday 12 April 2015



Readings for
this week:

Acts 4:32-35
1 John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31



Readings for
next week

Acts 3:13-15 17-19
1 John 2:1-5
Luke 24: 35-48



Liturgical Jottings

In considering the Church as *'the home of the word'*, attention must be first given to the sacred liturgy, for the liturgy is the privileged setting in which God speaks to us in the midst of our lives; he speaks today to his people, who hear and respond. *Verbum Domini* 2010 n52.

Pope Francis Speaks

"I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security. EG 49 "What the Church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the Church as a field hospital after a battle" *American Press*, 30 Sept 2013

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Focus on the Gospel

It's a familiar story that we hear every year at this time. On the evening of the first Easter, the fearful disciples were gathered in a room with all the doors locked, and suddenly Jesus stood among them. He said, "I'm back — and boy, did they pick the wrong man to crucify this time! Now I'll show them what happens when you mess with the Son of God.

No, wait. That's not it. How did that go? Oh, yes. Jesus said, "A fine bunch of disciples you guys are! Ran out on me at the first sign of trouble. I'm through with all of you."

No, that's not it either. Actually, as we all know, what Jesus said was "Peace be with you." But those first two responses might not surprise you if you were hearing the story for the first time. They're kind of what we'd expect.

But Jesus never really did the expected thing. He challenges our way of life and interferes with our plans, projects and goals. Because he questions our beliefs and our ideas about what's important, we get rid of him or at least keep him at a safe distance like the disciples who ran away or denied him. We devote our time and energy to the things we depend on and put our trust in to give meaning to our lives - wealth, power, social status, health, fitness, knowledge — any of these and more, things that are all good in themselves, but not if they are what we need to live our lives, what we put our faith in.

After his resurrection Jesus didn't appear to his disciples with a superhero "I'm back!" speech or a putdown of those who had abandoned him. Instead it was with a message of peace and forgiveness. He had been crucified because he didn't behave and speak as people wanted him to, and when he rose from the dead, he didn't speak as people might have feared he would. His cross and resurrection mean his triumphing over of our sinfulness and the possibility of genuine faith for us. His life, death and resurrection mean our reconciliation with God.

On the Lighter Side

As a frequent flier, I get annoyed when other passengers disregard the airline attendant's requests to stay seated while the plane taxis to the arrival gate. One attendant really caught my attention by announcing: "The captain will be parking the aircraft at Gate 41 in two minutes. I've seen the captain's car so if I were you, I'd remain seated!"



Notices



Tickets now selling for the **Trivia Night Fundraiser**

Friday April 17th at Mons Bones Hall @ 7pm \$20 per person. Available from the Parish office or please contact Judi Robinson on 0419 575 585. BYO food/drinks. Raffles and silent auctions throughout the evening. *Come and join in for a fun night.*

Children's Liturgy will re-commence next Sunday 19th April at 11am Mass.

Day of Prayer and Spiritual Formation
'Becoming little again: the Little Way of St Therese' **Saturday 18th April in the Mons Jeffrey Centre** commencing at 10am with a cuppa, 10.30 Prayer During the Day, 10.45 Reflection by Br Massimo CFD, 11.30 Exposition and time to reflect on talk, 12.00 Mass, Celebrant Fr Doroteo CFD, 12.45 Lunch, 1.30 Q & A and concluding with Afternoon Prayer at 3.00. Morning tea provided, BYO lunch to share. All welcome. Enq: Peter Wright 0418 589083.

Parish Footy Tipping Competition If you haven't paid your \$25 entry fee yet please do so as soon as possible at the office. For more information, call Ashley on 0412 475 290.

Raffle – Catholic Church Insurance Community Assist Program St Brendan's Stronger Youth Ministry and the Faith and Light Community would like to thank everyone who supported the Easter Hamper Raffle. Money raised from the raffle is very much appreciated and will be of great assistance to both groups within the Parish. The lucky winner of the hamper was Josie Cortese. *CCI has kindly donated hampers to the value of \$150 each. As the Church's own insurance company, CCI provides support to the Catholic Church and it's community. Home & Content, Car, Landlord, Personal Accident, Travel, Caravan. For information call 1300 655 003 or visit: www.catholicinsurance.org.au*

Six-Minute Reflection a day. That's all it takes! **Little White Books** are now available in the narthex. These are six-minute reflections on the Resurrection Narrative according to John. This is meant to help you enjoy six minutes of prayer each day during the 50 days of the Easter season. Cost is only \$5 and this can be placed in the envelope provided in the book and "posted" in the mail slot beside the Parish office door.

ST. BRENDAN'S DAY CELEBRATION 2015. This year St. Brendan's Day will be celebrated on the 17th May. If you can help in any way, please contact Irene Garla 5823 1311 or 0407 532 163. **The next meeting will be held this Thursday 16th April at 7pm in the Mons Jeffrey Centre.** *Hope to hear from many people.*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DVD from Good Friday night is available for \$30. Please place money in an envelope with your name, address, phone number & leave it at Parish office.

Shepparton Interfaith Network Public Forum:
Is the Just War teaching relevant today?
In commemoration of the Anzac Centenary 1915–2015 the Shepparton Interfaith Network will conduct a Public Forum on the "Just War" teaching of Christianity with responses from representatives from other religions. There will be a Q and A Forum after the presentation and responses.
Wednesday 15th April at 7.30pm at the Harder Auditorium, GOTAFE, Fryers Street, Shepparton. For more information contact the secretary sheppartoninterfaith.org.au

Ministers of Communion

Dan and Mary Murphy will run a reflection and nourishment session for us. Dan and Mary have great skills and knowledge in bringing us to a deeper awareness of the special gifts we bring as special minister both in our Church and as we visit those sick and home bound Parishioners.

This Monday April 13th 6pm – 7.30pm in the Church.

Hopefully all of our Ministers of Communion can attend.

Divine Mercy Sunday

- 1.00pm Divine Mercy DVD
"Tears from Heaven"
- 2.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation (with several priests)
- 3.00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction
- 3.30pm Holy Mass celebrated by Fr Joe. Veneration of the Divine Mercy image after Mass. DVD's, books, leaflets and pictures are for sale after Masses.



Year of Consecrated Person

During the month of April, we recognise the Brigidine Sisters who have lived with and served the people of Echuca, Rochester, Wangaratta, Kyabram and Euroa. Through the intercession of St Brigid of Kildare may their good works continue to grow and flourish.

Our MacKillop Faith and Light Community are heading to Camp Currumbene for our retreat on 17th, 18th and 19th April. The cost is around \$2500. We are doing our own cooking to keep costs down. We are currently running a chocolate fundraiser to help alleviate some of our costs. If you could sell a box we would be very grateful. Contact Denise on 0432 054003 to organise a box. Fr Joe will celebrate Mass with us on the Saturday. *Please keep us in your prayers.*

STRONGER LIVE EVENT – BENDIGO

The first Stronger LIVE Event (18+) will be held at the **Bridge Hotel in Bendigo on Wednesday April 15, starting @ 6:30pm.** Come along and have a meal/drink while listening to a live music performance from Luke Owens and his band. Music will be followed by a talk about Luke's organisation 'Bendigo for Homeless Youth' and how he was drawn to faith and a stronger relationship with Jesus. A bus will be leaving St Brendan's Parish at 4:30pm. Please contact Judi Robinson on 0419 575 585.

'Reasons for Hope: A Conversation about the Good News and the Faith of Ordinary People' with Cardinal Wilfrid Napier OFM Monday 18th May, St Mel's Hall, Hamilton St, SHEPPARTON SOUTH 7.30 – 9.00 pm.

St. Brendan's Parish Sacramental Program **Commitment Mass for Reconciliation:**

During the 6pm and 11am Masses next weekend the children will participate in the Commitment Mass for Reconciliation and be presented to parishioners. The children will be receive their Steps in Faith Book, a green sash to wear to Sunday Liturgy and also a beautifully illustrated Mass book. After Mass the families will gather together to share a "welcoming" meal. **Completed Profiles:** A reminder to families to return profiles before next Wednesday 15th April. **Profiles need to be left at the Parish house.** For further information please contact Laura at sacramental.coord@bigpond.com.au or ring the parish house 5821 2633 Wednesday mornings.

Thomas the Apostle Reflection

Whenever you see a picture of St Thomas he is almost always represented as touching the wound in Christ's side—but in fact the Gospel does not record this event. Christ certainly showed him his wounds and invited him to put his finger into them but it seems that Thomas never took up the offer. What he did instead was to make an extraordinary profession of faith with the words: "My Lord and my God."

Thomas has always been represented as the doubting Thomas, but interestingly enough Thomas is portrayed in the Gospels as being very brave. In St John's account of the raising of Lazarus when Jesus gets the message of Lazarus' illness and he decides to go up to Jerusalem we find Thomas saying: "Let us go too and die with him."

These are not the words of a timid and fearful man; a man beset by doubts. And yet when the Apostles told him about their meeting with the Risen Lord, Thomas flatly refused to believe them. What Thomas had missed out on was an encounter with the Risen Christ, and, no matter what the other Apostles said, he refused to believe—he wasn't open to persuasion or reasoning.

And I think we have to say, 'Rightly so!' After all, faith does not come from reasoning or from what anyone else tells us—faith is a gift of God and it principally comes through an encounter with the Lord. And when Christ appeared to Thomas that was enough, he never reached his hand out to actually touch the wounds—he did not need to. Instead he fell to the ground with the great words: 'My Lord and my God' on his lips.

So we pray that with God's grace we may make that great and wonderful prayer of Thomas our very own "My Lord and my God."

~ By Fr Terry Bowman MSC

Verbal permission to reprint given by the author.



**Fr Joe is taking
Sabbatical Leave
this year and will be
away from 3rd May
until 1st August.**

Congratulations to our Rite of Christian Initiation candidates newly initiated into the Catholic Church on Easter Saturday night
Carmela, Irene, Liz, Ron, Roxanne, Meaghan, Courtney and Dani.
May their faith continue to grow and nourish them.
Please continue to pray for our newest Catholics.



Consecrated Life

Consecrated Life is a life given to God in full freedom and deep love. God calls each one of us in a very unique and individual way. How do we know this Call! We have to be prepared to listen with our Heart. Jesus said "Be still and know that I am God," if we are still within the core of our being, God's word, His call, will resonate so deeply, so richly within us. To say "yes" to God who calls us to a deeper love of Him, and an emptying of our own thoughts and desires, allows us to fully embrace the call that is for each one of us.

Jesus said "I came that you may have Life and have it to the full." For me this means full commitment to the Love that God has for me.

Therefore here today I have made this commitment to dedicate my life to the service of God and my community through a consecration.
"To walk always in the Light of His Presence."
So that my life will only be a reflection of the life He lives through me.

Please pray that I will always have the strength and courage to always manifest the Lord through my life of prayer and service to you my community.

~ Graeme Francis Quinlan

April 2015 Debutantes and Partners

This Saturday evening we welcome the second group of Debutantes, their partners and their families, who will participate in our Parish Mass. We wish them all well for the Ball to be held on Friday 24th April.



Olivia Mason
Chelsea Lloyd
Anna Chalkley
Dana Elgar
Chelsea Thompson
Elannah Tyack
Bethany Garla
Savannah Zito
Ruby Johnstone
Kira Button
Isabella Piscioneri
Amanda King
Amelia Scutchings
Kaszy Connick
Molligannz Gzislz
Kimberly Doige

Matt Cordy
Tim Lardner
Sam Nash
Darcy Aitken
Logan Mackenna
Robbie Maher
Blair Docking
Marcus Wyan
Jack Sanderson
Caleb Hill
Kurtis Cavallaro
Damon Serra
Lachlan Milne
Lachie Karl
Dustin Anderson
Jake Tartaglia

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

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

Christian Meditation - Monday nights in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm. (Not held on 6th & 13th April)

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 - 2nd & 4th Monday monthly 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 18th & 19th April

6pm P Stein, D Segafredo
8am P Naughton, C Naughton
11am M Keyte, M Sarkady



RECENTLY DECEASED: Leo Ryan, Brian Meloury, Brendan Robinson.

ANNIVERSARIES: Thomas & Kathleen McMahon, Sonali Jayasundera, Angelina Calabrese, Kevin Clurey, Kevin McLaughlin.

REFLECTION

Jesus is alive in us

Jesus, after your resurrection from the dead you appeared many times to your disciples to reassure them that you were truly alive and with them.

Today you continue your work on earth through the Church and through those who follow your teachings and your ways.

Help us to be witnesses to your on-going presence in the world by the way we live.

We make this prayer to you our risen Saviour and Lord.

Amen

*~ From 'Prayers at Your Fingertips'
By Barbara Bretherton*



Mass times in neighbouring Parishes

St. Mel's Shepparton South, Sunday 9.00am & 5.30pm, Monday 7am, Tuesday 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, Wednesday & Thursday 6pm Mass, Friday 10am Mass. Saturday 10.30am - 11am Reconciliation.