



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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 26 April 2015



Readings for this week: Acts 4:8-12
1 John 3:1-2
John 10:11-18



Readings for next week: Acts 9:26-31
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8



Liturgical Jottings

On this ANZAC Day we remember those who served their country in time of war and we particularly honour those who have died during active service. As in the Christian mystery, we can declare that these deaths were for the good of others. They are seen as acts of sacrifice. They have meaning beyond themselves. "No one has greater love," says the Lord, "than those who lay down their lives for their friends." We need to love not just our mates, but to love our enemies as well. To share with them this new possibility of peace, not just with God, but with each other as well.

Pope Francis Speaks

"I ask God to give us more politicians capable of sincere and effective dialogue aimed at healing the deepest roots – and not simply the appearances – of the evils in our world!" (EG 205)

Focus on the Gospel

In today's gospel Jesus compares himself to a good shepherd who cares for his sheep even at risk to his own life. We don't know exactly how long before his death Jesus spoke these words but it was some time before his arrest and crucifixion. We might wonder what sheer courage, love and strength led Jesus to walk toward his death. This kind of dedication and selfless love can be challenging to understand. The depth of Jesus' love for us can humble us.

Besides being humbled and awed, what are we to do? Jesus' words can inspire us to live a life that reflects God's love and compassion. We can give thanks each day that God loves us so much — truly more than we can even imagine and allow that fact to soak into our spirits.

We can be inspired by this love. If there are times when we consider ourselves unlovable, unforgivable or unworthy, we can remember that Jesus does not agree. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, looks at the whole flock, which comes in every shape and size and colour. He looks at all of his sheep with their individual personalities and faults. And he loves each one of us. We can be encouraged by Jesus' cleansing and forgiving love. Jesus sees more in us than we see in ourselves. We can express our thanks and gratitude living lives that reflect that love and compassion.

Filled with his overwhelming love for us, we can endeavour to follow Jesus in big and little ways. We may never be asked to sacrifice ourselves for someone else, but we may be called upon to forgive someone else. We may be asked to stretch our patience, our understanding and our tolerance for those we might not consider particularly worthy or lovable. Jesus can inspire us to look at one another with God's eyes and see the people around us as God's beloved children. God's great love can shine through us when we are willing to act without thinking about ourselves. We can respond to this love by endeavouring to follow our Good Shepherd.

On the Lighter Side

"I love this ripper country
Of funnel-webs and sharks,
With blowies big as eagles,
Where your car gets booked by narks;
Where your team gets trounced each Saturday,
And the pubs run out of beer,
Where there's red backs on the toilet seat
And you're nagged by Germaine Greer."

Phillip Adams, proposed national anthem, The Australian 7 July 1973



Notices

Two excellent courses - **Certificate IV or Diploma in Pastoral Care and Ageing**
- **Graduate Certificate in Ageing (Ethics and Pastoral Care)**, from **Catholic Theological College**
Both courses are offered on campus at Catholic Theological College in East Melbourne.
***Please see the flyers on the noticeboard for information.*

Fr Michael Morley 40th Anniversary of Ordination Sunday 24th May, 10.30 followed by lunch, St Augustine's, Kyabram.



St Vincent de Paul Society invite you to stay for a Cuppa after the 11am Mass.

NOTRE DAME COLLEGE ANNUAL OPEN DAY

FRIDAY 8th May Tours commence from the Admin building, Knight Street Campus 9.15am to 4pm.
Emmaus Campus—Year 9 Programme Grace Road, North Shepparton 2pm and 4pm.

Blumes Fashions will be held on Monday 4th May at 10am in the Mons Jeffrey centre. All welcome.



Serra Club First Friday

Next Friday 1st May we will have prayers for vocations, our seminarians & our priests beginning at 7.15pm followed by a cuppa in Mons Jeffrey Centre. The DVD for this month is "Mary Mother of All." Everyone most welcome.

'The Word Among Us' is a great daily opportunity to give everyday inspiration from the Scripture of the day. The daily page focuses on everyday language, giving encouragement to continue to seek Jesus throughout our day.

The Word Among Us is offering discounts to Parishes who order bulk copies. If you would like to receive a monthly copy please call 58212633 and add your name to the list. Thanks. ~Anthony Kilmartin.



Sacramental Program Home group gatherings in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin this week. Please check your paperwork carefully as some groups will be meeting this afternoon. Parents are reminded to drop off completed profiles to the Parish House as soon as possible.

Parishioners are asked to please pray for our young candidates and their families as they continue on their faith journey towards celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Tuesday 26th May.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Every Sunday during 11.00am Mass.
All primary school children are invited to come and hear God's word. There is no need to sign up; children come forward when invited by the celebrant.

Shepparton Christian College Open Day 7th May
Information sessions & tours. Ph 5831 7790 for information.

Our Parish **Men's Group** will host a film night with Pizza and a few drinks this Sunday 26th April at 6 pm in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. The film "Of Gods and Men" will be the film for the night. So come along for a great social night out. Any enquiries please call Anthony on 0408 269426.

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.

'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 Street, Shepparton South **7.30 – 9 pm.**

A warm, compassionate and down-to-earth man with a ready sense of humour, Franciscan Cardinal Napier is a servant leader with a passion for the mission of the Church to the lowliest. He is on the newly established Council for Economic Affairs and appointed one of the four Presidents of the Synod on the Family by Pope Francis. Donation as/if you can afford.
RSVP: adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au 'Ph 5441 2544
OR message www.facebook.com/lyn.breenministry

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY



There will be **"Holy Hour"** this Sunday, April 26th, following the 8am Mass. This Holy Hour gives us all a chance to pray in a special way in this **"Year of Consecrated Life"** for :

- * more vocations to the religious life
- * for our seminarians, on their journey to priesthood
- * for our priests, as they bring Jesus to us in our lives
- * for our retired priests, that they feel loved and supported
- * for those priests, who have gone to their eternal rest, that were apart of our faith journey
- * and for all religious who give their lives in the missions, and in monastic life.

Your support would be gratefully appreciated.

St Brendan's Friendship Group will meet for lunch this Sunday 26th April at 12.30pm at ALOI THAI Restaurant, 339 Wyndham Street. See you there—
All welcome! Enquiries to Pat 0423 343711.

WANTED! A Unit or Granny Flat for a single man who is quiet, reliable and helpful. Previously lived with his parents who were parishioners of St. Brendans and now both deceased. Please contact Gillian on 0438902782 or 58213445.

Applications open for Youth Ministry Worker:

Applications are invited from people of varying ages and experience for this full time position with the Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst.

The successful applicant will require excellent communication skills and the ability to relate to a wide range of people. They will be able to demonstrate a keen sense of networking and marketing, promoting the values, principles and ideals of Jesus Christ and of the Catholic Church to the young people of the Diocese. It is also desired that the successful applicant will have previous experience in active youth ministry leadership, or in working with young people in schools.

To download a copy of the position description, visit www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au

For any other queries please contact Sally Holmes on 5445 3601 or via email sally.holmes@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
Applications close Thursday, April 30, 2015.

"The Challenge of being a Disciple today: An introduction to the Gospel of Mark" Fr Brian Boyle

Monday May 11 7.30 – 9 pm De Campo Hall (CEO Buildings) 120 Hargreaves St, **BENDIGO**
Thursday May 14 7.30 – 9.00 pm St Brigid's Centre (CEO / Parish Buildings) 71 Ryley St **WANGARATTA**
No cost. RSVP: adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
Ph 5441 2544 OR message www.facebook.com/lyn.breenministry

Fr Joe's Sabbatical

I will be away for 3 months on sabbatical leave from 3rd May.

This will be my last weekend in the parish as Fr Peter Taylor at Benalla parish has asked me to swap with him next week to talk about finance for the last week of his Thanksgiving Program.

Fr Brian Boyle and Fr Doroteo Bravi will be assisting the parish whilst I'm away.

~ Fr Joe

Christ,
the Good Shepherd,
went before us
through suffering
and death.



VOCATIONS SUNDAY IN THE YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE 26th April 2015

In this Year of Consecrated Life we should especially pray for those living as religious sisters and brothers and we should pray for an increase in these vocations. Our present world certainly needs the ministry and witness of consecrated life.

Religious life is very relevant today as we see the Holy Spirit draw new members to many of our long standing religious orders. We also see remarkable growth of new orders such as The Sisters of Life (sistersoflife.org), The Missionaries of The Poor (missionariesofthepoor.org), Iesu Communio, and in Australia, The Missionaries of God's Love (mglpriestsandbrothers.org) (mglsisters.org).

Consecrated Life is alive and well, and with our prayers it will continue to grow.

~ Serra Club of Bendigo



*They shall grow not old, as we
that are left grow old:
Age will not weary them, nor
the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them.*

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, help us respond to, and live out, our mission in the Church.

Help all your people to know their vocation in life, and assist them to prepare for it.

For your greater glory, and for the service of your people, call many to be Priests and Religious.

Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

~ Serra International

"I AM" Sayings of Jesus:

The Gospel of John contains 7 "I AM" sayings of Jesus to explain Jesus' role as the Messiah. They are a means of establishing his divine nature. Jesus' use of "I am" is similar to the revelation of God's name to Moses at the burning bush (Exodus 3.14). The Jewish leaders are agitated when they hear Jesus equating himself with God."

- "I am the bread of life" (Jn 6.35)
- "I am the light of the world" (Jn 8.12)
- "I am the gate for the sheep" (Jn 10.7)
- "I am the good shepherd" (Jn 10.11)
- "I am the resurrection and the life" (Jn 11.25)
- "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (Jn 14.6)
- "I am the vine, you are the branches" (Jn 15.5)

Be a "Good Shepherd" for someone this week. Parents, teachers, nurses, priests are all called to this role daily.

How are you a "Good Shepherd" for others?

~ By John Hogan

What are human rights; where do they originate; what part does the law play in defining what human rights we enjoy; what protection of human rights does the law currently provide?

In the context of abortion laws and potential euthanasia laws that restrict freedom of conscience in health care, the legislative attempts to allow same-sex marriage, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity laws that encroach on freedom of religion, thought, belief and conscience, these are pertinent and pressing questions for those of any faith.

Neville Rochow SC, Adjunct Professor at the University of Notre Dame and Associate Professor of Law at Adelaide University, will address these questions on **Monday 4th May at the Australian Catholic University in Fitzroy.**

You are cordially invited to attend. You can register by ringing Terri Kelleher on 9816 0800. Entry is free but a donation to cover the cost of the venue would be appreciated.

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 2nd & 3rd May

6pm D Tarquini, D Beasley
8am P Guthrie, A Bush
11am M Taverner, P White



RECENTLY DECEASED: Zakaliya Rubogo (aged 97 father of Fr. Joseph Bigirwa-Uganda), Domenico Zampaglione, Margaret Watts (Albury).
ANNIVERSARIES: Josephine Ormiston, Alberto Patone, Vincenzo Zampaglione, Paul Barbour, Caterina Monaco, Rocco Monaco, Lois Malloy-Vibert.

REFLECTION

*Remember, O Lord,
all those the brave
and the true,
who have died the death
of honour and are departed
in the hope of the
resurrection to eternal life.
In that place of light
from which sorrow and
mourning are far banished,
give them rest,
O Lord, thou lover of men.
And grant to us
who remain the spirit of
service which may make us
worthy of their sacrifice,
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen*



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.