



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

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 16 August 2015



Readings for this Sunday

Proverbs 9:1-6
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58



Readings for next week:

Joshua 24:1-2,15-18
Ephesians 5:21-32
John 6:60-69



Liturgical Jottings

The Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo (Glory to God in the highest) is a most ancient and venerable hymn by which the Church, gathered in the Holy Spirit, glorifies and entreats God the Father and the Lamb. It is sung either by everyone together, or by the people alternately with the choir, or by the choir alone. If not sung, it is to be recited. The Gloria is sung or said on Sundays outside Advent and Lent, and also on Solemnities and Feasts, and at particular celebrations of a more solemn character. cf GIRM 53

Laudato Si'

Even when Eucharist is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world". The Eucharist joins heaven and earth; it embraces and penetrates all creation.

para 236 Pope Francis 2015.

Focus on the Gospel

Today we continue our reflection on the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John. Again, Jesus speaks of himself as the Bread of Life: "I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever". Again, amongst the listening crowd, there are murmurs of disbelief: "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus gave no direct answer to the "How...?" but repeated his invitation to his listeners to have faith, to believe in him and to receive him: "I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you."

Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist so that we may be filled with his divine life: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him." The Eucharist is meant to change us. In receiving Jesus in Communion, we are united with Jesus, and in him, we receive grace for our living, grace to nourish and strengthen us. We become more and more closely united with him. In today's passage of the letter to the Ephesians, Paul exhorts us to "go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Meister Eckhart (1260—1328), a philosopher, theologian, and mystic who lived and worked in the Dominican Order is quoted as saying: 'If the only prayer you said in your whole life was "thank you," that would suffice'.

This week we have honoured Mary, the mother of Jesus, in the Feast of the Assumption. As we reflect on Jesus' teaching on the Eucharist, let us remember Mary's words to the servants at the Wedding Feast of Cana (Jn 2:5): "Whatever He says to you, do it." Let us pray to her for the faith and trust she had in Jesus.

Quotable Quote:

We taste you, ever-living Bread,
and long to feast upon you still;
we drink of you, the fountain-head,
our thirst to quench, our souls to fill.

— Bernard of Clairvaux (ca 1160) feast day 20 August

On the Lighter Side

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Where is the first tennis match mentioned in the Bible?

A. When Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.



Notices

Bulletin notices to be in to the office by
12 noon Thursdays. *Thank you*

**Holy Communion will only be given from the Altar
at the 6pm and 8am Masses.**

If you are disabled or not able to come to the altar, please let
someone know and they will come to you.

Rite of Christian initiation of Adults (RCIA)

**Do you or someone you know have an interest in
becoming a Catholic?**

In the Gospel of Matthew Jesus gives a wonderful example
of what the Kingdom of heaven is like. *"The Kingdom of
heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, a man finds the
treasure covers it up and goes and sells everything he owns
to purchase that field."* Mtt:13:44. The RCIA process tries to
uncover the treasure of our Catholic faith.

The Parish of St. Brendan's invites those interested in
becoming a Catholic, to come along to our first session being
held on **Thursday 3rd September at 7.30pm** in the
Mons. Peter Jeffrey Centre.

If you have any questions please call Anthony 0408269426.

St Brendan's Debutante Ball Expressions of Interest
form for the 2016 St Brendan's Debutante Ball are now
available from the Notre Dame College Student Reception.
Forms are due in on Monday 17 August. If you have any
queries please email stbrendansdeb@live.com

Stronger Retreat 2015 25-27th September Harrierville.
Join us if you're 16-25 for a weekend with the Stronger team
having fun, growing in discipleship and learning about your
faith. Registration now open at strongeryouth.com.
Transport may be available For more info follow
@StrongerYouth or contact Darcy or Mary-Anne.

A **walking stick** was left at the Church after a funeral
recently. If this is yours, or you know who it belongs to,
please call at the Parish office.

New Principal at St Luke's

We congratulate Mr David Keenan, from Temora, NSW, who
has been appointed Principal of St Luke's Primary School
effective from January 2016.

Mrs Sally Mills will resume her position as Deputy Principal
at St Brendan's Primary School and Mr Anthony Butts will be
acting Principal until the end of this year.

We wish them all well in their positions.

Italo-Australian Cultural Group presents

Fathers Day Dinner Dance on Friday 28th August at
United Football Club rooms at Deaken Reserve, Skene Street.
All parishioners invited to attend. *See flyer on noticeboard.*
For bookings phone Andrea 58215347/047923215 or Rosa
58217599 or Peter & Rosetta on 58290067 by 26th August.
Cost \$25 adults \$12 children, drinks at bar prices.

Breaking Open the Writings of Pope Francis:

"The Joy of the Gospel" (*Evangelii Gaudium*) &

"Be Praised: On Care for our Common Home (*Laudato Si*)
with Sr Cecilia Merrigan CSB and Lyn Breen, AFE Sandhurst. BYO
lunch or to share. Donation \$5 or gold coin. Available to buy: copies
of "The Joy of the Gospel" and "Praised Be ..." \$10 each. RSVP:

adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au or 5441 2544

Saturday **22nd August** 9.30 am – 3.30 pm

St Brigid's Church, Impey Street, **Murchison.**

Sunday **23rd August** 11.30 am – 4.30 pm

St Mary's Parish Centre, Anstruther Street, **Echuca.**

Saturday **29th August** 9.30 am – 3.30 pm

Sacred Heart Parish Church, Beechworth Rd **Wodonga**

St. Brendan's Parish Sacramental Program

~Reconciliation Confirmation Eucharist~

Reconciliation: St. Brendan's Church, Saturday mornings
from 9.30am to 10.30am. Sacramental Candidates are to
attend Reconciliation on one of the following Saturday
mornings 22nd or 29th August.

*Please pray for our Sacramental Candidates who will
celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist
on the 28th, 29th and 30th August.*

St Mel's Parish in Shepparton South have a vacant position
Pastoral Associate. 10 hours per week. A copy of the
position description is available at the Parish office.
All enquiries to Mrs Tonina Romeo, Parish Secretary,
St Mel's Parish, South Shepparton. Phone 5831 2194.

GARABANDAL We invite you to come along to Mass
followed by a report and short film about Garabandal events.
Also a film about a visit to Ukraine by Dr Michael and Mrs
Helen Rozeluk showing miracles taking place through
intercession of Our Blessed Mother. A crucifix kissed by our
lady during the reported apparitions will be available for
veneration. **When:** Tuesday 15th September
Where: St Brendan's Church. **Time:** Beginning with Mass
at 10.30am. All welcome. For enquiries phone Ellie on
58216359. *See details on the flyer on the noticeboard.*

St Brendan's MacKillop Faith & Light Community
are working on a special project and we need red bottle tops,
black buttons and icy pole sticks.
If you can help, we would appreciate it if you could drop
these into the Parish house and we are grateful for your
support. For information ring Denise 0432 054003.

50th Anniversary of St. Mel's Majellan Club

Attention all past members, celebrations consisting of
9am Mass at St. Mel's Church in Shepparton followed by a
luncheon for past and present club members on
Sunday 18th October.

Any enquiries to Camille 5823 1237 or Helen 5821 3526.

Goulburn Valley Filipino Community invite you
to the celebration of the

Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila
first Filipino Saint and Martyr.

Sunday 27th September at St Mel's Church, 18 Hamilton St.
9am Mass followed by procession.

12pm Lunch and fellowship with program and entertainment
at St Mel's Hall. Please bring a plate to share.

See flyer on the noticeboard.

*"If I have a thousand lives to offer, I will offer them
all to God." ~ St Lorenzo Ruiz*

All parishioners are encouraged to subscribe to the **free**
emagazine at www.cathfamily.org

This is an excellent resource for the whole family
eg. Faith and Family Life, Sacraments etc.

Tax Time . . . ! If you have not yet collected your end of
financial year statement of giving please call at the parish
office to collect it. **Please help us save costs on postage
as this can be quite expensive.** Weekly givers also have
their next set of giving envelopes included.
*Thank you to all parishioners who have supported the Parish
throughout the year. Your support in all its forms is very
much appreciated.*

My Story

Story is important in our own lives and in our faith journey. The great truths of our faith have been handed down to us in story. The Hebrew Scriptures are filled with stories that tell us of God - the creation story reveals God as the loving creator, the Exodus story reveals God as liberator, guide, and protector. Stories were handed down in songs (the psalms) and rituals. We still listen to them today.

Over thousands of years, people have told stories of their encounter with God in their lives. For some it was a relatively easy road, others a much more difficult journey and God seemed absent. Sometimes our greatest insights come in moments when God seems absent and our journey has required commitment and patience. Recently I read this piece of wisdom: patience with others is love, patience with self is hope, patience with God is faith.

Stories help us in our faith journey - they enable us to reflect, to re-imagine. If we do not reflect back on our encounters with God, with Jesus, and with the movement of the Spirit in our hearts then our faith can be reduced to adherence to formulas and doctrines, instead of the realities they attempt to describe for us. Those formulas are invitations to go deeper. Our faith can become observance of rules rather than something that invites us to let the Spirit free, to deepen our relationship and respond in love.

There is a key incident where Peter was called to account for eating with Gentiles, a real 'no no' because that technically made him 'unclean', He told his inquisitors the story of a recent vision which challenged his long held practise and caused him to make a radical change. Starting from the beginning, Peter told his accusers the whole story - how he had been challenged to eat what was 'unclean' and how the voice had said:

'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean... Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.' Acts 11:1-18

That story changed Peter and as the early church reflected on it, it brought about a radical change of mind and heart. Stories are not just ours alone - stories are the glue that hold 'us' together. It is through stories that we remember, we recall family and friends who have died and, through them, they in a sense take life again. We feel their presence and their continuing influence. Family histories and stories are important in our identity, in our coming to know who we are and to whom we 'belong'. It is the same with our faith story. When we gather together in community to share in the rituals which celebrate our faith, these stories are retold to us.

When we look back over our own journey, it is good to reflect on those who have contributed to it, those who have been our mentors in faith. One generation passes on its religious heritage to the next - one generation helps the young to hear the truths it received from its parents and grandparents. So it is always helpful to ask, who were my mentors in my journey of faith? What was their life experience that made them tell such a story and in that way? In turn, we tell our faith story and hope that it will resonate with the experience of our young people, that it will speak to them in their here and now as it did to generations past.

Jim Quillinan

Excerpt from "Along the Track"

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 15th August



"Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise...." (Ephesians 5:15)

A wise person recognises that all we have comes from God. A wise person thanks God every day for all His blessings. A wise person realizes that God has blessed us for a reason and He wants to be partners with Him in His work here on earth.
Stewardship Bulletin Reflections



Eph 5:15

Gifts for Sacramental Children and other gifts

There are some beautiful cards and gifts in our Piety Stall suitable for the children receiving the Sacraments at the end of August including invitations to their special celebrations. Rosary beads, crucifixes, statues, plaques, bracelets are some of the many beautiful items available. The **Piety Stall** is located in the western entrance to the church.

Rosary Crusade in support of Natural Marriage Call on Mary, Help of Christians, to come to our aid!

We need to take action urgently.

The Rosary is one of the most powerful prayers of Christians, used many times in need. Let us join in prayer across Australia. Pray to our Lady Help of Christians and join us in offering one, million rosaries across Australia for the intention of retaining natural marriage. You can register your rosaries at rosarycrusade.org.au
Pick up a flyer in the narthex/porch.

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
***in recess until 8th September.

Christian Meditation - Mondays 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 - 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 7pm.

Lectors & Commentators 22nd August & 23rd August

6pm D Tarquini, Sr F Kennedy

8am A Leahy, V Fox

11am P Howard, Michael Collins

RECENTLY DECEASED: Alfio Emmi, Michele Sepe,
Guiseppe Rizzo (Uncle of Judith Zampaglione).

ANNIVERSARIES: Des Parker, Gilda Patone,
James Clurey, Dominic Calabrese, Mario Bertone,
Vincenzo Legudi (one month mind), Fr. John Leahy,
Joseph Holland.

Reflection

A SPACE FOR GRACE

*What about you, do you want to go
away too? John 6:6-7*

Why are you still a Catholic?

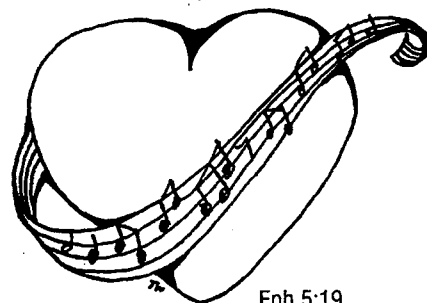
What keeps hold on you?

*We are challenged in today's Church—to
stay faithful to the teachings of Jesus.*

*The year of Grace invited us to get to
know the face of the Lord.
Send your spirit on me, Lord.*

*Bring me back into a close friendship
with you.*

*Help me to get to know you better and
stay faithful to your way of life.*



Eph 5:19

*Sing to God in
your hearts.*

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, Wednesday & Thursday 6pm Mass,

Friday 10am Mass. Saturday 10.30am - 11am Reconciliation.