



# WELCOME TO ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

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Parish Priest: *Fr. Joe Taylor*

Associate Priests: *Fr. Joseph Alluri and Fr Berny Agustines*



Christ in community...the  
heart of our faith

Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King B

Sunday 22 November 2015



Readings for  
this week:

Daniel 7:13-14  
Apocalypse 1:5-8  
John 18:33-37



Readings for  
next Sunday

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
1 Thessalonians 3:12-14:2  
Luke 21:25-28



## Liturgical Jottings

### Sacred Images

In sacred buildings images of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints, ... should be displayed for veneration by the faithful and should be so arranged as to lead the faithful towards the mysteries of faith celebrated there. ... There should usually be only one image of any given Saint. GIRM 318

## Pope Francis

"Instead of being just a church that welcomes and receives by keeping the doors open, let us try also to be a church that finds new roads, that is able to step outside itself and go to those who do not attend Mass, to those who have quit or are indifferent." Pope Francis in an interview

## Quote of the week

"If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze!" -St. Catherine of Sienna

## Looking at the Readings

You may be familiar with the "Six degrees of separation". It is a theory that everyone and everything is six or fewer steps away, by way of introduction, from any other person in the world, so that a chain of "a friend of a friend" statements can be made to connect any two people in a maximum of six steps. It was originally set out by Frigyes Karinthy in 1929. In the current world of social media it has a significant place when one is trying to demonstrate our importance and celebrity. Today it is to have a 'selfie' with a celebrity and in past times to meet or even see royalty. This activity in no way reflects on our importance or merit. Imagine, however, if the royalty seeks us out and the roles were reversed?

Each of us is blessed to be only one degree of separation from the King of all kings. He is directly accessible to each of us and has promised to be 'with us always'. He is as close as our next thought, next breath and next prayer. He does not stand on ceremony or have a long arrangement of protocols to follow. Jesus is truly a king as the final prayer of our Eucharist declares "Through Him, and with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, forever and ever." Through all of Creation Jesus, the King of the Universe, gives glory to the Father.

Jesus does not exercise his reign through the power of ownership and domination. He has demonstrated in his life his rule of love. An unconditional love for everyone not reserved to those within 'six degrees' or who had earned it. This feast of Christ the King offers us the opportunity to honour our King of hearts, and ensure that our own heart is open and welcoming to his royal presence.

Who or what rules our heart? What motivates us, drives us along in life? Who do we make time for? "The quality of a person can be measured only by the quality of his or her heart." (Christopher Gleeson SJ)

## Prayer from the Psalms for the week:

The eyes of all look to you,  
And you give them their food in due season.  
You open your hand and satisfy  
The desire of every living thing. (Ps 145)

## On the Lighter Side

How can a stranger tell if two people are married?  
You see if they are yelling at the same kids - Derrick aged 8.



# Notices

## Keyboard player or Guitarist needed

We now have some singers for the new 6pm Saturday Mass music group however we are in need of a **keyboard player or guitarist**. If you would like to participate in this music Ministry please phone the Parish office on 5821 2633.



## Morning Meditation for Advent

Meditation on Thursday mornings during Advent will be commence on December 3rd 7.15am to 7.45am in the Mons. Jeffrey Centre.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Advertising for accommodation can **no longer** be done through this Bulletin.

**Remembrance Books** There are 2 parish Remembrance Books at the front of the Church for the month of November—one for adults and one for babies. Please feel free to write the names of your deceased loved ones in the book.

## MINI RETREATS FOR ADVENT

**IN THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY WODONGA:** "God Who Longs to Come Close" with Mary Murphy. Mary, who lives in Euroa, is a qualified Spiritual Director and experienced Retreat leader.

Monday 30th November 5.30 – 7.00 pm.

Tuesday 1st December 9.45 – 11.00 am.

Catholic Parish of Wodonga, Sacred Heart Church, Beechworth Rd, WODONGA. COST: \$5 (if possible). RSVP: Wodonga Catholic Parish Ph: (02) 6024 3366 or E: wodonga@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

## CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Presented by Le Belle Arti, will be held on **Friday 4th December 2015**, at United Football Club, Skene St. (Deakin Reserve).

Doors open **6pm for 7pm start**.

An Italian meal will be served. Bookings essential by 2nd December.

Cost Adults \$25, Children \$21.

Phone Andrea on 58215347 / 0437923215



**Spirituality in the Pub** at the Terminus Hotel, Shepparton **this Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 7.30 – 9 pm** (meals from 6pm optional) **'DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: a national issue - a local response'**. Speakers are **Nicole Robertson**, Coordinator, and **John Leckie**, Financial Capability Worker, both from Marian Community Shepparton. Run by VincentCare, Marian Community provides support to women & children escaping family violence. This is a unique opportunity to understand more on this important topic. Enq: to Kerry 0408 579904, Frank 5821 4362 or Fran 5829 0301.

**Peoples Climate March** Following Pope Francis' brave call to action, Catholics are telling world leaders that climate change is real, and we care. At the end of November, as world leaders gather in Paris for the UN Climate Summit, people will take to the streets in cities around the world for an historic Global Climate March. Hundreds of thousands of them will be Catholics. Will you be one of them? The Sandhurst event in Bendigo on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November starts at the Library Gardens at 5.30 pm and finishes in Rosalind Park (fountain corner) with sausage sizzle (or BYO picnic) and music!

**Cardinal Rodriguez' visit to the diocese**, scheduled for Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> November at St Mel's, **HAS BEEN CANCELLED** due to the low number of people booked to attend. For those interested in seeing/hearing the Cardinal, you can see him in Melbourne on 29th November. For details go to access [www.cam.org.au/evangelisation](http://www.cam.org.au/evangelisation)

## Catholic Charismatic Renewal presents "Why I walk in Jesus' Way, Truth and Life" and "Year of Mercy"

Saturday 28th November 10am to 3.30pm in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. BYO lunch to share. Guest Speakers: Fr Berny Agustines and John Duiker. All welcome to attend. See flyer on the noticeboard.



## 2016 Prep Students

As part of the GodStart Program, the Parish would like to invite families and the 2016 Preps to attend one of the weekend Masses on the 5th and 6th of December. During Mass the 2016 Prep children from all schools in our Parish will be presented with their GodStart Prayer Book.

**The Little Blue Book** Six-minute Reflections for Advent and Christmas. These little blue books costing only \$5 each are available in the narthex.

**Gluten Free Hosts** If you would like to receive Holy Communion but have trouble with coeliac or food intolerances we have a supply of gluten free hosts. Please see Father before Mass so a pyx can be arranged for you (via sacristy door in the west entrance).

**St Brendan's Friendship Group** will be meeting for Christmas lunch at the Sherbourne on **Sunday 29th November at 12.30pm**. Please leave your name if you are coming with Pat Simpson on 58211269. All Welcome.

## Parish Pastoral Council Annual General Meeting

Last Wednesday we had a great turn up for our Annual Meeting. We farewelled Hannah Chasemore and thanked her for her contributions to PPC. Hannah has been our youth representative and leaves us now to pursue tertiary education. The two new Faith Ministry trainees from Notre Dame College, Zoe and Georgia, will be our youth representatives in 2016. Paula Scanlon also volunteered to join PPC and we are delighted to welcome our three new members. Next year we will welcome David Keenan, the new principal at St. Luke's Catholic Primary School as an ex officio member. Our current Parish Pastoral Council members are Kathy Hunt (chair), Karen Goodger (deputy chair), Irene Garla (secretary), Anna McNally, Lady Price, Leah Ferguson, Jean-Marie Mupenda, Sr. Frances Kennedy, Bozena Sczurek, Paula Scanlon, Zoe, Georgia, Anthony Kilmartin (Pastoral Associate), John Cortese (principal Notre Dame), Paula Stevenson (principal St. Brendan's), David Keenan (principal St. Luke's), Fr. Joe, Fr. Joseph, Fr. Berny. Thank you to all the groups who contributed to our Annual Report, there are copies of the Annual Report available on our website, in the narthex and side porch if you are interested.

## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM

**AIRS 22 NOVEMBER 2015**

This week on *The Journey* Fr Stephen Varney reflects on the Feast of Christ the King; Sr Hilda Scott OSB speaks of God's love for us in the book of Hosea; Sam Clear challenges us to forgive those who are hard to forgive; Bruce Downes talks about finding your "True Identity" and Byron and Francene Pirola talk about the importance of our "Marriage Vows." Go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2015

**THANK YOU** to parishioners who have already responded to the invitation to generously support our parish with a financial pledge to the Stewardship Program.

If you were not at Mass last weekend and have brought your completed pledge slip from the Program brochure with you this weekend, please place in the basket when called to do so. ***If required, pledge cards will also be distributed at all Masses.*** By completing and returning your pledge this weekend you will assist in minimizing the follow-up work of our Parish Leadership Team. Your completed Time and Talent sheets will also be collected this weekend. If required, additional sheets are available at the back of the church.

Your new pledges will take effect on December 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> and letters of confirmation and where appropriate, new sets of envelopes, will be available at all Masses on the weekend of December 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you once again for your generous response.

### DISTRIBUTION MEETING

Parishioners who have generously volunteered to help with follow-up are reminded of the **Distribution Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of November in the Parish Centre.** If you have not yet volunteered and would like to help please feel free to join us. Your support will be very much appreciated.

### PROGRAM SOCIAL NIGHT

The Program Leadership Team extends a warm invitation to our **Program Social Night**, to all parishioners who have been involved in the Stewardship Program over the past few weeks. The Program would not have been so successful without your support! **The Social Night will be held at 6.00pm on Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the Parish Centre.** Come along to hear the results of the Program and to enjoy some light refreshments with your fellow parishioners.

### **STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PRAYER**

*Lord, we thank you for calling us to be your Church. Through our Baptism we are called to service and to witness. In the Eucharist we sustain and strengthen that call. By serving others we follow your example and proclaim our beliefs. By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our love and care.*

*Lord, help us always to worship you as you deserve, to grow in faith and service and to give without counting the cost. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



### **Patriotic Catholic or Catholic Patriot?**

Dorothy Day was a twentieth-century Catholic hero. During the Great Depression in the United States, she founded the Catholic Worker movement to help poor people and those living on the margins, and to challenge the nation to adopt laws that reflected Catholic values. She opposed war as a solution to world problems. She also fought for laws that protected workers. She went to jail several times for non-violently protesting policies that she thought violated the Gospel. Dorothy loved her nation. But Jesus was her king. Like him, she "*testified to the truth*" even when it put her in conflict with her country and a majority of its citizens. We're called to be like her.

Jesus tells Pilate in this week's Gospel that he has no earthly kingdom. Jesus wasn't a politician, but he hoped to reshape society – government and religion – to reflect God's Kingdom. That's the work we carry on as his followers. For disciples the cross always rises above the flag. We're called to be Catholic patriots, people whose faith shapes our patriotism; not patriotic Catholics, people who place national policies above Gospel values. Patriotism for Christians means using our political system to shape a more compassionate, peaceful nation – being a seed of Jesus' Kingdom. That might cause conflict with other people at times. And it might cause us – like Dorothy Day – to protest when the politicians seem to be deaf.

Our nation separates church and state. That means the state can't tell you what religion to follow. It doesn't mean that Christian values should be separated from our political life. Christ calls us as disciples to trace each of our political opinions back to the Gospel. How does the Gospel challenge our national policies on poverty? On health care? On war and peace? On criminal justice? On environmental issues? On abortion?

Here's a question to ask when we make decisions about whether to support a politician's proposal:  
*If Jesus was our king, would he enact this?*

***What government policy would you want to see changed because of your faith in Christ the King? What can do you to help change it?***

### The Action Response

Make the kingdom real for someone this week. Bring comfort to the afflicted, food to the hungry, joy to the sorrowing, good news to the poor. Give someone else a reason to believe that Christ is the king you serve.

*Weekly parable GPBS eNews*

**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 at 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* - 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 26th & 27th November*

**6pm** C Naughton, P Naughton

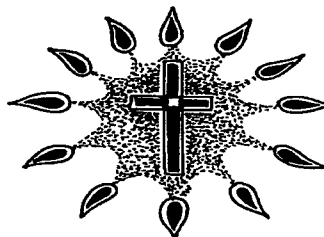
**8am** G Quinlan, M-A Demase

**11am** M Frizzell, I Garla

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Giuseppe (Joe) Comi (Christine Hammond's father),  
Mary Thomson, Virgilio Almadro, Guadalupe Almadro.  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Eileen Tyndall, Pat Hickey,  
Luigi & Vincenza Scarpari, John Langley, Nunzio Portia,  
Giuseppe Napolitano, Alison Marita Hicks, Paddy Hicks.

*Pray:*  
*Gracious God,*  
*remind me that*  
*I am never alone.*  
*Through your grace,*  
*heighten my awareness*  
*that,*  
*you and your way*  
*are all I need.*  
*Amen*

*Loyaola Press .com*



**GOD HAS RAISED  
CHRIST FROM  
DEATH TO LIFE.**

### *Mass times in neighbouring Parishes*

*St. Mel's Shepparton South*, Sunday 9.30am & 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.