



# ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

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Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

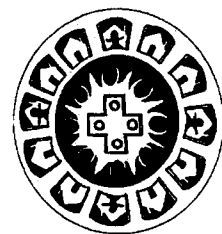
Associate Priests: Fr. Joseph Alluri and Fr Berny Agustines

Weekend Mass times: Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 8am and 11am

Weekday Mass times: Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation: Saturday mornings 9.30am to 10.30am and before 9.15am weekday Masses

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm (Closed Mondays & Public Holidays)



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

Sunday 24 January 2016



Readings for this week:

Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10  
1 Corinthians 12:12-30  
Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21



Readings for next Sunday

Jeremiah 1:4-4, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13  
Luke 4:21-30



## Liturgical Jottings

During the Year, you might want to sometimes look up verses in the Bible to see how they relate to the Mass. When you go to Isaiah 6:3, you will see the words of the beginning of the Holy, Holy, Holy, or the Sanctus. There, you will read, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts! ... All the earth is filled with your glory!" This prayer of the Mass combines verses from the Old and New Testaments. The second part of the prayer is from Matthew 21:9, in which the crowds herald Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem.

## Jubilee Year of Mercy

The Church is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person. Christ went out to everyone without exception [now we must do the same].

Pope Francis *Misericordiae Vultus* no 12

## Looking at the Readings

In both the reading from Nehemiah and the Gospel passage, we see the dynamic power of the word of God. Paul's teaching originated as oral proclamation, and like the texts read by Ezra the priest and the one interpreted by Jesus himself, it was first proclaimed aloud. Only later were these proclamations written and handed down from one community to another, from one generation to the next.

The word of God elicits various responses. In the first reading, the people cried out in response: 'Amen, amen! So be it! We hear and we will obey!' From the verses contained in today's gospel, we do not know how those who heard Jesus' interpretation reacted to it. We do know that both audiences listened intently to the sacred words of Scripture. Can we do less? Are we eager to obey? Do we view the law as a treasure, as life-giving? Have we learned to live with each other as members of one body, each member being important and contributing to the total health of the entire body?

Both Ezra and Jesus proclaimed the word of God within the context of a liturgical celebration, a setting similar to the ones wherein most people today hear God's word proclaimed. According to the teaching of Vatican II, the liturgy is described as the source and summit of our lives, and the liturgy of the word is an essential part of that celebration. With the people of Ezra, we are invited to respond: 'Amen, amen! Thanks be to God!' © Dianne Bergant CSS

## Sharing our Tradition

"Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the Word of God" (Vatican Council II, DV 10) in which, as in a mirror, the pilgrim Church contemplates God, the source of all her riches. In Sacred Scripture, God speaks to us in a human way. To interpret Scripture correctly, the reader must be attentive to what the human authors truly wanted to affirm, and to what God wanted to reveal to us by their words. (*Catholic Catechism* §97 & 109)

## On the Lighter Side-Punny Words III

The man who fell down the stairs in an upholstery factory is now fully recovered.

You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

He often broke into song because he couldn't find the key.





Google Images

**The Aussie Camino Pilgrimage Walk  
Portland to Penola  
in the footsteps of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop**

departing on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April returning on  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of April, 2016.

The Penola pilgrimage walk was inspired by the life and journeys  
of *Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop* and offers pilgrims a  
challenging but spectacular experience with many opportunities  
for personal solitude, peace and spiritual reflection.

Limited numbers, expression of interest  
needed by end of January. Information  
sessions will be held in the Parish with all  
the information you will need to know.  
Phone Anthony for further information  
on 0408 269426.

Information is also available on the  
website [www.aussiecamino.org](http://www.aussiecamino.org)



**News from the Society of St Vincent de Paul . . .**

In the past month St. Brendan's Conference of St. Vincent de  
Paul assisted 88 adults and 131 children mainly by way of food  
vouchers, but also assistance with accommodation costs,  
utilities, transport, white goods, Vinnies store  
vouchers and medical expenses. The Welfare centre  
is open 5 days a week for clients to make an  
appointment for assistance.



**Office Closure**

The Parish office will be closed next Tuesday 26th January  
as it is Australia Day (a public holiday).

**Celebration of the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus  
Candlemas Day**

2nd February at Seiders Grotto, 11 Kaarimba Road, Wunghnu  
(200 meters from the highway). Angelis at 6pm, then Rosaries  
and hymns until Mass at 7.30pm (beginning with the blessing of  
candles). There will be a cuppa afterwards and everyone is  
welcome to come along. Enquiries to Alf Seiter 5862 1740.

**Christian Meditation** starts again on Monday 1st February at  
7.30pm in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. All very welcome.

**Recently Deceased:** Jack Scrimizzi, Isabel O'Keeffe.  
**Anniversaries:** Bogdan Zurawski, Giuseppe Formica,  
Aileen Mary O'Dwyer, Frances Leo, Paul Grace.

**Altar Society** Morning coffee 1st Friday monthly  
**Catholic Women's League (CWL)** 2nd Thursday mthly 1pm  
**Charismatic Prayer Group** Tuesdays 7.30pm Parish Centre  
**Christian Meditation** Mondays 7.30pm, Parish Centre  
**Faith & Light Community** 1st Sunday monthly  
**Garabandal** 3rd Monday monthly 1.30pm  
**Gospel Discussion Group** 2nd & 4th Monday monthly 1.30  
\*\*\*re-commencing 8th February  
**Holy Hour** Thursdays 7pm to 8pm.  
**Friendship Group** will meet 24th January at 12.30  
**Men's Group** Saturday fortnightly 7.30am  
**Serra Club** 1st Friday monthly 7.15pm  
**St Vincent de Paul Society** 2nd Thursday monthly 7pm  
**Lectors & Commentators 30th & 31st January**  
6pm F Scheibel, D Sullivan  
8am G Quinlan, MA Demase  
11am P Howard, Michael Collins



**Mary Help of Christians  
patroness of Australia and of the Military Ordinariate**

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts  
our love of Mary Help of Christians.

Through her prayers and under her protection,  
may the light of Christ shine over our land.

May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace.  
Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens.

Bless especially the men and women  
of the Australian Defence Force and their families.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary Help of Christians, pray for us. (Feast Day 24th May)

**Found** on the 17th January in the Marian Chapel in the church  
a small **Benedictine Cross**. If you have lost this cross please  
phone the Parish office on 5821 2633.

**9.15am Morning Mass Wednesday 27th January**

All Notre Dame College staff will be attending this Mass on the  
27th at 9.15am as it marks the beginning of the year for the  
school. The Mass may finish a little later than usual as there will  
be some wonderful music and singing to join in with. Thanks.

~ Les Billings, Deputy Principal, Notre Dame College.

**Missing The crib belonging to our Faith & Light Community.**

Members of our parish Faith & Light group are very upset that  
the Christmas Crib that was built especially for them has gone  
missing. If you know of its whereabouts please return it as soon  
as possible or contact Denise on 0432 054003.

**Rosters for Ministers of Communion/Lectors/Offertory**

for the period 13th March to 10th July inclusive will be prepared  
shortly. If you are unavailable during that period please contact  
the Parish office by 29th January. Thank you

**Counters Rosters** Please take your copy of the roster for 2016  
as you leave Mass today. Thank you to those  
Parishioners who contribute to this ministry.

**St Brendan's Friendship Group** will meet for lunch a week  
earlier than usual on January 24th at the Goulburn Valley Hotel,  
223 High Street, Shepparton at 12.30pm.  
Enquiries to Pat 5821 1269 or Graeme 5825 2816.

**Parish Men's Group** will start the new year full of hope and  
hopefully energy. Our first Men's breakfast will be held at the  
lake in Shepparton with a BBQ breakfast, some spiritual  
reflections and then a walk around the lake. The men's group  
brings men together in a relaxed friendly environment.  
If you have been looking for something new to get involved in  
for 2016 the first Men's breakfast would be a great way to start  
the New Year with. **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January** at the Shepparton  
Lake (Victoria Park Lake) behind the service station on  
Wyndham Street at 7.30am. Enquiries: Anthony on 0408269426.

**World Youth Day (WYD)**

If you are between the age of 16-35 and would like to  
experience a phenomenal pilgrimage to Poland to join with  
Pope Francis & millions of faith filled young people visit <http://www.cam.org.au/wydvictoria> & contract Mary-Anne on 5445  
3658 or email Mary-Anne.Deluca@sandhurst.catholic.org.au.  
You don't want to miss this incredible opportunity!

**Estela Hutchings, Counsellor** who consults in the Parish  
is available for private and confidential consultation on a wide  
variety of issues. Estela is normally available for consultations on  
**Fridays**. There is a small charge for a 60 minute consultation.  
For information and bookings contact the Parish office on  
5821 2633 during office hours.

For the month of January, the weekend bulletin will be  
produced in this smaller, one page, A4 version.