



# WELCOME TO ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

121 KNIGHT ST, SHEPPARTON 3630

Ph : 5821 2633, Fax: 5831 2908

Email address: [shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

Website: [www.sheppartoncatholic.org.au](http://www.sheppartoncatholic.org.au)

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/sheppartoncatholic>

Parish Priest: *Fr. Joe Taylor*

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



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

First Sunday of Lent- Year C

Sunday 14 February 2016



Readings for this week:

Deuteronomy 26:4-10  
Romans 10:8-13  
Luke 4:1-13



Readings for next Sunday

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Luke 9:28-36



## Liturgical Jottings

During Lent, the catechumens in our parishes prepare especially for Baptism at the Easter Vigil and the baptised for the renewal of their baptismal promises. We are reminded of our baptism each Sunday, as we enter the church, dip a hand into the baptismal font, and bless ourselves. Through our Baptism, we were made sons and daughters of God, and able to come to the table of the Lord and receive the Eucharist. Baptism is the first of the initiation sacraments. Confirmation is the second, and Eucharist the third.

## Quote of the Week

Each of us has a vision of good and of evil. We have to encourage people to move towards what they think is good. Everyone has his own idea of good and evil and must choose to follow the good and fight evil as he conceives them. That would be enough to make the world a better place. *Pope Francis*

## Looking at the Readings

Jesus' dramatic baptism and movement of the Holy Spirit led him into the wilderness to fast and pray. Jesus entered into a lengthy period of solitude but not loneliness, for he was totally with God. Prayer offers the means of deepening his relationship with God his Father. The deprivation of food and other comforts heightened his awareness of his humanity and tested that relationship with the Father. But it didn't weaken his resolve of commitment.

In his frail condition he could have compromised the task he had taken on. He could have pulled back a little, not make too uncomfortable, too unreasonable. The temptations of the 'evil one' are like that. They probe our weaknesses and offer us 'good' reasons for adopting small compromises in our choices. As disciples of Jesus we do not hear him asking us 'to love others but not too much' or 'give to the needy but not so that it hurts'? We know what is asked of us when we follow him.

Lent is a good time to review our discipleship and ongoing commitment to Jesus. We can focus on our own compromises to that commitment. To be alone with God and have honest examinations of our promises to him.

Jesus by becoming truly man made his commitment to the Father. He is tempted in the wilderness to renounce that commitment given in to his humanity and the bountiful richness of God's faithful love. He would be tempted again in the garden at Gethsemane. Our lives seem to be full of temptations but in his responses to the 'evil one' Jesus encourages us.

We do not live only through what this world produces – God is the real provider of life. Gaining all the world has to offer will not bring happiness and fulfilment into our lives – God is the real provider. God has demonstrated his faithfulness and love for us throughout our lives in many ways – God is the real provider always. God alone is God.

## Lighter Side

A little boy often went next door against his mother's wishes. She asked him why he was so disobedient. "Satan made me do it." His mum advised him to say 'get behind me Satan' whenever he was tempted. This worked for a week, but then his mum saw him next door playing. "Jeremiah", she yelled, "come here! Did I not tell you to say 'get behind me Satan' whenever you were tempted?" "Yes", he replied, "I said, 'get behind me Satan', then he went behind me and pushed me through the fence."



# Notices

## **Formation FOR ALL MINISTRIES New and Old**

On Tuesday March 1st and 8th, we will be holding formation sessions for all ministries with Fr. Tony Hill between 7.30pm and 8.30pm in the Noel Daly Centre (behind Mons Jeffrey centre). These will be the initial training/formation sessions for all of our Parish ministries.

As such, we would like all existing volunteers to attend as well as new volunteers.

Fr Tony will discuss *Understanding the Eucharist*. If you are interested in joining one of the many important ministries within the parish please come along.

These will be followed up with specific sessions for each ministry, starting with Ministers of Communion on Thursday April 28 between 5pm and 6pm.

We are looking forward to having a huge turnout!

## **The Aussie Camino Pilgrimage Walk Portland to Penola**

in the footsteps of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop departing 11<sup>th</sup> April returning Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of April, 2016.

Information is also available on the website [www.aussiecamino.org](http://www.aussiecamino.org) An **information session will be held on Sunday 21st February** in the small room in the Mons Jeffrey Centre from 12 midday until 1.30 with a light lunch provided. Luke Mills, co-ordinator for the Aussie Camino, will lead the session.  
For information phone Anthony on 0408 269426.

## **Holy Rosary**

Every Sunday after 8am Mass a group of our parishioners gather in the Marion Chapel in the church to pray the Rosary. All are welcome and we would love to have more people to join us. Special graces and blessings are given by Our Lady to those that pray the Rosary.

**Little Black Books** are now available in the narthex and side entrance. They are a six minute reflection on the weekday Gospels of Lent. The idea is to find six minutes of quiet time each day of Lent and can use it anywhere. They're \$5 each. Envelope is provided in the book, just drop it at the office.

**Altar Servers** Could current altar servers please serve if they are attending Mass while the new roster is being prepared. *Thank you.*

**Found** A small purse was found in the Marion Chapel in the Church. It can be claimed at the Parish Office.

**Spirituality in the Pub** at the Terminus Hotel, 212 High Street, on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 – 9 pm (meals from 6pm optional) Join the conversation following *Palestine / Israel – An Eye-Witness Account* by Rev Joan Fisher. Pick up a flyer in the narthex/side entrance. Enquiries to Kerry 0408 579904, Frank 5821 4362 or Fran 5829 0301.

**Parish Friendship Group** will meet for lunch on the **third** Sunday of each month from now on. Our next lunch is at The Last Straw Café, 26 Keppel Street, Shepparton on Sunday 21st February at 12.30pm. For catering purposes please leave your name and phone number with Pat on 5821 1269. All parishioners are invited to come along and enjoy lunch together.

**Parish Office Plans** A final floor plan is on display on the noticeboard in the narthex. Many plans and options have been explored as well as cost considerations to the Parish. This plan provides extra office space and pastoral space as well as storage. Extra storage is also being built at the back of the centre for easier access to tables and chairs.

**Estela Hutchings, Psychologist** 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.  
*Estela may also be contacted directly on 0419 033 473.*

## **2016 Sacramental Program**

If you are thinking about enrolling your child into the 2016 Parish Sacramental Program and your child attends a government school, you will need to collect an information booklet and enrolment form from the Parish office or contact Laura at [sacramental.coord@bigpond.com](mailto:sacramental.coord@bigpond.com) to have the information emailed to you. **Information packs will be available from Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February.**

Children at St. Brendan's or St. Luke's Primary School in year 3 will receive the enrolment pack next Wednesday at school. If your child is in an older grade, please collect the enrolment form from the school office.

### **Enrolments close Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.**

Children must be baptised before they can celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. If your child is not baptised, contact the parish office ASAP. For information, I can be contacted at the Parish House on Wednesday mornings 5821 2633 or via the above email.

The latest edition of **SandPiper** is now available.

## **WORLD YOUTH DAY – KRAKOW (POLAND) 2016**

This year young people aged between 16-35 years will have the opportunity to take part in WYD Pilgrimages through the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Participants have the option of joining one of **four different pilgrimages**:

1. **Krakow Connect:** 22nd July – 5th August (15 days)
2. **Poland Encounter:** 18th July – 6th August (20 days)
3. **Footsteps of St Paul:** 18th July – 6th August (20 days)
4. **John Paul II Trail:** 15th July – 6th August (23 days)

Duration and timing of each of the pilgrimages vary. Prices also range from \$5600-\$7200 (not including travel insurance). More details are included on the WYD Victoria website: <http://www.cam.org.au/wydvictoria/Pilgrimages> Online registrations are already open and can be processed on the WYD2016 website: <https://wyd2016.com.au/pilgrimages/archdiocese-of-melbourne>

If you are interested in attending World Youth Day and you are a student at Notre Dame College, we strongly encourage you to fill-in an **Expression of Interest Application Form** through the college. **Applications need to be completed by February 29.**

Forms can be collected from Student Reception or please see Georgia and Zoe in the Faith & Ministry Office. *\*The College will be contributing up to \$10,000 to the final cost for the total number of students who attend (the individual amount will depend on the final number of applicants).*

~ Jessica Alampi, Youth Ministry Leader

Lent calls us to reflection on the Mystery of Jesus journey towards his death and resurrection.

All parishioners are welcome to join in

## Activities during Lent

### ◆ Stations of the Cross

~ Every Friday evening at 6pm during Lent

### ◆ Meditation

~ Thursday mornings in the Mons Jeffrey Centre at 7.15am and continues every Thursday morning until 24th March.

~ Monday evenings in the Mons Jeffrey Centre at 7.30pm.

### ◆ Gospel Discussion Groups

~ Monday afternoons during Lent in the small meeting room in the Mons Jeffrey Centre at 1.30pm.

~ Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm at 8 Norton Avenue, Shepparton.

### ◆ Eucharistic Adoration

~ Thursday evenings 7pm to 8pm

~ Friday afternoons 3pm to 6pm



Like many families in her remote village, Doney and her family have often gone months without enough to eat. But with the support of Caritas Australia and local partner CADECOM, the people of Doney's community have learned to harness their strengths. Today they are building new livelihoods, improving health and growing literacy to create paths towards a better future.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help people in remote areas of Malawi harness their strengths and pave the way towards a thriving future.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF  
**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

### Project Compassion

Boxes and envelopes are now available. Please take one home with you.

### Catholic Charismatic Renewal 'Opening the Door of Our Heart'

Saturday 27th February

Mons Bones Hall (next to Church).

1pm to 4.30pm

Presenter — Fr Berny Agustines

Please bring afternoon tea to share.

Coffee and tea provided.

All welcome.

Enquiries phone Pat Cooper 5821 1671.

St. Valentine's Day booklets are available in the narthex and porch that celebrate

*"The Joy of Difference".*

You're welcome to take one with you.

*"Complementarity becomes a great wealth. It is not just a good thing but it is also beautiful."*

~ Pope Francis, *Humanum*

The origins of Valentine's Day are traced back to St Valentine, a Roman priest who was executed for marrying couples against the orders of Emperor Claudius 11. While in prison he healed the sight of his jailer's young daughter. He is celebrated throughout the world as the patron of romance and married love.

## Lent and Almsgiving cont...

Giving isn't about making us feel good. It is about assisting those who are in need of help, of food, shelter, clothing. There are literally millions of people in our world community who are starving, who live in hopeless situations. Our generosity can do more than provide immediate help for them – it can help to change the underlying systems that keep people in the bondage of poverty and crushing injustice. It can help to help train people in new skills, to find solutions to their own problems, to make a lasting contribution. While it is always helpful to give locally, to give to local situations of tragedy or hardship or devastation caused by floods or storms or whatever, giving to change systems, to help people develop new skills is equally important and long lasting.

Lent reminds us that there is more than one way to give and the earlier we start to take that on board, the better. It is a habit to foster early on in life. Almsgiving doesn't always involve money – there are many ways to contribute to the lives of others. Almsgiving can also mean that we give of our time, our expertise, our talents and skills. I once visited a church community where everyone was asked to make a commitment for Christ every week, to spend at least one hour in the service of somebody in the community – to mow someone's lawn, to visit someone who was sick, to help repair something, to use our skills in service of someone else. Or just to volunteer to do something – to see a need and do something about it. It was one of the most vibrant faith communities I had ever seen.

What can one person do? More than we can imagine!!

~ An excerpt from "Along the Track" by Jim Quillinan

**Parish Office Hours** Phone 03 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 Village 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 5.30pm

### *Reconciliation*

Saturday mornings 9.30am-10.30am  
Before 9.15am weekday masses

### *Holy Hour*

Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

### *Eucharistic Adoration*

Fridays 3pm to 6pm

### *Holy Rosary*

Pray the Rosary after 8am Mass Sundays

### *Stations of the Cross*

6pm Fridays during Lent

*Children's Liturgy of the Word* 11am Mass from 7th Feb

### *Sacraments*

*Baptism*, 4th Sunday of each month except December which is the 3rd Sunday, January by arrangement.

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 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 month

*Friendship Group* - Third 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

*Men's 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* - 2nd Thursday monthly 7pm

### *Lectors 20th & 21st February*

**6pm** P Stein, Sr F Kennedy

**8am** Sr R Crowe, G Jelliff

**11am** L Ferguson, W Hunt



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Betty Malone (John Priestly's sister)

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mary Kerlin, Angela Rizzeri, Des O'Shea, June Wall, Shirley Moylan. Giuseppe, Corradina & Neil Giliberto.

## *Reflection* *Choose Life*

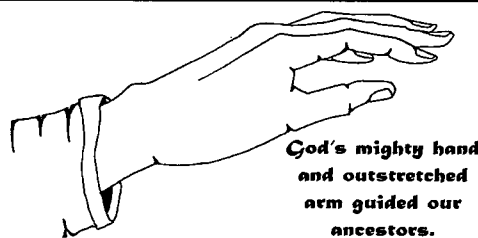
*(Deuteronomy 30:15-30)*

*Almighty and Merciful God  
Lent is a time for making choices,  
renewing commitments and returning  
fully to a life of faith and love.  
Help us to choose those actions and  
attitudes that bring us fullness of life.  
Renew in us a commitment to following  
your ways—ways of love for your law;  
a law that does not bind truly  
sets us free.*

*With your help, today we choose  
goodness over evil, love over hate,  
forgiveness over revenge,  
freedom over oppression.  
Strengthen us in our resolve so that we  
will come to know you better,  
love you more and serve you more fully  
in our world.*

*We make this prayer through  
Jesus your son.  
Amen.*

*~ By Barbara Bretherton '  
'Prayers at your Fingertips'*



### *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. Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am - 11am.