



# 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

**Fifth Sunday of Lent- Year C**

**Sunday 13 March 2016**



Readings for  
this week: Isaiah 43:16-21  
Philippians 3:8-14  
John 8:1-11



Readings for  
next Sunday Luke 19:28-40 (Entrance)  
Isaiah 50 50:4-7  
Philippians 2:6-11  
Luke 22:14-23:56



## From the Ordo

Today is the anniversary of the election of Pope Francis, 2013. He began his pastorate on the Feast of St Joseph, husband of Mary, 17 March.

## A Thought for Lent

Have you ever thought of Lent as a yearly second chance? Each year we have six weeks to take a long, loving look at our lives to see if our values and priorities are in line with God's desires for us. We may find that we've wandered from God's path, Lent becomes that second chance to "return to God with our whole heart." During this Lent, did we decide to support one another in whatever we chose to do? As we journey through Lent, remember that each step brings us closer to the welcoming arms of our loving God. Make the season of Lent a meaningful time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for yourself, your loved ones, and your community. Invite family members to share their thoughts, hopes, and desires for Lent and the coming season.

## Looking at the Readings

'There is always safety and security in the mob mentality. Jesus models for us a different approach; one which embraces the risk of being different.' Ian Elmer -A Reflection on the Adulterous Woman.

Safe and secure Jesus was not when surrounded by malicious men with stones in hand a terrified woman trembling before him he takes control of an extremely fraught situation. As master of the moment he uses silence to create some space then bends down perhaps to be closer to the cowering woman as a comforting presence and writes in the dust. Imagine the tension as with all eyes focussed on Jesus and all ears listening for his response they wait. Imagine the change in atmosphere as he pronounces his verdict 'Let him who is without sin...' and as he again bends and continues to write in the dust the accusers melt away one by one. It's impossible for most of us to imagine the relief and gratitude of the accused woman as left alone with Jesus she hears the words 'Neither do I condemn you'. In the Creation Story God formed humankind from the dust of the earth. Now Jesus saves this woman from certain death giving her life once again. Perhaps in the dust he had with his finger been describing her as the way she must have felt - a new creation.

Are the words Pope Francis spoken to journalists at an unscheduled press conference on a flight home 'Who am I to judge?' reminiscent of the words of Jesus in today's story 'Neither do I condemn you.' During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, a year in which we grow ever more convinced of God's loving forgiveness, are we listening more intently to the words of Pope Francis? Are we asking ourselves how can we show others the Mercy of God? We say that God loves us and has mercy on us; our actions need to genuinely reflect God's forgiveness. As disciples of Jesus we have to put mercy before judgment remembering that in any event God's judgement will always be in the light of mercy.

During this Year of Mercy let us grow accustomed in experiencing the joy of encountering that Grace which transforms all things, the sweet and gentle touch of God's forgiveness especially in moments of greatest need.

## On the Lighter Side

A Catholic boy and a Jewish boy were talking and the Catholic boy said, "My priest knows more than your rabbi." The Jewish boy said, "Of course he does, you tell him everything."



# Notices

*Welcome To Bishop Les Tomlinson  
who is with us in the Parish this weekend.*

## **Bishop Les Tomlinson's visit to St Brendan's & St Mary's, Dookie, Parishes this weekend**

... continuing

- Saturday evening: 6pm Mass with Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Adi Indra plus presentation of Debutante group.
- Cuppa afterwards for parishioners & seminary staff

Sunday morning:

- 8am Mass at St Brendan's
- 9.30am Mass at St Bernard's, Katandra West
- 11am Mass at St Brendan's
- Cuppa afterwards in Mons Jeffrey Centre.

All welcome

## **Jubilee Year of Mercy Divine Mercy Sunday 3rd April**

Will commence at 1pm Divine Mercy DVD and finish with Holy Mass at 3.30pm. Details to follow.

## **A Retreat to Begin Holy Week in the Year of Mercy: "...to gaze even more attentively on mercy."**

With retreat facilitator, Mary Murphy.

At St Mary's Parish Church, 2 Toolamba Road, Mooroopna.

Next Sunday 20th March Palm Sunday

11am (following 10am Mass) to 2.30pm. Light lunch provided — Gold coin/note donation to assist St Mary's with lunch costs. Phone 54412544 or email: [adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

## **Mass of the Holy Oils 'Chrism Mass'**

is on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bendigo at 11.00am. There will be morning tea before Mass in the Cathedral Hall and all are invited.

*All parishioners of the diocese are warmly invited.*

**Slavery-free Chocolate** Every person ought to have the awareness that 'purchasing is always a moral—and not simply an economic—act.' ~ Pope Francis, January 2015.

**What can you do?** \*\*Buy slavery-free chocolate, \*\*Visit facebook page [www.facebook.com/sfchoccampaign](http://www.facebook.com/sfchoccampaign)  
\*\*Check the Good Egg guide.

Look for these certification labels when buying your Easter eggs:



## **St. Brendan's Parish AFL Footy Tipping Competition 2016**

Attention all footy lovers! The St. Brendan's Parish Footy Tipping competition is on again this year. The tips are entered online, so all you need is an email address and access to the internet via computer, tablet, or smartphone and you are set to go. Entry fee is \$25, payable at the parish office before Friday 15 April. In addition, as part of the AFL.com competition, all entrants can share in over \$550,000 worth of additional prizes. Joining can be done prior to payment, so follow this link: <https://tipping.afl.com.au> Returning players can use their 2015 login details. New players just sign up and follow the instructions. Once registered, click on the "Comps" tab and join "St Brendan's Parish Tipping Competition" (note punctuation) and use invite code "ES3UUUTE". Tipping online each week is then so simple! For queries contact Ashley on 0412 475290.

*A farewell to Fr Joseph Alluri will be held on Sunday 20th March after 11am Mass in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. Please bring a plate to share. Fr Joseph will leave permanently for India on the afternoon of Easter Sunday.*

*Farewell*

**Adi Indra**, our visiting Seminarian, will be admitted as Candidate for Ordination this **Saturday at 6pm Vigil Mass**. The Admission to Candidacy Rite offers the candidates for ordination to publicly express their intention to receive ordination as a Deacon and later as a Priest.

## **Ministers of Communion - Holy Week Ceremonies**

There will be no special roster for the Holy Week Triduum. If you are a Minister of Communion and will be attending any of these ceremonies at St Brendan's, please volunteer to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. THANKYOU! ~Loretta.

**Youth Ministry Update: Stronger LIVE.** If you are 18 or over come and celebrate St Patricks day with dinner, amazing live music and a guest presentation by Fr Dominic Murphy who will speak about the relevance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in this great Jubilee Year of Mercy. Thursday 17th March, at The Bridge Hotel, 49 Bridge Street Bendigo. 6.30pm.

**Little Black Books** There are still some Little Books available with short reflections for Lent, six-minute reflections - a great way to pray during Lent. Only \$5 each.

**Palm Sunday Service at Mt. Major.** Sunday 20th March. Starts at 6.30pm, gates open 4.30pm. BYO everything: chair, coat, food, thermos, torch, repellent, etc. See flyer on the notice board for details. Contact Margaret 0429232265

**New Rosters for Lectors, Ministers of Communion & Offertory** have been either emailed or are in the narthex.

**Keys found** in the church grounds last Sunday. If they are yours, please call at the parish office.

## **Sacramental Program 2016 'Completed Profile'**

All children enrolled in the Sacramental Program should have received a Profile Pack. If you did not receive a pack, please contact Laura on 5821 2633 Wednesday mornings or via email [sacramental.coord@bigpond.com](mailto:sacramental.coord@bigpond.com) Profiles are due back ASAP and **no later than Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.**

**Universalis** is an APP for mobile phones that has the Mass Readings, Prayers of the Church, etc. Approx cost \$17/\$20. A very good resource especially if you are a Lector.

**Aussie Camino** Everyone is welcome to join us for these preparation activities. We have two training walks planned: **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> of March** starting from the Parish car park at 7am driving to Tatura and four hour walk to Shepparton with a stop for coffee at Mooroopna. We might take Parish bus if needed. **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> of April** starting from car park at 7am travelling to Dookie for a four hour walk finishing with lunch at Dookie. Please pray for the participants as they prepare for the pilgrimage. *All parishioners welcome to join in preparation activities.*

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

**Holy Week**

Reconciliation Tuesday 22nd March 6pm

Holy Thursday 24th March 7pm

(no morning Mass)

Good Friday 25th March

3pm Celebration of

Our Lord's Passion

8pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday 26th March 7pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 27th March 8am and 11am.



We welcome the first group of Debutantes, their partners and parents who will celebrate their Deb Ball on Friday 18th March. Our prayers and best wishes to you all.



<u>Debutantes Name</u>	<u>Partners Name</u>
Olivia BODYCOAT	Paddy O'DONOGHUE
Macey BRAUMAN	Elbino YEL
Josephine CARUSO	Nathan NICOLACI
Bridget DRUM	James COLE
Brittany DRYSDALE	James HIBBLE
Lilly FAIRLEY	James TOMARCHIO
Dana McLAREN	Ben COSTA
Evie MELLIS	William HOSIE
Lauren NATALIZIO	Hayden LINEHAN
Adolphina NGANSELE	Thomas HAMMOND
Paris PELLEGRINO	Miguel CLERIGO
Jessica RADEVSKI	Adam MEOLA
Bethany ROBINSON	Jayden YOSH
Alicia ROWAN	Chris PLATT
Annalesa TURNER	James COWLING
Laura VERBEEK	Riley MANN
Chloe WILSON	Jackson CORMICAN
Lauren YOUNG	Justin IARIA

There is no Children's Liturgy at 11am Mass this Sunday.

**St Brendan's Friendship Group** will not be having their usual monthly lunch next Sunday. Instead we will gather together with Fr Joseph to say farewell to him after 11am Mass next Sunday 20th March in the Monsignor Jeffrey Centre. Please bring a plate to share.

**Raffle – Catholic Church Insurance Community Assist Program**

**To assist young people who are going to Poland for World Youth Day 2016 in July.**

St Brendan's is providing an Easter Hamper Raffle as well as some additional prizes, with all proceeds going towards travel costs for youth travelling to World Youth Day in Poland.

Tickets will be sold after each of the masses next weekend and over Holy Week. Tickets are \$2 each and will be drawn after 11am mass on Easter Sunday.

CCI has kindly donated a hamper to the value of \$150 each. As the Church's own insurance company, CCI provides support to the Catholic Church and it's community. Home & Content, Car, Landlord, Personal Accident, Travel, Caravan. For information call 1300 655 003 or visit: [www.catholicinsurance.org.au](http://www.catholicinsurance.org.au)

**Jesus is the Compassionate Merciful Healer**

**What is 'Sin'?**

When we make sinful choices, we are not living not 'living true' to our identity as people created in God's image, baptised into the new life of Christ. 'Sin' is freely chosen action, or failure to act, that contradicts Jesus' 'law of love' (John 15:12-14). Sinful actions are neither life giving nor loving: they harm relationships with others, with God, self, creation. We become *less free* to choose what is good, true and loving in the future.

Jesus Christ showed the way to *freedom from* all that holds us back from being as God created us to be: *freedom for* genuinely loving relationships and life in all its fullness (John 10:10; John 15:12-14). We are always being called to a 'change of heart', a radical turning away from sin, to really turn towards God who loves us first, and wants to help us every step of the way. Following Jesus, we can make a difference in our world; "in fact the kingdom of God is among you." (Luke 17:21)

**Becoming Forgiving People**

At first, Peter tried to put limits on forgiveness; 'Lord...how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times'(Mt 18:21-22). In the 'Our Father', Jesus taught us that God's forgiveness for us is closely tied to our willingness to forgive others: 'Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us...' (Luke 11:4, Matthew 6:12).

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

The Sacrament of God's forgiveness is called Reconciliation, because it is about reconciling relationships, with God, ourselves and others. It is also called the Sacrament of 'penance', 'confession', 'forgiveness'. It is a Sacrament of 'healing': Jesus does not simply forgive our harmful and life drying actions. He desires to heal the source from which these actions come. Therefore, when preparing for this sacrament, we need to go beyond recalling our actions and ask God's help to identify the deeper areas of our life in need of healing.

**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

Tuesday 22nd March 6pm

**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 19th & 20th March**

**6pm** M Keyte, D Tarquini

**8am** J Zampaglione, D Teitzel

**11am** I Garla, A Ferguson



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Fr Brendan Quirke

(formerly of Echuca), Jack Burns.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Edith Ferrera, Eugene Curtis, Mona O'Shea, Peter Murray, Felice Negro.

## Reflection

*“Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude.”*

A.A. Milne,

Winnie-the-Pooh



**Mass times in neighbouring Parishes**

**St. Mel's Shepparton South**, Sunday 9.30am & 5.30pm,

Tuesday to Thursday 8am,

Friday Way of the Cross with Mass to follow at 6pm.

Saturday 9.00am, 1st Saturday 9am followed by Devotions.

**Reconciliation**, Saturday morning after 9am Mass,

Thursday 17th March at 7pm.

**Holy Week:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Mass at 7pm

Holy Thursday 7pm, Good Friday 9am Stations of the Cross and

3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion,

Easter Saturday Vigil 7pm, Easter Sunday 9.30am and 5.30pm.

**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 and

Monday 14th March at 7.30pm.

**Holy Week:** Holy Thursday 7pm, Good Friday 3pm,

Easter Saturday Vigil 7pm, Easter Sunday 10am.

**St. Joseph's Undera**, 2nd Sunday of the month 8.30am.

Easter Sunday 8.30am.