



WELCOME TO ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

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Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

Associate Priest: Fr Berny Agustines



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday 3rd April 2016



Readings for this week:

Acts 5:12-16
Apoc 1:9-13, 17-19
Jn 20:19-31



Readings for next week:

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41
Apoc 5:11-14,
Jn 21:1-19



Liturgical Jottings

From the ORDO

When preaching takes place within the context of the liturgy, it is part of the offering made to the Father and a meditation of the grace which Christ pours out during the celebration. This context demands that preaching should guide the assembly, and the preacher, to a life-changing communion with Christ in the Eucharist.

Evangelii Gaudium (2013) #138

Quotable Quotes:

"When a good person is hurt all that are called good must suffer with them" *Euripides*

From Today's Readings

"Many signs and wonders were done among the people at the hands of the apostles" *Acts 5:12*

Looking at the Readings

Many would say Thomas lacked faith. I think Thomas just lacked imagination.

He could not imagine Jesus past his experience of Him. He could not imagine Jesus being present past death. He could not imagine a world different than it had been several days earlier. And Thomas could not imagine what all the fuss was about!!!

Jesus is dead, gone, no more, end of story, which it is for someone without imagination.

No one ever says where the absent Thomas was. I guess a good thing about no imagination is you are not likely to work yourself into a lather about things to come. So Thomas may not have seen any need for being afraid and hiding. Thomas could not imagine why anyone would be afraid, who would want to hurt him? Without imagination nothing is wrong... but... nothing is possible.

Luckily, imagination is something Christians have in abundance. Because Christians can imagine a time when peace might overcome war. When people will be "judged by the content of their heart, not the colour of their skin" (in the words of Martin Luther King – a man of great imagination). Christians imagine a place beyond here, where the presence of God is full and sustaining.

Christians imagine, using words like justice, freedom, equality, love, peace, communion, and respect.

Christians imagine what is possible with the reign of God, and some work hard to realise their imagined possibility.

Some Christians imagine – do you?

Serious Solemnity of the Week

Annunciation of the Lord – April 4th

The Annunciation also referred to as the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Annunciation of Our Lady or the Annunciation of the Lord, is the celebration of the announcement by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive and become the mother of Jesus, the Son of God marking his Incarnation. This feast celebrates the coming of Jesus, like us, to walk this fragile earth with us. It recalls Mary's great "yes" to a difficult question without true knowledge of the consequences.

Notices

SOCIAL ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS: A COMMUNITY FORUM TO TACKLE ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH 'ICE' IN OUR COMMUNITY

organised by St Mary's Parish & School, Mooroopna.

Tuesday 19th April, 7.30 – 9.30 pm.

Speakers: Jenny O'Connell, an experienced and well known counsellor, Geoff Long, Detective Snr Sgt Paul Maher. At Sir Ian McLennan Centre, Echuca Road, Mooroopna (Mooroopna Football ground). More information: St Mary's Parish 5825 2034 or St Mary's Primary School 5825 2858. *See flyer on the noticeboard.*

"People Are Not For Sale"

ACRATH Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans Wednesday 13th April at St Mel's Hall, Hamilton Street, Shepparton. ~ What trafficking/modern day slavery is, ~ learn about what ACRATH does, ~ hear case studies, ~ consider ways to learn more & respond. Parishioners invited to attend the morning session from 9.15am to lunch time. Refreshments provided. Donations welcome. To register and for information contact David Walker on 0439 201307. *See the flyer on the noticeboard in the narthex.*

St Vincent de Paul "Doing Good Works" are looking for some people who would be interested in manning the phone for two hours per fortnight. Please phone Denise for more information on 0432 054003.

Faith and Light Community will not be meeting this Sunday 3rd April. We will gather at 11am Mass next Sunday 10th April and then at the home of Steve and Venetta Di Petta for Easter egg hunt and Gospel role play. Phone Denise on 0432 054003 for further information.

Please return Project Compassion boxes and envelopes as soon as possible. *Thank you.*

World Youth Day Fundraising Raffle and Cake Stall

A HUGE thank you to all parishioners for supporting the Easter Hamper Raffle and cake stall, the young pilgrims were very appreciative of your generous donations! The winners of the raffle drawn on Easter Sunday were: 1st Prize – Claire Doherty, 2nd Prize – Fr Frank Jones and 3rd Prize – Paula Scanlon. Congratulations to all of our winners!!

Stronger Rally Our first Stronger Rally for the year will be hosted by St Mary's in Mooroopna! All youth are invited to join us for a BBQ, games, Praise and Worship and talks with Fr Rob and the Stronger Band. Marian Centre, (St Mary's School) corner McLennan St & Toolamba Road, Mooroopna. **Friday April 22nd, 6-9pm.**

Annual Retreat for Catholic Women

Feathertop Chalet, Harrierville. 18th, 19th & 20th April. Cost \$250 includes all meals BYO towel and toiletries. A bus will run from Shepparton leaving at 9.30am. (Extra cost) Arrangements can be made to meet public transport from Melbourne. Lunch on the 18th (buy or bring), noon, Myrtleford. Bookings needed by Monday 4th April. Phone Margaret Lucas on 5862 1080 or Margaret Spedding on 5480 6957. *See the flyer on the noticeboard.*

New Parish email address: shepparton@cdos.org.au

Please use this email address when corresponding with the Parish by email. Thank you.

Thanksgiving Envelopes Statements are available in the narthex for all parishioners who give through the envelope system. Please collect your envelope as you leave Mass today to avoid expensive postage costs to the parish. Thank you to all who are being so faithful to our pledges.

Little White Books for the Easter season are now available. These little books are great way to pray and reflect and only takes six minutes a day. \$5 each.

Sacramental Program – Seeking Potential Facilitators

Each year our Sacramental candidates and their families are placed into "Home Groups". They meet weekly and work through the Steps in Faith Booklet. There are ten gatherings from April to August. Home Group Gatherings will begin the week of Sunday 24th April. This year we would like to involve parishioners and are calling for Potential Facilitators (leaders). Your home group would be no more than 12 people and be in a home or a parish facility. The sessions go for no longer than an hour and resources and materials as well as support will be provided throughout the program. If you think that this is a Ministry you would like to participate in, please talk to Fr. Joe or contact Laura at the Parish House on 58212633 by 6th April.

Special Thanks to all who worked so hard and generously to facilitate our Easter Liturgies.

~ Fr Joe

Stronger LIVE is back again in Shepparton.

Join our FREE young adult (18+) event at Bicaró's Restaurant, 30 North Street, Shepparton this Thursday 7th April at 6:30pm. For more information contact Danii on 0409 005223.

Our Parish **Men's Group** will gather to listen to Fr Joe give his thoughts on pilgrimage, as some men from our group prepare for the Aussie Camino. Saturday 9th April 7.30am in the Mons Jeffrey Centre.

DVD of the Stations of the Cross

from Good Friday is available at \$20 each. Please place money in an envelope with your name, address and phone number and leave at the office.

If you would like to see sessions from the recent **Eucharistic Congress** in the Philippines go to: <http://iec2016.ph/live-streaming>

Second Sunday of Easter

Divine Mercy Sunday



Google Images

“Jubilee Year of Mercy”

Prayer Cards are available in the narthex and side entrance.



Please take one and spread the wonderful gift of God’s mercy to yourselves, friends and family.

Having the right be-attitude

William Shakespeare wrote in
The Merchant of Venice:

*The quality of mercy is not strained.
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven . . .
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.
. . . And earthly power doth then show likest God's
When mercy seasons justice.*

When mercy seasons justice we act in a way that echoes the loving actions of God. We act as the loving father in the parable did when he embraced his prodigal son and celebrated his return by killing the fatted calf. Being merciful bridges the gap between sinner and sinned against.

When we exercise the power and reach of mercy we are surely building the Kingdom.

~ By Ann Rennie

Excerpt from *Australian Catholics magazine*
Easter 2016

Divine Mercy Sunday 3rd April

1pm: Divine Mercy DVD—“In the name of Miracle”

2pm: Exposition of the Blessed—Sacrament and Reconciliation (Several priests)

3pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

3.30pm: Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Berny. Veneration of the Divine Mercy image after Mass. DVD’s, books, leaflets and pictures are for sale after Mass.

Whoever has ears, let them hear (Matthew 11: 15)

Genuine listening doesn’t always come easily – it takes practice. The Listening Centre in California (did you ever think we would need one of those!?) recommends that we be silent for at least a few minutes every day. Intentional silence it is called. Just take some time out, stop and let the mind roam free. Then try to blot ‘stuff’ out and enjoy the peace. That’s not new – such moments of silence have been a feature of life for hundreds of years for those in places of religious formation (nuns, brothers and priests). That didn’t always make them good listeners though. It takes a certain attitude, a daily commitment. Those who try this say not only does it become a restful moment in the day, it can help us resolve our own problems.

So here’s some free advice!

- ⇒ If we are to become genuine listeners and maybe even hearers, being patient is the first priority. Good listening takes time – not everyone is as articulate or concise as we are!
- ⇒ Being present to the other is an essential ingredient in this encounter – that means we stop talking and avoid interrupting, even when we feel we have the solution. Often we haven’t heard the full story yet! Pausing before speaking is a good discipline to learn. Asking ‘is there anything else?’ can make us take more time to listen.
- ⇒ Don’t be afraid of silence in any conversation
- ⇒ Making sure our body language shows we are listening is a big help. People can be very sensitive at these times and our body language needs to be too.
- ⇒ We listen to understand, we don’t need to agree. It’s a tough call to try to put aside our own preconceived notions, our solutions, our prejudices, our tendency to judge the other. Listening with an open mind is not easy – that too takes practice.
- ⇒ It’s always good to ask yourself, what did I learn from this conversation? About the other? About myself, my ideas, my beliefs, perhaps even my prejudices?
- ⇒ Remember that listen and silent have the same letters.

St James offered this advice:

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and even slower to become angry (James 1:19).

~ Excerpt from *‘Along the Track’* by Jim Quillinan.
22nd March, 2016

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

Children's Liturgy of the Word 11am Mass during term

*** will resume on Sunday 17th April

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

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 9th & 10th April

6pm J Howley, F Scheibel

8am G Jelliff, Sr R Crowe

11am S Quilty, P Howard



RECENTLY DECEASED: Kevin Harte (brother of Mary Wright and Fr Ted Harte), Gemeterio Abatayo, (brother of Lady Price), Sr Camillus (Carmel) Parker RSJ.
ANNIVERSARIES: Carmello Tripoli.

Reflection

From the heart of the
Trinity,
from the depths of the
mystery of God,
the great river of mercy wells
up and overflows
unceasingly.
It is a spring that will never
run dry,
no matter how many people
approach it,
because the mercy of God
never ends.

~Pope Francis,
Misericordiae Vultus, 25



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.

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.

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