



# WELCOME TO ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH

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

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm

(Closed Mondays and Public holidays)

Parish Priest: *Fr. Joe Taylor*

Associate Priest: *Fr Berny Agustines*



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

Twenty Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

Sunday 4 September 2016



Readings for this week:  
Wisdom 9:13-18.  
Philemon 9-10, 12-17.  
Luke 14:25-33.



Readings for next Sunday:  
Exodus 32:7-11,13-14.  
1 Timothy 1:12-17.  
Luke 15:1-32.



## Liturgical Jottings

### Imagination part 1

Imagination is a practical tool that serves both in planning and in bringing to life the liturgical actions of the church at prayer. Ritual is presented to the church in the most meagre form of written text with even more meagre rubrics or directives for its enactment. It falls to imagination to help transform those written texts into living actions by which people may "express in their lives and manifest to others the mystery of Christ and the nature of the true church" (SC, 2). The New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship.

## Laudato Si

The greatest contribution of *Laudato Si* is its systematic overview of the crisis from a religious point of view. It invites believers into dialogue and provides fresh insights for those already involved. *Commentary by Fr. James Martin SJ (America Magazine)*.

## Looking at the Readings

Today's gospel continues to confront us with the radical challenge of following Jesus. All measures of what makes life good and engaging – family, possessions, wellbeing – are to be rejected as distractions from the call to follow Jesus as true disciples. And Jesus makes it clear that we need to consider seriously whether we can take up this call, whether we have what it takes.

So what is it to follow Jesus? It is to carry our cross and come after him. Note that Jesus says we are to carry OUR cross, not his cross. Following Jesus is to join him in his mission to embody the compassionate, merciful, inclusive love of God for all people, in our own place and time, and to be prepared for what that will unavoidably cost us, whether that cost may be close family relationships if family members are on about very different values, or personal wealth and possessions or social standing. What is the cross that I am called to carry, and what is it costing me?

**Feast of the Week:** Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Thursday 8 September. The feast arose in the East in the 6<sup>th</sup> century and in the West under Pope Sergius I (a Syrian) in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, honouring her conception (8 December) and her birth.

## Quote for the Week

Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate. Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a man will go and sell all that he has. *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*.

## On the Lighter Side

By the time Bobby arrived, the football game had already started. "Why are you so late?" asked his friend. "I couldn't decide between going to church and going to the football game. So I tossed a coin," said Bobby. "But that shouldn't have taken too long," said the friend. "Well, I had to toss it 65 times."



# Notices

## A Special Prayer for Fathers

God, bless all the fathers in the world.  
Guide them to be good role models and loving  
to all their children.

Help them to be a father like You are.  
Give them grace and patience to handle  
situations in a loving way.

Amen

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**Christian Meditation** will re-commence this *Monday 5th September* in Mons Jeffrey Centre at 7.30pm. All welcome.  
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### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for those wishing to become Catholic

The process has begun. People wishing to join are welcome during this period of enquiry.

Continues next *Thursday 8th September* in the Mons Jeffrey Centre (directly behind the church). We ask the Parish to pray for those who began the journey this week.

For enquiries please contact Anthony on 5821 2633.

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### Parish Men's Group will meet next *Saturday 10th September* at 7.30am in Mons Jeffrey Centre.

One of the men will present a faith topic for discussion.

There are often not too many places men can discuss faith and God's presence in their life, the breakfast is such a place.

All are welcome any questions to Anthony 58212633

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### 2016 Stronger Retreat 16th—18th September

Registrations closing soon. Register Now!

If you're 16-25 join us for a weekend of fun, growing in discipleship and learning about your faith. Registrations at [strongeryouth.com](http://strongeryouth.com). For info follow @StrongerYouth or email Danii at [Danielle.sullivan@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:Danielle.sullivan@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)  
See the flyer on the noticeboard.

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### Catholic Women's League Blumes Fashions

The CWL are again hosting the annual Blumes Fashions day on *Monday 19th September* in the Mons Jeffrey Centre at 10am. \$5 entry and all are welcome to come along. Queries call Judith on 5822 0545.

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### Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz Sunday 25th September

at St Mel's Church, Hamilton Street. 9.30am.

Details to follow. See the flyer on the noticeboard.

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### Mercy Access Expression of Interest Would you like to volunteer to tutor children in the school setting?

We are looking for volunteers who have a background in education (any level). Our volunteers will work in the schools of the Shepparton area in association with the Catholic Education Office Sandhurst and the Sisters of Mercy. You will need a Working With Children's Card.

On receiving your Expression of Interest an application form will be forwarded together with other necessary information. Training days will be offered prior to commencement of duty. You will be asked to commit at least one day per week for the rest of the year. Please advise your Expression of Interest or for further enquiries phone Sr Agnus on 0428 996975 or email [agnes.murphy@mercy.org.au](mailto:agnes.murphy@mercy.org.au)

Fr Joe is taking annual holidays commencing on Sunday until 4th October. We hope you have a restful and relaxing break Fr Joe. God bless.

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### Canonisation of Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa will be Canonised by Pope Francis this weekend in Rome.

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Please take care when accessing all areas around the Church and Mons Jeffrey Centre.

Access to the Mons Jeffrey Centre is from the east side of the Church only.

When coming to the Parish House please use the office door or front door not the side door as it is in the construction zone. Thank you.

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### Parish Office

The renovations are progressing well and on target to be completed by the end of September.

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### Priests Retirement Foundation of Sandhurst Diocese

The annual collection for Retired Priests is this Sunday 4th September. There will be a leaving collection at the end of Mass. There are also envelopes available for tax deductible donations. *Let's support our wonderful retired priests who have served us so well.*

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**Parish Footy Tipping Competition** It was a close battle over the final rounds. The eventual winner was Jenny Madeira (145 correct tips). Runner up for the second year in a row was Marlene Coppinger (144), with early leader Philip Friedlieb (141) finishing third. Fr. Joe (135) finished a creditable ninth. Thanks to all who entered this year. We hope to have a lot more involved next year, so stay tuned for more information during the 2017 pre-season.

~ Ashley Madeira - Finance Committee.

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### 'Garden of Eden'

You will notice that the new garden has commenced. VCAL students from Notre Dame College are building a reflective area on the front lawn. There will be a fountain and eventually a statue of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Notre Dame College are fully funding this project and we greatly thank Sharon Woodberry for co-ordinating.

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### Grapefruit

The grapefruit tree is fruiting well at the moment. You are welcome to help yourself to the beautiful grapefruit it has produced. Located in the west driveway of the Parish house next to the fence adjacent to the car park.

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**Slide Presentations at Weekend Masses** If you would like to make a slide presentation during Masses, please contact Loretta in the preceding week. Thank you.

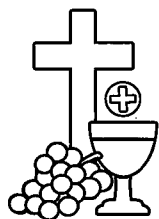
**'A SPIRITUALITY OF MERCY' Dr Susan Timoney (US)**  
**Next Wednesday September 7th 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm.** Starkey Hall, Notre Dame College, Knight Street, SHEPPARTON. No Cost. RSVP by next Monday 5th September . Phone 5441 2544 or [adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au).

Dr Susan Timoney, comes to us after delivering one of the keynote addresses and workshops at **PROCLAIM 2016** in Sydney and an evening in Melbourne focused on **'The Parish as a Centre of Mercy...Where to Now?'**

As the Secretary for Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns at the Archdiocese of Washington, Dr. Timoney coordinates evangelization initiatives and pastoral planning for archdiocesan parishes. She oversees the work of the Office of Family Life, the Office of Young Adult Ministry and the Office of Hispanic Catholics. Dr. Timoney earned her STD at the University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome where she focused on theology and Christian Spirituality. Susan lived and worked at the Lay Center at Foyer Unitas, a community of lay women and men studying at the Pontifical Universities in Rome. Today, Susan serves as a board member for the Lay Centre.

Susan is an Assistant Adjunct faculty member in the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America, where she has taught in the undergraduate and graduate programs. Currently she teaches a course on pastoral leadership in the doctorate in ministry program. Susan teaches a course on the ministry of spiritual direction in the online theology program at St. Joseph's College, Maine. In addition to teaching, Dr. Timoney lectures nationally and internationally on themes related to evangelization and the lay vocation and ministry. Convinced of the evangelizing power archdiocese of Washington blog.

She is a contributor to the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) video reflections on the



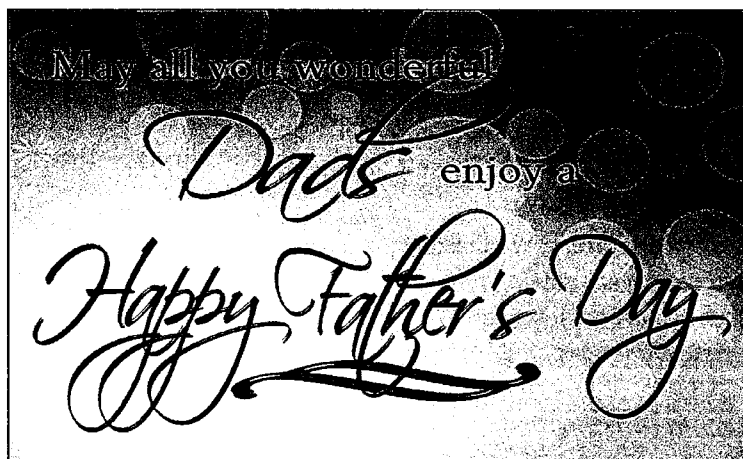
Congratulations to all our Sacramental candidates who celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist last weekend and became fully initiated into the Catholic Church.

The preparation may be over but the journey of faith continues.

The sacramental candidates will be presented with their Certificate this weekend at the 6pm and 11am Masses.

Please continue to pray for our young parishioners.

*Lord we pray for the children who received the Sacraments. Strengthen and sustain them to grow in faith and love and to give witness to Christ throughout their lives.*



### **Did He Say Hate?**

I had an interesting meeting with a mum when I was a parish youth minister a few years ago. The woman's daughter had spent a lot of time with us at youth-group activities. So mum wanted to make sure we were all okay.

I tell that story because this Gospel highlights this fact for many young people: active discipleship can raise questions at home. Some parents get concerned when their teenagers start making friends their parents don't know. Bad church experiences can make it hard for some parents to accept a child's good experiences. Parents who want more family time can get frustrated when a child wants to spend more time at church activities.

So your commitment to Jesus might cause friction at home, but don't misunderstand the Gospel, Jesus says to "hate" people, but according to Scripture scholars, he doesn't mean we should feel hatred. He means we should choose God's will over all people and things. And that should make us treat family and friends with more love.

If your faith choices do cause friction at home, here are some tips for responding with love:

#### **Talk and listen**

Many parents just want to know what you're up to. Make time to discuss your faith choices with them.

#### **Be patient**

Many parents struggle with faith. That can make it hard for them to understand yours

#### **Value family time**

Don't forget that discipleship calls us to serve our families, not just our parishes, youth groups, and the poor.

#### **Seek help**

If tension is high at home, find someone to dialogue with who can help you choose a Christian response.

#### **Give them a break**

It's tough raising young people – even a Christian one.

#### ***When has a faith choice caused friction between you and your parents or friends?***

#### **The Action**

Choosing to put Christ first and being a disciple is quite radical and countercultural. Fortunately, we have many great examples of what it means to be a true disciple and the goodness that comes out of that choice in the lives of saints. Take some time this week to research a saint who turned away from familial expectations to follow Christ. Saint Teresa of Calcutta might be a good place to start. Mother Teresa will be canonised by Pope Francis this Sunday in Rome.

~ GPBS eNews

### *Weekend Mass Times*

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am and 11am

### *Weekday Mass Times*

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Wednesday 31st August 9.30am (not 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

### *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 10am at The Last Straw Café

Catholic Mothers of Young Children - 1st & 3rd Thursday monthly 10am in the Parish Centre

Catholic Women's League (CWL) - 2nd Thursday monthly 1pm, Parish Centre

Charismatic Prayer Group - Tuesdays 7.30pm, Parish Centre

Christian Meditation - Mondays 7.30pm, \*\*\*In recess

Faith and Light Community - 1st Sunday month

Friendship Group - Third Sunday monthly for lunch at 12.30

Garabandal - 3rd Monday monthly 1.30pm, Parish centre

Gospel Discussion Group - in recess until further notice.

All enquiries welcome (phone the Parish office).

Men's Group - Saturday fortnightly 7.30am in the Parish centre. Contact the Parish office.

Playgroup - Mondays 10am at Ave Maria Village

Serra Club - 1st Friday monthly 7.15pm, Church & Parish Centre

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - 2nd Thursday monthly 7pm

### *Lectors 10th & 11th September*

**6pm** Youth Group

**8am** M Hicks, S Hicks

**11am** I Garla, A Ferguson



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Eileen Pendergast

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Imelda Mahony,

Brian McNamara, John Damian Naughton,

Shamus & Elizabeth Cusack.

## *Reflection*

*May the Spirit of God,  
into our minutes and days,  
breathe purpose.  
May the Spirit of God,  
into our families and  
relationships,  
breathe faithfulness.  
May the Spirit of God,  
into our church,  
breathe commitment to the  
Living Way,  
through all,  
enfolding all,  
permeating all,  
may the Spirit of God  
breathe love.  
Amen.*



### *Mass times in neighbouring Parishes*

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

(1st Sunday of the month, Rosary before each Mass)

Tuesday to Thursday 8am, Friday 9.15am.

Saturday 9.00am followed by Rosary.

Reconciliation, Saturday morning 9.30am to 10am.

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.