



Welcome to St. Brendan's Parish

Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor.

Associate Priests: Fr Berny Agustines & Fr Sebastian Mandapathil

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



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

Fourth Sunday of Lent

26 March 2017



Readings for this week:

1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41



Readings for next Sunday:

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45



Lenten Focus: Almsgiving

The third Lenten discipline read on Ash Wednesday was Almsgiving or giving to the poor. It is linked to fasting and follows the call of the prophets for justice and charity for the needy. There are many worthy people and causes to support. Donors do not like cheats. St Francis of Assisi, poor himself, gave to the poor, knowing it is better to err on judgement than to deny the genuine poor. Trusted aid agencies like Caritas, Project Compassion, and Red Cross rely on volunteers, international sister agencies and partners to ensure the bulk on donations are rightly and justly delivered in helping others.

Quote for the Week

"Create a clean heart in me,
O Lord, give back to me
the joy of your salvation."
Gospel Acclamation, Tuesday

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Looking at the Readings

Humans see and judge by appearances, but God looks into the heart, and there finds the real person. God's standards are not superficial, as are so many of the standards of the world. It is not age, beauty or physical strength that is important; it is not social position or religious role that is preferred. God chooses whom God chooses. God saw in David, the insignificant shepherd, the potential for being the chief shepherd of his people. The man who was born blind became the one through whom others would see the mighty works of God. Yet, neither young David nor the man in the gospel made the initial step; each simply responded with openness to God's choice of him.

By what criteria do we judge others? Do we consider some people too insignificant for greatness? Are we overly concerned with status? Do we categorise people according to the disease or physical limitation that they must endure? Do we sometimes blame them for their disability? Do our eyes perceive life in accord with the standards of a materialistic, body-orientated, pleasure-seeking society? Or do we look into the other's heart, as God does?

As with the other scrutiny Sundays, catechumens and long-standing members alike are exhorted to make a choice. Jesus is the one who gives sight to blind eyes and religious insight to those open to receive it. However, there is a price to pay. Will it be the standards of the world, or the power of God in Jesus Christ? © Dianne Bergant CSS

Pope Francis on Lent

The Gospel of the rich man and Lazarus helps us to make a good preparation for the approach of Easter. The liturgy of Ash Wednesday invites us to an experience quite similar to that of the rich man. When the priest imposes the ashes on our heads, he repeats the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". As it turned out, the rich man and the poor man both died, and the greater part of the parable takes place in the afterlife. The two characters suddenly discover that "we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it" (1 Tim 6:7). (Lenten Pastoral 2017 para 3)

On the Lighter Side

At a cathedral door a beggar always stretched out his hand, pleading for alms. One day he stretched out both of his hands. A man asked him: "All these days, you were stretching out only one hand—why are you today stretching out two hands?" The beggar replied: "Praise God! Business was so good that I opened another branch!"



Reflection

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart."

1 SAMUEL 16:

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God?

We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction.

But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God.

Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talents and treasure here on earth.

Stewardship Corner
St Patrick's Centre
East Melbourne



**You anoint my
head with oil;
my cup brims over.**

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)



Please pray for our catechumens and candidates and their sponsors who are preparing to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church at Easter:

**Jarrod Hall, Rebekah Riordan, Jok Deng,
Andrew Bradley and Gabby Lie.**



"To live as true children of God means to love our neighbour and to be close to those who are lonely and in difficulty"
Pope Francis

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday mornings 9.30am-10.30am

Baptism, 4th Sunday of each month except August and 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

Holy Hour

Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Fridays 3pm to 6pm

Holy Rosary

Pray the Rosary after 8am Mass Sundays and after 9.15am weekday Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word 11am Mass (not during school holidays)

Parish Schools

St Brendan's Primary School 5821 1926

St Luke's Primary School 5822 1834

Notre Dame College 5822 8400

Recently Deceased: Paul Gardiner S.J, Bernadette Watt
Anniversaries: Stanley Bicknell, Elena Zito, David Calandro (1 month mind), Jack McLinden, Beverley Warburton, Filomena Nappa, Angela Nicolaci.

Lectors 1st and 2nd April

6pm Sr F Kennedy, J Boccabella

8am P Guthrie, J Zampaglione

11am D Segafredo, M Taverner

Regular Meetings (Also check notices from time to time)

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 during school term

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 monthly

Friendship Group - Third Sunday monthly for lunch at 12.30

Garabandal - 3rd Monday monthly 1.30pm, Parish centre

Gospel Discussion Group - Mondays during Lent & Advent

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

Playgroup - Mondays 9.30am at Ave Maria Village

Serra Club - 1st Friday monthly 7.30pm Church & Parish Centre

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

Notices

Farewell for Fr Joven at St Mel's . . . 28th March

St Mel's, Shepparton South, are holding a farewell evening for Fr Joven in the St Mel's School hall on Tuesday 28th March from 7pm to 9pm. The evening will provide parishioners and friends with an opportunity to thank Father Joven for his faithful service over the past years. Those attending are asked to bring a plate to share on the night. If you would like to contribute anything for Father's going away, which will assist him to continue his apostolate and pastoral work back home in the Philippines, please contact the St Mel's Parish office or see any of the Parish Pastoral Council members. There will be a donation box available on the night. Thank you

Parish Sacramental Program . . . 29th March

this Wednesday 29th March the sacramental program will commence with a "Welcome to the Program and our Parish" evening. The gathering will be in the Monsignor Jeffrey Centre at 7pm. At least one parent is expected to attend. Children do not need to attend. Families are reminded to return their child's completed Profile on the night. All enquiries to Laura at:

sacramental.coord@bigpond.com

Men's Group . . . 1st April

Our Parish Men's Group will meet next Saturday 1st April at 7.30am Mons Jeffrey Centre for breakfast and a faith topic for reflection. The men's group continues to grow. If you have ever wondered what the group is all about forget any ideas you might have and come along and see.

Any questions please call Anthony on 5821 2633.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal

RENEWAL DAY . . . 8th April

"Come to Me" 8th April 1pm to 4.30pm at Mons Jeffrey Centre. All are welcome.

Speaker is Fr. Joe Taylor.

Prayer Ministry will be available. Bring your bibles. Tea and coffee provided, please bring shared afternoon tea. See flyer on the noticeboard.

Palm Sunday Ecumenical Service . . . 9th April

at Mt Major near Dookie at 5pm. (Gates open 4pm) BYO everything, chair, rug, food thermos, water, torch, insect repellent. Have a picnic and stay to see the stars. All welcome. Follow Midland Highway to Dookie College turnoff and follow the signs to Mt Major. (Wet weather—meet at the Uniting Church Hall, Curtain St, Dookie)

Contacts: Judy 5828 6390 or Joy 0417 839436.

(Portaloo on site)

Sacred Heart / St Colman's Reunion . . . 22nd April

1970 (Form 1) -1975 (Form 6) Saturday 22nd April, 2017.

School Tour 4pm and then afterwards from 6pm at The Parklake Hotel, 481 Wyndham St., Shepparton.

Farewell Breakfast - Sunday 23rd April at The Parklake 9-11am. Contacts: Sacred Heart - Maria Guerra/Scott

0413 198068. St. Colman's - Paul Wilson 0447 818825

To minimise work interruptions kindly SMS accurate return

contact details to the above contacts

or email shcfriends70.75@gmail.com

Urgent numbers required to assist catering purposes.

EASTER MASS TIMES

Tues. 11th April: Reconciliation - 5pm to 6.30pm

Thurs. 13th April: Holy Thursday Mass - 7pm

Friday 14th April: Good Friday Ceremony - 3pm

Stations of The Cross - 8pm

Saturday 15th April: Easter Vigil- 7pm

Sunday 16th April: Mass- 8am & 11am

Meditation Thursday mornings during Lent

7.15am in the garden. All welcome.

Lenten Reflection Group Mondays during Lent

at Ave Maria Village at 1.30pm.

All parishioners welcome.

Little Black Books (Lenten Reflection) are now available.

Six minutes a day! That's all this Little Book takes.

Only \$5 each available in the narthex and side entrance.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

there will be no Children's Liturgy of the Word during the school holidays. This very special ministry will recommence on the 30th April.

AFL Tipping Competition.

Calling all AFL Fans! The St. Brendan's Finance Committee invites you to join our footy tipping competition for the upcoming season. Think you know more about footy than the maddest Carlton supporter, Fr. Joe? Or just want bragging rights amongst your family and friends? Then join us as we test our knowledge against parishioners and friends of the parish.

We tip on the official AFL Website: <https://tipping.afl.com.au>. You need to register, so all you need is an email address and internet access. Once registered, click the "Comps" tab, choose join a comp, and use our invite code 6NP9NYM9. Joining fee is \$25, payable at the Parish Office by Friday 21 April. Prizes will be announced when we know how many people have joined.

Contact Ashley on 0412475290 if you need any help.

Part-time Unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

A part-time Unit of CPE will be conducted in Shepparton in second semester, from 11 July to 22 November.

Prospective applicants should contact the Course

Coordinator, Dan Murphy, at dan.murphy1949@gmail.com or on 0408 841997.

Reunion St Joseph's College

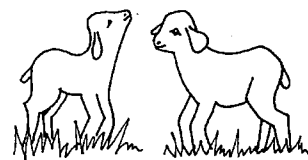
Convent of Mercy, Kilmore . . . 29th April

Reunion for all students of the former St Joseph's College Convent of Mercy, Kilmore to be held at Trackside Bistro,

Kilmore Racing Club for lunch at 12 midday on

Saturday April 29th. For further details please contact Mary-Ann Zeven 0409148536 or ma.carnaffan@gmail.com

or Mary on 0458 130853.



Yahweh, you are my shepherd.

THE SANCTITY OF WORK

7 Ways to Find God in Your Ordinary Life

cont.....

5. The value of sacrifice and suffering (mortification in ordinary life)

There's great value in sacrifice and suffering. Instead of complaining or grumbling about your pains, accept them as mortifications, and unite them with the suffering of Christ, who gave everything for us.

Our Lord did not confine himself to telling us that he loved us. He showed it to us with deeds, with his whole life. What about you? (The Forge, no 62)

Do everything for Love. Thus there will be no little things: everything will be big. Perseverance in little things for love is heroism. (The Way, no 813)

The world admires only spectacular sacrifice, because it does not realize the value of sacrifice that is hidden and silent. (The Way, no 185)

~ From Scepter Publishers (Reprinted with permission - Nos. 6 to 7 cont. in following bulletins)

In 2017, may you find God more often in ordinary moments.

And may you be successful serving others through the apostolate of your work.

(Parishioners can sign up at the website <https://www.scepterpublishers.org> and obtain a 10% discount on their first purchase of any of Scepter books).



Mass Times

St Brendan's Parish

Weekend Mass times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am and 11am

Sunday 5.30pm *Syro Malabar Rite*

Weekday Mass times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am,

Thursday at Ave Maria Village 4.30pm

Other Mass Times

Mass of Anointing, Wednesday preceding first Friday monthly at 11am

Mass at Tarcoola, second Wednesday monthly at 10.30am

Reconciliation Saturday mornings 9.30am to 10.30am

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,

Fridays during Lent Stations of the Cross 5.30pm then Mass.

Saturday 9.00am. *Reconciliation*, Saturday 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 Vigil 6.30pm,

Sunday 10.00am Mass, Monday No Mass,

Tuesday to Thursday 6pm Mass, Friday 10am Mass.

Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am - 11am.

St Joseph's Undera, 3rd Sunday of the month 8.30am.