



Welcome to **St. Brendan's Parish**



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

Associate Priests: Fr Benny Agustines & Fr Sebastian Mandapathil

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

Passion of the Lord (Palm Sunday)

9 April 2017



Readings for this week:

Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66



Readings for next Sunday:

Acts 10:34, 37-43
Col 3:1-4 or 1Cor 5:6-8
John 20:1-9 or Matt 28:1-10



Liturgy Notes

The liturgy is the action of Christ in his Body. The church must be designed for the entire gathered assembly, provide for the participation of all, never designed for performers and audience, for players and spectators. The unity of Christ and the Church is revealed and experienced in the celebration of the liturgy.

Thought of the week

Read the passion putting yourself into the story. Become one of the people there and see it through their eyes. Would you be with Jesus at the foot of the cross? Would you as a follower of Jesus look on from a distance? When Jesus breathes his last breath would you be affirming him as a Son of God like the Roman Centurion?

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Looking at the Readings

The Gospel, which begins this celebration of the Lord, commemorates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and into our lives. In the Passion according to Matthew we enter into the most solemn time of our Liturgical Year. We receive Jesus as our King in the first Gospel read and reject him in favour of Caesar in the Passion story. How often this reflects our own lives where we fervently proclaim our love of Jesus and yet in our life fail to love him fully? Thankfully we can seek reconciliation and begin again. We can take heart in that we are like Peter: redemption and salvation is available. It is better to follow the example of Peter rather than Judas.

When Jesus calls out "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" he is quoting Psalm 21 not despairing and losing faith in his Father. But praying in trust to God his Father

Celebrations of Holy Week

- Tuesday: Chrism Mass where the Bishop will bless the oil for the sick and oil of Catechumenate and consecrate Chrism that are used in the sacraments. Bendigo Cathedral at 11am
- Holy Thursday: Mass of the Last Supper with washing of the feet and procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose
- Good Friday: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion: reading of the Passion according to John and veneration of the Cross. Many parishes also have the Stations of the Cross and/or an ecumenical Way of the Cross.
- Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil, the greatest night of the year has the Liturgies of Light, the Word, Baptism and the Eucharist. The new Paschal candle is lit from the Easter Fire and processed into a darkened church, Baptisms are celebrated and all renew their baptismal promises with lighted candle. The Great Alleluia is sung and the Easter Eucharist celebrated
- Easter Sunday: The Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord, renewal of Baptism promises.



On the Lighter Side

An atheist complained to a Christian friend, "You Christians have such great holidays, such as Christmas and Easter. Jews celebrate their holidays, such as Passover and Hanukkah. But we atheists have no recognised holidays, It's unfair." His friend replied, "Why don't you celebrate April first?"

**Ministers of Communion . . . 2nd May
and all other volunteers....**

We need you to attend a formation session on Tuesday May 2 between 7pm and 8.30pm in the Mons Jeffrey Centre.

At this meeting we will be going over the Child Safe Policy and Code of Conduct which ALL volunteers and staff are required to sign. We will then be moving into smaller groups to look at information relevant to each ministry.

The **Aussie Camino** has begun and we have two Parishioners walking the Camino this year from Portland to Penola. Anna McNally and Rae Rogers, and we are asked to keep them in our prayers as the Camino draws to a close.

May St Mary of the Cross MacKillop shower them with many blessings as they follow in her footsteps.

Social Justice Day for parishioners & teachers focusing on **Refugees in Australia** with Tim O'Connor (ex-Tongala)

Communications Director, Refugee Council of Australia on Friday 21st April from 9.30 – 2.30 at Mons Jeffrey Centre.

Morning tea & lunch provided. To register, contact David Walker 0439 201307 dwalker@ceosand.catholic.edu.au

Bishop Les Tomlinson's Easter Message

Bishop Les recently recorded his Easter Message in the parish church of St Mary's, Golden Square. The message can now be viewed on the Diocesan homepage:

www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Holy Week and Easter Mass times in other Parishes in the Diocese See the Diocesan website for details:

www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Father Frank Jones has moved to Acacia House.

His address is now: Acacia House, Shepparton Villages, P O Box 203, Shepparton. 3630. Phone number is 5821 0592.

As in the past, Fr Frank would appreciate visits.

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

**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 the Easter Vigil on Saturday 15th April at 7pm:

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

Child Safety in our Parish

A focus on child safety requires a wide-ranging and integrated approach, with the following as key documented requirements for each parish in the Diocese of Sandhurst:

- appropriate responses to each of the Victorian Government's Child Safe Standards -A training process regarding all of the parish's Child Safe-related procedures and practices

- Processes and practices that respond to legal requirements for:

- Grooming
- Failure to Protect
- Failure to Disclose Offence
- Child Safe Standards

A current Register, clear processes and regular active checks (at least twice a year) for Working With Children Checks, that includes volunteers and contractors.

Sound employment policies and practices, rigorous, documented and active Complaints Handling Policy and processes. Clear responses to reports of current or historical abuse.

In this weeks Bulletin you will find copies of our parishes Code of Conduct and Child Safe Policy. Please take the time to read them as part of our whole parish commitment to ensuring our children are cared for and protected.

Recently Deceased: Jock (John) O'Connor, Sr Imelda Gain.

Anniversaries: Daniel O'Keeffe, Teresa Borzillo, Carmello Tripoli, Martin Francis Casey.

Lectors 15th and 16th April

6pm

8am M Hicks, S Hicks

11am L Ferguson, W Hunt

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

Cuppa after 11am Mass that was to be this Sunday has been cancelled for this month.

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. Follow Midland Highway to Dookie College turnoff and follow the signs to Mt Major. (Wet weather—Uniting Church Hall, Curtain St, Dookie) Contacts: Judy 5828 6390 or Joy 0417 839436. (Portaloo on site)

Chrism Mass "Mass of the Oils" . . . 11th April

The Chrism Mass for 2017 will be at the Sacred Heart Cathedral on Tuesday 11th April, at 11.00am. There will be morning tea before Mass in the Cathedral Hall and all are invited. Parking around the Cathedral can be limited so please allow time to find a suitable park in the nearby streets. If you have a disabled person or one of limited mobility, you are welcome to drive in the cathedral driveway on the McKenzie Street side to leave your passenger near the North Transept door where there is a wheelchair-friendly entrance (no steps). You will then need to find a suitable car park outside the cathedral grounds.

All parishioners of the diocese are warmly invited to this very significant Mass.

This Tuesday 11th April there will be a Communion Service (not Mass) at 9.15am.

Catholic Women's League (CWL) . . . 13th April

Monthly meeting this Thursday 13th April at 1pm in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. All welcome. Blumes Fashion morning will be on Monday 1st May at 10am.

St Brendan's Day Celebration 2017 . . . 21st May Theme "Families of the Parish"

This wonderful annual Parish celebration is on Sunday 21st May after the 11am Mass and includes our school children, Stronger Group, Faith and Light Community, Mums and Dads, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles, all our Parish family. **HELPERS** are needed on the day to help with the craft activities and the BBQ.

If you can help please contact Irene Garla on 5823 1311 or email: garla.irene@gmail.com

Thanksgiving Envelopes Weekly and monthly envelopes are now available at the back of the Church for collection today. Please take as you leave Mass to save the Parish postage.

Free Concert featuring local musicians

Monday 17th April at 6.30pm in the Mons Bones Hall. All welcome.

For information: icebreakergv@gmail.com

Jesus' Power of the Resurrection

Divine Mercy Sunday . . . 23rd April

1pm screening of 'Divine Mercy Image'
2.15pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation
3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction
3.30pm Mass. *All welcome to come to this special day.*



EASTER MASS TIMES

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

No Reconciliation on Easter Saturday morning.

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

Altar Society - Sacristy & Flower Volunteers

I am looking for additional volunteers over Holy Week - Easter.

If you can help please add your name to the roster in the main sacristy beside our notice board.

Phone me if you have any questions :)

Thanking you all in advance! ~ *Andrea Hayes 0407 096440*

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.

Beautiful Gifts . . . Ideal for Mother's Day

A lovely lady has made some beautiful gifts suitable for Mothers Day. **Faith & Light Community** members will be selling these items to raise money for our Retreat. These will be sold after Mass two weeks prior to Mothers Day. Please, before you buy your gift check these out. Thank you to our generous parishioner. ~ *Denise*

AFL Tipping Competition.

Joining fee is \$25, payable at the Parish Office by Friday 21 April. Please pay as soon as possible. Contact Ashley on 0412 475290 for information.

"Loud Fence" was born from the personal stories that were told at The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse public hearings in Ballarat in 2015.

A "Loud Fence" involves members of the community tying brightly coloured ribbons to the fences to show support and solidarity for and with survivors and victims.

It is not a protest or a blame game.

The belief is that the ribbons give survivors hope and courage. They show families of victims that they are not alone. A ribbon on a fence does not necessarily mean abuse happened in that place, it simply means that a person or organisation cares.

Vocations and Pope Francis

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April 2017 is, "That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life." Let us join with Pope Francis during this month and pray daily for this intention.

~ *Bendigo Serra Club.*

Little White Books with Reflections for the Easter season will be available in the church next week.



Google Images

Face Your Tough Choices

One day a few years back, during a trip to Israel, I sat on the Mount of Olives, looking across the valley at Jerusalem, wondering what Jesus thought on that Palm Sunday, two thousand years ago, as he sat on the Mount of Olives.

He must have known that although many people would cheer him when he entered the city, the authorities would eventually arrest him. He must have known that death waited for him across that valley. And yet, he also must have known that he couldn't live with integrity without proclaiming his message in Jerusalem, the home of religious and political leaders who had corrupted God's message of hope and peace.

Regardless, the Gospels tell us that one day, he decided to cross that valley and enter Jerusalem. You know the rest of the story.

How about you? What decisions face you that call for sacrifice and courage? Do you have friends whose destructive behaviour you should challenge? Are there people at school or work you should stick up for? Are there broken relationships you're afraid to repair?

Holy Week is the time to face those decisions. Watch Holy Thursday as Jesus shows you how to drop your pride and put others first. Don't miss Good Friday, where he courageously suffers and dies for what he believes.

Celebrate Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday, where his Resurrection provides proof that death, violence, and fear have no ultimate power.

Pray about your hard decisions as you watch Jesus make his. You'll find him walking beside you, offering the courage and wisdom you need.

What decisions face you now that call for courage?

... *On the Way to Mass*

I wonder if the family will absorb the Gospel today.
Should we sit near the front of the church to hear better?

On the Way Home from Mass ...

In the Gospel read at the procession, Jesus was welcomed as a king.
What kind of king was Jesus?

~ Excerpt from GPBS eNews 4/4/17

Palm Sunday



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.