



Welcome to St. Brendan's Parish

Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

Associate Priests: Fr Berny Agustines & Fr Sebastian Mandapathil

Address: 121 Knight Street, Shepparton. 3630

Phone: 03 5821 2633 *Fax:* 03 5831 2908

Email address: shepparton@cdos.org.au *Website:* www.sheppartoncatholic.org.au

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

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



Christ in community...the
heart of our faith

Fifth Sunday of Easter

14 May 2017



*Readings for
this week:*

Acts 6:1-7
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12



*Readings for
next Sunday:*

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21



Liturgical Jottings

Just as Christ was sent by the Father, so also He sent the apostles, filled with the Holy Spirit, to preach the gospel to every creature, they might proclaim that the Son of God, by His death and resurrection, had freed us from the power of Satan and from death, and brought us into the kingdom of His Father. His purpose also was that they might accomplish the work of salvation. Vatican II Constitution on the Liturgy no. 6

Quote from Pope Francis

We have observed that, in society and the world in which we live, selfishness has increased more than love for others, and that people of good will must work, each with their own strengths and expertise, to ensure that love for others increases until it is equal and possibly exceeds love for oneself.

Italian daily. La Repubblica Interview with Pope Francis 01/10/13 (Translated into English by Kathryn Wallace)

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Looking at the Readings

There is something appealing in the honesty of a small child's questions such as "Where do waves come from?" and "What keeps the clouds up in the sky?" As parents and/or grandparents we can sometimes delight in their openness and curiosity. Perhaps this was how Jesus felt in the exchange with Thomas that we read about in today's Gospel. Thank goodness for those disciples like Thomas who ask the questions we all struggle with? "How can we know the way?" It wasn't that Thomas doubted Jesus' truthfulness or even his own willingness to follow him. However, being unsure of where Jesus intended to go, it was not clear how he was supposed to know the way? Many of us at various times in our lives experience a deep desire to know God's will for us and what we should be doing with our lives. We too ask earnestly to know the way or God's plan for our lives. It can also cause us deep anxiety and frustration when God seems to be silent in response.

Jesus is patient with Thomas and through his question reminds each of us that He is the Way; He is the Truth; and He is the Life that we are forever seeking. The closer we can come in our daily lives to living in the Truth, will we experience the Life, and so know the Way. To help Thomas (and we that follow) Jesus states things a little more explicitly: "Whoever believes in me will do works that I do, and will do greater than these." And although we do not go through each day making the lame walk, the blind to see or raising the dead in an individual way we can contribute to the care for the sick, well-being of the poor, shelter for the homeless and welcome the marginalised through our charitable acts. We know that we should use our gifts both spiritual and material in loving our neighbour – and we also know when we choose not to do so. It is in exercising our gifts for the good of others that we follow the Way, and become the stones of a spiritual house in which Jesus is the cornerstone that binds us and holds us together.

On the Lighter Side

Villagers in rural India warned their missionary priest to go in the hills during the monsoon. He refused, saying "God will rescue me so that you may have faith." The rivers kept rising, so the priest climbs onto a roof. A rescue boat crew tells him to get in. The priest refuses, saying "God will rescue me so that you may have faith." The waters continue to rise and the priest perched on a chimney. A rescue helicopter comes to save him, but again he says "God will rescue me so that you may have faith." He eventually drowns and standing before God, he asks "Lord, I don't understand! I had such faith that you would save me." God says "I sent you smart Villagers, a rescue boat and a helicopter. What more did you expect?"



A Prayer for Mothers

We thank you Lord for the great gift of motherhood
It is within our mother's womb that we began life.
It is in her embrace that we have known safety and comfort
It is through her encouragement that we grow and mature.

Lord, bless our mothers.

Draw close to them and hear their prayers
for their children.

Give them the grace of surrendered love—
a love that images the love of our heavenly
mother, Mary.

May all Mothers find daily

the strength to love generously,
the patience to endure graciously,
and the grace to live their vocation of
motherhood joyously.

We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ,

Amen.

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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

We pray for Fr Joe who
celebrates his
43rd Anniversary of
Ordination on 18th May.

Happy Mother's Day
to all mothers



Google Images

Recently Deceased:

Giuseppina Demase (one months mind).

Anniversaries: Brendan Farnan, Ian Kennewell,
Emma Waddell, Maria Zurawski, Michael Clurey,
William Dunne, Marie Ritchens (nee Hickey).

Lectors 20th & 21st May

6pm A Kilmartin, F Scheibel

8am J Zampaglione, D Teitzel

11am M Frizzell, I Garla

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

St Brendan's Day Celebration 2017
21st May "Families of the Parish"
Next Sunday. See page 4 for details.

Men's Group . . . 20th May

Our Parish men's group will meet on Saturday 20th May at 7.30am in the Mons Jeffery Centre for breakfast and a faith topic for discussion. All men are welcome to join the group in what is always a great way to start the weekend.

Any questions phone Anthony on 5821 2633.

Pope Francis' 'On Care For Our Common Home' . . 20th May



A workshop on Pope Francis' call to all to care for our world and its people, with Sr Cecilia Merrigan csb & Lyn Breen Adult Faith Education, Sandhurst.

Saturday 20th May 10am - 12.30 pm. All Welcome. No cost. Venue - Former Mercy Convent, 12 Coghill St, Yarrowonga. Morning Tea - provided. Lunch - for those who wish to stay *Optional Donation for lunch, \$10 to the Rosemary Cullen Foundation Philippines Project. The Book, Pope Francis' "On Care for Our Common Home" (Laudato Si) (\$10); USB stick with extra resources (\$5), will be available to purchase.

RSVP: Sr Helen Glasheen 0439 721 657 OR

helen.glasheen@mercy.org.au *Please indicate if staying for lunch.

'Touching the Imagination: The Adventure of Faith' and 'What Hope can we offer the Young?' . . . 23rd May

Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP Tuesday 23rd May 9am to 4pm at The Eastbank Centre, Welsford Street, Shepparton.

This is a free event but RSVP needed for catering purposes by 5th May to Jake at 5443 2377.

Note—the parish office will be closed on this day.

Mercy Access . . . 24th May

The purpose of Mercy Access is to mentor Aboriginal children Grade 2 to Year 10. We have two approaches depending largely on the availability of volunteers.

- a) mentor a child in a classroom during ordinary lessons.
- b) Gowola Homework Club in partnership with ASHE and Rumbalara Football Netball Club.

All need Working With Children Checks, an interview with the co-ordinator and attendance at the upcoming Training Day on 24th May.

If interested please ring 0428 996975 or leave your details at the parish office. ~ Sr. Agnes Murphy rsm

Cup of Tea - after Mass . . . 27th May

Our monthly cuppa after mass will be held this time on Saturday 27th May after 6PM mass. It will be organized by Stronger Youth in the Mons Jeffery Centre. It is a great way to meet everyone so please stay around and join others to have a cuppa and a chat together. Thanks to all organizers.

Service of Remembrance . . . 28th May **Goulburn Valley Hospice**

invite you to the service at St Brendan's Church at 2.30pm.

All welcome to come along to this special service.

Stronger Youth Rally . . . 2nd June

Bendigo. Friday June 2nd. 6-9pm

May is the month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Parish Sacramental Program

Parents are reminded that If you were unable to attend the Reconciliation Workshop with your child last week it is extremely important that you complete Week 2 and Week 3 in the Steps in Faith Workbook (purple book) during the week ahead in readiness for the final workshop. The Final Reconciliation workshop (week 4) will be held next Sunday 21st, Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd of May. You must attend your allocated workshop (if you need to change please contact Laura. Sacramental.coord@bigpond.com). Parents are also encouraged to help their children learn the Prayer of Sorrow in readiness for their first Reconciliation. The prayer is on page 28 of the purple workbooks.

Stations of the Cross 2017 DVD Is now available at a cost of \$25. If you would like to purchase the DVD, please place money in an envelope and clearly mark your name and contact details on it and leave at the office.

Spirituality in the Pub . . . 29th May

at the Terminus Hotel, on Monday 29th May at 7.30 pm.

Meeting to discuss proposed new law to allow euthanasia and assisted suicide . . . 30th May

This important meeting will be held in Mons Jeffery Centre at 7.30pm and will be facilitated by Life Marriage and Family Office of the Melbourne Archdiocese.

All welcome to come along to this important meeting.

Prayer for Christian Unity . . . 31st May

During the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* there will be a prayer service in the Mons Jeffery Centre on Wednesday 31st May at 7.30pm. All welcome to come along and join in.

Seminary Enquiry Day . . . 3rd June

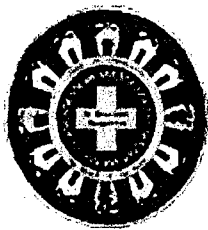
Corpus Christi College Seminary in Carlton will hold an enquiry day on Saturday, June 3, for any men interested in a vocation to the priesthood. The format is as follows:

- 3.00 pm Arrival at seminary and afternoon tea,
- 3.30 pm Talks by seminary staff & students and Vocations Director,
- 4.30 pm Tours of the College,
- 5.30 pm Evening Prayer in the Chapel with Archbishop Hart presiding,
- 6.00 pm Barbeque dinner,
- 8.00 pm Depart.

RSVP is essential by Tuesday, May 30. Email ccc@cam.org.au and chancery@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

If anyone would like to purchase some items that were recently available for sale on **Divine Mercy Sunday 23rd April** can ring Tom on 5831 8535.

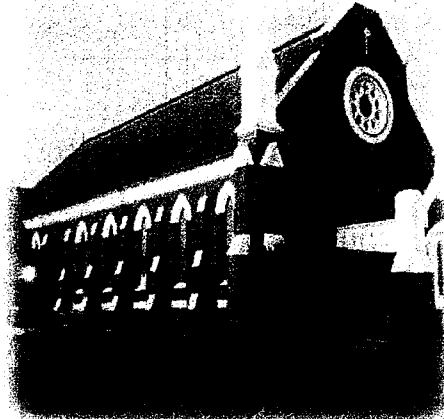
God Bless you!
In this **Volunteer Week** we thank all our volunteers who work in and around and for the Parish. Your work is truly valued. God bless all of you.



11am MASS

**SUNDAY
21st MAY
2017**

THEN



CELEBRATE WITH US
ST. BRENDAN'S FEAST DAY

The Parish, Youth and Families

Dear Parishioners

**This is a Special Invitation to join us on this
Special Day**

**Let us Celebrate the Feast of our Patron Saint
By getting together for a Luncheon, Entertainment
and lots of Fun.**

**There will be something for Everyone
Children, Youth, Mums and Dads
As well as Grandparents and Friends in general.**

Our Lady of Fatima

This year, 2017, is the Centenary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, in which She delivered the most urgent message for mankind. She alerted the Church and the world in general about the perilous spiritual condition of humanity in our times. She foresaw World War II and the expansion of the errors of Russia as punishment for men's sins and promised peace to the world if the Church heeded Her requests.

Two months after his election, on May 13th, 2013, Pope Francis consecrated his pontificate to Our Lady of Fatima. On **May 13th** this year, he will be present at the Fatima Shrine on the Feast of our Lady of Fatima to participate, on behalf of the whole Church, in this remarkable centenary. This provides us with a unique opportunity, bishops, priests and laity, to "storm heaven with our prayers", that the promises of Fatima will be realised, and her Immaculate Heart will triumph, as She promised.

Let us accompany the Holy Father as he renews the consecration of his pontificate to Our Lady, and pray that he will renew the consecration of the world to the immaculate Heart of Mary that was made by Pope John Paul II in 1985.

~ Raymond J de Souza, KM

Mass Times

St Brendan's Parish

Weekend Mass times

Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am and 11am
Sunday 5pm 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
Fridays 9.15am, Saturday 9.00am
Reconciliation None until further notice. See St Brendan's.

St. Mary's Dookie, 1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays 9.30am

St. Bernard's Katandra West, 2nd Sunday 9.30am

St. Mary's Mooropna, Saturday Vigil 6.30pm,
Sunday 10.00am Mass, Fridays 10am except Friday 12th May at 9.15am in Marian Centre.

Reconciliation None until further notice. See St Brendan's.

St Joseph's Undera, No Mass until further notice.