



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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

21 May 2017



Readings for this week:

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

1 Peter 3:15-18

John 14:15-21



Readings for next Sunday:

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:17-23

Matthew 28:16-20



Liturgical Jottings

Ascension Day next Sunday

Ascension was first mentioned as a separate feast by Eusebius, Bishop of Nicomedia (341). From those early centuries the feast remained a holyday of obligation up to this day. In those places where the Ascension is not observed as a holyday on Thursday, it is assigned to the Seventh Sunday of Easter and then considered its proper day in the calendar. Cf. General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar no.7

Quote from Pope Francis

Despite the slowness, the infidelity, the errors and sins it committed and might still commit against its members, the Church, trust me, has no other meaning and goal but to live and witness Jesus.

Letter to Italian daily La Repubblica

11 Sept 2013. Read more at:

www.brainyquote.com/authors/p

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Looking at the Readings

Jesus continues to remind the disciples not only of his relationship with the Father, but that through Him we also share in that same love and relationship. He will "not ever leave us orphans" as we will always have the Father to love us even though the world cannot accept that this is the case. Perhaps the world relies too heavily upon empirical evidence and scientific method before it will accept the reality of what it cannot see. But in the last 2000 years the Church, founded upon Jesus' example, teaching and love, has flourished under the guidance of the Holy Spirit – that Spirit of Truth which enables us to 'see' Jesus and for us to know Him, because He remains with us and in us. Compare this to any other human organisations over the same 2000 years – mighty empires with huge armies and command of great resources; rulers over millions of people who were often exploited like natural minerals and products. Where are they? What truth sustained them? Across the years others had declared themselves as Gods but what inheritance did their 'truth' provide for posterity? Even today across the world people are struggling to identify 'truth' and we hear about 'fake news' and no longer trust major institutions or their integrity.

It is true that the Church has had its own share of crises – heresies and schisms that caused great divisions and hardships for the people of God. Similarly the recent crisis regarding the child sexual abuse within the Church has people predicting that this is the end. But these catastrophes are the result of human weakness on the part of the leaders and members of the Church. The Holy Spirit regardless, remains within our midst guiding the Church towards an ongoing unity with Jesus and His Father. In today's Gospel Jesus makes it entirely clear what we need to do – keeping and observing His commandments – and He will love us and reveal Himself to us. We can do this through the power of the Spirit of Truth whom the world cannot accept.

On the Lighter Side

Some tourists in the Chicago Museum of Natural History are marvelling at the dinosaur bones. One of them asks the guard, "Can you tell me how old the dinosaur bones are?" The guard replies, "They are 3 million, four years, and six months old." "That's an awfully exact number," says the tourist. "How do you know their age so precisely?" The guard answers, "Well, the dinosaur bones were three million years old when I started working here, and that was four and a half years ago."





**St Brendan's
Feast Day Celebration**

"Families of the Parish"

**Come and join us on Sunday for
this special Parish celebration.**

*The celebrations will be on the Parish
lawns. In case of inclement weather the
celebration will be in the Mons Bones Hall.*

**We wish Fr Berny a safe and
relaxed holiday. He will leave this Sunday and
return on the 28th June.**

Parish Sacramental Program

Parents are reminded that the Final Reconciliation workshop starts today. Parents along with their child are to attend their allocated workshop either today Sunday 21st May at 5pm, tomorrow Monday 22nd May at 6pm or Tuesday 23rd of May at 7pm. Parents must have completed week 3 in the Steps in Faith purple workbook with their child before attending the workshop. If you are unable to attend your allocated workshop please ensure you join one of the other sessions. 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.

Our Sacramental Candidates will celebrate their First Reconciliation during normal parish Reconciliation times either next Saturday 27th May or Saturday 3rd June between 9.30am -10.30am. We ask parishioners to please pray for our candidates and their families as they prepare for the healing Sacrament of Reconciliation.

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

Euthanasia in Victoria? . . . 30th May

Many of you will have seen the recent pastoral letter from the Bishops of Victoria expressing their concern at the prospect of euthanasia and assisted suicide being legalised in Victoria. To help people better understand the issue, the serious risk that these proposals pose and what you can do about it, you are invited to attend an information session.

7:00 – 8:30 PM Tuesday 30th May

Mons Jeffrey Centre.

The session will be presented by Paul Russell, Director of HOPE, an anti- euthanasia advocacy group, and Matthew MacDonald, Director of the Life, Marriage & Family Office of the Melbourne Archdiocese.

The session is open to anyone interested in attending.

To assist with preparation for the evening, we ask that you RSVP to shepparton@cdos.org.au or phone 5821 2633.

Bereavement Thanks The Kilmartin family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, love and support during this time, in anyway you reached out to us.

Please accept this as our personal thanks.

~ Mary Kilmarton

*We welcome DJ Suguitan, fourth year seminarian
for the diocese, who is here with us
this weekend and will be
spending the next semester in our parish as
part of his placement.*

Recently Deceased: Sr Philomena Hocking SJG (Broome), Julie Connelly.

Anniversaries: Newrie Kingham, Tom Carey, Bill Davis, Mark & Peter O'Brien, Anne Lowe (nee O'Brien), Nola Appleton.

Lectors 27th & 28th May

6pm Youth Group Youth Group

8am S Hicks, M Hicks

11am P Naughton, C Naughton

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

Parish Friendship Group . . . 21st May

The monthly lunch has been cancelled for this month as we will join in the Parish Feast Day celebrations this Sunday.

'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 to Jake at 5443 2377.

Office Closure . . . 23rd May

to enable staff to attend Fr Timothy Radcliffe's talk.

Mercy Access . . . 24th May

The purpose of Mercy Access is to mentor Aboriginal children Grade 2 to Year 10. 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. Our hosts will be Stronger Youth group & will be in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. It is a great way to meet everyone so please stay around and join others to have a cuppa and a chat together.

Service of Remembrance . . . 28th May

Goulburn Valley Hospice Care Service

invite you to the service at St Brendan's Church at 2.30pm. All welcome to come along to this special service.

Spirituality in the Pub . . . 29th May

at the Terminus Hotel, on Monday 29th May at 7.30 pm (meals from 6 pm optional). This year is the 500th anniversary of The Reformation which began with Luther. Come and join the conversation with Franciscan friar, Matthew Beckmann, as we learn some history and discover **LUTHER'S CHALLENGE**

THE CHURCH... THEN and NOW. Grab a flyer from the narthex. Enquiries: Kerry 0408 579904 Frank 5821 4362

Prayer for Christian Unity . . . 31st May

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

Stronger Youth Rally . . . 2nd June

St Kilian's School Hall, Bendigo. Friday June 2nd. 6-9pm Year 7's - young adults. For more information contact Danii at: Sandhurst@strongeryouth.com

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 day begins at 3pm with afternoon tea concluding with a barbecue dinner.

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

Youth led Mass 27th May

May is the month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Wednesday 24th May is the Feast of Mary Help of Christians Patron Saint of Australia.

Counters . . . When it is your turn to count on the weekend please come into the office during office hours during the preceding week **to collect the key.** Thank you.

Stations of the Cross 2017 DVD Cost \$25. If you would like to purchase the DVD, please place money in an envelope and clearly mark name and contact details and leave at the office.

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.

St Brendan's Parish is entering the new age of **live streaming our Sunday Mass!**

Aged care residents in the Shepparton region, and Parishioners in their homes will be able to access Sunday Mass via the internet.

We need your help to make this dream a reality and, to support our Parishioners who cannot attend Sunday Mass, we are looking to raise \$4,000 to fit cameras and microphone in the church.

Please buy a ticket in the hamper full of goodies, to help pay for this great venture. They will be available at the stronger table at our Parish feast day celebration and in the narthex Saturday evening. \$2.00 per ticket.

The next meeting of "**Voice for Silent People**" will be held at 6pm on Tuesday May 23rd at African House, St Paul's Church, 54 Poplar Avenue, Shepparton.

Voice for Silent People is an organization that aims to raise awareness of the lives of ordinary people in places such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo. People living in war torn countries or under harsh regimes are not able to be heard, and their plight goes unnoticed by most of the world. All welcome. Contact Jean Marie Mupenda (432 405 572 or Damien Sullivan 0438 088 403 if you would like more details.

School Immersion Fundraiser . . . 28th May & 4th June

On Sunday 28th of May and Sunday 4th of June there will be a sausage sizzle after 11am Mass run by Notre Dame College students and staff who will be travelling to Broome and the Lombadina and Djarindjin Aboriginal Communities, approximately 200 kms north of Broome, for their immersion trip. Sausages will be \$2 each.

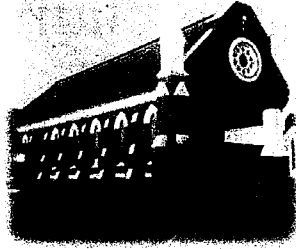
Funds raised will go directly to the community.

Playgroup at Ave Maria . . . There will be **NO** Playgroup at Ave Maria this Monday 22nd May but will be back on Monday 29th June.



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.

New School

The new principal for the new Prep to 12 school at Kialla will be Mr Dom Poppa. He has been most generous and professional in serving Catholic Education in the Sandhurst Diocese and will be deeply missed at St Mel's. We congratulate him and wish him all the best in this new phase of his life.

He will continue to work at St Mel's on a reduced basis this year and then will begin full time next year.

God willing and weather permitting, the new school will open at the beginning of 2019 with Preps and year 7 classes.

Parish Pastoral Council Report

At our recent PPC meetings we have been looking at our amazing parish and trying to identify what's working well and what we can be working towards in the future. We would like your input into this. This weekend and next you will find some brief survey sheets on the pews in the church. Please answer the questions and let us know what you would like to see happening in our parish. We did this a couple of years ago and one of the suggestions was live streaming Mass for people unable to attend, we are working towards this. If you don't get a survey sheet at Mass, please feel free to write down your thoughts and put them in the suggestion box in the Narthex, which is regularly checked. Surveys can be returned here also. Thank you for your ongoing support of our parish.
~ Kathy Hunt, Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson

St Brendan's Debutantes and Partners will join us for 6pm Mass this weekend.

Their Deb Ball is to be held on Friday 26th May and we wish them well for this special occasion.



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|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Michaela Laws | Jack Montgomery |
| Aleisha Corrigan | Sebastian-Jon Mathieson |
| Cienna Halden | Lachie Karl |
| Elizabeth Payne | Lachlan Sims |
| Isabella Mangiameli | Cooper Marshall |
| Brittany Sutton | Bryce Hocking |
| Jasmine De Lai | Arun Varkey |
| Ellie Wood | Jake Maples |
| Natasha Keen-Smith | Douglas Cole |
| Nicola Coats | Sean French |
| Saphryn Smith | Bailey Gall |
| Jaimie Woodyard | Harry Myers |
| Angelynn Soakimi | Zavier Tee |
| Breanna Kilpatrick | Pru Pringle |

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 Mooroopna, Saturday Vigil 6.30pm,
Sunday 10.00am Mass, Fridays 10am

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

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