



# Welcome to St. Brendan's Parish

Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

Associate Priests: Fr Berny Agustines & Fr Sebastian Mandapathil

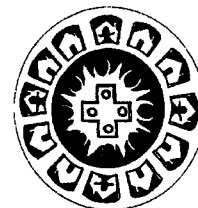
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Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm (Closed Mondays and Public holidays)



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

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](http://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 21<sup>st</sup> May at 5pm, tomorrow Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 6pm or Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> May or Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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## '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.

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## Office Closure . . . 23rd May

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

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## 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

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## Spirituality in the Pub . . . 29th May

at the Terminus Hotel, on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm (meals from 6 pm optional). This year is the 500<sup>th</sup> 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

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## 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.

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## 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

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## 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](mailto:ccc@cam.org.au) and [chancery@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:chancery@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

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## 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.

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**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.

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**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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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## 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.

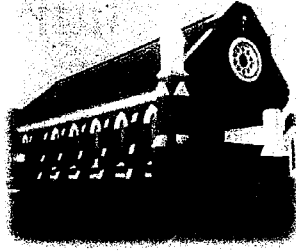
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**Playgroup at Ave Maria . . .** There will be **NO** Playgroup at Ave Maria this Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May but will be back on Monday 29th June.



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.