



# Welcome to St. Brendan's Parish



Christ in community...the heart of our faith

**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)

## Ascension of the Lord

28 May 2017



Readings for  
this week:

Acts 1:1-11  
Ephesians 1:17-23  
Matthew 28:16-20



Readings for  
next Sunday:

Acts 2:1-11  
1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13  
John 20:19-23



### Liturgical Jottings Vigils

The day or sometimes just the evening before a major feast is called a vigil. Several feasts have vigil liturgies for the Divine Office and Mass, each with its own particular readings and prayers, eg. Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, Ascension, Feasts of the Assumption, John the Baptist, and Sts Peter and Paul. Vigils are also special time for prayer and preparation the evening before the funeral Mass.

### Quote from Pope Francis

You might say, "Can't we have a more human Christianity, without the cross, without Jesus, without stripping ourselves?" In this way we'd become pastry-shop Christians, luscious cakes, sweet dainties. Delectable, but not real Christians. We need to strip away that worldliness which leads to vanity, arrogance and pride.

*Pope Francis, Assisi, 4 Oct 2013*

### Looking at the Readings

"And ever has it been known that love knows not its own depth until the hour of separation."

These words from the author and poet Khalil Gibran resonate with many of us who have remained on the non-traveller side of the departure doors at an international airport as loved ones depart for overseas. The words capture something of the sense of loss and perhaps sadness that lingers in the background of our hearts. The loss may be temporary or even imaginary but the feeling is certainly real enough. Perhaps this was the feeling within the disciples as they stood on the mountain that morning watching Jesus' resurrected form ascend? Perhaps there was a sense of disbelief and confusion at His going, for He promises at this very moment "I am with you always, until the end of the age."

But just as we can carry those we love with us in our hearts wherever they are, or we are – so too we can be with Jesus even now daily in our lives. Last Sunday this promise was also made by Jesus "On that day you will realise that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you." But the disciples were also reminded of their mission, Christ's mission, our mission, as they gazed skywards. They were told to look outward not simply upward – to put their prayer and entreaty to the task of evangelisation "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations". This was Jesus' final mandate to all His followers – those on the mountain that day and those in our Churches around the world today.

When God breathed His Spirit upon our world He gave it life; and when He called His Son back to Himself, He breathed His Spirit upon us His disciples calling us to go forth in mission to the whole world. And we go out to proclaim that you, Our God, are with us still.

### On the Lighter Side

Mr Smith, a travelling salesman and frequent flyer, was always very careful to mark his bags so that no one would mistakenly take them. He always did this with bright ribbons and tape, so he was quite surprised to see a well-dressed man grab his bags at the luggage carousel. Smith walked over to the fellow and pointed out the coloured ribbons tied to the handle, and the fluorescent tape on the sides. "I believe that luggage is mine. Were your bags marked like this?" he asked. "Actually," the man replied, "I was wondering who did this to my luggage."



The word 'apostle' comes from the Greek word meaning 'one who is sent out'.

Jesus sends his apostles out to continue to preach the good news to the entire world. This recalls for us the 'sending out' which occurs at the end of our Mass: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

We, too, are sent to bring the truth of the gospel into our daily actions and decisions and thus give witness to the faith we profess.

'Know that I am with you always.' In what ways do you sense the presence of Jesus in yourself, in the Church and in the world?

'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.' How do you see your role in this great work of the Church? How can you bring the life of Christ to others?



*Welcome*

A warm welcome to Fr Paul Sireh  
(a Carmelite priest, originally from  
Manus Island, PNG).

Fr Paul will be here over the next 5 weekends.

#### 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

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. Cameras and a microphone in the church will be needed to make this possible.

Please buy a ticket in the hamper full of goodies, to help finance this great venture, they will be available at all Masses this weekend and drawn after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> of May. \$2.00 a ticket.

#### **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.

**Recently Deceased:** Pat Pedretti

**Anniversaries:** Angela Maria Sfirro, Kathy Keyte, Rosa Scarcella, Bob Cooper, Hilda Holland, Catherine Naughton.

#### **Lectors 3rd & 4th June**

**6pm** D Sullivan D Tarquini

**8am** G Jelliff Sr. R Crowe

**11am** A Ferguson A Madeira

**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

## Service of Remembrance . . . 28th May

### Goulburn Valley Hospice Care Service

this Sunday at 2.30pm at St Brendan's Church.

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

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## Office Closure....Tuesday 30th May

The parish office will be closed this Tuesday from 10am to 3pm as the secretaries attend the annual Housekeepers & Secretaries Day. Bishop Les will be celebrating Mass at 11.00am at St. Mary's in Mooroopna.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Mass.

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## Mass of Anointing on Wednesday 31st May at 11.00am

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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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## Serra Club....Friday 2nd June

The Serra Club invite you to join us this Friday 2nd June in the church. Adoration will continue to 7.25pm when we will have a Blessing followed with mass at 7.30 for vocations and our priests. Fr Michael Morley will be our special guest this month. After mass we will go to the Mons Jeffery centre where we will have a cuppa and a chat with Fr Michael about his vocation. All welcome.

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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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## Parish Footy Tipping update.

Thanks to all those who have joined in 2017. After Round Nine, the Leader is Phillip Friedlieb on 52. Berni Magee, Leon Preston and Jacob Preston are all hot in pursuit on 50. Fr. Joe sits on 46 in 11<sup>th</sup> place after getting 7 out of 8 last week. The winner gets \$150 at the end of the season.

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## Feast of St. Anthony..... 11th June St. Mel's Parish

St. Mel's Parish invite you to join this years St. Anthony's Feast Day celebrations.

Mass at 9.30am followed by Blessing & Distribution of St. Anthony's Bread.

Shared lunch in the St. Mel's school hall will commence at 12noon. BYO food to share.

Songs, dance and music by Mick Tenace.

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## Maintenance Request

It would be greatly appreciated if those using the Monsignor Jeffrey Centre could please report any items that are broken or damaged as soon as possible to the Parish office staff. This will ensure our equipment remains at a high standard and reduce the risk of further damage to the property or users of the facility. Thank you.

# Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord



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

This Sunday and next 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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## Parish Sacramental Program

Sacramental Candidates will celebrate their **First Reconciliation** on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May or Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at St. Brendan's Church between 9.30am and 10.30am. Our second **Commitment Mass** in preparation for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist will be on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 6pm or Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 11.00am.

**Adult Faith Gathering** (*parents only attend this evening*) will be held on TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in the Monsignor Jeffrey Centre. **Parishioners are asked to please pray for our sacramental candidates as they continue on their journey to becoming fully initiated into the Catholic Church.**

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## Video Teaching Series - Fr Rob Galea

Fr. Rob has produced a series of engaging videos and lesson plans to teach faith and life issues at school, youth groups or for personal study. These are available on USB. YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/aEZ-1dxRgXQ> and web link <http://www.frrobgalea.com/teachingseries> Contact the St Kilian's Parish Office on 5441 6244.

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## Respite Care

Southern Cross Care Victoria, 25 Graham St, Shepparton currently has vacancies for the Home or Away program and Residential Day Respite program (printable flyer in the Narthex). Caring for someone you love is the greatest gift you can give. But sometimes you also need to give the gift of care to yourself. Both the Home or Away program and our Residential Respite program provide support and care for your loved one so you can have a break.

The Home or Away program is aimed at giving the carer time out for themselves whilst their loved one attends a Planned Activity Group (approx 10am – 4pm).

The Residential Day Respite program is run within our Ave Maria home between the hours of 8am – 8pm, 7 days a week. Contact Jennifer Hanning, Community Program Coordinator on 5831 3000 for further information .

### **Parish Finance Update**

We are pleased to share a further progress update on the a significant amount of capital works being undertaken around the Parish over the past year and continuing on. This costly but necessary investment is great in that it continues to enhance the safety, appearances and ensure the longevity of all of our facilities:

### **Parish Office**

Completed – November 2016 (approx. total cost \$270K)

### **Church Rising Damp**

Partially completed - Under floor ventilation system and Lectros electro osmotic dampcourse system installed December 2016. We will shortly be testing the residual salt levels in the brick/mortar to determine appropriate remediation and restoration works to affected areas. (approx. cost to date \$54K)

### **Driveway Pavement**

Partially completed - Stage 1 completed April 2017 (approx. cost \$18K). Stage 2 has been approved and pending weather conditions will be completed in about 6 weeks. This will adjoin stage 1, run in front of the Presbytery (about 1m wider than current), around the landing of the side entrance to the church and tie back into the building just north of the 1<sup>st</sup> disabled carpark. It will also include a widening to the corner near the landing and substantially remove the uneven, worn & patchwork pavement currently installed (approx. cost \$24K)

### **Church & Presbytery Roof**

Both of these roofs are showing signs of their age and beginning to leak. It is imperative for the overall maintenance of the structures that we invest in ensuring they are water tight. We have approved for both roofs to be repaired and timing is to be confirmed. (approx. cost \$37K).

### **Church Carpet replacement**

We have engaged with 2 local contractors that are capable to complete the size and scale of the installation and continuing to negotiate price, colour etc. There is about a 13 week lead time for ordering and supply of the style and quality of carpet required. We are working tirelessly to get this completed by October (approx. cost \$50 - \$60K).

We are extremely conscious of all of these significant capital investments totally over +\$450K in short period of time and the need to dip into the Parish's investments to support this, however it is necessary to ensure the infrastructure & assets of the Parish remain to an acceptable and safe standard. Minimising secondary and future additional costs as a result of their degradation, and at some point the possibility of that impacting on the fantastic services and programs our wonderful Parish supports. We are so grateful for the guidance, support and tireless work of our finance committee in Ashley Madeira, Peter Fitzpatrick, Kerry Bridges, Debbie Friedlieb and Fr Joe.

The cost of running the Parish is significant and we are thankful for all parishioner's support of time, wisdom and financial contribution. If you find yourself in the good fortune of being able to offer something extra in any of your various contributions to support the work we and the parish are undertaking, please do not hesitate to discuss with Fr. Joe and we are sure the Parish would be most grateful!

~ David Villani, Chair of the Parish Finance Committee



## **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.