



Welcome to St. Brendan's Parish

Parish Priest: Fr. Joe Taylor

Associate Priests: Fr Berny Agustines & Fr Sebastian Mandapathil

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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

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

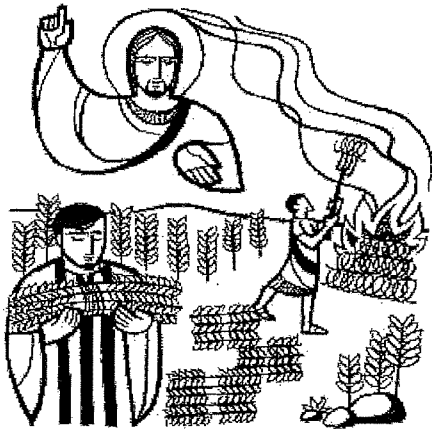
23 July 2017



Readings for this week:
Wisdom 12:13,16-19
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43



Readings for next Sunday:
1 Kings 3:5,7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52



Liturgical Jottings

Praying the Creed

The Creed, from the Latin "Credo" means: "to put one's heart into it." In Mass it is both a confession of faith in what God has done and an acclamation of the glory of God. The Creed promotes Christian unity among Western Churches and now, since the *filioque dispute* has been somewhat resolved, a symbol of unity between East and West.

Pope Francis on Parables

Despite being the smallest of all the mustard seed is full of life and grows until it becomes the greatest of all shrubs. And so is the Kingdom of Heaven on earth: a humanly small and seemingly irrelevant reality. To become a part of it, one must be poor of heart; not trusting in their own abilities, but in the power of the love of God. ... The strength of Christ bursts through us and transforms what is small and modest into a reality that leavens the entire mass of the world and of history.

Looking at the Readings

The problem of evil has captivated the minds of believers and unbelievers alike over centuries. Related to this are questions of why crimes go unpunished, natural tragedies occur, or appeals for help are slowly answered. How is it that God does not intervene to put injustices right? The writer of Wisdom (first reading today) asked all these questions and we read a reflection of how God acts and how humanity might behave. Today's reading is the conclusion to this reflection.

First we cannot reproach God for his conduct (Wis 12:12). Secondly God is unlike the strong and powerful man. He does not wield his power, build fortresses to hide, act forcefully upon humanity or oppress the weak. God's power shows justice, patience, mercy, forgiveness and gives the believer a "Beautiful Hope".

The parables in today's Gospel passage also manifest patience (the wheat and the darnel), begin small, grow strong (mustard seed) and God's word is at work in us (yeast in the dough).

Do not despise God's patience.
His kindness calls you to repentance.
When God's judgment is revealed,
he will render to all according to their works.

A Cistercian Prayer

Text for the Week

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will enter the house and dine with them and them with me. (*Psalm 110:44-5*)

Feast of the Week: Sts Joachim & Anne, Wed 26 July

Joachim and Anne, named as the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus, and therefore, patron saints of grandparents, are venerated in Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and Islamic traditions. They are not mentioned in the Bible. The story of Joachim and Anne first appears in the apocryphal Gospel of James. St John Damascene, Bishop and Doctor of the Church offered thanksgiving for them in a sermon in the 7th century.

On the Lighter Side

One cannot say, except as a joke, that 'I won the game; pity that my team lost!' Yes; an individual must be part of a team, just as a Christian must be part of the community. Parables of the Kingdom of Heaven: the wheat and darnel, the mustard seed and leaven give us insights into patience and goodness and working together to achieve the "reign of God".



Proposed Euthanasia Bill

Next weekend 29th/30th July after each Mass there will be a letter writing opportunity together in the Mons Jeffrey Centre. We will have sample letters available to use to write to our local MP's if you wish to use them.

You can take them home if you wish and write something yourself or contact the office and we can email samples to you.

We can also organise visits to local MP's together. This has been identified as one of the most effective ways of letting politicians know how we want them to vote.

Petition There is a petition to sign. Forms are on clipboards at each entrance. Please sign the petition.

If you would like to organise your own petition, we have copies at the office you can collect or we can email a copy to you.

Do what it takes to defeat this bill
Pray, Visit the Blessed Sacrament
Rosary after 8am Mass on Sundays
Rosary after 9.15am Mass weekdays
Day of Prayer 6th August

NOW is the time to act!

We urge parishioners to please pray for the defeat of the proposed euthanasia bill. This could have enormous consequences for our society.

Novenas of Eucharistic Adoration in the Marian Chapel,
Thursday evenings 7pm to 8pm
and Fridays 3pm to 6pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will also be held after 8am Mass on Sunday 13th August from 9am to 10am.

Please join in prayer for the defeat of this anti-life legislation.

There are brochures available in each entrance.

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 school hols)

Parish Schools

St Brendan's Primary School 5821 1926

St Luke's Primary School 5822 1834

Notre Dame College 5822 8400

Mary Taylor

I thank the multitude of amazing people who so kindly and generously supported me and my family during the illness, death and funeral of my beautiful mother, Mary.

I have been inspired by your thoughtfulness.

~ Fr Joe

50th Jubilee Celebrations this weekend

Fr Ted Burns will celebrate Mass at 11am on Sunday then celebrate with family and friends in the Mons Jeffrey Centre.

Fr Michael Grace will celebrate 9.30 Mass at St Mel's followed by a shared BYO lunch in St Mel's hall.

We congratulate them and thank you them for their dedicated service to their parish communities.

Recently Deceased: Gaspere Portea, Caterina Avaji, Kazimiera Koscielniak (in Poland—sister and sister-in-law of Jacek & Bozena Szczurek).

Anniversaries: Philippe Lesire, Vincenzo Papallo, Silvano Bassani, Maria Giuliani, Elizabetta Zito, Fr Frank Shortis O'Carm., Claire Healy.

Lectors 29th & 30th July

6pm Youth Group Youth Group

8am L Boschetti P Guthrie

11am P Chalkley P Crane

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—in recess until 7th August.

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

Sacramental Program Reminders . . . 26th July

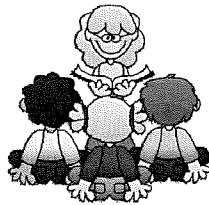
Parents are reminded that **NEXT Wednesday 26th July at 7pm** in the Monsignor Jeffrey Centre we will have our final Adult Faith Gathering. The theme is "Eucharist". Children do not need to attend unless they are participating in the secondary school sacramental program. Also completed Confirmation Cards are now due back and must be returned to Laura no later than the Adult Faith Gathering evening.



Parishioners are asked to please pray for our sacramental candidates and their families as they draw closer to celebrating the sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist at the end of August.

Youth Mass will be held 29th July.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will recommence next **Sunday 30th July during the 11am Mass**. Children's Liturgy is suitable for primary school aged children. No need to enrol, children will be called forward by the celebrant. A special thank you to the staff of St. Brendan's and St. Luke's and a small group of parishioners who help to keep this special ministry happening each Sunday.



Parish Men's Group . . . 30th July

Our next meeting is on Sunday evening July 30th starting at 5pm with an information session on our upcoming Men Alive Weekend. This will be followed by pizza and a few drinks and a film. (\$10.00 to cover expenses). Please note the different day and time for our gathering and hopefully this will allow an opportunity for newcomers to attend.

Any questions please ring Anthony on 5821 2633.

'Inner Peace in Divine Love' . . . from 31st July

See the flyer on page 4 for details.

Men Alive Weekend . . . 19th & 20th August

St Patrick's Parish Hall, Victoria Street, Pyramid Hill on Saturday 19th August (full day) and Sunday 20th August (half day), 2017. For more information contact: John Wallinger 0488 333728 johnwallinger@bigpond.com Fr Jun Jun at Kerang 0428 792150 stpatker@bigpond.com

Accommodation available—please ask.

See the flyer on the noticeboard.

St Mel's Primary School Celebrating 60 years . . .

Friday 27th October Saturday 28th October & Sunday 29th October, 2017.

See details on the website: <http://www.smshepparton.com/2017-celebrating-60-years.html>

Thanksgiving Envelopes

The next set of giving envelopes and a record of giving for the financial year are now available in the narthex.

Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady

Tuesday 15th August - Mass times

St Brendan's Church: 7.30am, 9.15am, 5pm (Syro Malabar Rite)

Mercy Stadium (Skene Street): 12 noon.

Ave Maria Village (Graham Street): 4.30pm

St Mel's Church (Hamilton Street):

10am in Italian and 6pm.



Fatima Statue . . . 7th to 14th August

The Fatima Statue will be here in St Brendan's Church from Monday 7th August to Monday 14th August.

Rosary is prayed after 8am Mass Sundays and after 9.15am Mass weekdays. Please join in.

If you would like to organise a Rosary or special prayer group, please let us know.

Ave Maria Playgroup . . . Mondays

Due to sickness there will be **no playgroup** at Ave Maria Village for the time being.

New Rosters for Lectors, Ministers & Offertory

Have been emailed to all those on the roster.

If you don't have an email address your roster can be collected from the narthex.

Child Safe Regulations Training . . .

Thank you so much to all of you who have completed the training module 'Protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults' either at the Parish meeting on 2nd May, at home or one of the recent weekend training sessions.

This helps the Parish comply with its obligations in regards to the new regulations. If you have a certificate of completion please give a copy to the office. If you haven't yet completed the training, please advise the office as soon as possible.

This can be as simple as completing it in your own home or that of a family member.

We can help you arrange to complete it.

This training is mandatory for all volunteers and staff to ensure the Parish complies with the new regulations.

Congolese Independence Day Celebration . . . 29th July

Saturday 29th July 4.30 to 9.30pm. Celebrations commence with a short march in memory of the innocents killed in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Dinner, prayer, cultural activities.

At the African House, 54 Poplar Avenue, Shepparton.

Bookings/information phone Jean Marie Mupenda on 0432 405572 or Amani on 5858 6511.

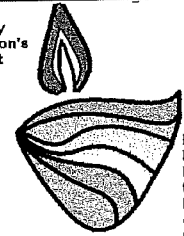
STRONGER RETREAT -

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Registrations for the 2017 Stronger Retreat are now open on strongeryouth.com Register now if you're 13-26 years old to join 130 other young people from our diocese having fun, growing in discipleship and learning about your faith with our keynote speakers Fr Rob Galea, Fr Dan Serratore and Sr Bernadette Toohey! Date: September 15-17 Venue: Kyneton Cost: \$165 Registrations are now open at strongeryouth.com. Transport may be available. For more info follow @StrongerYouth on Facebook or contact Danielle at Danielle.sullivan@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



That every person's heart



Inner Peace in Divine Love

A 'retreat in daily life' - it is for busy committed people who cannot afford to take time off work and pay for increasingly expensive retreats in spirituality centres. The retreat is made over four weeks (31/7/2017 – 27/8/2017) and is based in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

- This retreat brings one's desires to light and into the presence of a personal God.
- It brings one's own life experience into this relationship using various prayer methods such as imaginative contemplation.
- It takes one quickly and deeply into prayer.

**What happens then is freely up to God.
Do you dare ?**

The retreat will be directed by Sr. Margaret Claver FCJ, who brings a background of living Ignatian Spirituality as a member of the Society of Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus. Margaret has a Master of Arts in Spiritual Direction and enjoys and is vastly experienced in giving retreats in the parish setting.

(Dependent on numbers) the retreat will be offered with a choice of times:

Mondays: 31st July; 7th August; 14th August; 21st August

Times: 1:30pm – 3:00pm or 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Venue: St. Mel's Parish House, 18 Hamilton St., Shepparton South.

Cost: \$30.00 (covers the cost of the retreat book.)

Registration is required by Sunday 23rd July at St. Mel's (58312 194)
or St. Brendan's (58212 633)



Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Cor 13:4-7)

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

Saturday 9.00am, Tuesday 9am Liturgy of the Word with Communion in the Gold Room of the Parish house.

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.

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

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