

WELCOME TO

ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

2 July 2023

First Reading 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-3, 16-19. R. v.2

(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. (R.)
2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who find their joy every day in your name,
who make your justice the source of their bliss. (R.)
3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;
it is by your favour that our might is exalted:
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 6:3-4, 8-11

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by

the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Pt 2:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people.

Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 10:37-42

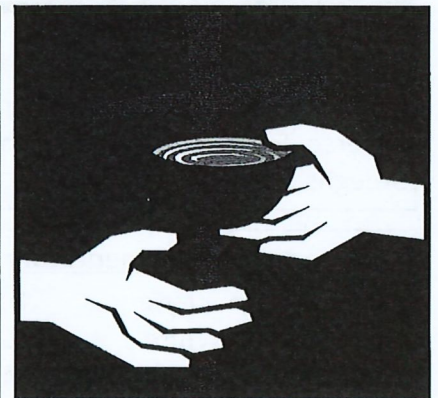
Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The gospel for today can be a difficult one to hear. It calls us to place our discipleship before our loyalty to family and even before our own life. It is important to place this passage in the broader context of not only the chapter in which it sits, but also within the gospel as a whole.

Today's passage appears at the conclusion of Chapter 10 in the Gospel of Matthew. The entire chapter deals with the commissioning and sending out of the disciples to 'proclaim the gospel, heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy and drive out demons.' (Mt 10:8) The previous chapter concludes with the words, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.' (Mt 9:37-38) Chapter 10 is a response to this call. Jesus sends the disciples to 'work the harvest' through proclamation, healing and exorcism.

At the end of the chapter, having spelt out all the difficulties a disciple must face, Jesus assures them that even the smallest act of welcoming the disciple will be rewarded.

It's also important to understand that the Jewish audience of the Gospel of Matthew found themselves under increasing persecution and there was often division within families between those holding to orthodox Jewish beliefs and those following the new Christian way. For some early Christians, there was the very real choice to be made between following their faith and remaining loyal to family. The Gospel of Matthew repeatedly affirms Jesus as the promised Jewish messiah; as the fulfilment of Jewish prophecy. For early followers of the Christian way, this difficult message about being a follower was in the context of an affirmation that the message of Jesus was deeply grounded in their Jewish faith.

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ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



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 Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
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 Office Manager: Diane Teitzel
 Child Safe Officer: Jason Giuliani Ph: 5821 2633
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm



*Christ in community ...
 the heart of our faith*

Recently Deceased: Peter Moylan, Vikki Carboon

Anniversary: Maria Francavilla, Guiseppina Loverso, Fortunato Cortese, Nol Neessen, Johanna Steeghs.

Readers & Commentators July 8 & 9, 2023

6pm	M. Keyte	D. Tarquini
8am	P. White	S. White
11am	J. M Mupenda	M. Frizzell

Fr Steve Bohan will retire as Parish Priest of Sacred Heart parish, Yarrawonga, next Wednesday, 5 July. This is also his 75th Birthday.

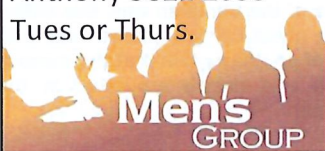
I expect to appoint a new parish priest later in the year. Until that time, Fr Vijay Bandanadam ALCP/OSS has agreed to act as Parish Administrator, in addition to his duties as Parish Priest of St Joseph's Parish, Benalla. Fr Mick Morley, who resides in Yarrawonga, has generously agreed to be the principal supply priest for Masses and other sacramental needs.

Please continue to pray for Fr Steve as he faces the challenges of his illness and treatment.

+Shane Mackinlay

The **Men's group** will be meeting on Saturday July 8 in the MPJC centre at 7.30am.

We gather to share breakfast. At this meeting we will read and ponder the readings for the 14th Sunday of Ordinary time. If you have any questions please call Anthony 5821 2633 Tues or Thurs.



**Anointing Mass, 11am,
 July 5, 2023
 St Brendan's Church.
 All welcome.**

Food for faith

This week we share a recent clip from Pope Francis promoting his wish to join World Youth Day in Portugal, even after a recent stay in hospital. <https://www.instagram.com/p/Ctyli8ot5id/>



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice.

Serra Club Mass for our priests and more vocations, 7.00pm, Friday July 7.

5.00pm Adoration will continue until Mass starts at 7.00 pm . There will be a cuppa in the Parish Centre afterwards. All welcome.



Every year on the first Sunday in July, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church.

Today we acknowledge that God has been walking with Aboriginal



and Torres Strait Islander Peoples making His Presence known through a continuous living culture over many thousands of years.

This day also marks the start of NAIDOC Week, a time for celebrating Indigenous culture across the Australian community. For a range of information about First Nations people and the Catholic Church go to <http://www.natsicc.org.au/>

Join us in the MPJC for a cuppa after our Thursday morning midweek Mass.

The Rosary is recited after the 9.15 Mass, so after the Rosary everyone is invited to come and share a cuppa and conversation in the Parish Centre.



Life is like a cup of tea.
TO BE FILLED TO THE BRIM AND ENJOYED WITH FRIENDS

Are you interested in joining a prayer group using the Charismatic gifts, Scripture petitions and fellowship? All are welcome to join us at 2.00pm, Thursday July 13.

For enquiries, please contact Lorelei Goodall 5798 5331.

