

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.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

20 August 2023

First Reading Is 56:1,6-7

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6, 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. *(R.)*
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. *(R.)*
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 11:13-15, 29-32

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the

mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 15:21-28

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus' response to those in need. Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He was physically removing himself from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is very abrupt with her. He tells her simply that his ministry is to the house of Israel – the Jews – and is not for her. But the woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. Jesus is even more abrupt and tells her that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs. Through this use of metaphor, Jesus refers to the children of Israel (the Jews) and to the gentiles and pagans – sometimes referred to as 'dogs' to reflect their lowly status in the eyes of the Jewish tradition. Still the woman persists and turns Jesus' metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table.

The woman's persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and through that faith heals the woman's daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to the woman's request. It is as though she needed to demonstrate that she was really serious and that she did in fact believe that Jesus could make a difference in her life and the life of her daughter. This is an important story in Matthew's gospel. This gospel was written predominantly for Jewish Christians but this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God is open to anyone who believes.

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ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



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 Website: sheppartoncatholic.org.au
 Facebook: sheppartoncatholic
 Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
 Priest in Residence: Fr Joseph Kunnackattu
 Associate Priest: Fr Jackson Saunders
 Deacon: Francois Baguma
 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: Richard Warburton

Anniversary: Fr John Leahy, James Clurey, Rose Clurey, Eliza Dunne, Robert Crew, Gilda Patone, Mario Anthony Bertone

Readers & Commentators August 26 & 27, 2023

6pm	Youth Group	Youth Group
8am	E. Samalca	P. Guthrie
11am	A. Madeira	J. Pilkington

FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE PARISH

The PPC and other interested parishioners met on Tuesday August 15 to review the current vision statement and logo to reflect the St Brendan's Parish now and into the future.

It was decided at the meeting that we would review the vision statement and use the new statement as the basis for our new logo going forward.

The existing vision statement is:

*"St Brendan's Parish Family seeks to be
 a welcoming community,
 challenged to live out Gospel values
 through relevant liturgy,
 supportive ministry
 and ongoing faith development."*

Over the coming weeks we will be seeking feedback on each section of the vision statement to inform our ongoing conversations.



The next meeting will be held Oct 11th at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend.

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.

It can sometimes feel like we're "running on empty" in the spiritual life. Ignatian spirituality offers a plethora of ways for us to re fill our cups.



The Examen

Pray the Examen daily. As you reflect on the events of the day and your responses to them, you will notice where you encountered the Divine. Through the practice of the Examen, we are reminded that our God is not a far-off, disinterested God, but a God who is present throughout our days and intimately available to us.

Charismatic Prayer Group

All are welcome to join us at 2.00pm every 2nd Thursday. For enquires contact loreleigoodall350@gmail.com



100 Years celebration: On September 23, 1923 our St Brendan's Church had major renovations to the Sanctuary and the add on of the 'Nun's Chapel'. We will be celebrating this in our weekend liturgies.



Combined Church's Prayer Service

This weeks Combined Church's event was enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to the organisers and in particular those who provided a beautiful supper.



It is not enough to say we are Christians. We must live the faith, not only with our words, but with our actions. Pope Francis



Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & **11am** **PRAYING WITH CHILDREN**
SUNDAY LITURGY

Syro Malabar Rite: Wednesday 6.00pm, Saturday 8.30am, Sunday 5.30pm

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday Masses and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays 7pm to 8pm and Fridays 5pm to 6pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

St Brendan's Parish **FRIENDSHIP GROUP** will meet again for lunch:

12.30pm, Sunday August 20 at the Peppermill Inn, 7900 Goulburn Valley Hwy, Shepparton. Everyone is Welcome!
Enquiries to Pat on 0423 343 711 (leave a message).



CHURCH ROSTERS

Thank you to all who have put their hands up to be on our Ministry filled rosters.

If you are on a roster PLEASE add your dates to your diary.

If you cannot attend your rostered weekend — please contact the Parish office so we can find a replacement.




Every Thursday after 9:15 Morning Mass, feel free to come to the MPJC for a cup of coffee and a chat

PARISH NAME BADGES

Isaiah 43:15

I have called you by name, you are mine

Tiff Chandler
St Brendan's Parish

The parish invites all parishioners to order a name badge to wear at Masses and parish events.

If you would like a name badge, please PRINT your name clearly on the sheet in the Narthex.

A gold donation to cover costs would be gratefully received.

Fr Joe will be on holidays for the next 2 weeks. We wish him a safe and restful break.

This weekend we wish Sr Rosemary Crowe a very Happy 90th Birthday and thank her for her presence in our Parish.



All are welcome to join the **GARABANDAL PRAYER GROUP**. Monday August 21 from 1.30pm in the Mary Mackillop room of the MPJC. Enter through the office.

Third Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council Meeting



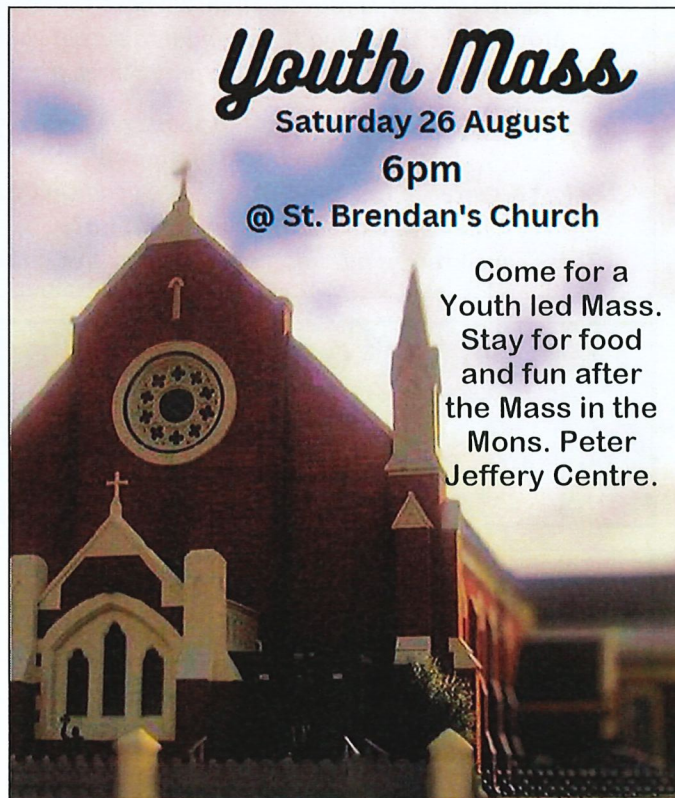
The Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council will conduct their third meeting on 25 & 26 August 2023.

Please pray for the Council using the following Prayer for the Mission and Pastoral Council.

We turn to Mary, our Mother of Good Counsel and patroness of our Diocese, as we seek to become a more missionary and pastoral Church: people of faith, hope and love for our world.

May we be led by the same wisdom and courage sent by the Holy Spirit to guide her along unfamiliar paths and through challenging decisions.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us!



Youth Mass
Saturday 26 August
6pm
@ St. Brendan's Church

Come for a Youth led Mass. Stay for food and fun after the Mass in the Mons. Peter Jeffery Centre.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL We are looking for people who could assist us with preparing the Prayers of the Faithful. We would only ask that you do it for 3 months at a time. Please see Di at the Parish office or phone 5821 2633.



A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend is for YOU...

“Live Your Best Married Life in Love”

Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can easily cause you to lose touch with your spouse.

This weekend gives married couples time to nurture your relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. Every married couple deserves a Marriage Encounter weekend! The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome.



Please check our website for more details

Date: 3-5 November 2023 in Melbourne.

Website: wwme.org.au Book Now—Phone Mercy &

James 0409 183 676, email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au



CCR SANDHURST

Living in the Holy Spirit

Guest Presenter: Adrian Commadeur

Adrian is the author of several books

including ‘The Spirit in the Church’ **Saturday September 2, 2023 at Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre, St Brendan’s Parish, Shepparton 9.00 cuppa - 4.00pm, Entry by Donation.**

Lunch: Please bring a plate to share

Contact: Brigita Hore: 0412 042 196,

Mary Zobec: 0427 190282, Denise Illot: 0407 506 813

Prayer for the Week: Lord Jesus, may we have the courage to pray for our needs and the strength to accept your answer. In your name we pray. Amen.

The Quirky Calendar: The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time falls on the twentieth of August.

The last occurrence was the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time on the twenty-first of August 2022.

These concurrences have occurred 22 times this century!

SEASON OF CREATION

1 SEPTEMBER – 4 OCTOBER 2023



SANDHURST LAUNCH of SEASON OF CREATION:



Come and celebrate our Care for Creation at Notley Picnic Ground, Whipstick Forest, Bendigo on **Friday September 1.**

Beginning with **Mass at 11am** celebrated by Bishop Shane followed by **Picnic Lunch.**

BYO chairs encouraged although some seating available.

Sausage sizzle provided or BYO lunch and drinks; **EVERYONE** is invited. It is also the first day of spring and National Wattle Day!

RSVP via SMS 0408 579 904 to assist with planning.

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

centres. The retreat is made over four weeks (October 16 – November 6) and is based on 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 Paul White, who brings a background of living Ignatian Spirituality as a member of Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia. Paul has a Graduate Diploma in Spiritual Direction and enjoys and is greatly experienced in giving retreats in Victoria and NSW.

(Dependent on numbers) the retreat will be offered with a choice of times. Registration forms in Narthex.

Mondays: October 16; October 23; October 30; November 6

Times: 1:30pm – 3.00pm or 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Venue: Mons. Peter Jeffrey Centre, St. Brendan’s Parish, Shepparton.

Cost: \$40.00 (covers the cost of the retreat book if required.)

Registration is required by Sunday September 20. Enquiries to Paul White – 0437 290 950

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 wrong

doing, but rejoices in

the truth. It bears all

things, believes all

things, hopes all

things, endures all

things. (1 Cor 13:4-7)



ST BRENDAN’S TENNIS CLUB is looking for expression of interest for junior and senior players. If you are interested in playing

tennis in season 23/24, please contact Georgie: 0428 640 541.

