

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.

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

**31 March 2024**

## First Reading Acts 10:34, 37-43

*We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.*  
Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. R. v.24**

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad.**

or

**(R.) Alleluia.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

## Second Reading Col 3:1-4

*Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

**or: 1 Cor 5:6-8**

*Throw away the old yeast, that you may be new dough.*

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, then, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

## Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

**Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord.  
Alleluia!**

## Gospel Jn 20:1-9

*The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.*

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the

linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

**or: Mk 16:1-7**

*Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has risen.*

When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising.

They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you."'

**or at Evening Mass: Lk 24:13-35**

*They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.*

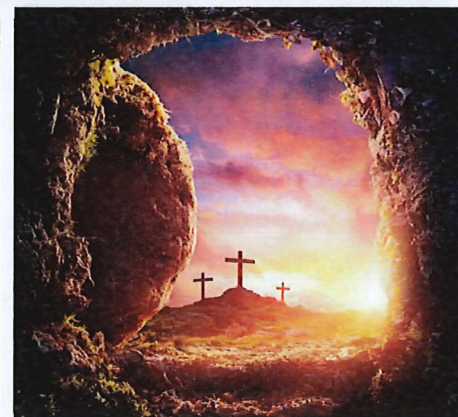
Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us; they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.



## Reflection by Greg Sunter

On this, the most important celebration in the Christian calendar, it is a shame that the reading chosen for the Lectionary is something of a let down. Certainly, within the gospel reading we have the discovery of the empty tomb by Mary of Magdala; the disbelieving disciples running to find things exactly as Mary had described; and the dawning realisation of what Jesus had meant when he so frequently spoke about rising from the dead. However, if the editors of the Lectionary had chosen to also include the next nine verses of the gospel we would have also heard the magnificent encounter between Mary and the risen Lord, confirming that it was a woman, Mary Magdala, who was the first witness to Christ's resurrection. As it is, we never hear this account as part of the cycle of Sunday readings.

The discovery of the empty tomb – although so simply told – is an astounding event that completes the Paschal Mystery: the passion, death AND resurrection of Jesus. Whilst Christ's willingness to go to his death on the cross was an extraordinary statement of God's love for humankind, it is his rising again from death that offers all Christian people hope. It is the second disciple – the one whom Jesus loved – who is the first to grasp the meaning of what has happened inside the tomb. The gospel tells us that upon entering the tomb and seeing Jesus' burial cloths lying there, 'he saw and he believed'. Unlike the later encounters with the risen Lord, this disciple recognised the truth and significance of what he saw in the empty tomb. He didn't need to see the risen Lord to believe. Perhaps it is he that we today can best identify with. Not in a position to physically encounter the risen Christ, we are capable of seeing the signs of his resurrection and continuing presence in the world and choose to believe.

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# ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



121 Knight Street, Shepparton  
 Phone: 5821 2633 | Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au  
 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*



## Calendar of Events, St Brendan's Parish

- Monday, April 1: Parish Office Closed
- Wednesday, April 3: **Anointing Mass, 11am**
- Friday April 5: Adoration, 5pm  
**Serra Club, 7.15pm**
- Saturday April 6: Men's Group, 7.30am  
**\*No reconciliation available Saturday, April 6.**
- Sunday April 7: Faith & Light, 10am  
**Divine Mercy Sunday, 2pm**

We wish all in our School communities a safe and enjoyable school holiday break.



### **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.

**Recently Deceased:** Bernard Broadhead

**Anniversary:** Eileen Dolan, Catherine Stein, Angela Nicolaci, Mildred Kudzotsa

## Sacramental Program

We have had 55 enrolments for this year's Program. We keep these Candidates in our thoughts and prayers as they start to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Program to start with the Presentation Masses on Saturday, April 13 and Sunday, April 14.



### **Readers & Commentators** April 6 & 7, 2024

6pm	A. Kilmartin	D. Sullivan
8am	D. Keenan	TBC
11am	JM. Mupenda	M. Frizzell

**Anointing Mass,**  
 11.00am  
 Wednesday April 3.



**Serra Club Rosary (no Mass)**  
**Friday, April 5 at 7.15pm.** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament commences at 5pm and continues until the Rosary. Join us for a cuppa in the MPJC afterwards. All welcome.



## THANK YOU PROJECT COMPASSION FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS



**Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!**  
 Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2024 Lenten appeal. You can donate by calling 1800 024 413 or visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion).

The Caritas donations received so far by St Brendan's Parish amount to \$4,060—Thank you!  
 Could everyone please return their caritas boxes and envelopes to the office for banking.



We are so grateful to all who make donations to our church. We have noticed that some parishioners prefer to pay by card rather than cash. Did you know we have a Tap-N-Go terminal at both entrances to our Church? You might find this a better option for you as well.



The **Men's Group** will meet on Saturday, April 6, at 7.30am in the MPJC. We gather for breakfast and a shared faith topic, often the Gospel from the following Sunday liturgy. You can join in the men's group at any time of the year, so if you would like to meet men from local faith communities please come along and join us. All enquiries to Anthony 5821 2633 (Tues or Thurs).



### 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)



We celebrate and give thanks for the seven wonderful people who have joined our Parish

this weekend. **Jessica Stanyer, Brock O'Hara, Georgia Sofra, Jason Collier, Jenny Sibilia, Bianca Nardella and Atonio Malolo**, are all ready to begin a new chapter in their lives, a new beginning.

We wish them all well and commit to walking with them as they continue the never-ending journey of faith.

A big thank you to all those who have been involved in the RCIA journey this year. It is such a special ministry to be involved in, the opening of the eyes of faith for others. Please keep an eye out for them around the Parish, help them to feel welcome. Anthony

### PRESBYTERY RENOVATIONS

As you may be aware, renovations are still happening at the Presbytery. Good news is that the Contractors, Nicholas Creations Pty Ltd will most probably finish the work in 2-3 weeks time.

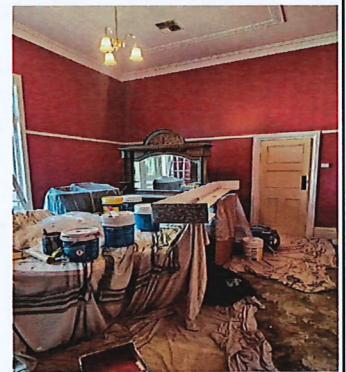
Ruby Red paint continues to get splashed on the walls as you can see from the photo in the Presbytery Dining Room. There is about 40% of paint works yet to be completed.

Lots of old and worn carpet has been lifted up and polishing of the floorboards underneath have been much of the focus. You will see the new flooring from the photo of the Presbytery Lounge Room.

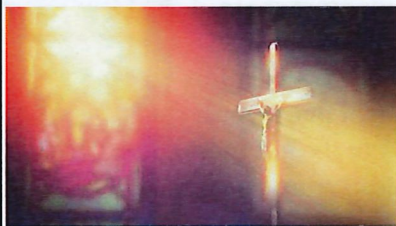
THANK YOU to many of you who have sent us your donations towards the cost of the Renovations. So far we have received a total of \$15,370.

Invoices so far received and paid for total \$88,892.38. We are yet to pay \$51,814.62 when the remainder of the work has been completed.

Again, THANK YOU to everyone who has helped with the massive costs of preserving and upgrading our beautiful Presbytery!



### EASTER GREETINGS FROM FR JOE AND FR JACKSON



As Easter dawns in the year of 2024, we celebrate 150 years of the foundation of our Diocese of Sandhurst.

It is a time to look back with gratitude on all those Catholic men and women who have been the torchbearers of faith; it is also a chance for us to pray that our Diocese, in the next 150 years, will prosper and grow as we are the carriers of faith to move into the future.

Thanks to you all for your contribution to the continuation of faith here at St Brendan's. We thank you for your own faith that you continually nurture, and for your missions to the furthering of the faith of others.

May the Spirit of God lead us into the next 150 years and may the Risen Christ continue to nurture and nourish your lives.

### Parish Footy Tipping Update:



For the first time in the history of our comp, Fr. Joe sits at the top of the leaderboard! He has a season total of 18, leading the chasing pack by two. He is all smiles because his Blues are undefeated at this early stage of the season!

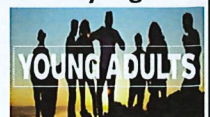
The Pontiff (Fr. Jackson) is in the top ten on 15 correct tips. We have a record total of 37 tipsters this year, competing for the first prize of \$300.

Thanks to all who have entered this parish fundraiser.



Cathedral Mass of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. Bishop Shane Mackinlay led the celebrations, with Fr Joe Taylor, VG, Fr Junray Rayna, Fr Rob Galea, Fr Brian Boyle and Fr DJ Suguitan.

The **YOUNG ADULTS GROUP** meet each **Thursday night between 6pm & 7pm** in the Parish Centre. Discussion fellowship for those aged 18-35yo. New members always welcome.



**150** AN EASTER MESSAGE  
FROM  
BISHOP SHANE MACKINLAY



In November 1851, gold was discovered in Bendigo, and six months later, Dr Henry Backhaus arrived on the Bendigo diggings to minister to the approximately 15,000 prospectors who had thronged to the area to try their luck on the banks of the Bendigo creek. He celebrated the first Mass in the district in Golden Square. Despite the very rough living conditions and the long drought in the region, families began to arrive shortly after, and baptisms were soon requested. Dr Backhaus recorded the first child he baptised – a baby boy called James Joseph – and very many generations since then have been welcomed into the Church and had their names recorded in the registers of the district.

A little over twenty years later, the Catholic community was flourishing, and the four missions of St Kilian's (Bendigo), Beechworth, Heathcote and Wangaratta, were established as the Diocese of Sandhurst. This Easter, we mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that event. There is, of course, much to celebrate as we reflect on this journey: the building of so many churches and our beautiful cathedral; the establishment of parishes; providing schools for the education of young people; offering care and outreach to those in need; the generous service of priests, religious, and countless volunteers and staff. Through all this, the fundamental blessing that we give thanks for is the commitment of our communities to living as people of Christian faith, led by the Holy Spirit, building up justice, peace and love, and proclaiming and witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ entrusted to us.

Over more than 170 years, our Catholic faith has been lived out and passed on in this region in times of peace and times of war, in times of prosperity and times of hardship, in times of joy and times of sadness, even in a couple of times of pandemic. At the heart of all these experiences is what we celebrate again at Easter this year: the death and resurrection of Jesus, which marks the culmination of his ministry proclaiming and inaugurating the reign of God, his utter faithfulness and unreserved love for each of us, and the power of God to bring new life in the deepest and darkest of shadows, overcoming the power of all that holds us captive, and even death itself.

As each of us makes our own contribution this year to the long tradition of Easter celebrations in this Diocese, may the generations of faithful Christians who have gone before us encourage and inspire us to make Jesus' giving of himself the pattern of our own lives, so that we might be renewed in the faith and hope that we proclaim.

**MOST REV. SHANE MACKINLAY**  
BISHOP OF SANDHURST

bishop@sandhurst.catholic.org.au Phone 03 5441 2544 PO Box 2000 Bendigo VIC 3552



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF THE DIOCESE OF SANDHURST

**Join Jophin in India**



**November 5,**

travel from

Melbourne to Delhi

**November 18, 2024,**

travel from

Nemgaluru to Melbourne.

The trip includes air travel to Jaipur,

Mumbai and Cochin sectors.

Also train travel to Kunnur.

**\$3000 deposit required to secure your place with final payment due by September 23, 2024.**

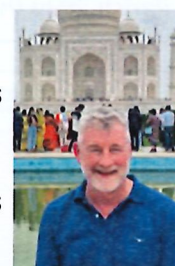
\$7500 per person

Includes; Accommodation, breakfasts, guides, transport, air conditioned vehicles, entrance fees, Indian Visas for Australian Passport holders and current applicable taxes.

Exclusions include; personal expenses, international airfare taxes, meals.

'I was delighted to visit India last year and meet the families of our priests who come from there. I encourage others to experience the rich cultures and faith of India which are part of the gift that our priests from India share with us.'

Bishop Shane



All enquiries to: Stephen Mills  
0407 318 753 / stjmill@gmail.com  
Sarah Nunn Travel Agent 0434 579 931  
sarah.nunn@travelmanagers.com

**Fr Jackson will be on annual leave from April 2 until April 25.**

For all your eye care needs, you can contact Ashley and Vanessa Madeira at The Eye Shop. P: 5821 0311 enquiries@eyeshopshhepparton.com.au Locally owned business servicing Shepparton for 35 years.



*Sunday, April 7*  
**DIVINE MERCY**  
*Sunday*



**St. Brendan's Church, 121 Knight St, Shepparton**  
**2pm** Exposition and Confessions (several priests),  
**3pm** The Divine Mercy Chaplet in Song & Benediction. **3:30pm** Holy Mass, followed by veneration of the Divine Mercy Image.  
All enquiries to Tom 0431 706 296

**Good Shepherd Sunday, April 21**  
There will be Holy Hour for vocations and for our priests following the 8am Mass finishing at 10am. Please join as we pray that more will answer the call of the Good Shepherd.



**World Bipolar Day, March 30, 2024**  
– celebrating Vincent van Gogh's birthday. He is a famous Dutch painter whose mental disturbances began in his 30s. This year, Bipolar Australia has organised a "Blow Bubbles" program, as they support everyone affected by bipolar disorders; those with the condition, their families and carers. A serious lifelong mental health condition which features pronounced mood swings. You are invited to celebrate with "Bubbles for Bipolar" while spreading the good news that bipolar can be successfully managed. Ask 'open' questions to learn more and understand someone's experiences, so you can support them in the community. Mary Pianta, Sandhurst Disability Contact Coordinator.