

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.

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

12 November 2023

First Reading Wis 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

*(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.*

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Thes 4:13-18

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching,

that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

*you know not when the Son of Man
is coming.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 25:1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The three gospel accounts from the final three weeks leading up to the season of Advent all come from Chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew. They can be seen together as an extended treatise on living life in response to Jesus' message and preparing for the end of time. This week's gospel starts out as a Kingdom parable and becomes a bit more of a metaphor for living a Christian life.

The gospel parable relates to ten bridesmaids – five foolish and five wise – who are participating in a wedding ritual that involves meeting the bridegroom and escorting him the last part of his way to the wedding reception. The foolish bridesmaids have not brought sufficient reserves of oil for their lamps and have to leave at the critical time to try to obtain more. When they eventually arrive at the reception hall they are turned away because they have shamed themselves as well as the bride and groom by not fulfilling their duty.

Some of the original audience of Matthew's gospel, along with many of the early Christian followers, had an expectation that Jesus was going to return and usher in the end of the world in their lifetime. The message of this gospel is captured in Jesus' final words, 'So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.' The timing of Jesus' coming cannot be predicted and so all Christian believers, like the bridesmaids, need to continue to act with hope and expectation; being prepared for the fact that it may be further off than anticipated. Many early Christians were living their lives as though the world would end at any time. The gospel warns them, and us, to continue to follow the example of Jesus and not to become complacent – expecting that everything is about to come to an end.

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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: Tayla Barber, Chris Adams, Hazel Hassall, Bob Hynam (brother of Joyce Moylan).

Anniversary: Marie Wardle, Allan Townsend

Readers & Commentators November 18 & 19, 2023

6pm	Sr Bing	C. Villani
8am	D. Keenan	M. Keenan
11am	I. Garla	M. Frizzell

Melbourne Cup Sweep 2023

THANK YOU to everyone who has purchased a ticket to go in the DRAW for our 2023 Melbourne Cup Sweep.



Congratulations to our winners:

1st Place: Jim Pelly
2nd Place: Jean-Marie Mupenda
3rd Place: Geraldine Christou

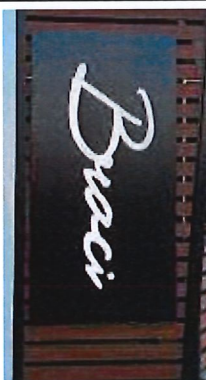
St Brendan's Parish **FRIENDSHIP GROUP**

will be holding our Christmas lunch get together:

12.30pm, Sunday November 26 at BRACI Restaurant (formally Groove Train), 2/10 St Georges Road, Shepparton.

Set Menu: Roast Turkey / ham and vegetables. Choice of plum pudding or pavlova. Cost \$35 per head.

Numbers **MUST** be confirmed by November 22. Please leave a message for Pat on 0423 343 711 if attending. No late bookings. Everyone is welcome!



Please Note: The Parish office will be closed on Wednesday November 15. We apologise for any inconvenience.



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:
We meet each **Thursday, 6 - 7pm** in the MPJC. All aged 18 - 35 are welcome.



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.

Parish Contact for Persons with Disability.

Mary Pianta from the Chancery is endeavoring to establish contact people in each Parish of the Diocese to liaise with her regarding our support for people with disability.

There are 3,000 people in the Diocese with disability. This role would involve assessing our Parish's ability to better reach out to people with disability.

One aspect of this role would be to make sure that our parish is "user friendly."



Please contact Fr Joe if you are interested in this most important role.

Advent is just around the corner, beginning on December 3 this year. A great way to prepare for the Christmas miracle each year is by becoming involved in an **Advent reflection group**.

We have purchased some reflection booklets from Wollongong Diocese called "The Sign".

Our Parish is happy to help organise a group, at a time that is suitable for the majority of those involved. In the past we have also had a group meet on Zoom. You can call the office on 5821 2633 or email anthonypastoral@bigpond.com if you are interested in joining one of the groups.



We welcome Bishop Shane back to our Diocese after 4 weeks at the Synod in Rome.

Followed by a meeting in Rome for a week and then attending the Bishops conference in Sydney.



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)

You are invited to our **Parish Barefoot Bowls**

7pm BBQ Dinner: **Thursday, November 23**

\$2 per sausage. Funds raised to go to the Caritas Australia Gaza Conflict Appeal.

BYO salads and/or deserts to share.

Barefoot bowls to follow from 7.30pm.

\$10 per person. At the East Shepparton Bowls Club. Drinks at bar prices. To RSVP, please go to [https:// www.trybooking.com/CNDIF](https://www.trybooking.com/CNDIF)

or write your name on the clipboards available in the Church. RSVP is essential for catering purposes. Play bowls or just come for the social occasion.



If you'd prefer not to play in bare feet, please wear thongs or flat sole shoes.

We welcome the Rogationist Priests who have settled here at St. Mel's. They are also looking after St. Malachy's Parish, Nagambie. Fr Rene and Fr Ruel bring a new dimension of pastoral and parish ministry to our communities.

We are pleased to hear that Fr Peter Taylor is settling in well in the Rutherglen Parish.



We have created a brief feedback survey regarding the recent Liturgical Formation Seminars in Shepparton and Wangaratta.

If you could please follow the link below and provide us with your thoughts. Sandhurst Liturgical Formation Seminar Feedback Survey Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/WWLhakM9uQ>

Altar Server Training About 25 children have attended our recent two altar server training sessions.

These gatherings have concluded with pizza. We thank the children, who have volunteered to serve at Masses. If your child has received the Sacraments and would like to serve, please ring the Parish Office on 5821 2633 or speak with Fr Joe or Fr Jackson.



CHURCH ROSTERS

It's that time again! We need to prepare the next set of Rosters.



We would be grateful for assistance with

- Ushers/Greeters (particularly at 8am)
- Readers and Commentators
- Special Ministers (Church)
- Special Ministers (Homes)
- Offertory

If you **are** currently on a roster – please email our office to confirm whether you are happy to CONTINUE, alter or prefer to be removed.

If you **are not** currently on a ministry roster – we would be grateful for new people to join, please email us your Name, Phone Number, Preferred Mass time and Preferred Ministry.

If you have questions, please speak with Fr Joe or Fr Jackson after Mass. Office Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Great to Be Young:

The third Jesuit preference is to 'accompany the young in the creation of a hope-filled future'... Accompanying young people in the creation of a hope-filled future can be challenging.

Apart from positive role models, what can be done to promote a hope-filled future for young people?

The most obvious response is the opportunity for a young person to be supported in having as good an education and formation as possible, addressing all aspects of the human person – intellectual, social, psychological, physical, spiritual and religious.

Re-telling the positive events of a community's story is also critical, because it reminds us of what we're capable of and how to achieve it. It also reinforces the relational aspect of our identity, reminding us that each individual is part of a bigger story.

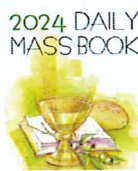
Farewell blessings and the gift of a cross are available for parishioners who are moving away from the Parish. Please contact the office to organise on 5821 2633.



All are welcome to join the **GARABANDAL PRAYER GROUP** Monday, November 20 from 1.30pm. Enter through the Parish Office.



2024 Daily Mass Book: Now available in the Piety Store \$25 each.



A great podcast to follow which explains this Sunday's reading from Bishop Robert Barron "Word on Fire" <https://www.wordonfire.org/videos/sermons/classic-sunday-sermon-you-must-rethink-your-spiritual-life/>



Have you thought about priesthood?

A gathering for those thinking about, or open to a vocation to the priesthood, will be held at St Brendan's Catholic Parish Shepparton, on **Sunday, November 12, from 3pm**. The afternoon will include prayer, reflection and discussion.



Dinner will be provided. The gathering will conclude by 8pm. This is open to men aged over 18. RSVP is essential to the Vocations Director of the Diocese, Fr Nathan Verallo. Please phone 5722 1970 or email np.verallo@gmail.com

Parish Morning Tea



We thank Notre Dame College students for hosting our morning tea for all parishioners each Thursday after the 9.15am Mass.

The students will not join us again until the end of November, however, parishioners will continue to gather for morning tea each Thursday after Mass.

All are invited.



Voice for Silent People

Fundraiser: for Orphaned Children in D.R. CONGO

Saturday November 18:
6pm Mass

Sunday November 19:
8am and 11am Masses

WALNUTS \$10KG



HANDMADE SOAP \$5

Also, handcrafted wooden crosses, plants and baked goods.

All enquires to Celie
0488 583 112



POP UP CHRISTMAS MARKET

214 FRASER STREET, SHEPPARTON

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8, 9AM—4.30PM

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9, 10AM—1.00PM

CHRISTMAS GOODIES, PRE LOVED CLOTHING, HOME MADE GOODIES, LOTS OF STOCKING FILLERS, WELL ESTABLISHED PLANTS.

WE ARE RAISING FUNDS TO ENABLE THOSE WITH DISABILITIES TO GO AWAY FOR THE WEEKEND.

CASH ONLY.



The dawn novena Masses, **'Misa de Gallo'** will take place again this year from December 16 to December 24 at 6am.

If you would like to be involved as a reader, commentator, musician or breakfast sponsor, please contact Sr Bing on 0412 297 178 or email bingfcj@gmail.com

or

Lady Price on 0413 804 263.

All are welcome.



St Brendan's Christmas Mass Times

Saturday, December 23 6.00pm 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24 6.00am 4th Sunday of Advent
11.00am

Sunday, December 24 5.00pm Christmas Eve
6.30pm
11.00pm

Sunday, December 24 7.00pm Christmas Eve, Dookie

Sunday, December 24 8.00pm Christmas Eve, Syro Malabar

Monday, December 25 8.00am Christmas Day
11.00am

Parish Office Closure: Monday, December 25 - Monday, January 1

World Diabetes Day -- 14 November:

The 2023 theme, "Empowering Global Health" reminds us that by coming together, by understanding, caring and acting, we can create a world where diabetes does not dictate our lives. An early diagnosis can reduce your chance of living with a disability.

SENIOR'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

St Brendan's MPJC, 12 noon,
Tuesday December 19

2 course lunch, raffles and
Lucky Door Prizes

RSVP IS A MUST by

December 14 to the Parish
office on: 5821 2633.



Locally owned business servicing Shepparton for 35 years. For all your eye care needs, you can contact Ashley and Vanessa Madeira at The Eye Shop.

Phone 5821 0311

enquiries@eyeshopshepparton.com.au

