

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.

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

1 October 2023

First Reading Ez 18:25-28

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: Is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) *Remember your mercies, O Lord.*

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 2:1-11 or shorter form Phil 2:1-5

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling

to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the
underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of
Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

*My sheep listen to my voice,
says the Lord;*

I know them, and they follow me.

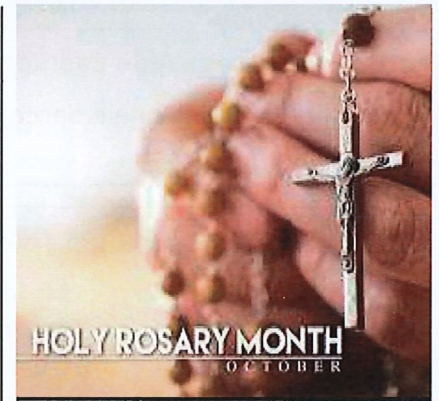
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 21:28-32

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

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Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel passage is one of many within Matthew's gospel that show Jesus at odds with the religious authorities of his day. The picture of the religious leaders that comes through Matthew's gospel is one of hypocrisy. Jesus is frequently portrayed as criticising the leaders for holding too strongly to the letter of the law and ignoring the spirit of the law and the call to compassion. This week's passage has Jesus seeking the opinion of the chief priests and elders on a hypothetical situation (a common style of debating a point of law in the Jewish tradition). He describes two sons, each asked by their father to go and work in the family vineyard. The first says 'No' but later does his father's bidding. The second says 'Yes' but doesn't follow through on his commitment.

Jesus is criticising the religious leaders of his time who, with their words, said 'Yes' to God but by their actions said 'No'. He most certainly would have upset the leaders by telling them that tax collectors and prostitutes would enter the kingdom of God before them. Whilst these tax collectors and prostitutes were regarded by the religious authorities as 'sinners' beyond redemption, Jesus holds them up in the image of the first son of the story. Although they may have said 'No' to God through their poor choices, ultimately they are saying 'Yes' to God in their acceptance of Jesus and the message of the kingdom of God. On the other hand, the leaders have said 'Yes' to God publicly through abiding by all the religious laws and maintaining a 'religious profile' but in their hearts and actions they have not truly said 'Yes!'

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*

Recently Deceased: Aldo Capirioglio

Anniversary: Michelangelo Sacco, Mick Villani, Joseph Keyte

Readers & Commentators October 7 & 8, 2023

6pm	Sr Bing	M. Johnson
8am	P. White	S. White
11am	A. Madeira	I. Garla

Happy 90th Birthday to Margaret Farrell

This Thursday, **October 5, 6pm - 7pm** in the MPJC, the young adults group will explore their dreams for the future vision of the parish. Young adult group member and Parish Pastoral Councillor, Kyra Kerwin, will lead the discussion. All young adults, aged between 18 - 35 are very welcome to join us.



Blessing of Statue of St Francis of Assisi — On October 4 at 11.00am we will bless the statue of St Francis.

This statue is a prayerful tribute to John and Kath Hogan who left a substantial bequest to our Parish.

All welcome, spread the word!



Faith and Light will meet again this Sunday, October 1 at 12pm in the MPJC.



Food for Faith This week we present a movie called "Fr Stu" - a true story about Fr Stuart Long, an American Priest. Fr Stu's early life has many difficulties within his family, which dictate how he sees himself and the world. After a bad motorbike accident and a vision from the Virgin Mary he decides to hand his life to God, but the struggles do not end here as he contracts a progressive muscle disorder, and eventually is confined to a wheelchair. **The language in the early part of the film might be offensive to some people, please beware of this.**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHREzAdyCps>

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.

An **altar serving training session** will be held for new and existing servers at St Brendan's Catholic Church on Saturday, October 21, from 4pm until 5.30pm.



We invite any school student, who has received their Sacraments to be part of this gathering. Our aim of this initiative is to encourage more school aged students to serve at Mass with the assistance of experienced altar servers. I invite you to encourage your children and grandchildren to support this initiative.

The gathering will include practical training for altar serving between 4pm and 5pm, followed by pizzas at 5pm. The gathering will conclude at 5.30pm.

Please RSVP your availability to Fr Jackson on 5821 2633 or email jackson.saunders@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
 Many thanks. God bless, Fr Jackson.

Our **Sacramental Candidates** are preparing to celebrate their Confirmation and First Holy Communion at the following Masses:



Sunday, October 8, 11am
Friday, October 13, 6:30pm
Saturday, October 14, 6pm
Sunday, October 15, 11am

We invite you to come along to celebrate with the children and their families.

We will also be having a celebration Mass with our Sacrament Candidates on **Wednesday October 25 at 9:30am** (note time change).



Naarm Law Students on VOICE 2023 are hosting session on the referendum and Voice to Parliament on **October 7 at Starkie Hall, Notre Dame College** (following the **6pm Saturday Mass at St Brendan's**).

The 30 min **presentation and Q&A session**, offers neutral education for all. The initiative is volunteer driven and independent of Yes-No campaigns, all welcome.

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)

Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, October 8, 4.00pm

We invite everyone and their pets to join us in the Parish garden for our annual Blessing of the Animals which will take place at our of newly blessed statue of St. Francis of Assisi.

As patron Saint of Animals, the feast of St Francis is celebrated on October 4.

All animals need to be on leads, in cages or carriers.

We would love to see you with or without pets. BYO hats, water and blankets/chairs .



The **Serra Club** invite you to join us as we pray for our priests and more vocations. This Friday, October 6, at 7.00pm. Weekly adoration will continue until 7.00pm.



There will be a cuppa in the Cooper Room of the Parish office afterwards. All welcome.

Introduction to Mark's Gospel: Maria Weatherill and Fr Joe will present an overview of Mark's Gospel at St Brendan's MPJC. **7.30pm—8.30pm, Tuesdays October 3, 10 & 17.**

This will be a rich background for our Sundays of Year B. It will be helpful for our readers and musicians.



Invitation

St. Brendan's open-air walk to celebrate the

Season for Creation



Pope Francis says: "This is the time to re-acquaint ourselves with praying immersed in nature, where our gratitude to the creator God arises spontaneously."

Come, **immerse yourself** in a river walk that that **celebrates** the *Season for Creation* with personal and scriptural reflection.

Walkers Gather: 11:00 am – on the Western side of the Broken River turn left and enter Lincoln Drive and meet at the corner of Varcoe St.

When: Saturday, October 7th, 2023

BYO chair, water bottle – Hot/Cold beverages, Mossie Repellent.

EVERYONE is invited and encouraged to come along



Billabong Nursery

Café Cuppa

All Sacristans and ladies who help around the Church



are invited to join us for a cuppa on the 1st Saturday of each month at 10.00am, including **Saturday, October 7.** All enquiries to: Kath Smyth 0409 003 420.

Understanding Dementia

Wednesday, October 11, 10am -12pm at 481 Wyndham Street, Shepparton.

Contact 0408 301 800 or email vic.booking@dementia.org.au
Cost: Free with ample parking
Duration: 2 hours



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 on October 11 at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend.



10.30am, Saturday October 14, Public Rosary in the Church gardens. Then join us for a cuppa in the Notre Dame College Noel Daly Centre (behind MPJC).

Due to the Sacramental Masses, there will not be a Childrens Liturgy held on Sunday October 8. It will resume the following week.

LOST AND FOUND Due to the number of items left in the Church after Masses, a box is kept in the main entrance of the Church (Narthex) . These items will be kept for 1 month before being disposed of. Please check the box in case one of these items belong to you.



New clergy appointments:

Kennington

Parish Priest: Fr Jake Mudge, from 20 January 2024

Rushworth

Supervising Priest: A new appointment will be made to this position before Fr Andrew Fewings concludes his appointment as Parish Priest of Kennington.

Rutherglen and Chiltern

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Taylor, from 4 November 2023

Shepparton South and Nagambie (previously announced)

Parish Priest: Fr Rene Ramirez RCJ, from 4 November 2023

Assistant Priest: Fr Ruel Desamparado RCJ

Tatura and Kyabram

Parish Priest: Fr Uday Marneni ALCP/OSS, from 13 January 2024

Wodonga, Tallangatta and Corryong

Fr Andrew Fewings will lead the establishment of a Ministry Team in these parishes towards mid-2024, after undertaking a sabbatical in the first months of the year.

Team Moderator, and Pastoral Leader of Wodonga:

Fr Andrew Fewings

Pastoral Leader of Tallangatta and Corryong: Fr John Paul Pasala, from 13 January 2024

Team member: Fr Adi Indra

From 27 December 2023, until Fr Andrew's return from sabbatical, Fr Adi Indra will be Administrator of the parishes

Yarrawonga and Cobram

Parish Priest: Fr Junjun Amaya, from 27 December 2023

I am grateful to all those who have generously offered themselves for these appointments, and ask that you hold them in prayer, along with these various communities, as they prepare for these significant transitions.

Yours sincerely, *+Shane Mackinlay* Note: I will be absent from the Diocese until Tuesday 14 November. During this time, Fr Joe Taylor will administer the Diocese as Vicar General. He can be contacted by phoning the Chancery and leaving a message with Tim Nolan.



Last Saturday, September 23, 2023, marked 100 years since the foundation stone was laid for the Marian Chapel, originally known as the 'Nuns chapel'. We celebrated the occasion in thanksgiving for the faith of those gone before us, and paid tribute to the Mercy Sisters, who have served in our parish since 1902.



Marian Festival at Sacred Heart Cathedral

October 15, 2023 Please join us at the Annual Marian Festival at Sacred Heart Cathedral to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary and entrust our diocese, our nation and the world to the protection of her Immaculate Heart. The Festival will be led by Bishop Leslie Tomlinson, beginning with Mass at 11am and continuing with devotions throughout the afternoon. For more information go to www.bendigofatima.com or call Wilma on 5439 6283.



Expression of Interest (EOI) – Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria (ACMV) Coordinator Find out more at: <https://www.cam1.org.au/acmv> Applications close October 6. Contact Sherry Balcombe **Aboriginal Catholic Ministry** sherry.balcombe@cam.org.au



Volunteers needed

Gowola homework club runs every Tuesday during school terms at Rumbalara Football Netball Club rooms. Volunteers have an opportunity to support students in their education journey. Students are from schools in the local area and range from Prep-Grade Six. Anyone, who enjoys spending time with young people and who believes in the value of education, would be qualified and warmly welcomed. A Working with Children Check will be required. (Assistance will be given to apply for WWCC and there is no cost.) If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Gabrielle 0438 622 696 or Sue 0448 621 203

The HOMEWORK CLUB

RCIA A JOURNEY IN FAITH **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**



St. Brendan's Catholic Church

Are you looking to join the Catholic faith?

St Brendan's Parish has a vibrant RCIA team and is a Parish that is welcoming and supportive.

The RCIA process opens up this journey.

We encourage questions and what it could mean to your life to join the Catholic faith.

We are beginning a period of inquiry for RCIA on

Thursday October 5, 2023 at 7.30pm,

in the Parish centre behind St Brendan's Church.

There will be two more inquiry nights at 7.30pm: Thursday, October 12, and Thursday, October 19.

For any questions regarding the RCIA process, please call Anthony on 5821 2633 Tuesdays or Thursdays, or e-mail anthonypastoral@bigpond.com

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

