

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-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

24 September 2023

First Reading Is 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take
pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who
speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. *(R.)*
2. The Lord is kind and full of
compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. *(R.)*
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. *(R.)*

Second Reading Phil 1:20-24. 27

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,
is Christ, but then death would bring me
something more; but then again, if living in
this body means doing work which is having
good results – I do not know what I should
choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want
to be gone and be with Christ, which would
be very much the better, but for me to stay
alive in this body is a more urgent need for
your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Mt 20:1-16

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom
of heaven is like a landowner going out at
daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard.
He made an agreement with the workers
for one denarius a day, and sent them to
his vineyard. Going out at about the third
hour he saw others standing idle in the
market place and said to them, "You go
to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair
wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour
and again at about the ninth hour, he went
out and did the same. Then at about the
eleventh hour he went out and found more
men standing round, and he said to them,
"Why have you been standing here idle all
day?" "Because no one has hired us" they
answered. He said to them, "You go into
my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner
of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the
workers and pay them their wages, starting
with the last arrivals and ending with the
first." So those who were hired at about the
eleventh hour came forward and received
one denarius each. When the first came,
they expected to get more, but they too
received one denarius each. They took it,
but grumbled at the landowner. "The men
who came last" they said "have done only
one hour, and you have treated them the
same as us, though we have done a heavy
day's work in all the heat." He answered
one of them and said, "My friend, I am not
being unjust to you; did we not agree on
one denarius? Take your earnings and go.
I choose to pay the last-comer as much as
I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like
with my own? Why be envious because I am
generous?" Thus the last will be first, and
the first, last.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

On a first reading of this gospel story, the
reader is probably struck by the
unfairness of the situation. The
landowner has employed day labourers
at different times throughout the day to
work in his vineyard. However, come the
end of the day, the landowner pays all
the day labourers the same amount. Not
surprisingly, the labourers employed at
daybreak to work the whole day are
upset that those who have only worked
the last hour of the day are paid the
same amount. The landowner reminds
them that he is paying them what they
agreed at the start of the day, and yet
the reader is left uncomfortable about
the whole arrangement.

Of course, this is the purpose of Jesus'
story! The key to the story is in the
introduction. Most of the kingdom
parables told by Jesus begin with a
formulaic statement, 'The kingdom is like
...' and this one is no different. What
follows is almost always a description of
an everyday event that is turned on its
head. In all of the kingdom parables
recorded in the gospels, Jesus describes
a world order in which people respond in
unexpected and sometimes confusing
ways. His message is that the kingdom,
or reign, of God turns expectations
upside down. In the kingdom, people
who are treated badly in this world are
held in great esteem; the balance of
power is turned upside down; and the
usual order of things is challenged. The
landowner's final comment in the
parable, 'the last will be first, and the
first, last', is a perfect example of the
challenging nature of Jesus' kingdom
parables. In the kingdom, those who hold
themselves to be first in this world will
be brought down, and those who are
treated as least in this world will be
exalted.

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ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



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

Recently Deceased: Peter Leahy, Brian Pattison, Maria Grasso

Anniversary: Maurice Boschetti, Lina Villani, Marita Taverner, Bruno Caré, Dorothy Joyce Keating, Maria Piroli, Renzo Piroli, Marino Saliprandi.

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.

Readers & Commentators Sept 30 and Oct 1, 2023

6pm	B. Lindsay	T. Chandler
8am	K. Hunt	F. Smullen
11am	M. Frizzell	J-M. Mupenda

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 11 at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Wednesday, September 27: Anointing Mass, 11.00am (not October 4)

Wednesday, October 4: Blessing of the St Francis Statue, 11.00am

Sunday, October 8: Sacramental Mass, 11.00am
 Blessing of Animals, 4.00pm

Friday, Saturday & Sunday October 13-15:
 Sacramental Masses, 6.30pm, 6.00pm and 11.00am

Saturday, October 14:
 Public Rosary in the Church gardens, 10.30am

Wednesday, October 18: MPJC, Liturgical Conference, 5.30—8.30pm.



Wednesday, November 1: Anointing Mass, 11.00am

Wednesday, November 8: Bereavement Team Mass, 7.30pm

Food for Faith This week we present a movie called "Fr Stu" - a true story about Fr Stuart Long, an American Priest. The movie stars Mark Wahlberg as Fr Stu, his parents are portrayed by Mel Gibson and Jackie Weaver.

Fr Stu's early life has many difficulties within his family, which dictate how he sees himself and the world. His life takes a strange twist when he is looking to date a young woman from a local Catholic church. After a bad motor bike 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. Fr Stu speaks in an interview about Gods plans and our plans for our life, how different they are. Things happen in this life and we struggle to understand the meaning behind or within them, it is only through faith in a loving God that we can move on and find meaning in the joys and sorrows of life.

The Bad 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>

Charismatic Prayer Group



All are welcome to join us at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre.

Thurs Sept 27
 Thurs Oct 12
 Thurs Oct 26
 Thurs Nov 9
 Thurs Nov 23
 Thurs Dec 14

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)

Let's learn together about the referendum.

Australians are currently engaged in conversation about the Voice referendum to be held on October 14.

Many have said they don't truly understand what the referendum is about.

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) has developed a Catholic resource informed by Catholic Social Justice Teaching (CST) to assist parishioners to engage in meaningful conversation about the referendum.

The conversations will provide the opportunity for participants to learn together and make a more informed decision about the Voice and referendum.

For more information and the date for discussion, please register at the Parish Office on 5821 2633.



Mens Group will be held Saturday September 30, in the MPJC at 7.30am.

New members always welcome.



11.00am—Anointing Mass,
Wednesday September 27
(not October 4).

The Parish Office will be closed Friday September 29 for the AFL public holiday.



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 **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



Let Justice and Peace Flow
Season of Creation 2023

Visiting Marian Statue This weekend a statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be visiting St Brendan's Church. It is traveling throughout the Diocese of Sandhurst in the lead up to the Marian Festival to be celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral on October 15.

This beautiful statue was made in Portugal where the events of Fatima took place. It has in its base, soil from the site of Our Lady's appearance at Fatima and leaves from the tree she appeared over. At Fatima, the Blessed Virgin asked us to entrust ourselves to her Immaculate Heart to obtain peace for the world. You are invited to entrust yourselves, your families and your parish to her Immaculate Heart as this statue makes its way to the Cathedral where we will pray a prayer of consecration for the whole Diocese of Sandhurst.



LITURGICAL PROCESSION AT MASS

A reminder that the Lector and Ministers of Communion are expected to process in at the beginning and out at the end of each weekend Mass with Father.

The order of the procession is as follows;

- Servers,
- Lector,
- Ministers of Communion,
- Priest.

If it helps you to remember the correct order of the procession, please remember that the order of the liturgical procession follows the order of the liturgy.

So, we listen to the Word of God first during the Mass.

Then, we receive Communion.

Therefore, the Lector is always first and the Ministers of Communion come next in the procession.

The same order applies at the beginning and end of Mass.

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.



Trivia Night

BRING YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS ALONG FOR A NIGHT OF GOOD LAUGHS & ENTERTAINMENT. BYO FOOD, DRINKS AT BAR PRICES. ADULT ONLY EVENT.
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1109051>

10 NOV 2023 @ 6:30pm

SHEPPARTON BEARS CLUB ROOMS
SEARCH RESERVE

TICKETS \$25
AVAILABLE SOON




RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTIONS AND LOTS OF FUN TO BE HAD!

After two months serving in the parishes of Rutherglen and Chiltern, Fr Boniface Kamulegeya has now returned to his diocese in Rwanda, where he will take up an appointment as Diocesan Director of Caritas. Fr Boniface brought a generous, warm and outgoing personality to his ministry, though the cold of our winter was quite a shock for him! I thanked him and assured him of our prayers and support for his continuing priestly ministry in Rwanda. +Shane Mackinlay



Marian Festival at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 15th October 2023

Please join us on October 15 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 03 5439 6283.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults


Are you looking to join the Catholic faith? The 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 the 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 58212633 Tuesdays or Thursdays, or e-mail anthony.pastoral@bigpond.com



FREE TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO MIGRATE OR TO STAY




109TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

SUNDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2023

A publication of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office

Congratulations to Fr Gerard Dowling, who earlier this month celebrated 50 years on radio. Fr Gerard can still be heard each Sunday night from 10pm-12am on Radio Sport National (1260AM) or via www.rsn.net.au. Pictured here with Maureen Moore (talkback phone operator) and Fr Jackson at the 50th anniversary show.



"Changing Places" Across Australia, 259 "Changing Places" are available to people who have their own key. These very large toilet facilities allow people with high support needs to access them when required. Within our Diocese we have such facilities in Bendigo, Echuca, Kerang, Shepparton and Yarrawonga. Location information and more details can be found in *Sandpiper eNews this week.*



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

