

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-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

**22 October 2023**

## First Reading Is 45:1-6

*I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I am you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10. R. v.7

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

- 1 O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
- 2 The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens. (R.)
- 3 Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and enter his courts. (R.)
- 4 Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness. (R.)

## Second Reading 1 Thes 1:1-5

*We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.*

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing

you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

## Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:15, 16

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

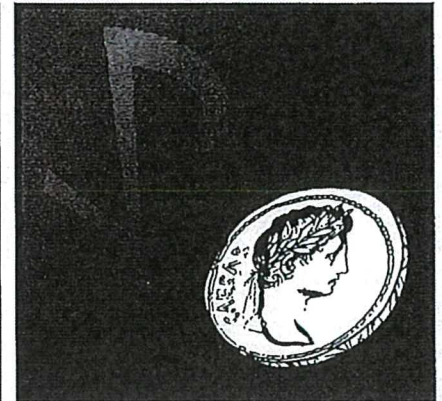
*Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mt 22:15-21

*Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.*

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'



## Reflection by Greg Sunter

The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent 'safe' answer: Is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority – leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome.

Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn't appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees' disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees' disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to God.

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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*

**Recently Deceased:** Des Walker

**Anniversary:** Rosina Caré, Alf Townsend, Domenic Trappani, Angel Trappani, Adrian Smyth, Joan Kelly, Mary Kinna

**Readers & Commentators** October 28 & 29, 2023

6pm	M. Johnson	B. Lindsay
8am	B. Sullivan	L. Billings
11am	E. Christy	S. Pivac

**MacKillop Faith & Light group** are looking for a shop in the CBD to hold their Christmas market. If you know anyone who could help, please contact Denise: 0432 054 003.



**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.

The Celebration Mass for our Sacrament Candidates is on **Wednesday, October 25** at 9:30am.



*October is the month of the Rosary*

**Wednesday, October 25**, morning Mass will start at 9.30am on this day only to celebrate our Sacramental Candidates.

**Melbourne Cup Sweep 2023**

Our annual Parish fundraiser is back. To join in on the fun, tickets are \$2 each—purchase by October 27, 2023.

- A) Place cash in an envelope in the office mail slot with your NAME and PHONE NUMBER **OR**  
 B) Deposit money into the Parish Bank Acc BSB: 083 543, ACC: 483 593 006, REF: Surname-Cup Please then email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au with your NAME and PHONE NUMBER.



Sacred Space is an online resource for prayer and reflection which is made available to us by the Jesuits. Each day there is a short guided reflection on the Gospel, which goes for a few minutes.



This resource is available in 18 different languages including Arabic, English, Chinese, Deutsch, French, Spanish, Gaelic, Italian and Portuguese. Visit the website via [www.sacredspace.com](http://www.sacredspace.com)

**Upcoming Calendar of Events**



**Wednesday, October 25:** Anointing Mass, 11.00am  
**Wednesday, November 1:** All Saints Day Mass, 7am, 9.15am  
**Wednesday, November 8:** Bereavement Mass, 7.30pm  
**Saturday, November 11:** Youth Mass, 6pm

**Anointing Mass, 11.00am, Wednesday October 25**

Each **Thursday, 6pm - 7pm** in the MPJC. All aged 18 - 35 welcome. **YOUNG ADULTS**



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 0412 297 178 or email bingfcj@gmail.com or Lady Price on 0413 804 263. All are welcome.

**Misa de Gallo**



The recent **Liturgical Ministry Seminar** held in the MPJC was well attended. Thank you to the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Team for organising the event.





### 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)

The Parish Bereavement Team invite all parishioners to our annual **Remembrance Mass** to be held at **7.30pm on Wednesday November 8.**

This is an opportunity to remember all our loved ones who have passed away during the last 12 months in particular, or at any time in the past. A light supper will be served in the MPJC after the Mass.



Our **Men's group** will meet on **Saturday October 28** in the MPJC at 7.30am. We welcome Dale Wright, to share some of his experience working with local men, guiding them through difficult times. The group called Talking Straight runs in Shepparton offering a place for men to meet and talk straight about themselves and life. Dale will share some insights to the problems men deal with in today's world, how the group encourages them to reach out to others, seeking friendship with each other. We are so grateful to have Dale share his passion for helping men in the Shepparton area. Any questions please phone Anthony on 5821 2633 on Tuesdays or Thursdays.



**The Italian Remembrance Day Service at the Italian Memorial**, located within the Murchison cemetery, will be held on **Sunday 12 November**, commencing at 11.00am and immediately followed by the celebration of Mass.

After the service we can gather in the Murchison Community Centre or the park near the river for a BYO picnic.

Please come along and support this unique event.

Attendees are advised to bring a chair and lunch if you remaining for the picnic.



**Il pellegrinaggio al sacrario militare di Murchison per la 'Giornata del Ricordo'** quest'anno si terrà **domenica 12 novembre.**

*La funzione inizierà alle 11:00 am, e sarà seguita dalla Santa Messa.*

*Dopo la funzione ci riuniremo per il solito picnic al Murchison Community Centre, o all'aperto nel parco.*

*Vi aspettiamo numerosi a questo unico evento.*

*Ricordate di portare la propria sedia, ed il pranzo se rimarrete per il pomeriggio.*

*Per altre informazioni, telefonate a Maria Gardani Calandro: 0421 568 459, (Corrispondente Consolare per Shepparton e la Goulburn Valley).*

## Youth Mass



A Youth-led Mass will take place on

**Saturday, November 11, at 6pm.**

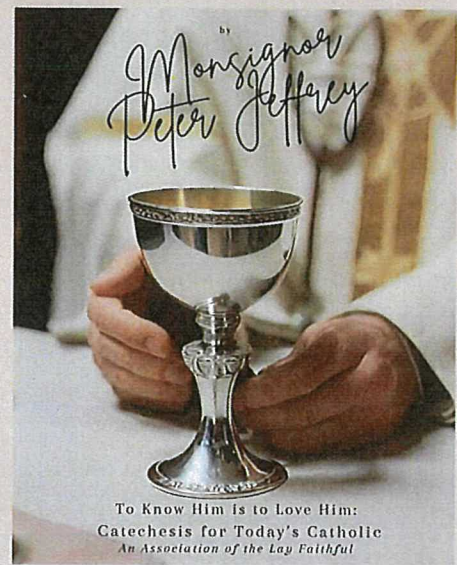
A gathering will be held afterwards for school aged children in the Monsignor Peter Jeffrey Centre.

For details, please contact Brendan Lindsay at the Parish office on 5821 2633.

There will also be a dinner for young adults aged 18-35. This will be held at the Terminus Hotel, please RSVP to Fr Jackson on 5821 2633 or email [jackson.saunders@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:jackson.saunders@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

## LIFE OF A PRIEST

60 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD



**LIFE OF A PRIEST: 60 Years of Priesthood by Monsignor Peter Jeffrey:** Mons Peter will be sharing what priesthood has been like and celebrate faith. There will be time for questions.

A Light evening tea will be shared afterwards.

**When: 7.00pm, Tuesday, October 31, 2023,**

**Where:** Lecture Theatre, University of Melbourne, Shepparton Campus (49 Graham St)

Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/life-of-a-priest-60-years-of-priesthood-by-monsignor-peter-jeffrey-tickets-739277297297?aff=oddtcreator>

Enquiries to Vanessa: 0481 783 400



SCAN ME





### Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Open Day: Saturday October 28, 2023.

Visit the Heritage Centre a building initially purpose built as a place of providence for women on the grounds purchased by Saint Mary MacKillop in 1901.

- ⇒ Museum Tours every hour from 10am. Last tour at 3pm.
- ⇒ Mary's Little Lon Walking Tour, 11am (approx. 1.5 hours)
- ⇒ Visitors welcome 10am-4pm.



The Mary MacKillop Museum will present a selection of museum objects, in particular those which highlight the changes to the Sisters' Habit over time and Mary's canonisation. For some objects it will be the first time they have been on display within the Temporary Gallery.

**Accommodation @MMHC** – When in Melbourne book your next stay at the **Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Accommodation** in the heart of Melbourne - Contact Kate on 9926 9300.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1109051>

**BRING YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS ALONG FOR A NIGHT OF GOOD LAUGHS & ENTERTAINMENT. BYO FOOD. DRINKS AT BAR PRICES. ADULT ONLY EVENT.**

**10 NOV 2023 @ 6:30pm** **SHEPPARTON BEARS CLUB ROOMS** **TICKETS \$25 AVAILABLE SOON**

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



Notre Dame College have advertised a range of leadership roles and a broad range of teaching positions and non-teaching roles. Please encourage friends/acquaintances to look at these exciting roles and apply for them.

They include: Classroom teachers, Human Resources, Gardener, Maintenance and Administration Assistant. There are also up to 12 trainee positions available for 2024. For enquiries please contact our HR Officer by phone ((03) 5822 8400) or email: [employment@notredame.vic.edu.au](mailto:employment@notredame.vic.edu.au)

**FAREWELL FR. PETER**

**All Welcome**

**Sunday, October 29th 11:00am till 2:00pm**

**Where: St Mel's School grounds / Parish Hall. Enter via Hamilton St gates.**

**A BBQ with sausages in bread will be available for all. BYO any other meats to cook, a salad or sweets to share and your own drinks (no alcohol)**

**Some tables & seating will be set up. BYO picnic rug if preferred.**

This year, Pope Francis writes in his Message for **World Mission Day 2023**, "...it should be remembered that breaking our material bread with the hungry in the name of Christ is already a work of Christian mission.

*How much more so is the breaking of the Eucharistic bread, which is Christ himself, a work of mission par excellence, since the Eucharist is the source and summit of the life and mission of the Church".*

It is in this spirit that Catholic Mission invites parishioners in every diocese in Australia to join with us again and support our brothers in sisters in Timor-Leste.



Envelopes will be available in the Narthex and the Piety Store.



**Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco**

We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2024 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia.

Applications close October 31, 2023. For all enquiries - [www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)



**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](mailto:enquiries@eyeshopshepparton.com.au)





# Along the track

## A Timely Message

When Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word," we are introduced to a woman of extraordinary faith.

Days later, Mary's prayer, the "Magnificat" (Luke 1:46-55) didn't come in a blinding flash, a bolt out of the blue. It is not by chance that her prayer contains a number of expressions from the Hebrew scriptures. She had been thinking that way, dreaming and praying that way and wanting us to come to know God's vision where the humble, the poor, the dispossessed will find justice, mercy and love.

His mercy extends to those who fear him,  
from generation to generation.  
He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;  
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.  
He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
but has lifted up the humble.  
He has filled the hungry with good things  
but has sent the rich away empty.

The Magnificat gave voice to a dramatic shift away from the old paradigms of power and oppression. She knew about God's dealings because she had listened to and reflected on the scriptures. Mary's message was born out of reflection on how God's vision was one of equality, where people were not treated differently because of status or race or gender. That's the message Mary passes on to her son.

Her son, Jesus was born into a tough world, a country occupied by a foreign power where political and religious tensions were commonplace, not just between Jew and Gentile but within Judaism as well. He lived among casual day labourers and fishermen, subsistence farmers and the vulnerable, the poor and those ostracised because of the purity laws.

Jesus began his public life on the Day of Atonement (*Yom Kippur*) which coincided that year with the Year of Release or Jubilee Year (Leviticus 25:8-11). Jesus was called upon to read the text for the day:

The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
The Lord has sent me to bind up the broken hearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives  
and release from darkness for the prisoners,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour  
and the day of vengeance of our God,  
to comfort all who mourn, ... (Isaiah 61: 1-2 in Luke  
4:18-19)

Then he simply sat down and said: "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." In other words, this is why I am here.

That didn't lead to an easy life or an easy message. Jesus traversed the land expressing what were considered at the time to be dangerous and heretical ideas. That constantly brought him into contact with the broken, the ostracised and those driven to the edges. In fact, he came to be known as the "man who welcomes sinners and eats with them" (Luke 15: 2). Jesus did not choose his inner circle from the elite but rather he chose fishermen, tax collectors, people of courage and faith. His care of the downtrodden brought him into conflict with the Jewish religious and cultural conventions as well as the authorities who enforced them. The fact that women played a such central role in his circle was very different from the norm. It is clear from the Gospels that they were with him from the beginning of his ministry, witnessed his death and became the first proclaimers of his resurrection.

So what's the message? Mary, Jesus and we can safely assume, Joseph lived that vision daily. Jesus came to know it in action as a child and later in his working life with Joseph. Their example planted the seeds that helped to give birth to his mission, his vision of the Kingdom of God. What sort of message, what sort of vision are we handing on? What sort of message do we live day by day? What does it look like? What sort of future do we want, what are we passing on to our children that helps them understand that? Where do we 'feed' that vision, as it were? From the daily newspaper, from the wider media, by what we hear and see on social media? Who are we listening to? What do our children see in how we act and what we say? Do we seek out ways to see and hear God's action?

Sadly, today there is a tendency to define ourselves by what we are against rather than by what we are for. That's the easier course. To say 'this is what I am for, this is what I think life is about, what the purpose of life is, what God's vision might look like' takes thought, prayer, courage and conviction. We need them all today. Jesus made pretty good use of them too.

Regards  
Jim Quillinan

Email: [jquillinan@dcsi.net.au](mailto:jquillinan@dcsi.net.au)



# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

22 October 2023



**“Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.”**

### Something to Think About

What are your responsibilities? Maybe you have chores to do at home. Maybe you have a job to do in your classroom at school. Maybe one of your responsibilities is to practice a musical instrument or to train for a sporting team. In today's story Jesus reminds us that one of our responsibilities is to have a special friendship with God and with other people.

### The Story

In today's story, the religious leaders are trying to trick Jesus into saying something that would make him unpopular. They ask Jesus whether the people should pay taxes to the Emperor, as the law told them to. If Jesus answered 'No', he would have been reported for treason and probably arrested right away. If he answered 'Yes' then he would have been criticised by the people who believed that God was their only king. Jesus demands a coin and asks whose image is engraved on it. In those days the coins contained the image of the king and were considered to be his property. Jesus says, 'Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.' We live in the world and have responsibilities in the world. We also live in relationship with God and that brings responsibility too.

### The Scriptures

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:15-21**

The Pharisees got together and planned how they could trick Jesus into saying something wrong. They sent some of their followers and some of Herod's followers to say to him, "Teacher, we know that you are honest. You teach the truth about what God wants people to do. And you treat everyone with the same respect, no matter who they are.

Tell us what you think! Should we pay taxes to the Emperor or not?"

Jesus knew their evil thoughts and said,

"Why are you trying to test me? You show-offs!

Let me see one of the coins used for paying taxes."

They brought him a silver coin, and he asked,

"Whose picture and name are on it?"

"The Emperor's," they answered.

Then Jesus told them,

"Give the Emperor what belongs to him

and give God what belongs to God."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Video

Click to watch the video.

[Praise Your Name](#)



## Group Discussion

Invite each person to talk about their relationship with God. How much time in your day do you give to God? How much time do you spend in prayer, or reading bible stories? Are you involved in your parish? How much time do you give to helping others?

## Praying For Others

*Leader:* Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

*Reader 1:* We pray for the leaders of our Church. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 2:* We pray for peace and unity in the world. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 3:* We pray for those who have nobody to care for them. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 4:* We pray for the courage to do what is right. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 5:* We pray that we will grow closer to God. Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.*

**All: Lord hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## Prayer



Dear God,  
You created us in your image and we belong to you. Fill our hearts with praise for all the wonders you have done for us.  
Amen.

### Tricky questions, wise answers

*You will need: paper, pens, pencils, decorative art supplies.*

The religious leaders asked Jesus a difficult question, but they couldn't trick Jesus. He answered wisely and all the people were amazed.

- 1) Think of a tricky question in your own life that you would like to ask Jesus.
- 2) Write or draw your letter to Jesus asking him that tough question. Decorate your page in any way you choose.
- 3) Spend a few moments in quiet prayer at the end, offering all the prayers in your heart to Jesus.





# USING OUR MONEY TO DO GOOD

*If you had some money...*

What would you like to buy?

What would you get for your mum or dad?

How could you help those who have no money?

