



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

"BE STILL AND KNOW I AM GOD..."

18 Hamilton Street, Shepparton 3630
PH 03 58 312 194
Email : sheppartonsouth@cdos.org.au

Parish Priest : Fr Peter Taylor

St Mel's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Solemnity of the Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Sunday 6 June 2021

Readings for
this week:



Exodus 24:3-8
Hebrews 9:11-15
Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

Readings for
next week



Genesis 3:9-15
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Mark 3:20-35



Liturgical Jottings Sacrifice

All the readings and psalm today contain the word sacrifice; albeit with different qualifiers. Exodus: communion sacrifice; Psalm 115: thanksgiving sacrifice; Hebrews: Christ as the perfect sacrifice; and Mark: the Passover lamb sacrificed. In our history, traditions and liturgy we are very familiar with the term "Sacrifice of the Mass" yet an unambiguous definition alludes us. The Old Testament has sacrifices of Abel to Moses, but the prophetic warnings of empty sacrifices. The New Testament attests to the cup of sacrifice and spiritual sacrifices. The history of religion gives five primary elements of sacrifice: homage, expiation, communion, gift and life. In Christ who is the sacrificer (priest) and sacrificed (victim), we enter the mystery of sacrifice in praise and thanksgiving.

Focus on the Readings

For the feast last year we were experiencing the Great Lockdown with church doors closed and public Masses suspended. Many were able to view live-streamed Masses on the internet or recorded Masses on TV. But we could not receive the Eucharist. This deprivation was felt more keenly on Easter and on this Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. Catechumens and young children had their first Communion on a prolonged hold. Now we are back in Church (as I write this) or not if more outbreaks cause other lockdowns. In any case we still cannot receive communion from the chalice: the Blood of Christ.

The Cycle B Readings for this Sunday focus on the second of word in the title: "The Blood of Christ". Reminiscent of the Passover Ritual in Egypt Moses sprinkled the people with blood as a sign and seal of the covenant and means of recognition and identification as God's people. Thus the qualifier that it is a communion sacrifice. The Letter to the Hebrews stresses Christ's sacrifice establishes the new covenant with forgiveness of sins and universal salvation,

The Responsorial Psalm (115) gives a new dimension which is timely today as we offer a thanksgiving sacrifice: a sacrifice of the heart and service, of prayer and works of generosity,

Words of Pope Francis

"Jesus approaches us gently, in the disarming simplicity of the host. He comes as bread broken in order to break open the shells of our selfishness. He gives of himself in order to teach us that only by opening our hearts can we be set free from our interior barriers." *Homily on the Feast of Corpus Christi 2020*

Quote for today

"Jesus is My Great Friend and the Eucharist is My Highway to Heaven." *Blessed Carlo Acutis (died aged 15, beatified 2020)*

Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, Friday 11 June

Devotion to the Sacred Heart and love of Christ promoted by many mystics preceded the feast by 500 years. Today the feast, capturing the imaginations of artists and charity workers, is also the occasion for the "Mass of the Poor".

On the Lighter Side

Harry, Sam and Gabby were going through the pantry getting cans of food to take to the Mass for the Poor. Their mother said in exasperation don't take them, we need them. Harry replied: "Don't worry Mum we'll get them back." Indeed, the very next day they received a box of groceries from St Vincent de Paul Society local conference.

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St Mel's Parish is

"A welcoming and caring community that helps all people grow stronger in our Catholic Faith."

REFLECTION - From Fr Peter

Given where we are across Victoria with the lockdown, our regular gatherings for the Eucharist have been disrupted again. Prior to COVID -19 when our receiving the Eucharist was under the form of bread and wine, this current Pandemic has forced us to see the Eucharist from receiving the host only. We can say the understanding we have of the Body and Blood of Christ has been disrupted. However way the Eucharist has been seen in our lives over the past twelve months, our faith objective is one of seeing this Sacrament of unity as a living source of nourishment through the Body and Blood of Christ.



To get into a mindset of the Body and Blood of Christ we go back to the sources of this identity we absorb into our faith. The Book of Exodus becomes important. The ancient people of Israel sealed their relationship with God in what was known as a covenant relationship. Their identity was realized as a people God has chosen. Blood became a sign of sealing this relationship where the blood of animals became understood as a means of sacrifice and where the Israelite people freed from slavery in Egypt opened themselves to be a new people of unity. This ideal is being more than questioned today given the ongoing conflicts.

From this background we realize our identity as a people open to the unity our faith gives through the Eucharist. This identity giving us a relationship with the one who became The Sacrifice we enact each time we are drawn to the Lord's table. In light of this ... How do we value this Sacrament expressing our lives as the Living Body and Blood of Christ? the encouragement I bring to value is of Jesus who takes, blesses, breaks and gives, his flesh for my and our lives together.

The Body and Blood of Christ humanizes all we are and as a community of faith recognize our moments when we take, receive blessing, feel those moments when we are broken somewhat, and where our giving enables we build the Body and Blood of Christ within each other.

Responsorial Psalm: I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist Preparation is going well for our candidates, parents and families. Thanks to Mel Shiels our co Ordinator for all she is doing in keeping our candidates informed and up to date. Just a point of interest. Extra Masses will be a necessity for our candidates and their families. These Masses which will included a rite of reconciliation for the candidates ONLY will be an important addition to the Liturgy. The dates for these Masses for Confirmation and First Eucharist will be on SUNDAY'S 18TH July, 1st August, 15th August, 29th August. Each Mass beginning at 11am. (9.30 am Sunday Mass still the same!!!) While it's important for parishioners to come, seating will be limited. Fr. Peter

Shepparton Inter – Church Council Is pleased to announce that is resuming its annual Ecumenical celebration held around the celebration of Pentecost each year. This year it will be held at the Uniting Church cnr of Corio and Fryers streets at 5pm on Sunday 13th June. All welcomed. For inquiries contact Frank Purcell

LITURGICAL MUSIC SEMINAR. Australian Catholic University (ACU) in Melbourne are offering a range of topics from liturgical music, and other areas of Church ministry. This is happening in early July and you will need to register. A point of contact is : CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au or email : paul.taylor@catholic.org.au 0400830929. The music seminar is over four consecutive days 5,6,7,8 of July. The contact person is Prof. Clare Johnson at ACU.

Weekday Masses this coming week **7th June to 13th June 2021**



Monday 7th June - No Mass
Tuesday 8th June - 9.15am Gathering Room
Wednesday 9th June- 9.15am Gathering Room
Thursday 10th June– 9.15am Gathering Room
Friday 11th June – 9.15am Gathering Room
Saturday 12th June - 9.00am (50 people)
Sunday 13th June - 9.30am (Zoom/50 ppl) 5pm

READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER - Sunday 13th June 2021

9.30am - Denis Muto (Commentator) Trish Mathisen (L1) Mick Hanlon (L2)
9.30am- Special Ministers: Sev Cortese & Jacqui Avar
5.00pm - Paul Bertoli (Commentator) Theresa Holand (Lector)
5.00pm - Special Ministers : Erin Tanner & Cathy Cannateli

Recently Deceased: Carmen Florence
Anniversaries: Cliff Ash, Geoff Oliver and Jim Stace

Prayer for the Sick: Rosa Calandro