



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

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

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:30am - 3:30pm

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.

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 4 September 2022

Readings for this week:



Wisdom 9:13-18
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

Readings for next Sunday:



Exodus 32:7-11,13-14
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-32



Liturgical Jottings

Anointing of the Sick 1

One of the seven sacraments of the Church is the Anointing of the Sick. The revised rite from the reforms of Second Vatican Council was promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1972 titled: "The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick". The final English edition was prepared by ICEL, approved and published in Australia in December 1982 as the "Pastoral Care of the Sick, Rites of Anointing and Viaticum". The Ritual contains eight chapters providing various liturgies and rites for the sick, namely:

- Visits to the Sick
- Visits to a sick child
- Communion of the Sick
- Anointing of the Sick
- Celebration of Viaticum
- Commendation of the Dying
- Prayers for the Dead
- Rites for Exceptional Circumstances
- And an appendix with the Rite for Reconciliation of Individuals.

Looking at the Readings

We hear "Great Crowds" were accompanying Jesus to Jerusalem. It was a great opportunity to challenge them with the demands of believing and following him. These demands come at a great personal cost. Here is a popular quote from Dietrich Bonhoeffer we may ponder on this Sunday:

"Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a man will gladly go and sell all that he has. It is the pearl of great price to buy which the merchant will sell all his goods. It is the kingly rule of Christ, for whose sake a man will pluck out the eye, which causes him to stumble, it is the call of Jesus Christ at which the disciple leaves his nets and follows Him.

"Costly grace is the Gospel, which must be sought again and again, the gift, which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock.

"Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it costs God the life of His Son: "ye were bought at a price," and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon His Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but deliver Him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God." *D Bonhoeffer, Le prix de la grâce, 1985 Traditions chrétiennes 20.*

Paul's Letter to Philomen

The second reading is the letter from Paul to Philomen in Colossae. It is the shortest of Paul's writings, a personal note rather than a letter, only 25 verses, written while Paul is in captivity in Rome. The purpose was to solve a legal dilemma of a runaway slave but maintaining a Christian response by pleading freedom for the slave.

Prayer of the Earth (part 2)

Fill us with peace, so that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

On the Lighter Side

A bloke walks into a timber yard and orders some 2x4's. The yard assistant asks: "How long do you need them?" "A very long time," he replies, "We're building a house."

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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

A SEASON OF CREATION

The season of Spring has sprung into our lives as we bring a Season of Creation into our experiences. Last Thursday September 1st was international Wattle Day. Wattle is out in abundance and presently reminding us of the golden nature of our environment. Wattle as a plant does bring a way of celebrating creation, giving us renewal in a season of change and life budding anew. This important season goes from Thursday September 1st through to Tuesday October 4th (feast day of St Francis of Assisi patron of creation).



Pope Francis' seven year old encyclical 'Laudato Si' : Care for our Common Home is the blueprint document of our inhabiting our natural world. The health and wellbeing of families, communities, depends so much on the environment in where they exist. The environment is more than changing weather patterns, we in our faith are called to consider our relationship with 'mother earth', others and our faith community.

In 'Laudato Si', Pope Francis says the urgent challenge in protecting our common home is a need to bring the whole human family together in seeking a sustainable and integral development, in knowing our natural world changes and where we find ourselves through this. Pope Francis goes further by saying....'all creation is a kind of universal family and everything - the earth, its flora and fauna, and humanity are interconnected.' Taking this further from the beginning till now, the entire creation, as we know it, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth - Romans 8:22

Here at St. Mel's we are an 'Earth Care Parish'. This is something we are credited for as we take an ecological view through our faith community in living out the hopes of Pope Francis and Laudato Si. My hope through this Season of Creation are about us taking moments of 'hearing the silent voices' of creation and where our thoughts are taken up..."Cry of the earth and a cry of the poor'.



A HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL DAD'S THIS SUNDAY! REMEMBERING ALL OUR DAD'S IN A SPECIAL WAY.

SANDHURST MISSION AND PASTORAL COUNCIL Preparation and Consultation Meetings.

Our gathering last Tuesday saw 16 people across our community convene and seek reflection as to the presence this Diocesan Committee will bring to us and across Sandhurst. Thank you to those who came, and there were many who couldn't come and whose support is recognized. A very positive and reflective evening.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION AND FIRST

EUCCHARIST This Sunday, at Mass to be offered at 11:30am, our friends from Samoa, Cecilia Legalo and Rosemarene Legalo (both often bring forward our gifts in the offertory) are completing their full initiation into our Church here at St Mel's. They have undertaken preparation for this through Rosanna and Ainsley, the girls Auntie's, and have reached this great moment. Our good wishes are with you Rosemarene and Cecilia.

UPCOMING EVENTS / DATES

- . **Happy Hour** is back! This Thursday, September 8th from 5pm in the Parish House Gathering Room. The results of the Parish footy competition will be announced. All are welcome.
- . **Sacramental Commitment Masses** Our candidates for the Sacramental Program will attend either 9:30am or 5pm Mass on Sunday, September 11th, to receive their Steps in Faith booklet –Reconciliation (Penance)
- . **November Remembrance Mass** will be held on Wednesday, November 16th at 7pm, follow by refreshments in the Parish House Gathering Room.

St Mel's Parish would like to acknowledge the elders past and present of the Yorta Yorta Nation, and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our parish and church is situated.



STATUE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES FROM THE CHAPEL

Do you know the origins of this statue? Do any of the Rosary beads belong to you?

Please contact the office and let us know.



CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OUR OFFICE Our email address is changing. As of October 1st this will now be sheppartonsouth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au Please save this to your books.

POPE FRANCIS MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CREATION (an excerpt)

The sweet song of creation invites us to practice an “ecological spirituality” from Laudato Si., attentive to God’s presence in the natural world. To base our spirituality on the “loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion. For followers of Christ, this luminous experience reinforces our awareness that “all things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being” (John 1:3). In this season of creation, we pray once more in the great cathedral of creation, and revel in the “grandiose cosmic choir” made up of countless creatures, all singing the praises of God. Let us join with St Francis of Assisi in singing: “Praise be to you, my Lord, for all your creatures” (refer to canticle of Brother Sun, Sister Moon). Let us join with the psalmist in singing, “Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!” (Psalm 150: 6).

2022 NATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

MELBOURNE, September 4th to 7th

This year the conference is taking the theme of “The Future is Listening”. It is anticipated some 1,300 delegates, including educators, religious, priests, parents, and academics, will gather for the first time in six years. Catholic Schools give Australian families the choice of a high quality, faith based, holistic, and affordable education says Jim Miles, director of Catholic Schools in Melbourne. This conference is expected to cover topics like Catholic identity, mission, leadership and governance, learning and teaching, student wellbeing, and parent engagement.

POPE FRANCIS LAUNCHES NEW CATECHESIS SERIES Based upon a series of spiritual discernment aiming at providing reflections, Pope Francis sees God inviting us to evaluate and choose. For God has created us free and to choose, meaning reason, discernment being demanding. Throughout his papacy, Francis has often spoken about discerning God’s will and listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit in his homilies and speeches.

OCTOBER MARIAN FESTIVAL Is happening in Bendigo at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, on the 16th of October.

The day begins with Mass at 11am and concludes around 3:40pm. See the flyer on our Church notice board in the Narthex for more information including St Brendan’s Parish coach trip.



THE RESULTS ARE IN

The winner, or winners, of our Parish’s AFL footy competition has been declared. Come along to the Parish House Gathering Room for **Happy Hour** (it’s been a while) this Thursday, September 8th from 5pm and hear the announcement of these results.

We are holding our first **ACTIVITIES NIGHT**:

- **Friday 9th September**
- 8 Duncan Court Shepparton.
- 4:30pm to 6:30pm
- Disco followed by a sausage sizzle and toasting marshmallows.



If you are sixteen or over and have either a physical or intellectual disability you are most welcome to attend. The cost is \$5 per person and all participants must be accompanied by a carer /parent.

Come along and join in the fun.

Contact Judy Holland 0408 216210 for more information.

The L'ARCHE committee sincerely thank anyone who helped in any way to make the High Tea such a success on Sunday.

RAFFLE TICKET SALES

The L'ARCHE committee are looking for volunteers who could help with raffle ticket sales during Sept/Oct for the Christmas fundraiser. If you could commit an hour or 2, please contact Denise Crawford on 0432 054 003

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11th 2022

First Reading

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord relented and did not send the evil he had threatened.

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried, "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.'

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.' So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - I will rise and go to my father.

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Christ came to save sinners.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call me into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who does penance.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.'
.....'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week
September 5th to September 11th 2022

Monday 5th September - No Mass
Tuesday 6th September - 9:15am
Wednesday 7th September - 9:15am
Thursday 8th September - 9:15am
Friday 9th September - 9:15am
Saturday 10th September - 9:00am
Sunday 11th September - 9:30am & 5:00pm



READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER
Sunday September 11th 2022

9:30am - Denis Muto (Commentator) Zoe Hamilton (L1)
Melissa Hamilton (L2)
9:30am - Special Ministers: Maree McKenna &
Sarah Maloney
5:00pm - Sr Pam Barlow (Commentator) Dom Poppa (Lector)
5:00pm - Special Ministers: Sr Pam Barlow & Pauline Pettigrew

Recently deceased: Antonino Andronaco (one month mind) and all our deceased Father's

Anniversaries: Nello Tassoni, Vincenzo Campi (10 years), Vincenzao Rocco, Bruno Mamone, Antonio & Cosimo Gallace, Antonio Caupi, Giuseppe Monteleone, Damiano Hanno, Rebecca Kelly