



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

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

18 Hamilton Street, Shepparton 3630
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Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9:30am - 2:30pm
Friday 9:30am - 12:30pm
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.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

23 July 2023

Readings for
this week:



Wisdom 12:13,16-19
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43

Readings for
next Sunday:



1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52



Liturgical Jottings Morning Prayer

The Liturgy of the Hours, also called the Divine Office is the official book of prayers of the church. The daily prayers are set out in "Hours". The two hinges of the day are morning and evening prayer with smaller "hours" completing the day: prayer during the day and night prayer. Also included is the Office of Readings. The morning prayer is also known as "Lauds" from the Latin "Laudate" meaning *Praise* coming from the last three Psalms. It is one of the most ancient Christian rites tracing back to the Apostles. The Prayer is recited at daybreak to give praise to God for the new day and to offer the work of the forthcoming day to the Lord. It consists of several elements: a hymn, a morning psalm, an Old Testament canticle, a psalm of praise, short scripture reading and responsory, the Benedictus (hymn of Zechariah), intercessions, the Lord's Prayer and concluding prayer or Collect. The texts and antiphons are according to the liturgical day, season or feast.

Looking at the Gospel

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope. © Dianne Bergant CSA

Pope Francis on Good & Evil, Wheat and Weeds

The Lord helps us to understand that good and evil cannot be identified with specific areas or human groups: "These are the good, those are the bad". He tells us that the boundary line between good and evil passes through the heart of each of us. Then Jesus teaches us a different way of looking at the field of the world, of observing reality. We are called to learn God's time — which is not our time — and also God's "gaze": thanks to the beneficial influence of uneasy anticipation, what were weeds or seemed to be weeds can become a good product. It is the reality of conversion. It is the prospect of hope!. Sunday Angelus 23 July 2017

Quote of the Day

Because evildoers persevere in their misdeeds, will not God persevere in his patience. *St Augustine. Letter 153*

On the Lighter Side

I took a picture of a wheat field today.
It came out pretty grainy.
A man was arrested while running in a wheat field.
He was charged for going against the grain.

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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

This coming week is a significant one for two of our Sandhurst longest serving priests (active ministry) in Monsignor Peter Jeffrey known to us throughout Shepparton and Mooroopna along with Fr John Ryan (Canberra) a local of our diocese (Yarrawonga) though on different parochial works. Both bring a combined ministry of 120 years of Priesthood. This is some total!!! As each celebrate 60 years of priesthood. We applaud both Mgr. Peter and Fr John in this time of celebration and as they see back over 60 years respectively in particular to the gospel reading for this Sunday of 'gathering the wheat into the barn'.

Any Jubilee in our faith commitments is something worth applause and giving thanks for. In farming terms, gathering the wheat has overtones to our being connected with the harvest. While last week's gospel focused on the seed scattered on paths for producing, Jesus this week from the gospel is strong in saying the smallest of the seeds planted has a potential to carry out a realization of growth reaching its potential.

It's often I see through the words we say which bring people to life when we praise and encourage. Over the years my contact with Mgr. Peter Jeffrey goes back to a time when I began at Corpus Christi College, Clayton in 1982 and Mgr Peter was then rector of the seminary. Mgr Peter was there for my first three years when I remember he was farewelled and went onto bigger fields like Fiji where he was rector for the Pacific Regional Seminary in Suva.

I went there for a holiday, and it was a great catch-up time. More recent times he was in New Zealand where much of his heart still finds a comfort for him. Fr John Ryan I remember seeing some years ago in Canberra, he too is insightful and reflective on the nature of being a priest person is today.

May Mgr. Peter and Fr John enjoy this time as congratulations are given and applause is offered on their healthy and positive images of priesthood lived in today's church

JUBILEE OF PRIESTHOOD Our thoughts are with Monsignor Peter Jeffrey and Fr John Ryan this week (in reflection notes). The Priests, with Bishop Shane gather at Wangaratta this Tuesday for Mass at 11am (St Patrick's Church, Wangaratta) and afterwards for luncheon gathering. Fr Peter

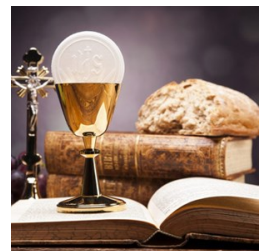
GRANDPARENTS / ELDERLY DAY St Joachim and Anne... The Church throughout the world celebrates World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Francis established this day back in 2021 to coincide with the feast of Sts Joachim and Anne this Wednesday. The theme this year focuses on Mary and her response. "His mercy is from age to age". (Lk 1:50). This theme takes up the gathering of World Youth Day in Lisbon. It takes up the thought of Mary and her haste. Fr Peter

WELCOME TO ST ANNE'S COLLEGE Who gather at St Mel's Church in celebrating the feast day of Sts Joachim and Anne. More particular is the feast day of St Anne, the patron of St. Anne's College. The college community of St Anne's comes to celebrate this day with Mass at St Mel's Christ the King Church at 12pm this Wednesday July 26. A welcome is given to all. Fr Peter



WORLD YOUTH DAY Our pilgrims from across Sandhurst leave this week for W.Y.D. We here at St. Mel's have *ZOE HAMILTON* in our minds and hearts as she takes us with her in this journey of faith and life. May this experience inflame Zoe with love and goodness and all she is open to receiving. God bless Zoe and her travels. Fr Peter

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY
Intention for evangelisation - For a Eucharistic life. We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.



A reminder - Fr Peter will be on annual leave from Monday, July 31 to September 1.

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.

GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER (GSWNS)

“Love your neighbour as you love yourself”: Leviticus 19:18.

GS Combined Churches, who operate **The Meals at the Lake** program, wish to thank all the generous people who have donated clothing, footwear, tents and sleeping bags to guests caught by the recent floods. We are at the halfway mark. Wonderful donors also continue to provide warm, nourishing meals each night.

Contact Maree McKenna if you can offer support- 0409 956 464. Thank you.



CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM Welcome to Luca and Leo Sibilia, children of Nathan and Chiara, who were Baptised into our Parish community at St Mel's last Sunday.

FROM BISHOP SHANE MACKINLAY Last Friday and Saturday in Shepparton, the Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council (SMPC) held its second meeting. Having considered recommendations made by the Council, I am very pleased to announce the following appointments:

Chair of the Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council

Ms Gabby Downie – St Joseph's Parish, Benalla

This initial appointment of SMPC Chair is for a period of 12 months, after which there will be a preliminary review of the role before any further appointment.

Member of the Diocesan Finance Council (from among the SMPC members)

Mr Mick Chalkley – St Therese's Parish, Kennington

This appointment is for a term of up to five years, provided that Mick remains a member of the SMPC during that time.

Participants in the College of Consultors

Mr Brendan Lindsay – St Brendan's Parish, Shepparton

Ms Christine Sebire – St Mary's Parish, Echuca

This appointment is until the conclusion of the term of office of the current College of Consultors on 31 December 2027.

I am very grateful for the willingness of each of these people to serve the needs of the diocese in these various roles, and I look forward to the contribution that they will make over the coming years.

Yours sincerely, *+Shane Mackinlay*



FROM CATHOLIC EARTHCARE AUSTRALIA Our next ***NATIONAL ZOOM GATHERING*** will be on ***TUESDAY 1ST AUGUST 6.00-7.30 AEST***. We'll look back on Laudato Si' Week but also it will be an opportune time to share ideas and resources before the Season of Creation. Zoom link will be sent closer to date.

VOCATIONS WEEK AUGUST 6TH-12TH During Vocations Week we are called to pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. To start vocations week, on Sunday August 6th some of the Sunday Masses in the diocese will be offered for vocations, and Serra Club members will be handing out "31 Club" cards at the conclusion of some Masses in the Bendigo area. Please consider taking a card and committing to pray one day a month for vocations so that parishes can remain open and served by their local priest.

During vocations week, we invite all to join Serra members at St Therese's, Kennington at 9:15am each morning from 7th August to the 11th August for Mass and Adoration for vocations.

Fr Andrew Fewings and Fr Stephen Bolling will conduct the ceremonies.

ST DONATO FEAST DAY – 60TH ANNIVERSARY A mass to celebrate the annual St Donato Feast will be celebrated on Saturday, August 12th, 2023 at 10:00am at Sacred Heart Church Tatura followed by 3 course lunch and entertainment by Rick Brun, Auctions and Raffles at Tatura Italian Social club.

Tickets adults \$60 and youth (5-12) \$25. See flyer in Narthex for more details. RSVP by August 1st to

Nick Lagozzino 0412726481, Pino Lagozzino 0427677943, Joe Gagliardi 0438579989, Mary Zobec 0427190282.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CREATION Is on Friday, September 1st. Sandhurst Diocese will launch the Season of Creation 2023 with Mass at 11am, celebrated by Bishop Shane, at Notley Picnic Area in the Whipstick Forest, Greater Bendigo National Park, followed by a BYO Picnic Lunch. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to come along and celebrate this occasion. Any inquiries can be directed to

kmstone@bigpond.net.au

PRIEST INSERVICE 2023 The annual event this year will be held in Moama from Monday evening, September 4th to Thursday morning, September 7th. Fr Peter will be attending and absent from the office during this time.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY JULY 30th 2023

First Reading A reading from the first book of the Kings

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - Lord, I love your commands.

Second Reading A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord

PLEDGE STATEMENTS 2022 - 2023 These are now available for you to collect from the Narthex. If your details have changed, address, phone number etc., please call or email the office. Thank you.

Weekday Masses this coming week July 24th to July 30th 2023

Monday July 24th - No Mass
Tuesday July 25th - No Mass
Wednesday July 26th - 9:15am
Thursday July 27th - 9:15am
Friday July 28th - 9:15am
Saturday July 29th - 9am
Sunday July 30th - 9:30am & 5pm



READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER Sunday, July 30th 2023

9:30am - Chris Summers (Commentator) Trish Mathisen (L1)
Sev Cortese (L2)
9:30am - Special Ministers: Sr Pam & Pauline Pettigrew
5:00pm - Tim Kelly (Commentator) Helen May (Lector)
5:00pm - Special Ministers: Angie Knez & Lin Waite

Anniversaries: Vincenzo Mamone, Bruno & Salvatore Mamone, Annunziata Cutri, Maria Noto, Rocco & Maria Stella Gagliardi, Giuseppe Demasi, Maria Giuliani

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