



Christ the King Church

# ST MEL'S PARISH

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

18 Hamilton Street, Shepparton 3630  
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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.

## Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 30 October 2022

Readings for this week:



Wisdom 11:23-12:1  
2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2  
Luke 19:1-10

Readings for next Sunday:



2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14  
2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5  
Luke 20:27-38



### Liturgical Jottings Contemplative Prayer

Liturgical prayer and solitary or private are distinctive, but necessarily connected and complementary where one form enriches the other. Solitary prayer may include formal texts eg Hail Mary, Our Father etc but tends to be informal, subjective, intimate, specific, free-flowing, flexible and spontaneous.

Contemplative prayer has become a specific form of personal prayer. The New Testament, Western and Eastern writers and throughout Christian history provide a wealth of insights into contemplative prayer that cannot be covered here. Contemplative prayer brings the person to an awareness of the presence of God and unites God and the contemplative in a sense of finding ones' true self in relation to God. Contemplation may also bring sense of unity with creation and human activity.

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### Looking at the Readings

The change of seasons is always an opportune time to marvel at the magnificence of the natural world of which we are a part. Its colours, its textures, its smells all reflect the limitless imagination of the creator. Perhaps the most marvellous feature of the world is the interconnectedness of all the elements of which it consists. Somehow the spirit of the creator is manifested through each and every aspect of this universe. And we are part of it all. The universe may be as a grain in the balance or a drop of morning dew, but each grain and each drop contains within it the possibilities of the future.

Offering hospitality is a profound social act. When we offer hospitality, we invite another into our world, into our lives. We shift our attention from our own cares and concerns to the needs and comfort of the other. By the act of hospitality we transform strangers into friends and intimates, just as Jesus did with Zacchaeus. The hospitality that Jesus offers dissolves all constraints. Relationships disregard the biased measures of propriety, forging bonds of reconciliation and issuing everyone an invitation to intimacy. The hospitality that Jesus offers recreates the world from one of insider versus outsider to one of universal inclusivity. Sinners become friends, the lost are found, and all are restored to the rightful place as children not merely of Abraham but of God. The creativity of the creator is matched by the compassion of the re-creator. © Dianne Bergant CSA.

### Prayer for the Week

Lord, I am often like Zacchaeus, making huge efforts to catch a glimpse of you, only to find that you are waiting for me, calling me by name, inviting yourself into my heart. Once I am with you, I find happiness in putting things right, ordering my life, finding the springs of generosity and justice that have been stifled by old habits. Sacred Space © 1999-2022 Irish Jesuits

### Quote of the Week

True contemplative prayer is not a psychological trick but a theological grace. It can come to us only as a gift, and not a result of our own clever use of spiritual techniques. *Thomas Merton, Climate of Monastic Prayer*

### On the Lighter Side

A seminarian was asked to give an impromptu homily on Zacchaeus. In three short sentences he said: "First, Zacchaeus was a man of small stature; so am I. Second, Zacchaeus was very much up a tree; so am I. Third, Zacchaeus made haste and came down; so will I."



St Mel's Parish Is...

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

## [REFLECTION FROM FR PETER](#)

Jesus moves through Jericho and into Zacchaeus' life plucking him from his hiding place .... 'up a tree'. Literally its Zacchaeus who is ripe for his own discipleship. Noticing Zacchaeus with the urgency of his call adds to the vitality of the encounter. Despite the goings on with the crowd, Jesus is able to see Zacchaeus and calling him by his name.

Against Zacchaeus' troubled past and reputation Jesus is able to see through this and suggests he receives hospitality from Zacchaeus as a way of moving Zacchaeus beyond his situation. On his way home he publicly professes his financial dealings in front of the crowd, speaking in a present tense, suggesting his determination in giving to the poor and making his restitution to anyone he has defrauded, was not going to be a one off personal enthusiasm, rather an ongoing view over and above the law. This could well fit into a category of many today with financial dealings often exploiting the vulnerable.

The story of Zacchaeus does bring a challenge to our personal belonging through Parish and community, maybe it has something to do with my dealings with others, my personal identity as to my view on wealth? Or is it a me against another?

The other part of this story, is to a personal transformation. It could be to the 'personal tree' I wish to climb in my conscience perhaps? A basic understanding to Zacchaeus is his vulnerability. He brings a degree of reconciliation by recognizing his short comings to his people. Ours is a time of seeing where humanity can rise up and above its own self worth, and where human justice is the ingredient we seek in a church and commercial world for doing out transactions with God's unconditional mercy in our minds.

**COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE 2022** Today will be the last chance to buy a ticket in this raffle. The saying goes, 'you gotta be in it to win it'! Thank you for supporting our Parish and good luck to all those who purchased a ticket... or twenty.



**MONTH OF NOVEMBER** Is a month to remember our loved ones, especially those who have died from our Parish over this past year. This year for all the Sunday Masses in November, and in the bulletin each week, we will have the names displayed of those who you wish to remember. Please send through these names to the Parish office via email or phone, or fill in a *yellow November Masses envelope* (located in the Narthex next to the tap n go machines at the entrance to the Church), and place in the collection plate or drop in the slot next to the office door.

**ALL SAINTS DAY MASS** Tuesday, November 1st at 9:15am.

**ALL SOULS DAY MASS** Wednesday, November 2nd at 9:15am.

**ST MEL'S REMEMBRANCE MASS** Wednesday, November 16th at 7pm.



**POPE FRANCIS INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER** Children Who Suffer; We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION INQUIRY EVENINGS** A reminder these evenings will be held this week and next, on Sunday, October 30th and November 6th at 7pm in the Parish House Gathering Room.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM** Our candidates and their parents/guardians gathered again on Thursday evening, this time at St Anne's College, to complete their preparations in the Steps in Faith program for Reconciliation (penance). This is the first year St Anne's have students included in the program, and their enthusiasm is wonderful. Thank you to Stephen and the staff who volunteered their time to support the candidates, the program and our Parish. The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Thursday, November 10th at 7pm at St Mel's Christ the King Church.

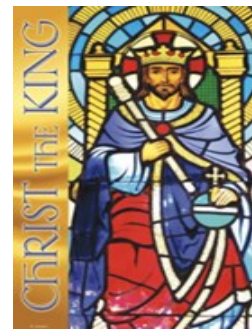


**St Mel's Parish would like to acknowledge the elders past and present of the Yorta Yorta Nation, and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our parish and church is situated.**

## WELCOME BACK FR PETER! WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR TIME AWAY

### CHRIST THE KING CELEBRATION **Count down... 3 weeks to go!**

Our community event, to be held on Sunday, November 20th, is not to be missed. Many things have been organized for the day, including a variety of food and various cultural sharing's of tradition and performances. If you would like to be involved, there is still time. Please email Xavier Tanner: [xaviertanner25@gmail.com](mailto:xaviertanner25@gmail.com) or phone 0409 388 845. Or call the Parish office on 58 312 194. Thank you.



### UPCOMING EVENTS / DATES

- . **AINSLEY ON LEAVE** Until November 24th Ainsley will be away on leave.
- . **CHRISTIAN INITIATION INQUIRY EVENINGS** will be held over two Sunday evenings, October 30th and November 6th at 7pm in the Parish House Gathering Room.
- . **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - RECONCILIATION** The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Thursday, November 10th at 7pm at St Mel's Christ the King Church.
- . **NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE MASS** will be held on Wednesday, November 16th at 7pm.
- . **CHRIST THE KING CELEBRATIONS** Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for a special festive celebration of the feast of *Christ the King* at the St Mel's Parish Hall, commencing at 12 noon.

**THANK YOU** St Mel's Parish for your contribution to World Mission Sunday last week. A total of \$502.40 was collected and will be donated to the Catholic Mission.



**VICTORIAN FLOOD APPEAL** The St Vincent de Paul Society has established a Victorian Flood Appeal. Contributions can be made by:

- . Call 13 18 12
- . visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>.
- . you can make a monetary donation through any one of our Vinnies Shops at point of purchase
- . via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods



**COLLOQUIUM 2022 – POSTPONED** We regret to inform you that the Tenth Bishop Joseph Grech Memorial Colloquium on Ethics and Migration has been postponed to a later date due to floods in central Victoria. We apologise for the inconvenience that this may have caused. In the meantime, we continue praying for those who are affected by the floods.

**SANDHURST WORLD YOUTH DAY - CANCELLED** the previously advertised Sandhurst World Youth Day event on November 19th in Wangaratta has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. I apologise for the confusion this may cause and hope to have a more positive update to you soon on further youth ministry plans including the young adults pilgrimage to World Youth Day Lisbon next year. Ruth Lawlor, Coordinator of Youth Ministry Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst.



Poppies: extracted from WW1, Ashton Comisso, Yr 5, St Mary's PS Moorooopna

### OFFICIAL OPENING AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

Friday 11 November 2022 Remembrance Day  | 6pm-8pm

Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/BXFWG](http://www.trybooking.com/BXFWG) or scan QR code

Livestream: [links.powerav.com.au/cjy](http://links.powerav.com.au/cjy)

Open for Viewing 11-27 November 2022 | Open Wed-Sat 10am-4pm  
Sacred Heart Cathedral Bendigo

Online from Monday 14 November 2022  
[www.ceosand.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ceosand.catholic.edu.au)

Vote for People's Choice Awards  
until Sunday 27 November 2022

Enquiries Claire Spinelli E: [cspinelli@ceosand.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cspinelli@ceosand.catholic.edu.au) | M: 0407 721 088



**CHANGE OF OFFICE HOURS** From Tuesday, October 11th to Friday, November 25th the Parish office will close Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays at 2:30pm and Fridays at 12:30pm.

**The Parish office will be closed Tuesday, November 1st  
for the Melbourne Cup public holiday.**

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6th 2022

### First Reading

*A reading from the second book of Maccabees*

*The king of the world will receive us into life eternal at the resurrection.*

There were seven brothers who were arrested with their mother. The king tried to force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law forbids, by torturing them with whips and scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman for the others, said, 'What are you trying to find out from us? We are prepared to die rather than break the Law of our ancestors.'

With his last breath the second brother exclaimed, 'Inhuman fiend, you may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up, since it is for his laws that we die, to live again for ever.'

After him, they amused themselves with the third, who on being asked for his tongue promptly thrust it out and held out his hands, with these honourable words, 'It was heaven that gave me these limbs; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again.' The king and his attendants were astounded at the young man's courage and his utter indifference to suffering.

When this one was dead they subjected the fourth to the same savage torture. When he neared his end he cried, 'Ours is the better choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet relying on God's promise that we shall be raised up by him; whereas for you there can be no resurrection, no new life.'

**The Word of the Lord**

**Responsorial Psalm - Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.**

### Second Reading

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians*

*May the Lord strengthen you in everything good that you do or say.*

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who has given us his love and, through his grace, such inexhaustible comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and strengthen you in everything good that you do or say. Finally, brothers, pray for us; pray that the Lord's message may spread quickly, and be received with honour as it was among you; and pray that we may be preserved from the interference of bigoted and evil people, for faith is not given to everyone. But the Lord is faithful, and he will give you strength and guard you from the evil one, and we, in the Lord, have every confidence that you are doing and will go on doing all that we tell you. May the Lord turn your hearts towards the love of God and the fortitude of Christ.

**The Word of the Lord**

### Gospel

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

*He is not a God of the dead but of the living.*

Some Sadducees – those who say that there is no resurrection – approached Jesus and they put this question to him, 'Master, we have it from Moses in writing, that if a man's married brother dies childless, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Well, then, there were seven brothers. The first, having married a wife, died childless. The second and then the third married the widow. And the same with all seven, they died leaving no children. Finally the woman herself died. Now, at the resurrection, to which of them will she be wife since she had been married to all seven?'

Jesus replied, 'The children of this world take wives and husbands, but those who are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection they are sons of God. And Moses himself implies that the dead rise again, in the passage about the bush where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all men are in fact alive.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Weekday Masses this coming week**  
**October 31st to November 6th 2022**

**Monday October 31st - No Mass**  
**Tuesday November 1st - 9:15am All Saints**  
**Wednesday November 2nd - 9:15am All Souls**  
**Thursday November 3rd - 9:15am**  
**Friday November 4th - 9:15am**  
**Saturday November 5th - 9:00am**  
**Sunday November 6th - 9:30am & 5:00pm**

**READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER**  
**Sunday, November 6th 2022**

**9:30am - Denis Muto (Commentator) Trish Mathisen (L1)**  
**Chris Summers (L2)**  
**9:30am - Special Ministers: Sev Cortese & Maree McKenna**  
**5:00pm - Paul Bertoli (Commentator) Dom Poppa (Lector)**  
**5:00pm - Special Ministers: Pauline Pettigrew & Sarah Maloney**

**Anniversaries:** Nunziata Sabilia, Margorie Breen, Glenda & Emma Hueston, Vincenzo Campi, Francesco Tassone, Angelo Michielin