

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.

**Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A**

**7 May 2023**

## First Reading Acts 6:1-7

*They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Phillip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v.22**

*(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.*

*or*

*(R.) Alleluia.*

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. *(R.)*
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. *(R.)*
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. *(R.)*

## Second Reading 1 Pt 2:4-9

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

## Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:6

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the way, the truth, and the life, says  
the Lord;*

*no one comes to the Father, except  
through me.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Jn 14:1-12

*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

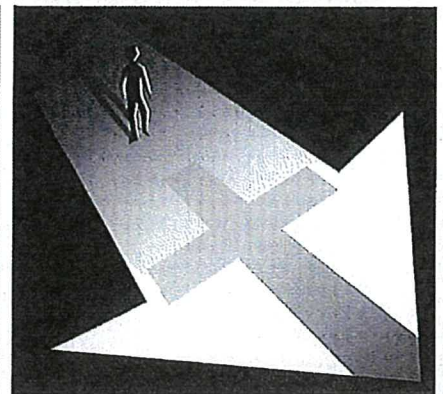
'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Phillip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Phillip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?'

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

It is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'



## Reflection by Greg Sunter

The gospel readings for this week and next week shift the focus away from the resurrection and begin to set us up for the departure of Jesus from the earth – the Ascension – and the sending of the Holy Spirit – the Pentecost event.

Today's gospel passage comes from the very long Last Supper discourse in the gospel of John. When Jesus speaks about 'going away' for a time it could be interpreted as the period of his death and rising that are about to occur in the chronology of the story. However, the gospel of John is written a very long time after the death of Jesus; perhaps as much as 70 years after Jesus. Given this period of time between the events and the writing, we know that the writer was also referring to this longer time of Jesus 'going away'. By the time of the writing of this gospel the early Christians were starting to come to terms with the fact that Jesus probably wasn't going to return in their lifetime. They had seen the devastating destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple by the Romans in 70CE which they thought had signalled the end of all time. However, here they were, still alive and still no sign of Jesus' return.

The theme of being present and being absent is very strong in this gospel. The discussion about Jesus and the Father being one is part of this theme. Jesus is God present in the world. God has come to dwell among the people. When Jesus speaks of preparing rooms in the Father's house, it is a reference to preparing the disciples to 'live' in God; to dwell in God just as God has dwelt in the people.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from The Psalms, A New Translation, ©1983 by The Guild, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyrighted 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. © 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

# 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:** Len Chalkley (father of Peter Chalkley), Margaret Myers.

**Anniversary:** Terry McManus

**Readers & Commentators** May 13 & 14, 2023

6pm	Sr. Bing	C. Villani
8am	D. Teitzel	P. Stein
11am	P. Chalkley	P. Crane

**Mass Attendance Counts 2023**

The Annual count is important for our pastoral planning activities and allows comparisons to be made across the years. Across Australia, these statistics will be collected over four consecutive weeks, commencing this Saturday May 6, 2023.

Thank you to all who contributed during April to the \$1,120 collected through Tap-N-Go



This Thursday, May 11— We will go out for dinner after our usual meeting in the Parish Centre from 6-7pm. All aged 18-40 are welcome to join us.



**YOUNG ADULTS**

**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.

**ST BRENDAN'S YOUTH MINISTRY**

Social Basketball (for high school students) which is usually held every Friday at Mercy Stadium will change to **TUESDAYS** during Term 2.

Gold Coin Donation.

All enquiries to Alan Collier on 0448 877 460.



**AFL Tipping update:** In our Parish comp, Clare Coppinger has a clear lead with some brilliant tipping scores in the early rounds.

After Round 7 Clare sits on 48, three clear of her dad Brian on 45. Father Jackson has tipped 40 winners, whilst Father Joe is a further two behind on 38.

The winner at the end of the year will pocket the first prize of \$265.



**From Diagnosis to OAM plus a Sibling's Perspective. Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 6.30pm—9.30pm.** (3 hour seminar including question time, doors open 6pm)

**Venue:** Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre, (behind St Brendan's Church), 121 Knight St, Shepparton  
**Tickets (\*Includes \$0.50 booking fee for online bookings)**

People with Autism, family & carers \$30.50\*  
 Professionals, Teachers/Caseworkers/Therapists – incl. CPD cert. \$75.50\*

[trybooking.com/CHUOJ](http://trybooking.com/CHUOJ) (or scan QR code)

**Contact:** e: admin@speakinginsights.com.au  
 w: speakinginsights.com.au

EDUCATORS – Educators can claim 3 hours of Professional Development.



**40 Musical Years!**

This Sunday May 7, Dale Wright will celebrate 40 years as our organist.

Fr Dennis Cramer, who 'co-opted' him, will be the main celebrant at our 11.00am Mass to

celebrate this great occasion. Heartfelt thanks to Dale from all at St Brendan's Parish.

**Ad Multos Annos!**

**OUR SICK:** Prayers please for all of our sick and especially for Fr Steve Bohan and Fr Brian Carey.



*May is the month of Our Blessed Mother Mary*

### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & **11am** **PRAYING (w) 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)

Our **Men's group** will meet on Saturday, May 13 at 7.30am in the Parish centre. We gather as a group of men to share stories from our lives, what's important to us, our challenges, joys and sorrows. God longs to be involved in all these parts of our lives. He seeks to help us grow in understanding of him. He longs to comfort us when life becomes difficult. As we share our stories we share our openness to God's desire for our happiness. Please call Anthony 5821 2633 if you have any questions.



This week's **FOOD FOR FAITH** is inviting us to look at our conversations, how we support and behave when we know of



someone who has received a difficult health diagnosis. We are often left wondering what we can do when we hear of someone close who has had some bad news concerning their health. We can take a couple of different courses of action, one is to shy away from the person because we feel uncomfortable, the other is to dive in and smother the person with offers of help. This clip gives some easy to understand advice on what a healthy environment around the person may look like. It is from the Milford Care Centre in Ireland, and is titled "Bills story", from the Let's Talk series.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tJGaWjRZk>

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME 2023 – 2026 SIGN-UP SUNDAY



Thank you to our GUEST SPEAKERS [Julie Kelly, Brendan Lindsay and Peter Fitzpatrick] who over the past 2 weekends promoted our Programme very well.

Thank you also to those who have submitted a PLANNED GIVING PLEDGE CARD. We would like to receive many more NEW PLEDGES so please, call the office to discuss how you can help the Parish financially.

All our Direct Debit and Credit Card pledge increases will commence in June 2023.

Those still requesting to receive ENVELOPES – these will be available for collection mid May in readiness to be used the first weekend in June (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> June).

Remember if you want to contribute via our TAP n GO system – you can find the Terminals in the Narthex or in the Piety Store.



Please feel free to call the parish office between 9am and 2pm Monday to Friday to discuss planned giving.

## We are recruiting new Altar Servers!

If you are in Year 3 or above and have received the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Reconciliation, St Brendan's Catholic Church would like to invite you to become an Altar Server.

A wonderful opportunity exists for any interested applicants to join a very special Ministry of Altar Serving.



If you are interested or have any questions about Altar Serving, **PLEASE CONTACT the PARISH OFFICE** on 5821 2633 to leave your **name** and **contact phone number** for us to call.

## Laudato Si' Week (16-24 May)

is a celebration of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* and a call to action for Catholics around the world to care for our common home.



Some suggested actions:

- Pray for Pope Francis in his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Pontiff, remembering each time he exhorted us to care for our common home.
- Collect five or more things you no longer need and gift them to a friend or organization that distributes to the needy.
- "Live simply so that others can simply live." Reflect with chapter 6 of *Laudato Si'* (copies available in the Church library).
- Volunteer an hour or longer on the Bush Revival Day, Wednesday, May 17, from 10:00am - 3 pm at Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative, the Education Centre, Rumbalara Road, Mooroopna. Come along and help the children plant some trees. If you plan to attend, please contact Ali White, River Connect Project Officer on 5832 9714. All equipment will be provided.

## Sandhurst Scripture Talks 2023

Acts of the Apostles: Making Decisions with the Holy Spirit

Online via Zoom, 7.00pm, Tuesday 9, 16 and 23 May.

These talks are free but you must register to attend.

These talks are eligible for maintaining accreditation for teachers in Catholic Schools.

<https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/2430-sandhurst-scripture-talks-2023>



## Mary of the Cross Exhibition:

Open: April - June 2023; Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm.

**Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre (MMHC)**

**Open day: Saturday 13 May 2023** which will occur as part of the Australian Heritage Festival

**Accommodation @MMHC** – When in Melbourne, book your

next stay at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre - Accommodation in the heart of Melbourne.

9926 9300 | [www.mmhc.org.au](http://www.mmhc.org.au) | 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne | [admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au](mailto:admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au)



GREATER SHEPPARTON

Greater Shepparton's

## Heritage Open Days 2023

**FREE event! All welcome.**

- 40 places open for free across the municipality
- Bus tours, walks, talks and visits
- Come and enjoy our heritage. Visit interesting, historic locations – some have never been opened to the public before and many are rarely on view.



Bookings are required for some places and tours.  
Pick up your booklet to see what's open.  
For bookings and more information, visit [www.greatershepparton.com.au](http://www.greatershepparton.com.au) or call 5832 9730.  
Booklets available at Council, libraries, community centres and elsewhere.

Proudly brought to you by the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee and supported by Greater Shepparton City Council.

Friday 12  
& Saturday  
13 May  
2023



**Brisbane: 21-24 Sept 2023**

St Laurence's College.

**Sydney: 28 Sept - 1 Oct 2023,**

Broken Bay Cathedral

Precinct, Waitara

Ignite Conference is an event of Ignite Youth, a national Catholic youth ministry of Emmanuel Community in Brisbane.

[igniteconference.com.au](http://igniteconference.com.au)

[hello@igniteyouth.com](mailto:hello@igniteyouth.com)

(07) 3217 5199

### SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Kids, High Schoolers, Young Adults and Deeper sessions for 25+

Hosted in and supported by Archdiocese of Brisbane and

Diocese of Broken Bay



# PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

## SUNDAY LITURGY



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**7 May 2023 - Year A**

***"I am the way, the truth  
and the life."***

### **Something to Think About**

Think of all the signs you see around you each day on the road or on buildings and shops. Can you think of some signs that don't have words, yet you still know what they mean?

### **The Story**

In today's gospel story, Jesus tells his disciples not to be worried because he is going to prepare a place for them in his Father's house. There is plenty of room in the kingdom for everyone! All we need to do is to follow Jesus, for he is the way, the truth and the life.

### **The Scriptures**

**A reading from the holy gospel according to John**

**14:1-12**

Jesus said to his disciples,

"Don't be worried! Have faith in God and have faith in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house. I wouldn't tell you this, unless it was true. I am going there to prepare a place for each of you. After I have done this, I will come back and take you with me. Then we will be together. You know the way to where I am going."

Thomas said, "Lord, we don't even know where you are going! How can we know the way?"

"I am the way, the truth, and the life!" Jesus answered.

"Without me, no one can go to the Father. If you had known me, you would have known the Father. But from now on, you do know him, and you have seen him."

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need."

Jesus replied:

"Philip, I have been with you for a long time. Don't you know who I am? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. How can you ask me to show you the Father? Don't you believe that I am one with the Father and that the Father is one with me?"

What I say is not said on my own. The Father who lives in me does these things. Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. Or else have faith in me simply because of the things I do.

I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father."

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

### **Video**

Click to watch the video: [I am the way, the truth and the life.](#)

## Group Discussion

What did Jesus mean when he said I am the WAY? How do we know what is 'the WAY' to Jesus? (kindness to others, forgiving others, helping out without being asked, being the first to say sorry)  
What did Jesus mean when he said 'I am the TRUTH'? What signs show us the TRUTH? (acting in a loving way, being honest, believing that God is a loving God)  
What did Jesus mean when he said 'I am the LIFE'? What do we mean by life? Aren't we all alive?  
What does it mean to be fully alive?

## Praying For Others

*Leader:* Trusting in God's way and truth, we pray for the needs of the world.

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

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

*Reader 2:* We pray that we will always follow Jesus. Lord, hear us.

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

*Reader 3:* We pray that we will always trust that Jesus is with us. Lord, hear us.

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

*Reader 4:* We pray that we will come to know God through the people we meet. Lord, hear us.

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

*Reader 5:* We pray that we will live our lives to the full. 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 our prayers in the name of the risen Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## Prayer



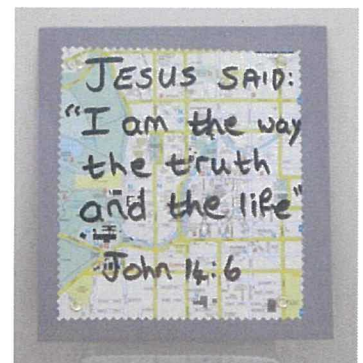
Lord Jesus,  
Thank you for showing us the way  
we should live. Help us to stay close  
to you in prayer.  
Amen.

## Group Activity

### Jesus is our Map

*You will need: coloured map (printed from internet or an old book of maps), coloured cardboard to stick map onto and provide a frame, printed scripture verse, glue, scissors.*

- 1) Ask children to glue the map onto the coloured cardboard.
- 2) Spend time talking about how a map works and shows us which way to go.
- 3) Glue on the scripture verse. Older children may like to write the words instead with a marker pen.



**Jesus said,  
“I am the way,  
the truth  
and the life.”**

**John 14:6**

**Jesus said,  
“I am the way,  
the truth  
and the life.”**

**John 14:6**

**Jesus said,  
“I am the way,  
the truth  
and the life.”**

**John 14:6**

**Jesus said,  
“I am the way,  
the truth  
and the life.”**

**John 14:6**

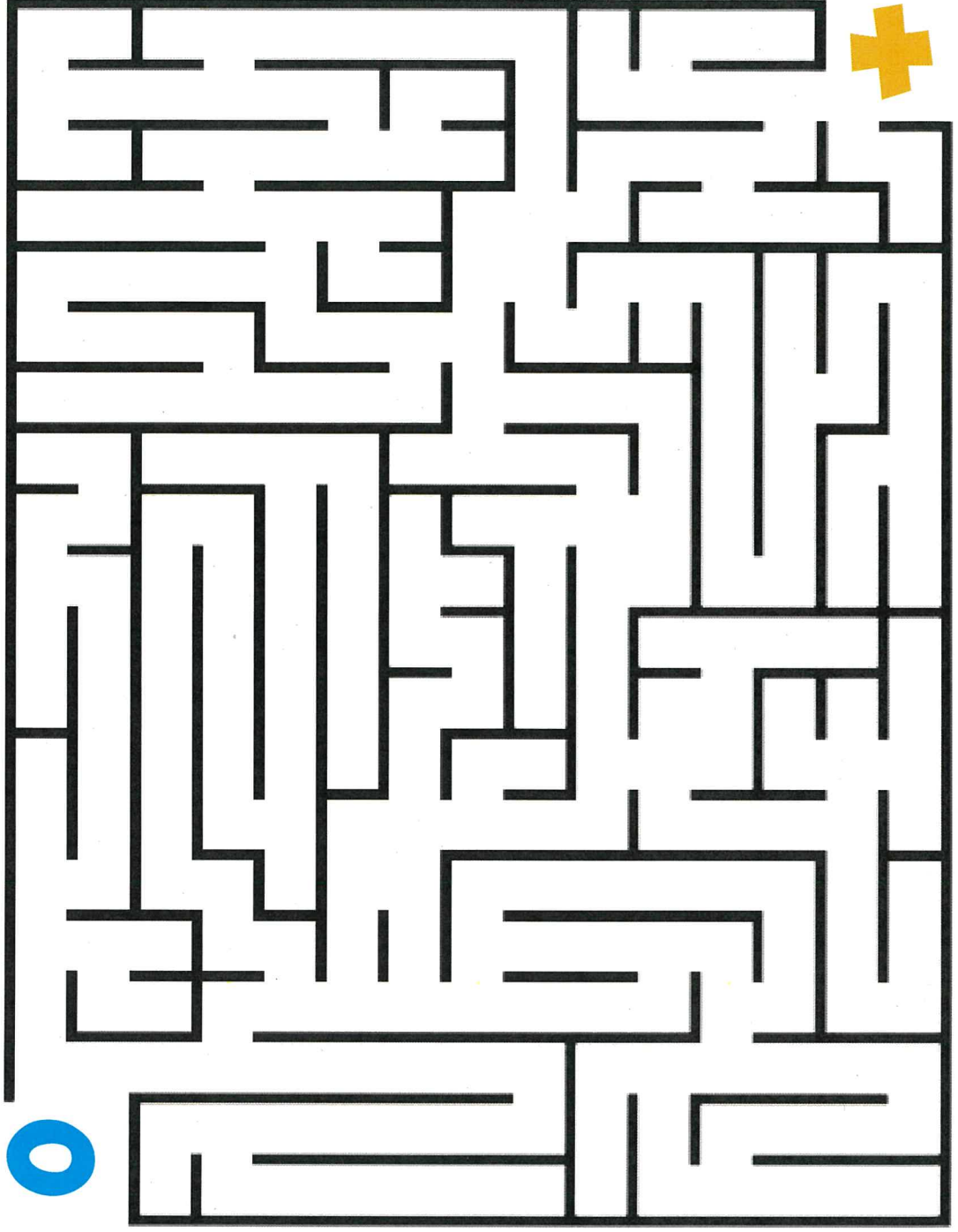


**WITH A  
SATNAV  
IN THE CAR,  
IT IS NOT HARD  
TO FIND THE  
WAY**

FIND THE WAY FROM  
JESUS **+** TO GOD **O**

**THE DISCIPLES ASKED JESUS HOW TO GET TO GOD.  
AND JESUS TOLD THEM: IT'S EASY!**

**I AM THE WAY**





Welcome to the Summer/Autumn edition of 'Providence Lane', Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre's quarterly newsletter. Mary MacKillop established us as a house of providence and, as the audio in Mary's Room states, "all people are welcome here as in Mary's time." We hope our newsletter reflects that ongoing welcome.

### COLLOQUIUM 'Mary MacKillop - Daughter of Melbourne'



#### "Truly wonderful are the ways of God" MM 1873

150 years after Mary MacKillop wrote these words, there is still as much meaning to be gained from them, in 2023, as when they were first read by her Sisters in 1873.

The first 2023 Colloquium gave us many and varied opportunities to learn about the 'wonderful ways of God' from our Josephite Sisters and MMHC colleagues. We were provided with erudite and engaging presentations that taught us about the spirit of the congregation, about the qualities of Mary MacKillop and about humility.

We were privileged to learn the wisdom of the Sisters' history which has been passed down to us through their lives and works especially in the context of the work of MacKillop Family Services. Participants were privileged to hear about the ministry of Sr Cath and Sr Mary as mothercraft nurses. The presentation hit the heart strings and was well received. With gratitude Cath and Mary for sharing your many wonderful years of ministry to people in community.

We were privileged to learn about the inspiration from Julian Tenison Woods and Mary MacKillop. We were even able to walk in the footsteps of Mary in learning about her work in 'Little Lon'. We were then inspired to take this learning and apply it to our own workplaces and return to the essence of the Josephite Charism. We were inspired to take time for reflection "to look back a little and see what our good God has done for us" (MM 1880) with encouragement "wherever we are, whoever we are, whatever we do we are called to relieve suffering and bring hope." (MM)



Selina (MMHC Museum Project Officer) and Ted receiving the quilt from Mary Davies a friend of Thelma who was unable to be present.

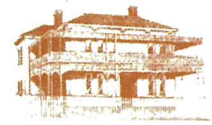


#### BY MARY'S HAND Hand stitched Organ quilt cover from Anglican Church Penola linked to Saint Mary

This organ cover was presented to the Mary MacKillop Museum in October 2022 by Thelma Lucas a descendant of the Sharma family.

The organ cover was quilted for the Anglican Church in Penola by her great Grandfather, a former boot maker in Penola and Caretaker of the Anglican Church and includes detailed embroidery and tating. The Grandfather lived in Sharma cottage located in Petticoat Lane Penola, adjacent to Mary and Julian's schoolhouse. Mary would visit Sharma cottage to participate with the sewing group, likely the makers of this quilt.

# Providence La



Mary MacKillop  
HERITAGE CENTRE

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Newsletter No.7

## MADDIES EMBELLISHED GARDEN...from Trash to Art

Staff, sisters, volunteers and friends of MMHC caught up at Maddie's Garden on Sunday 2 April .

Maddie and Norm Willingham have welcomed and inspired many visitors over the years with their collection of quirky and interesting things from the roadside, transformed into creative garden-scapes. Where you can follow the various pathways to discover umpteen "rooms" each with a different theme and colour. Apart from a smattering of artwork, almost the entire garden is made up of found and recycled objects.

Devonshire teas were available along with hand-crafted goods and all proceeds go the Mary MacKillop East Timor Mission.



## TERM ONE VISITORS

During Term 1 MMHC welcomed staff from Edmund Rice Education Australia and St Vincent's Hospital and pilgrims on Getaway Trekking Camino tours. CECV accredited education programs were delivered to staff of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Sunbury; St Mary of the Cross Point Cook; St Thomas Aquinas Norlane; and St Anthonys Noble Park. MMHC welcomed and provided educational programs to students from St Paul's Sunshine West; MacKillop Werribee; Oliver Plunkett Pascoe Vale; Mt Lilydale College; St Theresa's Albion; St Raphael's Catholic School Preston West; St Leo the Great Altona North; Mount St Joseph Altona North; Xavier College Kew; and Genazzano College Kew.

## STAFF FORMATION DAYS

Continuing to walk in the footsteps of Mary MacKillop, the first term saw the staff from four Primary Schools choose to hold their Staff Faith Formation Days at the Centre, being ably led by members and volunteers of the Education team. Here are some of their comments :

- Not only a journey of finding out more about St Mary Mackillop but a journey of self-discovery and purpose.
- I loved being together as a school community and listening to the wonderful work MM achieved.
- It was amazing to be immersed into the life of Mary through the walks and on seeing the landmarks. The building in Albert St, the museum, the stories we reflected on.
- I loved learning about Mary's mission in Melbourne and the lengths she went to protect and educate those who she came in contact with.

**MARY MACKILLOP**  
*today*  
**AUCTION & DINNER**

*WHEN*  
**Friday 18th August 2023**  
Commences 6.30pm

*WHERE*  
Mount St Joseph Girls' College  
133 Maidstone St, Altona

*COST*  
\$50.00pp (BYO drinks)

*TICKETS*  
Call MMHC (03) 9926 9300  
RSVP Friday 11th August 2023




## CHRISTMAS

At our Christmas gathering last year, we farewelled Anmaree, and acknowledged in their absence Eileen, Audrey, Veronica and Margaret for their many wonderful contributions. Anmaree in particular over her 12 years at MMHC has had a significant influence in the development of the culture and education programs at MMHC. We have been blessed to have a person of her organisational skills, knowledge and passion. To quote my predecessor Garry McLean, Anmaree's "Little Lon visits to the Gin Distillery will be etched into the history of the Madam Brussel's precinct".



## A BELATED FAREWELL



Sickness, COVID and other circumstances foiled our efforts to farewell a retiring staff member and two long term volunteers at the Christmas function last year.

On Monday 3 April present staff and volunteers were able to gather for a farewell and celebratory thank you morning tea.

Eileen White, retired after a long commitment to Catholic education, and five years in the education role at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, bringing to her role a range of new ideas which engaged both staff and students.

Sr Audrey and Sr Veronica were long term volunteers.

Sr Veronica guiding student groups through the museum over many years, with Sr Audrey's particular interest being the gift shop and working with the pilgrimage groups.

We will miss their skills, encouragement and involvement, and wish them every blessing.

## NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE —IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY

We once again welcomed the National Pilgrimage to the Heritage Centre since 2019 Covid restrictions enforced a 3 year hiatus. It was exciting to prepare again for what has been an annual event for many years. This is a unique opportunity for pilgrims to enter more deeply into Mary MacKillop's and Fr Julian Tenison Wood's stories and spirituality and to appreciate Mary's role as our first canonised Australian Saint. Sr Jose, one of the pilgrims was farewelled by Sr Betty from MMHC.





Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Newsletter No.7

**OPEN DAY NOVEMBER 2022**

Thank to all for your support of Open Day where we had around 50 people attend the day; there was such a lovely feel.

The feedback on the talk about Julian Tenison Woods by Eileen was very well received, as was the walking tours led by Aarti, Jane, Anmaree, Anna, Rosy & Patricia and the mass and blessings by Fr Jackson. Thank you Betty, Rita and Anna for your contributions to the mass and those who worked in hospitality led by Clare and Jan. Kartika, in her first outing as a MMHC volunteer, did a fantastic job in being the official photographer with some photos attached. As always thank you Audrey and Debbie for your tireless work in the gift shop.

There will be three [Open Days](#) held in 2023 with the days aligning to other key events within Melbourne and we welcome your ongoing support:

**Saturday 13 May** - Australian Heritage Festival

**Saturday 29 July** – Open House Melbourne

**Saturday 28 October** - Victorian Seniors Festival



**TEMPORARY GALLERY EXHIBITION—‘ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP’**

This exhibition explores the significance of the Cross in Mary’s life. Visitors will be able to view objects from the museum’s collection of Josephite emblems and crosses, while activity sheets will be available for students to enjoy. The *Mary of the Cross* Exhibition will be held April - June 2023; Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm.



**MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE SELF-GUIDED MUSEUM AUDIO TOUR**

We are excited to announce the launch of a new Audio Tour developed by Selina Wilmott Museum Project Officer. Listen to the tour which can be accessed from the MMHC Website from the comfort of your home or during a site visit using your own device and earphones. Director Ted Javernik and Sister Patricia Williams guide you through the different gallery spaces and exhibition highlights.

Access the Audio Tour here: <https://www.mmhc.org.au/museum/audio-tour/>



**Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre**  
362 Albert Street  
East Melbourne VIC 3002  
Tel : 03 9926 9300  
[admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au](mailto:admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au)

# Along the track

## Returning to Galilee

There is a very appealing post resurrection scene described in John's Gospel by the Sea of Galilee where the disciples were about to moor after a fruitless night of fishing. They were not too happy! When they got to the shore, they found Jesus making breakfast for them—fish cooking over a charcoal fire, and some bread. "Bring some of the fish you've just caught," Jesus said. It sounds like it was a familiar sight to them from the years they spent together. They had been told to go to Galilee in the message to the women who came to the empty tomb: "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." Mtt 28:10

That was not surprising. Not only is Galilee a beautiful place, it had an emotional attachment as well. Jesus and his disciples had spent a lot of time there, Jesus called many of them to follow him in Galilee and much of their formation as followers of his vision took place there. They were changed there in mind and heart. It was most likely the place where they felt least 'afraid'.

In the words of Fr Ronald Rolheiser: *In the gospels, Galilee is not simply a geographical location, a place on a map. It is first of all a place in the heart. As well, Galilee refers to the dream and to the road of discipleship that the disciples once walked with Jesus and to that place and time when their hearts most burned with hope and enthusiasm. And now, after the crucifixion, just when they feel that the dream is dead, that their faith is only fantasy, they are told to go back to the place where it all began: "Go back to Galilee. He will meet you there!"*

And so they went back to Galilee and, in their grief, their disappointment, their lost hopes, they go back to the place they loved, to where their hearts were afire, to what they knew, back to their boats and fishing. They went back to where it all began. It is natural to keep busy in the bad times, when grief comes or disappointments or failures. It's the way we work through it. And there it is that Jesus is waiting for them. Cooking breakfast!

During his Easter homily a couple of years ago, Pope Francis asked us all 'to return to Galilee', to return to where we first experienced the call to

follow Jesus, to where God's grace first touched us. That Galilee does not have to be a place; it could be an event, a situation, a frame of mind, or a choice made. It could be a challenging time, a time of sickness or pain. It could be a moment of joy too – the birth of a child perhaps, or just a very happy event or set of circumstances. On the other hand it could be a time of disappointment, dashed hopes or dreams. Where is your Galilee?, Pope Francis asked.

Every year is different – beginnings and endings, illness and health, frustrations and the joys of success, stagnation on some fronts, growth on others. It is easy to drift along rather than making the space to begin again, to return to what gives us hope, to what makes our hearts burn within us, to fix the eye of the mind and heart on the really important things of life, to recall where God's grace is at work in our lives.

Returning to our Galilee is also a reminder that, just like these first disciples, we too have been called by God. It is a reminder that we too are loved by God despite our failures and lack of faith, despite our wanderings and disappointments, despite what we have done or failed to do.

The message of Galilee is that Jesus is waiting there for us. Do not be afraid, do not fear, return to Galilee! He has gone ahead of us, He has been there before us, he has experienced the joys and the pain, the sadnesses and disappointments, the highs and the lows just as we have, he too has been disillusioned but now he has risen, he has overcome all and is waiting.

In his poem 'Invitation' about this meeting in Galilee, Father Philip Chircop SJ, wrote  
Stand in our midst  
again, today  
enter the circle of our fears  
penetrate the darkness of our doubts  
meet us where we are

So where is your Galilee?

Regards  
Jim Quillinan

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



# VISIT THE MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE EAST MELBOURNE, VIC

A UNIQUE  
TREASURE IN  
THE HEART OF  
MELBOURNE

MUSEUM

CHAPEL

GIFT SHOP

ACCOMMODATION

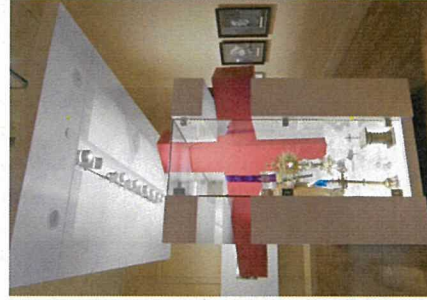
MEETING ROOMS

REFRESHMENTS

## LOCATED IN CENTRAL MELBOURNE, OPPOSITE FITZROY GARDENS, LIES AN HISTORIC MUSEUM DEDICATED TO AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SAINT AND AUSTRALIAN HERO.

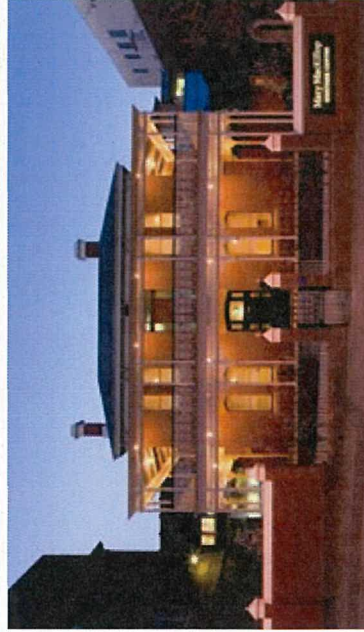
### MUSEUM

Visit us to find inspiration by experiencing Mary's life journey, hearing about her challenges and achievements, and the story of the Sisters of Saint Joseph and their influence on Australian history through education and social welfare reform.



This history is told through a curated collection of relics, artefacts, books, textiles, art work and audio-visual display.

Today the Sisters continue to work in ministries both nationally and internationally and we invite you to share in their story.



### HOSPITALITY

In the heritage building, that St Mary MacKillop built, walked and prayed, events can be catered for that celebrate those special occasions and milestones with family and friends.

Others may just prefer a night out in town staying in one of the self contained apartments that are close to Melbourne's amazing sporting precincts, theatres and diverse dining experiences.

Talk to us about how together we can make that special moment happen.

HOLD YOUR SPECIAL EVENT HERE:



[www.mmhc.org.au](http://www.mmhc.org.au)

03 9926 9300