

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.

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

27 August 2023

First Reading Is 22:19-23

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;

should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v. 8

*(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.*

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. *(R.)*
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and
love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. *(R.)*
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the
lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 11:33-36

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give

him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

*You are Peter, the rock on which I will
build my Church;*

*the gates of hell will not hold out
against it.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:13-20

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

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THANK YOU FROM MONSIGNOR PETER JOHN JEFFREY

It was very moving for me to receive cards, messages, and gifts on the occasion of my 60th anniversary of ordination. I was humbled, but delighted to have Archbishop Peter Loy Chong as main celebrant at the Jubilee Mass. To have Bishop Steve Lowe of Auckland, Bishop Les Tomlinson, and Bishop Shane Mackinlay as concelebrants reminded me of my times as Rector in Melbourne, Fiji, and New Zealand. I was thrilled to have so many friends and parishioners at the Mass at St Brendan's and afterwards at



the celebration dinner at the GV Hotel. Thank you very much for the letters and keep praying for one another. Peter J

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

In this year's Social Justice Statement, *Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples*, the Australian

Bishops join with the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) to call on us to develop relationships of humility and love with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

NATSICC supports a Yes vote in the upcoming Referendum. The Bishops do not tell us how to vote but they urge us to inform ourselves - and to LISTEN to First Nations People [NATSICC] about their experiences and hopes.

The referendum is an important moment in our history.

As the Bishops and NATSICC say, we, in the Church, can model how Jesus' way of love can make a difference. Read the Bishops' Statement at

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>



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: Fr Steve Bohan

Anniversaries: Conettina Ganino, Eileen Keyte

Readers & Commentators September 2 & 3, 2023

6pm	Sr Bing	C. Villani
8am	H. Martin-Lefevre	J. Martin-Lefevre
11am	S. Quilty	M. Sarkady

Sacramental Program



It was great to meet you all and listen intently to our guest speaker; Brendan Lindsay talk about what the Eucharist means at our last Adult Faith information evening.

Thank you to those who have taken a prayer card. Please continue to keep our Sacramental Children in your prayers.

The Children have been focusing this week on belonging and gathering and will come together this weekend for their Week 2 Group Session on Listening and Responding. **Jess Doyle**, Sacramental Coordinator

FAITH ON TAP: Come listen to our World Youth Day pilgrims stories over drinks, a meal and conversation on **Thursday, September 7, from 6.00pm, Terminus Hotel.**

Drinks at bar prices. Meals can be ordered at the bar.

This is open to ALL PARISHIONERS.

Please come and support our youth.

To assist with numbers and pre-order, please text/call Aleena 0470 571 931 or email pkaleena@gmail.com by Tuesday, September 5, to assist with planning.



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.

It can sometimes feel like we're "running on empty" in the spiritual life. Ignatian spirituality offers a plethora of ways for us to re fill our cups.



Music Make or listen to music that lifts your soul.

Good music is a sure fire way to fill your cup. St. Ignatius recollects in his [autobiography](#) how a chord of music even brought him to a deeper understanding of the Trinity: "While praying the Office of Our Lady on the steps of a monastery, his understanding began to be raised up, in that he was seeing the Most Holy Trinity in the form of three musical keys, and this with so many tears and so many sobs that he could not control himself."

Serra Club invite you to join us as we pray for more vocations, and for our priests: this **Friday, September 1 at 7.00pm.**



Our monthly Mass is held in the Marian Chapel, and can be a very special and personal occasion. This Chapel was originally the Nun's Chapel and September marks the centenary of its construction. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament commences at 5.00pm and will continue until the beginning of Mass. All are welcome to join us for a cuppa after in the MPJC.

Mens Group will meet on **Saturday, September 2**

at **7.30am** in the MPJC. We gather for friendship, for breakfast and a topic that invites us to share a little of what's happening in our lives; where, or who is God for us. Everyone is made to feel welcome, respected and valued. Please, "Come and See"; the words Jesus uses often to those seeking a deeper relationship and connection with him. Any questions call Anthony on 5821 2633 on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

anthonypastoral@bigpond.com



Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & **11am** **PRAYING WITH 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)

PARISH NAME BADGES

Isaiah 43:15

*I have called you by name,
you are mine*

Tiff Chandler
St Brendan's
Parish

The parish invites all parishioners to order a name badge to wear at Masses and parish events.

If you would like a name badge, please PRINT your name clearly on the sheet in the Narthex. A gold donation to cover costs would be gratefully received.



Greater Shepparton Ministers Association presents **ALPHA** A combined churches initiative to reach out to the people of Shepparton who are questioning 'Is God real?'

To help fundraise for the course they are hosting a Trivia Night!!
September 8, 6.30pm—8.30pm at GVCF Pine Rd Shepparton.
\$20 pp or table of 8 for \$140. There will be trivia, kids colouring competition and a silent auction.

St Brendan's has successfully hosted ALPHA for the past 3 years, due to the great work of our parishioners.
Please pray that hearts will continue to be touched through the combined church program.

If you would like to help with the trivia night or ALPHA program, please email sheppartonalpha@gmail.com or speak with Katie Mills 0417 504 635.

Third Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council Meeting

The Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council are conducting their third meeting this weekend.

Please pray for the Council using the following Prayer for the Mission and Pastoral Council.

We turn to Mary, our Mother of Good Counsel and patroness of our Diocese, as we seek to become a more missionary and pastoral Church: people of faith, hope and love for our world.

May we be led by the same wisdom and courage sent by the Holy Spirit to guide her along unfamiliar paths and through challenging decisions.

*We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen
Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us!*



Dear Monsignors, Fathers, and Council, Committee and Staff members,

I am sorry to advise that Fr Steve Bohan died peacefully a short time ago in Yarrawonga hospital. His condition had deteriorated rapidly in the last week, and after five days in GV hospital, Shepparton, he returned to Yarrawonga yesterday, which he was very keen to do.

Fr Steve retired as Parish Priest of Yarrawonga last month, on his 75th birthday, in the 50th year of his ministry as a priest.

I ask you to pray that Steve might now enter eternal life. Arrangements are now confirmed for his funeral. On Thursday August 31, at 11.00am at Sacred Heart Church, Yarrawonga.

Yours sincerely,

+Shane Mackinlay Tuesday, August 22, 2023



SEASON OF CREATION

1 SEPTEMBER – 4 OCTOBER 2023



Let Justice and Peace Flow

A Mighty River
Amos 1:24

This coming Friday is the first day of spring and National Wattle Day! The Sandhurst launch for Season of Creation is being held at Notley Picnic Ground, Whipstick Forest, Bendigo on **Friday 1st September**, beginning with **Mass at 11am** celebrated by Bishop Shane followed by a **Picnic Lunch**. BYO chairs encouraged. Some seating available. Sausage sizzle provided. BYO hot/cold drinks. RSVP is not essential, but if you are coming then letting us know by texting 0408 579 904 would be helpful. For those traveling from the north, turn at Epsom not Huntly (even if Google directs from Huntly!). The weather is looking good but Plan B is the Cathedral.

FOOTY TIPPING PRESENTATION NIGHT

6.30pm – 8.30pm, Wednesday August 30, MPJC

BYO Footy food to share. BYO drinks. Tea/Coffee provided.



Come dressed in your footy colours!

RSVP Ashley on 0412 475 290.



September 9 & 10: St Brendan's Church.



A Blessing of Married Couples will be held at 6pm Mass, 8am Mass and 11am Mass.

CCR SANDHURST Living in the Holy Spirit

Guest Presenter: Adrian Commadeur: author of several books including 'The Spirit in the Church'

Saturday September 2, 2023, in the MPJC
9.00 cuppa - 4.00pm, entry by Donation.

Lunch: Please bring a plate to share.

Contact: Brigita Hore: 0412 042 196



Debutante Balls

This year, Notre Dame College held 3 very successful balls. A total of 28 couples made up the three groups of students who were presented to Fr Joe Taylor and John Cortese.

Thanks must go to Notre Dame Staff volunteering their time to raise a profit of \$10,000 for St Brendan's Parish.

March 24 Deb Ball

Back Row: Adrian Smith, Bailey Armstrong, Dan Klein, Ben McGowan, Brayden Gladigau, Jack Tenace, Ollie Kilmartin, Lachlan Raleigh, Maree Curtis-Geisler.

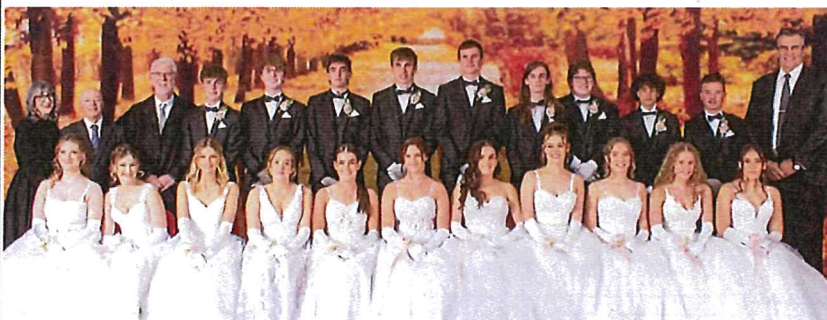
Front Row: Maxine Clerigo, Chelsea Harker, Alicia Sprunt, Danielle Jegede, Shelby James, Ella Sutherland, Maeve Cosgriff, Sarah Spillman.



May 19 Deb Ball

Back Row: Maree Curtis-Geisler, Les Billings, Fr Joe Taylor, Harry Falk, Callum Hearn, Liam Sorraghan, Callan Gundrill, Lewis O'Dwyer, Orlando Pati, Jack Aylett, Austin Trazzera, Cooper Child, John Cortese.

Front Row: Piper Canning, Georgia Cox, Nikita Crossley, Aoife Morrissey, Ashlee Magnusson, Stephie Moran, Ella Sorraghan, Marisa Mann, Gemma Eade, Erica Shaw, Tillie Henderson.



August 11 Deb Ball

Back Row: Maree Curtis-Geisler, Les Billings, Cohen Briggs, Alick Jarvis, Nate Gustino, Max Fasano, Riley Carkeek, Wesley Stanley, Ethan Knight, Baden Waters, Fr Joe Taylor.

Middle Row: Olivia Higgins, Makayla Thorne, Lilli Wilson, Tenille Delahey, Atilia Saracino, Elise O'Keefe, Ash Bedwell, Jessica Bassett

Front Row: Joss Church, Charlise Ogilvie, Alaura Leetham, Fraser Fidock.



Inner Peace in Divine Love



A 'retreat in daily life' - it is for busy committed people who cannot afford to take time off work and pay for increasingly expensive retreats in centres.

The retreat is made over four weeks (October 16 – November 6) and is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

The retreat will be directed by Parishioner: Paul White, who brings a background of living Ignatian Spirituality as a member of Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia. Paul has a Graduate Diploma in Spiritual Direction and gives retreats in Victoria and NSW.

(Dependent on numbers) the retreat will be offered with a choice of times. Registration forms in Narthex.

**Mondays: October 16, 23 and 30
November 6**

**Times: 1:30pm – 3.00pm or
7:00pm – 9:00pm**

**Venue: Mons. Peter Jeffrey Centre,
St. Brendan's Parish, Shepparton.**

Cost: \$40.00 (covers the cost of the retreat book if required.)

**Registration is required by September 20.
Enquiries to Paul White – 0437 290 950**

PRAYING with CHILDREN SUNDAY LITURGY

**St Brendan's Parish
Children's Liturgy of the Word
Facilitators / Leaders Needed**

Every Sunday at 11.00 Mass during the school term.

The term 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' refers to the practice of children leaving the Sunday assembly during Liturgy of the Word and gathering elsewhere to celebrate a separate Liturgy of the Word that is more appropriate to their level of understanding.

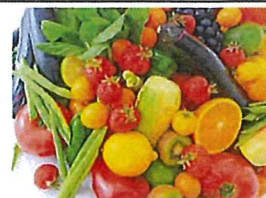
Leaders are:

- Rostered on once a term
- Work in pairs
- Guidelines and notes are provided prior to your allocated Sunday
- No previous experience or qualifications required
- Prerequisite: A desire to teach our young parishioner about god and current WWC.

For more information or to register your interest in helping with this Parish ministry, contact Jason Giuliani at the Parish office 5821 2633 or jason.giuliani@notredame.vic.edu.au

Don't buy fruit and vegetables prewrapped in plastic

From Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace



PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

27 August 2023 - Year A

"You are Peter; to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven."

Something to Think About

The disciple, Peter, who features in today's gospel, was a fisherman. He had a wife and maybe a family. Like the other disciples, Peter often found it hard to understand Jesus and his message. In this story, Jesus calls him 'the rock', suggesting that Peter's faith was strong. But there are several bible stories about Peter in which his faith lets him down. Peter failed often but he kept coming back. Peter was fully human, as we are. Yet Peter was the one Jesus chose to lead his community. We do not have to be perfect to be a disciple or a leader! We just need to hang in there and stick with Jesus!

The Story

In this gospel story, Jesus is fishing for information - what are people saying about him? Who do they think he is? The disciples all have a go at answering but it is Peter who comes up with the correct answer: 'You are the Messiah'.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

16:13-20

When Jesus and his disciples were near the town of Caesarea Philippi, he asked them, "What do people say about the Son of Man?"

The disciples answered, "Some people say you are John the Baptist or maybe Elijah or Jeremiah or some other prophet."

Then Jesus asked them, "But who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter spoke up, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus told him:

"Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed! You didn't discover this on your own. It was shown to you by my Father in heaven. So I will call you Peter, which means 'a rock.' On this rock I will build my Church, and death itself will not have any power over it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and God in heaven will allow whatever you allow on earth. But he will not allow anything that you don't allow."

Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

Video

Watch the video: [Peter Declares Jesus to be the Christ](#)



Group Discussion

Invite the children to reflect on the question Jesus asked the disciples - 'Who do you say I am?' Encourage the children to share stories about Jesus... who were his friends / where did he live / where did he visit / who was his family / what kind of man was he?

The simple message for younger children is that Jesus is God's Son.

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader 1: We pray that our leaders will be strong, wise and faithful. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for all who teach us about Jesus. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for those who suffer because they believe in Jesus. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for faith to keep believing that Jesus is the Son of God. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that we will be confident in telling others about Jesus. 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 the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



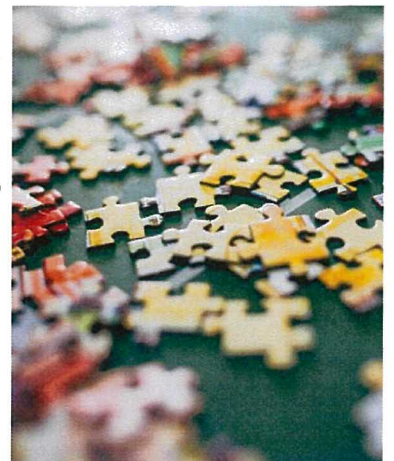
Dear Jesus,
Give us the strength to keep on following you. Help us to remember that we don't have to do it alone!
Thank you for being with us.
Amen.

Group Activity

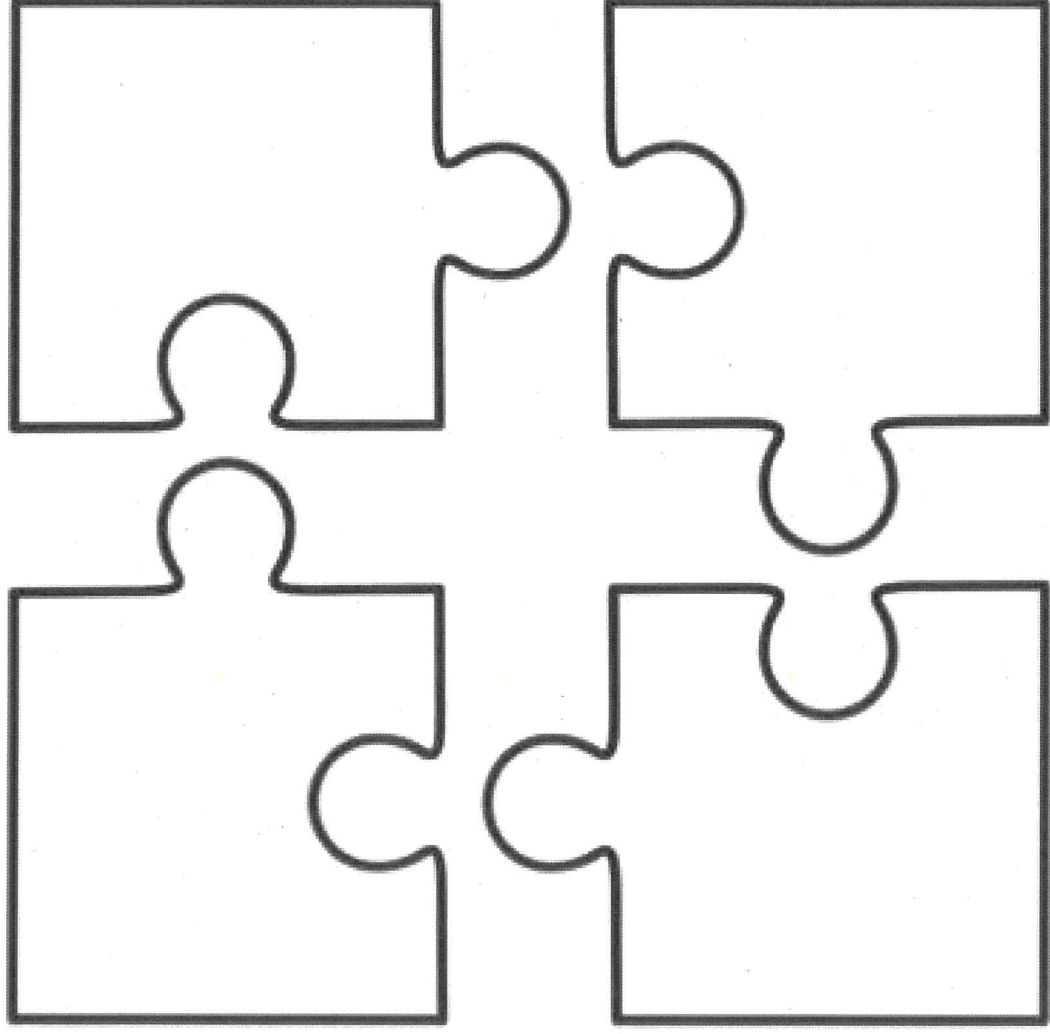
Who do you say you are?

You will need: puzzle template, scissors, envelope or sandwich bag to store the pieces, coloured markers or pencils.

- 1) In the gospel story today, Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Now you can think about "Who do you say YOU are?"
- 2) Ask children to think about the people they love, the things they enjoy doing, their favourite colour, favourite food, things that make them who they are.
- 3) Encourage children to draw or write these ideas on the puzzle pieces, ideally one characteristic per puzzle piece.
- 4) Cut out the puzzle pieces and put the puzzle together.
- 5) Store puzzle pieces in an envelope or sandwich bag.



Who do you say you are?



Think about the people you love, the things you enjoy doing, your favourite colour, your favourite food, the things that make you who you are. Draw some of these on the puzzle pieces above.
Then cut out the pieces and assemble your puzzle.

**WHAT ARE YOUR FAVOURITE WORDS TO
DESCRIBE JESUS?**

**BOLD. GENTLE. STRONG. LOVING.
MERCIFUL. HUMBLE.**

NOW DRAW YOUR
OWN PORTRAIT
OF JESUS



JESUS: WHO AM I?

Along the track

The Living Water of the Holy Spirit

St Cyril of Jerusalem didn't have an easy life. He was a bishop in the early church (mid 330s) during turbulent times. He was thrown out of office, reinstated, thrown out, and then reinstated again. Now he has been declared a doctor of the church for his teaching that was acceptable, then not, then accepted and so on. Full marks for his fidelity and his persistence – he was not the only bishop over time to be fired for expressing views that later became acceptable. The personal toll it must have taken on him is not acknowledged by historians.

He was ordained a priest by the bishop of Jerusalem and, in recognition for his scholarship in scripture, given the task during Lent of catechising those preparing for Baptism and catechising the newly baptised during the Easter season. The instructions are still much admired and some found their way into the breviary, the prayer of the church prayed by priests and religious daily, even today.

His Pentecost instruction includes this comment on Jesus' teaching that "whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." Jn 13-14

The area around Jerusalem is pretty dry. Certainly south of Jerusalem, rain is precious as much of that country is desert. But to the north, in Galilee and surrounding areas, water and rain were never taken for granted. So it struck a cord when Cyril used water to describe the gift of the Spirit:

This is a new kind of water, a living, leaping water, welling up for those who are worthy. But why did Christ call the grace of the Spirit water? Because all things are dependent on water; plants and animals have their origin in water. Water comes down from heaven as rain, and although it is always the same in itself, it produces many different effects, one in the palm tree, another in the vine, and so on throughout the whole of creation. It does not come down, now as one thing, now as another, but while remaining essentially the same, it adapts itself to the needs of every creature that receives it.

It is a beautiful image of the gift of the Spirit. This living, leaping water, the Holy Spirit is present in everything – a spirit that gives life to physical creation as well as to love, human creativity, compassion, forgiveness, wonder and awe, wisdom, understanding. The Spirit comes, according to Cyril as a true friend and protector to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen, to console. This gift of the Spirit at the one time unites us with others but at the same time it inspires us in our differences. Cyril put it this way:

The Spirit makes one person a teacher of divine truth, inspires another to prophesy, gives another the power of casting out devils, enables another to interpret holy Scripture. The Spirit strengthens one person's self-control, shows another how to help the poor, teaches another to fast and lead a life of asceticism, makes another oblivious to the needs of the body, trains another for martyrdom. His action is different in different people, but the Spirit himself is always the same.

So when we come to realise that the Spirit is at work in creation around us, we come to see its wonder and its beauty in another light, but also we come to realise the importance of preserving even the smallest part. Everything has its place. Creation reveals to us God's beauty, glory, power, wisdom, presence, and creativity. We come to realise too that the Spirit is at work in every person. That is easy to see in those we love, those of a common mind, those we agree with. It is much harder to see the Spirit at work in those who are different, those who may not agree with. But they too have their place, they too are gifted by the same Spirit.

Sometimes that takes courage and understanding, both gifts of the Spirit. But, according to Cyril, *As light strikes the eyes of a man who comes out of darkness into the sunshine and enables him to see clearly things he could not discern before, so light floods the soul of the man counted worthy of receiving the Holy Spirit and enables him to see things beyond the range of human vision, things hitherto undreamed of.*

Now that's gift.

Regards
Jim Quillinan

Email: jquillinan@dcsi.net.au

YOU'RE INVITED to the Sandhurst Launch of Season Of Creation on Friday 1st September



Venue: **Notley Picnic Ground**, Whipstick Forest
Greater Bendigo National Park

Time: **Mass celebrated by Bishop Shane at 11am**
BYO chair encouraged although some seating available

Picnic Lunch to follow

Sausage sizzle provided

(BYO lunch if preferred or dietary requirements preclude)

BYO water bottles – water available on site

BYO Hot / Cold beverages

EVERYONE is invited and encouraged
to come along and celebrate in this
beautiful venue. It's also
the first day of spring and
National Wattle Day!



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

