



Christ the King Church

# ST MEL'S PARISH

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

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9am - 3pm

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.

## Seventeen Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 25 July 2021

Readings for  
this Sunday



2 Kings 4:42-44  
Ephesians 4:1-6  
John 6:1-15

Readings for  
next week:



Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15  
Ephesians 4:17, 20-24  
John 6:24-35



### Liturgical Jottings

#### The Word of the Lord

The sacramentality of the word can thus be understood by analogy with the real presence of Christ under the appearances of the consecrated bread and wine. By approaching the altar and par-taking in the Eucharistic banquet we truly share in the body and blood of Christ. The proclamation of God's word at the celebration entails an acknowledgment that Christ himself is present, that he speaks to us, and that he wishes to be heard. Saint Jerome speaks of the way we ought to approach both the Eucharist and the word of God: "We are reading the sacred Scriptures. For me, the Gospel is the Body of Christ; for me, the holy Scriptures are his teaching. ... 2010 Apostolic Exhortation *Verbum Domini* Benedict XVI para 56a

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## Focus on the Readings

Today we are reminded of God's providence. We live in a world that feeds us and shelters us and supplies us with everything that we need to grow and to thrive, and all of this comes to us from the hand of God. It is usually when we are in desperate straits that we become painfully conscious of our dependence on God, but this dependence is always there. God does not merely intervene when we are helpless; God's providence operates in our lives at all times.

Living in a society that promotes individualism, we sometimes undervalue the communal dimension of life. God certainly cares passionately for each of us (not even a sparrow falls without God knowing it), but God's concern is for the whole people. We are first and foremost members of a people. We would never have seen the light of day, we would not endure or develop, without others. As unique as we may be, we are a unique expression of a communal reality. God created a race; God formed a people; Jesus died for the world. By the grace of God, we belong to the community.

As members of the people of God, we are called to a way of life that is noble, not selfish. We are to live with each other in humility and gentleness, with patience. We are to bear with one another in love. Through baptism we all live by the same Spirit of Jesus; we are all united through the bond of God's love. The bread that we receive from the hand of God is the bread of full life, life in all its dimensions, life in Christ.

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## Prayer for the Week

Father, all-powerful and merciful, we give you thanks. Christ your Son has called together one holy people from every nation under heaven and with love stronger than death has embraced them as his own. In the sacrament of Christ's body and blood that work of salvation is made present and accomplished for us in the eucharistic celebration. (*Preface 15th Sunday, Ambrosian Rite*)

## Quote from Let us Dream by Pope Francis (2020)

All true values, human values, are non-negotiable. Can I say which of the fingers on my hand has more value than the others? If it is of value, it has a value that cannot be negotiated.

## On the Lighter Side

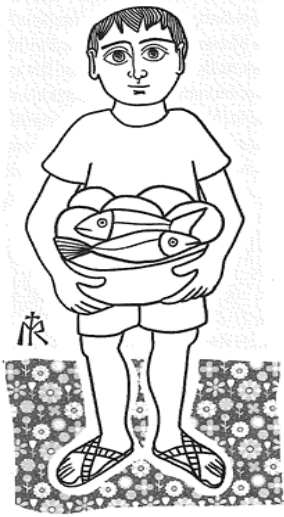
A woman texted her husband, who is a computer programmer: "On your way home get two loaves of bread and, if they have any fresh eggs, get a dozen." He comes home with a dozen loaves of bread.



St Mel's Parish Is...

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

## REFLECTION FROM FR PETER



Through a direction from Pope Francis this Sunday in our Church calendar is World Day for Grandparents and the elderly. As people of faith we know the importance of the Grandparent person to us in the paths of life we follow. From the elder rather than elderly we look to the senior's of our community for the continuing light and example they give for us to follow and to be inspired by.

In his message for this important recognition of grandparents and the elderly, Pope Francis remarks ... "The whole Church is close to you, to us, and cares about you, loves you, and does not want to leave you alone!" This day comes at a challenging time for the world, in light of the pandemic where many of our senior people have fallen ill, died, and where many live with isolation for long periods of time. Our Church community of St. Mel's takes this to heart and we seek God's loving intercession on those from our families who have died and experience the isolation caused by the lockdown and on going difficulties the virus is causing.

Further into the themes of grandparents and the elderly, Pope Francis speaks of the angel coming into our presence. This may be in the form of our loved ones, namely our own parents who in their passing from this life still gives a face we hold in their memory and spirit. It makes no difference as to how old you are, as a grandfather and grandmother, for there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the gospel and handing on traditions to the grandchild / children in our relationships.

It was the prophet Joel who once promised: "Your old ones shall dream dreams, and your young ones will have visions" (3:1). There is hope as we live through these very changing times, a future depends on this covenant between the young and the elderly. So we do dream for a positive and renewed time where our personal visions offer ways for us to build in harmony from the grandparents who have given foundation and where the elder is a continuing influence of our participation in family and community.

Fr Peter

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM - THE HAND OF THE LORD FEEDS US; HE ANSWERS ALL OUR NEEDS

**RE - LOCKDOWN ...** As mentioned the lockdown goes through to Tuesday... 11.59pm, at this stage, a live stream mass from St. Mel's will happen... watch for the link..... Fr Peter

***Is the Pandemic calling people to a return of religious practice?*** Is a question asked by many across our Parishes and communities. In last weekend's paper was an article connected with a Melbourne Parish, St. Brendan's at Flemington, Fr Hien Vu is noticing a revival of younger faces in his parish. It is estimated many of these are aged between 20 and 30. Fr Vu is asking an important question...

"How do you find us here?" He is hearing back reactions like .... 'a sense of belonging!' One in 10 Australians have said, COVID - 19 had made their religious faith stronger, a proportion corresponding to the median across 14 developed countries. Maybe a thought is asked of us.... Is this pandemic time calling some across our Parish to find a way to our community? A feeling the Church matters or has God something to do with this? Just a thought..... Fr Peter

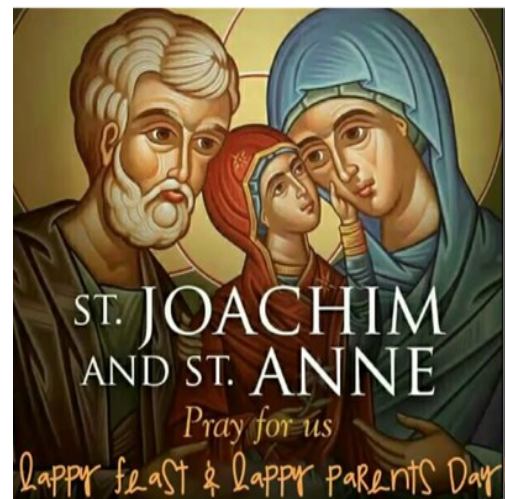


## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY.

This Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July is the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the parents of The Blessed Virgin Mary. Maybe in light of the extended lockdown we give prayer time to the parents of Mary interceding for all grandparents we know through our lives and where we hold the elderly in our community of their presence to us. Fr Peter

Pope Francis has proclaimed the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated on the fourth Sunday in July each year – July 25 this year. It is marked near the feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Parishes, schools, aged care facilities and other ministries are encouraged to find creative ways to celebrate the contribution of older people to their families and communities.

Access resources at [www.catholic.org.au/grandparents](http://www.catholic.org.au/grandparents)



**SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST.** The situation of lockdown has created its impact. The first of these celebrations was to have been held last Sunday. Having spoken with Mel Shields our co Ordinator, we will keep to the original timetable for the forth coming celebrations and will reschedule last week's postponed event. Thankyou to all for your understanding through inconvenience of the lockdown.

**MAJELLAN CLUB** -Thank you to the St Mel's community for their wonderful toiletry donations, they are much appreciated.



**SHEPPARTON GREAT WINTER NIGHT SHELTER**...Is making an impact across our Shepparton communities. Local Churches are involved in a major way. St Mel's is involved on a Friday night at the South Shepparton community Church in St Andrew's Rd.

***"BE THE REASON SOMEONE FEELS WELCOMED, SEEN, HEARD, VALUED, LOVED AND SUPPORTED"***

I encourage our support of this especially through the leadership of Mel Domaschenz through our parish. Please pray for Melanie and all involved in the Winter Night Shelter. Fr Peter

**Thanks from GSWNS.**

***"Come aside and rest awhile".***

You may wonder why we only have e.g. five guests when we are allowed ten. But, some people find it uncomfortable to be moving from place to place each night facing different volunteers. But, we invite you to continually pray that, wherever they are sleeping, they are sheltered in God's arms.

**GATHERING OF CATHOLIC MEN** ... On the 31<sup>st</sup> of July. It's an event (on line) to inspire and encourage Catholic Men with a vision of personal discipleship, service and mission, in the family, Diocese, Parish, and world. To register your interest you go to the following link... [www.catholicmensgathering.com.au](http://www.catholicmensgathering.com.au) or contact [Michael.Bohan@menalive.org.au](mailto:Michael.Bohan@menalive.org.au)

### **POSITION AVAILABLE**

**ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT  
IN PARISH FINANCES  
ST BRENDANS CATHOLIC PARISH OFFICE**

**121 Knight Street Shepparton  
9am – 3pm 1 (one) day/week  
CLOSES Tuesday 27th July 2021**

**For all Enquiries and/or copies of Position Description  
Contact Diane Teitzel on 5821 2633 OR email  
[Shepparton.OfficeManager@cdos.org.au](mailto:Shepparton.OfficeManager@cdos.org.au)**

### **During a Time of Isolation**

Loving God,  
Help us  
to focus on what we have  
not on what is removed or changed.  
Strengthen us  
when we feel discouraged  
or overwhelmed.  
Embrace us  
so that we know your loving presence  
within us and among us. Walk with us  
as we bring your love,  
and carry your light,  
into our world.

Amen.





## READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY 25th July

### First Reading

A reading from the second book of the Kings - **2 Kings 4:42-44**

*They will eat and have some left over.*

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said. **The Word of the Lord.**

### Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians - **Ephesians 4:1-6**

*There is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

**The Word of the Lord.**

### Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John - **John 6:1-15**

*He distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted.*

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.



**The Gospel of the Lord**

### Weekday Masses this coming week 26th July to 1st August 2021

**Monday 26th July - NO MASS**

**Tuesday 27th July - NO MASS**

**Wednesday 28th July - 9.15am** (In the Gathering Room)

**Thursday 29th July - 9.15am** (In the Gathering Room)

**Friday 30th July - 9.15am** (In the Church)

**(SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS)**

**Saturday 31st July - 9.00am Mass**

**Sunday 1st August - 9.30am & 5pm Mass**

### READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER

#### Sunday 1st August 2021

**9.30am** - John Cortese (Commentator) Jacqui Avarad (L1)  
Mary Calandro (L2)

**9.30am**- Special Ministers: Leanne Daldy and  
Hollie Daldy

**5.00pm** - Paul Bertoli(Commentator) Dom Poppa (Lector)

**5.00pm** - Special Ministers : Lin Waite and Rosana Legalo

**Recently Deceased:** Fr John Ware, Anunciata Martino,  
Lorraine Weatherly

**Anniversaries:** Vincenzo Campi, Claudio & Cosimo Aloï,  
Giuseppe Primerano, Ralph Stone, Rosa Calandro (1 month  
mind).