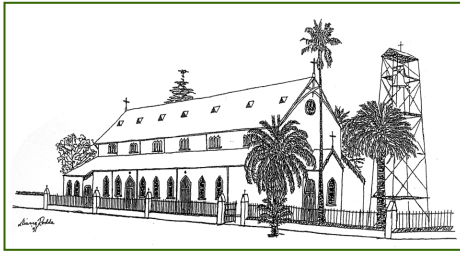


PARISH OF ST KILIAN, BENDIGO

Vision Statement

The purpose of St Kilian's, Parish is to be a Catholic presence in the heart of Bendigo which promotes sharing, developing and celebrating a community of faith which is open to all.



Parish Administrator: Fr Junray Rayna (0403 677 769)
Assistant Priest: Fr Rob Galea
Pastoral Assistant: Helen Mewburn
Annette Holmes-Sacrament Co-ordinator
Hospital Chaplain: Peter Young
Office: Michelle Verbeek
Parish Office: 161 McCrae St, Bendigo
Phone: (03) 5441 6244
Email: stkilians@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
Website: stkiliansbendigo.com.au

St Kilian's Primary School • Principal: Kimberley McSweeney. Phone -5443 4071

St Peter's Primary School • Principal: Jeremy Darmody. Phone 5443 9319

Doxa School Bendigo • Principal Vanessa Brown. Phone 5442 8140

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

5th October 2025

Readings for this week: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Luke 17:5-10



Readings for next week: 2 Kings 5:14-17
2 Timothy 2:8-13
Luke 17:11-19



Liturgical Jottings

Liturgy and Old Age

The liturgy is for all peoples, young and old. The scripture readings sometimes address the old and the young with prayers to God to guide the young and come to the aid of the aging. But the prayers of the Mass rarely address the passing of the years. The Mass of the Dedication of the Altar begins with: "I will come to the altar of God, to God who restores the joy of my youth." Ps 43 (42):4. The Collect of the Mass: 50th Wedding Anniversary we pray for the couple: "That by a wonderful Sacrament, Lord, may so bless their fruitful old age."

There is a Mass with a Preface for Old Age from the Ambrosian Rite:

"You give us length of days as a token of your love, and as they pass you teach us to take delight in that life which will endure for all eternity. ... Though bodily vigour may fade, your ceaseless love is always new; for you strengthen in us the gifts of your Spirit that we may make our way, secure in hope, to you, the Lord in whom we put our faith.

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Looking at the Readings

The Prophet Habakkuk appears in the Lectionary only twice in the three-year cycle: today and Saturday 18th week in Ordinary Time year 2. These readings, however, are the same: Habakkuk questions and complains to God – the first prophet to do so – and God replies. Habakkuk's questions are perennial "Why, Lord, do you not answer?" and secondly, "Why do injustices befall me?" God's first reply is, "Wait and be faithful!" And his more considered reply goes much deeper: God is ever faithful to his covenant which the people must return to and observe faithfully. The Lectionary places these words of the prophet with today's Gospel. The link is the advice given to be faithful and to grow in faith. Habakkuk then prayed in awe of God's mighty deeds (3:1-19).

Jesus' parable of the mustard seed responds to the apostles' request: "Increase our faith." We, likewise, seek an increase in faith from our faithful God. Then faith moves us onto service, love and fullness of life.

Today we begin a four-week sequence from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy. Paul is an old man now and in prison for being a Christian, a very active Christian. He is curtailed in his missionary journeys but now active in his letter writing or having a follower as scribe to pen the letters. We hear great lines: "fan into a flame the gift of faith (1:6); "If we have died with Christ, then we shall live with him (2:11); "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith (4:7).

Prayer for today

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.
(Psalm 94:1-2)

Quote of the Week

Out of suffering comes the serious mind; out of salvation, the grateful heart; out of endurance, fortitude; out of deliverance faith. Patient endurance attends to all things. *St Teresa of Avila.*

On the Lighter Side

Why did the mustard seeds drop out of the race?

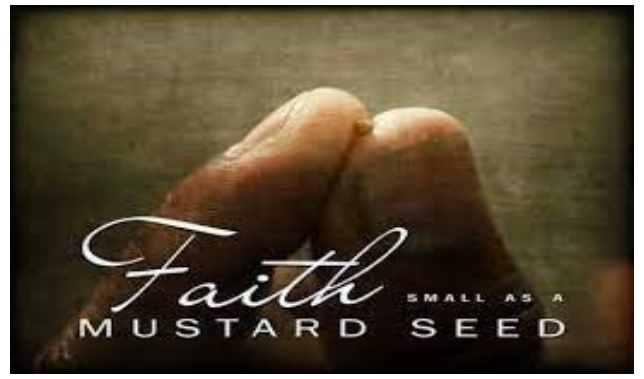
Because they couldn't ketchup!

But then the mustard seeds found themselves in a fine pickle because they relish competition. I'm sure word of this will spread quickly.



MASS & RECONCILIATION TIMES

SUNDAY	Saturday Vigil	6.30pm
	Sunday	8am & 10am
WEEKDAYS	Tuesday	12.10pm
	Wednesday	12.10pm
	Thursday	12.10pm
	Friday	12.10pm
	Saturday	8am
RECONCILIATION	Friday	11.30am-12pm
<i>Live streaming of 10am Sun & 12.10pm weekday Mass</i>		



As we come to worship we remember the original custodians of this land.

27th Sunday in Ordinary time		5th October	
Mass	Commentator	Reader	Ministers of Communion
6.30pm	Ronnie Graham	Carole Leech	Debbie Wilson
8am		Sharon Moloney	Zenny Davidson
10am	Marg Pawsey	Anne Tecklenburg	Angela Dudley/Julie McGregor
28th Sunday in Ordinary time		12th October	
6.30pm	Annette Holmes	Diane Hicks	Mario Fernando
8am		Christine Garcia	Jake Wilkinson
10am	Marg Pawsey	Ben Landsberg	Angela Dudley/Linda Goldsmith

Altar Rosters	Group A	26th Sep– 9th Oct	Kath O’Farrell, Mary Eltringham, Marj Davis, Lyn Byrne
	Group B	10th Oct –23rd Oct	Loretta Taylor, Annette Whatmore, Aileen Jackson, Natalie O’ Connor
Counting Teams	Team 1	22 Sep– 5 Oct	K Egan, M Egan, D Harrington, E Jenkins
	Team 3	6th Oct– 19th Oct	L O’Farrell, D Halpin, T Doolan, S Chalkley

Shop Roster	5th October	Julie McGregor	12th October	Karen Doolan
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Prayer for the sick

Let us pray for those who do not have the blessing of good health at this time. May we be aware of their suffering, and reach out to them with genuine concern and practical help.

*If you are an inpatient at Bendigo Health and would like to see the Hospital Chaplain please ask a staff member to refer you to Spiritual Care or phone Peter on 0427681267.
Thank you*

St Kilian’s shop

Open 11.30am-12pm Frid and after 6.30pm Sat & 10am Sun Mass.

An **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** is located in the cabinet at the rear of the Church on the Chapel Street side. Please be aware of its location and share this information.

Calendar—October/November

5th Oct	Migrant & Refugee Sunday
	6pm Sunday Mass moves to the Cathedral
9th	Alpha– 6pm in Community Garden
10th	Flowers in bloom –10am—Garden
25th	Reflection Day—10am-3pm-Parish House
26th	Fr Junray 10th Anniversary of Priesthood
29th	Office Closed– Bendigo Cup Day
7th Nov	Mass of Anointing 12.10pm

Prayers for Recently Deceased:	Irene Nolan
Prayers for Anniversaries:	Lyndsay Hall, Brenda Hartney, Nancy Burke, Mona Scott, Elizabeth Heath, Elizabeth Bazeley, Joan Chalmers, Kath O’Loughlin, Marcia Youla
Prayers for the Sick:	Betty Holland, Rani Fernando, Kelly Tomlinson, Liliosa Legaspi , Tammy Abeynayake, Peter Downing, Garth & Yvonne Graham , Luis Basille, David Peters, Dianne Pell, Olivia Slattery, Archer Turner, Matthew Turner , Carmel Brennan , Brenda Lydiate

Diocesan Formation Gathering: 11 October 20225

You are warmly invited to the Diocesan Formation Gathering at Notre Dame College, Shepparton. This diocesan-wide event aims to enrich our capacity to build community and foster a sense of belonging in parishes. The day will feature a keynote address, interparish conversations, six practical workshops to choose from, prayer, and time to reconnect with others from across the Diocese. Bring a group from your parish and join the conversation!

You are encouraged to register by 30 September, 2025.

To learn more about initiatives in the Dioceses to support the Sandhurst Strategic Mission and Pastoral Goals visit our website:

<https://sandhurst.catholic.org.au/mission-and-pastoral-life/formation-for-mission>

MARIAN FESTIVAL 2025:

Pray for World Peace at the 51st Marian Festival – a day of prayer, devotion and community, hosted by the Bendigo Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima with their Chaplain Fr Stephen Bolling.

Sunday 12 October 2025

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo

11.00 am Mass celebrated by Bishop Emeritus Les Tomlinson.

3.40 pm Festival concludes with ringing of the bells and afternoon tea All welcome!

For more information go to:
www.bendigofatima.com or contact info@bendigofatima.com

Marian Festival Volunteers for BBQ needed:

Marian Festival Sunday 12th October 2025: The Knights of the Southern Cross Bendigo will be providing a BBQ lunch for those attending the Marian Festival. Volunteers are needed to assist on the day from 11.00 am to 1.30 pm. Please ring or text Kevin on 0458 485 223 if you are able to help.

Discover Catholic Podcasts and events happening across Australia—retreats, pilgrimages, workshops, and more.

Visit www.CathEvents.org.au to find opportunities to grow in faith and community. Event organisers can also list their events for free, helping more people connect and participate.

Earthcare News

Thanks to the 100 parishioners who signed the paper petition to **Turn Debt into Hope** - an international campaign by Caritas. The petition has been posted now but you can still sign online from this QR code until 20th October.

The Season of Creation 2025 finishes on Saturday October 4th, the Feast of St Francis. We're sneaking in 2 more events, the **Pilgrimage of Hope** this Saturday and **Flowers in Bloom** on Friday 10th October, 10am in the Community Garden. Thanks to everyone who joined us on this special season.



Marist College Bendigo presents Mary Poppins a musical based on the stories of P'L Travers & The Walt Disney film. At Ulumbarra Theatre Bendigo on October 16-18th for tickets go to bv&e.

Voluntary Assisted Dying. The Victorian Government is considering amendments to the Act to remove checks. You are invited to contact your local state politician to make your opposition to these proposed

Novena to Our Lady of the Rosary:

As part of the pilgrimage of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima to the Cathedral for the Marian Festival, the statue will remain at Holy Rosary Church, White Hills for nine days.

All are warmly invited to gather each evening before the statue of Our Lady to pray the Rosary together, entrusting our families, parishes, and community to her intercession.

Dates: Monday 29 September – Tuesday 7 October

Time: 6:00pm each evening (except Saturday 4 October – Rosary at 5:30pm before the 6:00pm Mass)

Place: Holy Rosary Church, White Hills

We invite parishioners from across Bendigo to join us.

Flowers in Bloom—on Friday 10th of October at 10am in the Community Garden come along to our flower arranging morning tea. Perhaps you are interested in joining one of our flower groups or starting your own with a group of fellow parishioners – come along and ask any question you have.



BAPTISM PREPARATION; for parents seeking their child's Baptism is held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in St Kilian's Church. Our next evening will be on Wednesday November 5th. Please phone the parish office on 54416244 if you would like to attend.

Our Parish **Sacrament of Reconciliation Program** will commence on the 8th of October at 6.30pm in the church. Children not attending Parish schools are invited to participate in the Program. Please come along on the first night with your child or for further details please contact Annette Holmes (Sacramental Coordinator) via email the Parish office at

A Mass of Thanksgiving for the life of Irene Nolan will be celebrated next Wednesday 8 October at St Kilian's Church, Bendigo, 10am AEDT. Irene was a long-time parishioner of the Cathedral and St Kilian's Parish, Bendigo. She committed significantly to the life of the diocese through her work with Centacare and as a counsellor and educator with a specific focus on loss and grief. All are welcome.

WHAT'S ON OCTOBER 2025

MASS OF ANOINTING

Friday, 3 October | 12:10pm | Parish Church

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE

Saturday, 4 October
Bendigo - Nurmukah - Wahgunyah
from 8am Meeting Place: St Kilian's Church

JUBILEE OF MIGRANTS CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, 5 October | 10am Mass
11am Celebrations at the Community Garden with Food, Music & Games

ALPHA IS BACK!

Thursday, 9 October | 6pm - 8:30pm | Community Garden
Alpha is a wonderful program to connect and deepen our faith through a meal together, watching an Alpha video & conversations around the table

FLOWERS IN BLOOM

Friday, 10 October | 10am | Community Garden
Learn a new skill! Floral arrangement session with Mary Eltringham and enjoy some morning tea with the Parish Flower Ladies!

FORMATION IN BELONGING IN SHEPP

Saturday, 11 October | 9am - 4pm | Notre Dame, Shepparton
FORMATION is one of our key parish goals – to keep growing together in faith, mission, and belonging. Be part of this year's Diocesan Formation Gathering – a special day of learning, prayer, and connection with our wider diocesan family. This year's theme is "Building Communities of Belonging" with keynote presentations by Dr Paul Sharkey.

REFLECTION DAY: SPRING, NEW HOPE

Saturday, 25 October | 10am - 3pm | Parish House
A day of reflection and prayer, drawing inspiration from the season of spring – where new life and fresh hope. Come and be renewed in spirit.

FR JUNRAY'S 10th ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTHOOD

Sunday, 26 October | 10am Mass of Thanksgiving
After the mass, a little celebration will be at community garden. Please bring a plate to share with everyone.





Our duty to trust

As the gospel makes clear, faith is never an abstract notion, it's how we live our lives. The apostles ask Jesus to 'increase our faith' as a specific response to what he has just said about forgiving one another.

Trust is central to the gospel and to our faith, which is to say our lives. And the faith that Jesus speaks of isn't blind; it's a way of seeing one another, as a woman reminded me recently when she spoke of coming to befriend a man sitting on the footpath outside Coles.

And as happened when Vinnies began its soup van service: On the first night they ran into Billy Morgan four times. On the fourth occasion a volunteer asked him if there was anything else they could give him or do and he replied, 'Your friendship is enough'. He had told her – ever so clearly – what they were all about. It wasn't simply that they had something to give him, but he had something to give them.

Billy and the woman outside Coles remind us that faith isn't something we have or don't have. It's not something we possess but is given to us in relationship. So, when Jesus speaks of a mulberry tree obeying you, there's no magic formula involved; he's simply

speaking of the power of faith made real in our relationship with God.

Yet it seems wherever we look these days, there's a general loss of trust which undermines our trust in one another and ensures, perhaps, that the one thing binding us together is money. We give so we might get in return, and often this becomes our model for relationship. Where it exists, a society may begin to fragment, all the more so a church, because a church community is founded in the gift of relationship – it's where we learn to trust one another and God.

As we do, we begin to see the connection between faith and service, which Jesus speaks of in the second part of today's gospel. We're invited to join a group, so we go along, and gradually our lives change. Our faith begins to deepen, almost unawares, as we practise what's been called 'the spirituality of turning up.'

Later, we may come to understand that it's our trust in the person who asked us and in Jesus which brought us to live in this way, doing 'all you have been told to do.' It's not that God is indebted to us for what we do, but we're indebted to God for enabling this. Like the disciples we're discovering that faith and service are inextricably linked.

This week's first reading, the psalm and the second reading all speak of trusting in God, whatever happens in our lives. This is the precious gift we're entrusted to look after, the gift of God's self in Jesus, and we do this by giving it away. Trusting in Jesus enables us to do what God entrusts to us – it's our duty and our life.

Damian Coleridge

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn)

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will.

For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 94)

RESPONSE: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

LECTOR: Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

LECTOR: : Come in; let us bow and bend low;

let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God

and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

LECTOR: O that today you would listen to his voice! "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work." **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the Good News.

Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn)

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.