

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 C

15 May 2022

First Reading Acts 14:21-27

They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1

*(R.) I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.*

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. *(R.)*
2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. *(R.)*
3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rv 21:1-5

He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

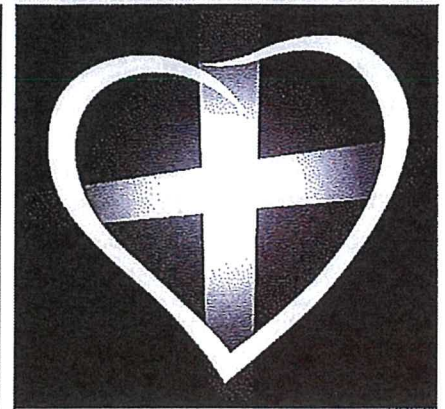
*I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Jn 13:31-35

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The passage from the Gospel of John actually comes from the Last Supper account, as is indicated by the opening line: 'When Judas had gone'. However, the passage is being used during the post-resurrection Easter season. The passage about being glorified can be read in this context as referring to the crucifixion that was, rather than the crucifixion that is still to come in the original setting. The reference that Jesus will not be with the disciples much longer can also be read as an indicator towards the Ascension. It is a clever liturgical use of a gospel passage out of its intended context.

The second half of the gospel passage is perhaps the more familiar section. It is a common text for marriage ceremonies. However, sometimes its selection is purely based on the use of the term 'love'. Earlier in his ministry, Jesus was asked which commandment was the most important. He replied that you must love the Lord your God with all your heart and that you must love your neighbour as yourself. (Mt 22) The 'new' commandment that he issues at the Last Supper is not so much a new commandment as a variation on a theme. The newness highlights the changes that are occurring in the small group of friends. His language conveys an imperative: you must love one another, 'just as I have loved you'. He tells the disciples - and us - that the way they behave towards one another must be with the same love that Jesus treated them. And the love that Jesus gave was the love of God for all the world. So the love that Jesus commands the disciples (us) to show one another is nothing less than the powerful love of

ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



121 Knight Street, Shepparton
Phone: 5821 2633 | Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
Website: sheppartoncatholic.org.au
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Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
Priest in Residence: Fr Varghese Vithayathil
Associate Priest: Fr Jophin Joy
Associate Priest: Fr. Jackson Saunders
Deacon: Francois Baguma
Office Manager: Diane Teitzel
Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm



*Christ in community ...
the heart of our faith*

Recently Deceased: John McCormack,
Peter Toomey (Sara White's brother)

Anniversaries: Nola Appleton, Michael Clurey,
William Dunne, Mark O'Brien, Peter O'Brien,
Anne Lowe (O'Brien), Ede Bertoncini, Maria
Zurawski, Neil Allowings (Gail Tarquini's father)

Readers & Commentators 21st & 22nd May 2022

6pm	D. Tarquini	B. Lindsay
8am	P. Stein	D. Keenan
11am	M. Taverner	S. Quilty

GARABANDAL PRAYER GROUP

We welcome you
back to the
MacKillop Room
in the Parish
Office, 1.30pm
Monday 16th May

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.

Congratulations

Fr. Vin Walsh 50 year Jubilee on 20/05
Fr. Des Welladsen 50 year Jubilee on 20/05
Fr. Joe Taylor, 48 years since Ordination
on 18/05/74

Saint Brendan the Navigator

Feast Day, 16th May

Help me to journey beyond the familiar and into
the unknown.

Give me the faith to leave old ways and break
fresh ground with You.

Christ of the mysteries, I trust You to be stronger
than each storm within me.

I will trust in the
darkness and
know that my
times, even now,
are in Your hand.

Tune my spirit to
the music of
heaven, and
somehow, make
my obedience
count for You.

Amen



FOOD FOR FAITH A podcast with Pádraig Ó Tuama —
"This fantastic argument of being alive" On Being with
Krista Tippett reflects on the difficult situation we can find
ourselves in, sometimes by no fault of our own, he invites us
to live in these difficult moments learn from them and grow
from them.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/on-being-with-krista-tippett/id150892556?i=1000559005542>

NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE PACKS SOON TO BE DISTRIBUTED

How time flies when you are having fun!
NEW Envelope packs are due to be distributed
this month. The new packs commence on 5th June
and contain 6 months-worth of weekly envelopes.

If you would like to **CHANGE** over to a
DIRECT DEBIT system of financial contributing,
NOW would be a very good time to do so.
Please contact the Parish Office on 5821 2633 or
email shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au to
discuss any changes with your planned giving.

*Thank you for all your generosity, it is
greatly appreciated.*

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am

Saturday 8.30am *Syro Malabar Rite*, Sunday 5.30pm *Syro Malabar Rite*

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday Masses and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

Holy Hour— Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament— Fridays 5pm to 6pm

Young Married Couples Support Group

Sunday 29th of May at 5.30pm in the Parish centre.

True joy and lasting happiness in marriage are possible, but we will never find this joy if we are focused on ourselves. Enquiries to Anthony (Tues or Thurs) on 58212633 or email anthonypastoral@bigpond.com

<https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/watch/26368067727>

Meeting at 5.30pm this Sunday the 15th May in the MPJC. Men's Group will commence with the film "Song for Marion" followed by some pizza and drinks. The story touches on the difficulties of sickness, old age, and the beauty of love and relationships.

MEN'S GROUP

The Winter Night Shelter Project

runs during the winter months of June, July and August.

We are **URGENTLY** asking for volunteers to fill the varied roles here at St Brendan's Parish during this time.

St Brendan's will host every WEDNESDAY for 3 months, commencing WEDNESDAY 1st JUNE.

'Many hands make light work'..

Can you help with any of the following???

DRIVERS	5.30pm—6.30pm
	8.30am—9.30am
SHIFT WORKERS	5.30pm – 10.00pm
OVERNIGHT SHIFTS	10.00pm – 7.00am
KITCHEN STAFF	7.00am – 9.00am
	5.30pm – 8.00pm

REGISTRATION as a Volunteer is essential, please go to:

<https://forms.gle/XGL9XhFW8h7QzdDr6>

We are so grateful to this years Volunteer Co-ordinator Kathy Hunt— Thank you!



*May is
the
month
of
Our
Blessed
Mother
Mary*



Celebrating Synodality in Sandhurst.

Fr Nathan Verallo, Pastoral Team Member at Wangaratta, shares his experience as a priest in the Diocese of Sandhurst and the ways that synodality is manifested in Wangaratta.

Video 4: "Mission"  YouTube can be viewed on the Diocese of Sandhurst Channel

Mass Attendance

Counts 2022

The annual count is important for our pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years.

These statistics are being collected around Australia on the following dates:

14/15 May, 21/22 May.
28/29 May, 4/5 June.



St. Brendan's Primary School

OPEN DAY

THURSDAY 19th MAY

Please contact the school office on 5821 1926 to book a tour session for 9.15am or 10.15am
More information available at www.sbshepparton.catholic.edu.au/



St. Luke's
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPEN DAY

9.30am, FRIDAY
20th MAY 2022

Please register via www.slshepparton.catholic.edu.au/
or for queries phone 5822 1834



Notre Dame COLLEGE



Online Form: www.notredame.vic.edu.au

Phone: 03 5822 8400

Email: enrolments@notredame.vic.edu.au

Applications close Tuesday 24th May

LAUDATO SI

One of the goals of the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform is to develop an "Ecological Spirituality".

Praying for our Common Home with Pope Francis is designed to help foster ecological spirituality in parishes, schools and homes.

You can find a copy in the narthex and it is also available as a free download on the diocesan website.



PRAYING WITH POPE FRANCIS FOR OUR COMMON HOME

Prayers based on paragraphs of Pope Francis' encyclical "On Care for Our Common Home" *Laudato Si*, 2015

BOOKLET SERIES: QUOTES & PRAYERS BASED ON POPE FRANCIS' WRITINGS
BOOK 3. EDITION 2



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To Know Him is to Love Him:

Unpacking the Teachings of the Church

Join us over the next few weeks, **Tuesdays 7:30-8:30pm** at the MPJC as we delve into the section in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on Christ's passion and death.

For more information, please contact Winona on 0432 865 933

Bishop Shane will launch our Diocesan Commitment to becoming Earthcare Parishes & Earthcare Schools, and commission representatives of our Parishes & Schools to lead their communities in working towards the 7 Laudato Si Goals and becoming living Laudato Si communities. The date, fittingly, is in Laudato Si Week which the Australian Bishops have asked us to celebrate each year.



DATE: Monday 23rd May 2022

VENUE: Nathalia - The event begins with a 12.30pm Light Lunch at St Mary of the Angels' College and then moves to Broken Creek for the Launch.

Along the track

It's Just Harmless

I was in college with a person who was a master at labelling others with nicknames, myself included. Some were clever, some were funny, some were incomprehensible, some were original, witty even. But they all had one thing in common. They hurt. And I suggest that they encouraged the one who thought up the taunt. He was well known for it, even fifty or more years later. But it also encouraged the recipient to share the pain and hurt. We called his victims by those names and sometimes we even made up our own.

'Oh, come on, it's just a bit of harmless fun'. 'It's just a joke.' 'I didn't do any harm. Don't take life so seriously.' 'Get used to it, it's a hard world out there'. To the one giving the nickname or telling the joke it may be harmless fun, but to the recipient it is not.

Physical appearance, ethnic and racial backgrounds, sporting or academic ability (or lack of them), personal traits and any number of attributes can make us attractive to each other, they can be sources of friendship and admiration or they can be a source of ridicule, mockery and indeed personal abuse.

It is not surprising that so many people today are speaking up about past insults, abuse, for hurt and wrongs inflicted on them. And so they should. It doesn't matter that it was so long ago, in the past, that they won't just 'get over it'. The world will be a better place without the taunts, the nicknames, the bullying – in reality that is what it is. The "names" did hurt us. They left their mark. They can often come at a vulnerable time in our lives. Nick-namers and bullies are good at picking that. That hurt can remain with us for days, or years, or even decades.

But they do more than that. They help perpetuate aspects of life that we are better off leaving behind. Fair enough, that may not have been the nick-namer's intent and it may have been considered 'just a bit of fun' but that still helps build or perpetuate a wider image. Even seemingly 'innocent' or witty nicknames can help perpetuate stereotyping, racism, sexism or just putting others down. Violence often starts with putting down others – it can be and often is, the next step. They help create the power imbalance that has been the root of so much abuse we have witnessed or become aware of from the media.

But isn't all this taking things a bit too seriously? It is not surprising that those engaged in this type of

behaviour generally do not consider that their behaviour is prejudicial in any way. Generally they are not the ones being subjected to the taunts or the labels. They are ones who are 'just having fun', not having fun made of them.

One of the gifts the Christian Churches have offered the world for centuries is the theology of the human person. Individuals may not have lived up to it, as we have witnessed in recent decades but it was used as a resource for the Bill of Rights, as the basis for Nelson Mandela's Truth and Reconciliation Commission as examples. In part it says:

1. Our highest human calling is to love and be loved.
2. Love demands that we work for equality, fairness, justice and peace.
3. Each person possesses a basic dignity that does not depend on any human quality or accomplishment, not from race or gender, age or economic status.
4. Each person is essentially good. Each person should be treated with dignity and respect.
5. Each person has inalienable freedoms, rights, and responsibilities-essentially to become a fully alive human being.
6. The poor and marginalised should be the focus of particular concern, they should have access to the same rights and freedoms we enjoy, more than just the basic necessities of life.
7. Each person has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religious belief.
8. Each person has a conscience that alerts them to what is right and wrong, to choose what is moral over immoral.
9. Our lives have a lasting worth, having a purpose that reaches beyond ourselves and our own time.

Pope Benedict summed it up this way:

"Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed. Each of us is loved. Each of us is necessary." Pope Benedict XVI

Nicknames, bullying, belittling don't 'toughen us up'. They may be intended as harmless fun but they leave their mark.

Regards
Jim Quillinan

Email: jquillinan@dcsi.net.au