



WELCOME TO ST MARYS PARISH

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PH: 5825 2034

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Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays: 9.30am — 3.30pm

The Living Word

Second Sunday of Lent, Year C

16 March 2025

First Reading Gn 15:5-12, 17-18

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life
before whom shall I shrink? (R.)
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek,
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's
goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R.)

Second Reading Phil 3:17 – 4:1 or Phil 3:20 – 4:1 (shorter form)

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice
is heard:**

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Lk 9:28-36

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

One often hears the conventional wisdom: 'All religions are the same, with somewhat different packaging.' But, do they believe the same thing about the human person?

What if one believed that the most vital part of a person was 'the soul' which alone was destined for Heaven? This is not the Christian belief.

Today's Gospel recounts that Jesus' body was transfigured. This was no out-of-the-body experience of religious ecstasy. Jesus' body was totally translucent, totally radiant with Divine Light. Every molecule of his materiality was reverberating in the halo of divine glory.

That is the destiny which God desires for us also. When we are really in harmony with God, when we really participate in the life of God, then that Divine Life envelops and permeates our whole person, *body and soul*. That is our *ultimate* destiny, but can it be anticipated in the lives of those close to God?

You might care to read the story of St Seraphim of Sarov from the Russian Orthodox tradition. A follower recounts the dazzling bodily transformation of the saint with the blaze of light spilling over onto the snow-covered meadow.

We might pause for a moment to affirm our Christian hope that, with God's grace, we will be radiant with Divine Light, our bodies immersed in translucent glory, filled with infinite joy in our hearts.

mtate@bigpond.com

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ST MARY'S PARISH MOTTO

"Reaching out to each other
- growing together in love"

St Mary's Mooroopna acknowledge the Yorta
Yorta Nation and the Aboriginal people who have
walked this land for thousands of years

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 6.30pm
Sunday 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

10:30am to 11am Saturday

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 17/3	No mass	
Tues 18/3	Holy Hour Exposition	5pm
Tues 18/3	Mass	6pm
Wed 19/3	Mass	6pm
Thurs 20/3	Mass	6pm
Fri 21/3	Mass	10am

St Mary's Monthly Devotions

First Friday Adoration

1st Friday of every month
following the 10am Mass.
Concluding with Benediction
at 6:45pm.
At 11am, 1pm, 3pm and 5pm
the Mysteries of the Rosary
will be recited.



First Saturday Adoration

Adoration 9am to 10am
Mass 10am to 10:30am fol-
lowed by Reconciliation as per normal
10:30am to 11am.

EASY WORSHIP

Sat 15th Mar: Imelda
Sun 16th Mar: Sarah Richards

Sat 22nd Mar: Valoia Family
Sun 23rd Mar: AM Carroll

BAPTISM MEETING

Tues 29 April from 7pm at St Mary's Church

First Sunday of Lent, Year C

A Thanksgiving Celebration for Mons
Peter Jeffrey will be held on
Sunday 30th of March 2025

It will take the form of 10am Mass at
St Mary's followed by lunch in the Marian
Centre. Meat will be provided.
Asking for the attendees to please bring a salad
or a dessert.

There are sheets at the
Church doors for names
please or contact Maree
on 5825 2584.



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Second Sunday of Lent 15th and 16th of March 2025

Toefuata'iga - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a primary school
student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her
school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of
supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000
L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to
clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus
on education.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia



You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the
donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code
above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

CONGRATULATIONS

and welcome to *Theo Mackay*
who will be baptised at St
Mary's at 10am this Sunday.



Men's Group

Our Men's group will welcome Fr Paul Sireh for our next gathering on Saturday the 22nd of March 7.30am. Fr Paul will share some reflections about Hope. Pope Francis has declared 2025 as the Jubilee year of Pilgrims of Hope. Throughout history Christians have endured times of terrible desolation, persecution and at times death because of their faith in Jesus Christ. The reason many can endure such terrible times is the Hope that God will never abandon them. We may not have to endure any such difficulties, but nevertheless our faith can be tested at times, are we able to see past the difficulty and trust that God is present with us in the crisis, this is called Hope. Please come and join us in the Parish center at St Brendan's, 7.30am for breakfast, Anthony 58212633 Tues or Thurs.

Introduction to the Acts of the Apostles.

Maria Weatherill and Fr Joe will present an overview of the Acts of the Apostles at St Brendan's Pastoral Centre (behind St Brendan's Catholic Church) 7.30pm—8.30pm, Tuesdays 25 March, 1 April and 8 April 2025. Everyone is most welcome.



INSTALLATION OF FR ARUN KORLAKANTI AS SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR OF SANDHURST CCR

Installation of Fr Arun Korlakanti as Spiritual Director of CCR Sandhurst by Bishop Shane Mackinlay. Praise and worship at 11.15am followed by Mass at 11.30am at St Brendan's Knight Street Shepparton, Saturday 29th March 2025.

Followed by lunch and talks by Fr Arun at the Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre.

Lunch: Please bring a plate to share. All welcome!

Contact:

Brigita Hore 0412 042 196

Mary Zobec 0427 190 282

Denise Illot 0407 506 813

ST BRENDANS CHURCH

YOUTH GROUP

YEARS 6-10

MARCH 21

**3:30 (For a 4pm start)-5.30pm
in the Pastoral Centre
(hall behind the Church)**

Join us for food, games
and discussion

shepparton.ym@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

World Day of Prayer 2025

Thank you to everyone who supported

World Day of Prayer last Friday 7

March 2025. Cathie McMaster did a fantastic job coordinating the service, the women of the Cook Islands were

wonderful and Mons Peter Jeffrey spoke very well.

Approximately 60 people attended and \$415 was raised and will be donated to the Bible Society.



*I will give thanks to You,
because I am awesomely and wonderfully made;
Wonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.
Psalm 139:14 NASB*



St Patricks Day—Monday 17 March 2025

To acknowledge St Patrick's Day and the Irish heritage of our Diocese, Diocesan Archivist, Dr Donna Bailey shares an item from the Archives from the Estate of Mary Bell Collection.

Rosary Beads

The tag on the beads reads: "Mitchel's" Irish Rosary Beads and Cross and Chain are made in Dublin. The Beads and Cross are of Irish Horn, available for all the Blessings and Indulgences. They are light to carry and indestructible ..."

The beads were most likely made in the 1800s at Mitchel's Rosary Bead Factory of Dublin, where hundreds of girls made rosary beads to help Christians pray all over the world. (In case you're wondering, Irish horn is made from deer or goat antlers).





Readings
for
this week:

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 9:28-36

Readings
for
next week:

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15 1
Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
Luke 13:1-9

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Mooroopna Market
Ferrari Park
Last Sunday of each Month
9am to 2pm



MERRITT
FUNERAL SERVICES

PH (24HRS): 03 5825 1651

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Sick List: Graeme Weir, Cherie Mammone, Jim McIntyre, Irene Murphy, Dennis Corboy, Barry Monaghan, Pat Hicks, John Raleigh and Josie Anderson, Rosemary Haig, Jill Taylor (White), Linda O'Rourke, Kellie Seymour, Robert Rocca, Irene Biesieki-erski, Rosanna Scarcella, Melissa Scali, Wendy Sinclair, Angelo Conti, Josephine Buttigieg

Recently Deceased: Roberto Mellino

Anniversaries: Len Stein

ALTAR HELPERS Sat 15th March: Liz Donnelly & Mavis Murphy Sat Mar 22nd: not required

BINGO Sat 22nd March: Narissa Russell, Vicki Emmanuelli, Andrew Owers, Sarah Richards, Francesca Richards

15th & 16th March	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY
6:30 pm	TBC	Mary Coad	Miriam Hogarty	Josie Buttegeig
10.00 am	Cecily Dumaesq	Marie O'Meara	Marg Lee	Valoia Family
22nd & 23rd March				
6:30 pm	Checca Richards	Cathie McMaster	Mavis Murphy	Raymond Family
10.00 am	Jacques Martin-Lefevre	Laine Martin-Lefevre	Maree Williams	Leo & Brenda Pye