



St Brendan's & St Mary's Parishes are child safe communities. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

31 August 2025

First Reading Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,
he accepts the homage of the humble.
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,
since an evil growth has taken root in him.
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 67:4-7, 10-11. R. v.11

(R.) God, In your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. (R.)
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. (R.)
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you;

learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 14:1, 7-14

All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

Please note the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 1 and will reopen as normal on Tuesday, September 2.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.



SAVE THE DATE

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Commences after the 8am Mass



Reflection by Greg Sunter

In the gospel of Luke, Jesus is accused of eating with sinners and tax collectors (Lk 15) and we have an image of Jesus as always eating with the marginalised. However, today's gospel account is a more common occurrence: Jesus eating with a leading Pharisee and people of social importance. Although Jesus is depicted as frequently dining in the houses of these well-to-do people, he was probably never invited a second time! As in today's account, Jesus made a habit of accepting the hospitality of such people and then giving them a lecture about how they should behave and reminding them who was not gathered around the table with them. Certainly the sort of actions that don't see too many follow-up invitations!

The message he dishes out to the Pharisees on this occasion is about not thinking you're more important than you really are. He tells them that it is far better to assume a lower status and to be lifted to greater prominence than it is to assume too much and have to be asked to step down to your proper status. In first century Jewish society, eating was as much a political act as it was a social one. Who you ate with was a reflection of your social and political position. To be invited to the head of the table would reflect very positively on a guest whilst being asked to assume a lower seat would be humiliating.

Jesus' final teaching in this account would have been outrageous to his audience. The thought of inviting to a meal people who were in no position to reciprocate was absolutely ridiculous. But Jesus encourages his audience to give to those who cannot repay – to be graciously generous just as God gives without expecting anything in return.

ST BRENDAN'S PARISH

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

Phone: 5821 2633

Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website: catholicparish.app/shepparton

Facebook: [sheppartonicatholic](https://www.facebook.com/sheppartonicatholic)

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor

Priest in Residence: Fr Saji Thomas MST

Assistant Priest: Fr Adi Indra

Office Manager: Diane Teitzel

Pastoral Associate: Anthony Kilmartin

Sacramental Coordinator: Jess Doyle

Administration Support: Laura Thompson

Youth Worker: Emma Christy

Housekeeper: Louise Tumua-Malolo

Maintenance Officer/Gardener: Gavin Doherty

Visiting Psychologist: Estela Hutchings

Safeguarding Officer: Kathy Hunt Ph: 5821 2633

Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm

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.

Readers & Commentators Sept 6 & 7, 2025

6pm	SR Bing	Julie Kelly
8am	Sara White	Paul White
11am	Paul Richardson	Loretta Richardson

Recently Deceased: Wilfred Kirby

Anniversaries: Bryan McNamara, Imelda Mahony

Memorial Service for Police Officers

A memorial service will be held on
Thursday, September 4 at 6.00pm

at St Brendan's Church
to honor and remember our
fallen police officers.

All are welcome to attend.

Please keep James Lamb in your prayers as he receives the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion this Sunday, August 31 at St Mary's Church in Dookie. Congratulations, James!



Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am



Syro Malabar Rite: Wednesday 6.00pm,

Saturday 8.30am & Sunday 5.30pm

St Mary's Dookie, Sunday 9.30am

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

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 4.45pm - 5.45pm

Anointing Mass

Wednesday, September 3 at 11am



No Holy Hour – Thursday, September 4

Please note there will be no Holy Hour on Thursday, September 4 due to the Memorial Service for Police Officers being held at 6:00pm.

PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL for the Retired Priests of Sandhurst

There are currently 12 retired priests in our diocese. This appeal helps fund their housing, ongoing care, and everyday living expenses.

The Foundation relies on the generosity of both priests and parishioners throughout the Diocese. A special collection will be held on the weekend of September 20/21, which serves as the major fundraiser of the year.

Your donations are essential and tax-deductible. This is a valuable opportunity to thank God for the ministry and dedication of our priests, and to pray for both our active and retired clergy.

- Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible.
- If you require a receipt for donations over \$10, please use the envelopes provided.

Thank you for your support.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Are you searching for more peace in your life? Do you feel like something is missing?

The RCIA process guides people through what the Catholic Church believes and teaches. Our focus is on how the Church and our faith lead us into a relationship with Jesus, through becoming part of a community of faith.

The RCIA process begins on **Thursday, October 9 at 7.30pm** in the **St Brendan's Pastoral Centre**, with an **Enquiry Night**.

Sharing our faith with others is central to our own journey. This often happens through asking questions ourselves or by listening as others ask theirs.

The RCIA team — Mary-Anne Demase, Geoff Woodhouse, Sr Hartini, and myself — leads the process on behalf of our parish. Please keep us in your prayers, and take an interest in what's happening in RCIA and who is involved.

Any questions can be directed to
Anthony on 5821 2633
(Tuesdays or Thursdays).



Men's Group

For our next gathering, we invite all parishioners to join us for a walk through the beautiful hills of Dookie.

On Sunday, September 7, we will meet at the Cosgrove Silos at 7.30am, then walk along the rail trail into Dookie, arriving in time for 9:30am Mass at St Mary's, Dookie.

After Mass, we'll join the Dookie parishioners for a coffee at the local café.

This walk is open to everyone who would enjoy a leisurely Sunday morning in the Dookie hills.

If you need a ride or have any questions, please call **Anthony on 5821 2633** (Tuesdays or Thursdays).



Fr Kevin Saunders, OP – 50th Ordination Anniversary

Fr Kevin Saunders, OP celebrates his 50th Anniversary of Ordination this Sunday, August 31, at the 9.00am Mass at St Mary's Church in Nathalia.

We offer him our prayerful wishes and give thanks for his many years of faithful service to the Church.

TRAINING FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO LEAD CHILDREN LITURGY

Calling all volunteers who lead our Children Liturgy during the 11am Sunday Masses.

to attend a Training Session on
Sunday September 14 between 9.45am and 10.45am.

This will be held in the Pastoral Centre.

Please RSVP to the Parish Office via phone or email by Friday September 12.

Thank you.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training

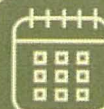


We strongly encourage all extraordinary ministers of Communion, as well as those who would like to become a Eucharistic Minister, to attend this important training session.

Practical Training for this ministry will be held at
St Brendan's Catholic Church on Thursday, September 11, from 6.00 pm – 6.45 pm.



SAVE THE DATE Trivia Night More info coming soon



October 17
6.00 - 9.00 PM



Sacred Heart Hall,
Notre Dame College



FR JOE'S FAREWELL CELEBRATIONS

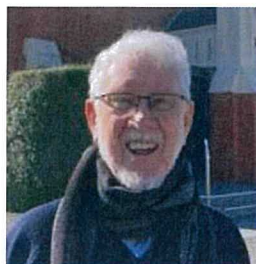
Everyone is welcome!

WHEN: Sunday September 28
following the 11am Mass

WHERE: Sacred Heart Hall
(commonly known as Mons
Bones Hall)

– Hall alongside the Church

TIME: 12.45pm



BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL to assist with catering.

Click on the link below
or scan the QR Code

<https://www.trybooking.com/DETJQ>



CATERING supplied by our Parish Catering Team.
NO SET COST however donations are welcome.

For anyone who would like to contribute to a monetary gift
for Fr Joe, you can do so by either:

Sending cash into the Parish Office OR Bank transfer:

NAME: St Brendans Parish

BSB: 083-543

ACCOUNT: 48359-3006

REFERENCE: Farewell

SAVE THE DATE: Annual Public Rosary

All are welcome to attend this prayerful
and social gathering.

Saturday October 11, 2025, 10.30am,

St Brendan's Parish Church Gardens.

(If wet weather: we will move into the Church)

Followed by a cuppa in the MPJC.

The centre will be open prior to Rosary.
Please bring a plate to share while socialising.

PETITIONS: Prayers and thanksgivings to

Our Lady will be forwarded by ANF
(Australia Needs Fatima) to Portugal.

BYO: Chair/Rug/Cushion/Hat/Coat and
Spectacles for your comfort.

Enquiries to Maureen on 0403 876 578.



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YOU'RE INVITED to Sandhurst Celebration of Season Of Creation on Friday 5th September



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18



Venue: **Huntly
Streamside Reserve**

(At Huntly, turn west into
Leans Rd then right at sign
into Streamside Reserve)

Time: **Mass celebrated by Fr Joe Taylor VG at 11am**

Picnic Lunch - Sausage sizzle provided

BYO lunch if preferred

BYO water bottles

**Blessing & Distribution
of native plants**
to schools & parishes
of Sandhurst diocese



EVERYONE is invited and encouraged to come
along and celebrate in this beautiful bush setting.



**PEACE
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

MARIAN FESTIVAL, BENDIGO

Sunday, October 12

To book the coach to travel across to Bendigo for
the Marian Festival, we need numbers by September 10.

We depart from St Brendan's Parish Car Park,
Shepparton at 8am.

Payment is required by September 25, 2025.

Contact Maureen:
0403 876 578.



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