



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

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

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9:30am - 2:30pm
Friday 9:30am - 12:30pm
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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

7 May 2023

Readings for
this week:

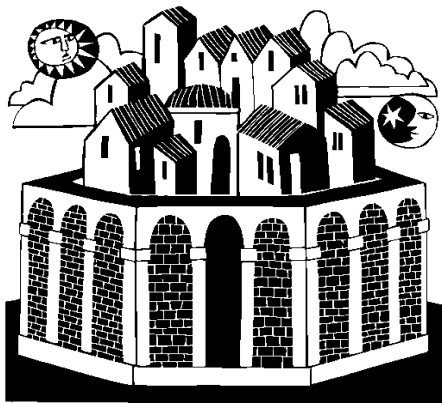


Acts 6:1-7
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12

Readings for
next Sunday:



Acts 8:5-8,14-17
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 17:1-11



Liturgical Jottings Deacons

The Catholic church has three orders within Holy Orders: Bishop, Presbyter (priest) and Deacon. The role of deacon finds its origins in the New Testament. The verb means to serve at table. The noun is translated as servant or minister. The title is attributed in a way to the Apostles and those appointed to provide a ministry in the Church. St Paul named it as a distinctive office (Philippians 1:1), and lists the deacon's qualities (1 Tim 3:8-13). Though the seven appointed men in the first reading this Sunday are not called deacons their duties of prayer, service to the word and charity imply the service of a deacon. Phoebe of Cenchreae is called a deaconess (Rom 16:1).

"At Mass the deacon proclaims the Gospel, may preach God's word, announce the intentions of the Prayer of the Faithful, prepare the altar and serve the celebration of the sacrifice, distribute communion especially the cup ..." cf GIRM 94

Looking at the Readings

The gospel readings for the Sundays just before the feast of Pentecost are all taken from Jesus' last discourse in the Gospel of John. In them, Jesus prepares his followers for his death and resurrection and his ultimate exaltation.

This Sunday Jesus says that it is through his death that he goes to God. However, it is as he is raised up in crucifixion that he is exalted. The author of the epistle declares him 'chosen and precious in the sight of God' but it is as the stone that was rejected that he is so honoured. If we ever wonder how the exaltation of Jesus will affect us, we have Jesus' own words of explanation. He promises to go ahead of us and make arrangements for us to share in his exaltation in the house of the one he calls Father. All we need do is follow him.

Today's readings suggest that the exaltation of Jesus is most dramatically manifested in the character of the community of those called by his name. It is revealed in the way Christians settle their differences so that all parties are treated fairly. Jesus is the cornerstone upon which this community is built, and the community mirrors his influence in its life. Christians also participate in the exaltation of Jesus by spreading the good news to others. In Acts we see how the witness of life and the preaching of the word of God increased the number of believers. © Dianne Bergant CSA

Pope Francis Easter Vigil Homily

Yet today, brother, sister, the power of Easter summons you to roll away every stone of disappointment and mistrust. The Lord is an expert in rolling back the stones of sin and fear. He wants to illuminate your sacred memory, your most beautiful memory, and to make you relive that first encounter with him. Remember and keep moving forward. Return to him and rediscover the grace of God's resurrection within you! Return to Galilee. Return to your Galilee. Dear brothers and sisters, let us follow Jesus to Galilee, encounter him and worship him there, where he is waiting for each of us. Let us revive the beauty of that moment when we realized that he is alive and we made him the Lord of our lives. Let us return to Galilee, the Galilee of our first love. Let each of us return to his or her own Galilee, to the place where we first encountered him. Let us rise to new life! (part 4)

On the Lighter Side

A priest, a deacon and a rabbit walk into a blood bank.
"I think I might be a Type O." said the rabbit.



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St Mel's Parish Is...

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

[REFLECTION FROM FR PETER](#)

Who of us does not keep a place in our lives for something giving us a feeling for being truly at home? Or having a place we regard as a haven? Of peace and rest? Thoughts like these give us a place away from the tasks and demands life puts on us! Jesus was aware of this human of longings. In preparing his disciples for the day of his departure (meaning his Ascension), he tells them he is going ahead to prepare a dwelling place for them at their journey's end.

The Gospel offers this sense of journey as one taking us into a spiritual home of many rooms where we discern our abilities in faith in anticipating the gifts of the Spirit. Pope Francis in his prayer intention for May is reminding the faithful our lives are a continual journey of finding, losing at times then rediscovering God's call to us. Through this Pope Francis is calling upon the Church through different ministry groups for a mission open to evangelization, it's a word calling us to see outside our own personal interests in reaching out to others.

This month of May, often regarded as one where we place Mary, as a focal point of intercession, who went out of herself, enables us being a community in faith, who sees and acts upon our presence to others. There is a degree as a Parish efforts are being created to see all we can become to one another. World Youth Day is coming up and after Mass THIS SUNDAY we are encouraged to stay for morning tea AND then on the first Sunday in June 4th after 9.30am Mass another morning tea with support for Zoe Hamilton attending World Youth Day as our Parish representative.

We give place in our hearts for all we do see in each other in making our Parish through Easter a living community in faith to each other.

MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE (MMHC)

Australian Heritage Festival Open Day Saturday 13 May 2023

The MMHC building initially designed and operational as a place of providence and respite for women in their time of need is located on grounds that were purchased by Mary in 1901.

Explore the Museum with one of our guides or independently with our new audio tour.

A highlight of your day will be enjoying a cuppa with a Sister of Saint Joseph.

Book [here](#) to for a guided tour that will run every hour between 10.30am – 3.30pm.

Mary MacKillop Gift Shop

Consider supporting a ministry of the Sisters of St Joseph by purchasing a present from the [Museum Gift Shop](#). The shop stocks communion & confirmation gifts, devotional items, Vatican pieces, rosary beads, holding crosses, candles, cards, statues, crucifixes, books and Peruvian handmade items.

Mary Of The Cross Exhibition

The Heritage Centre is proud to present a new exhibition in the Temporary Gallery that explores the significance of the Cross in Mary's life. Visitors will be able to view objects from the museum's collection of Josephite emblems and crosses, while activity sheets will be available for young people to enjoy.

The Mary of the Cross Exhibition will be held April - June 2023; Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm.

[Accommodation @ MMHC](#) When in Melbourne book your next stay at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre - Accommodation in the heart of Melbourne - Contact Kate on 9926 9300

[L'ARCHE FUNDRAISER AT THE STAR CINEMA](#) On May 25th at 7pm, L'Arche Bendigo are hosting a fundraiser at the Star Cinema in Eaglehawk, Town Hall, Peg Leg Rd, Eaglehawk. Featuring the hit movie "80 for Brady" starring Sally Field, Rita Moreno, Lilly Tomlin and Jane Fonda. Tickets are just \$22 at the ticket office or book online using the following link:

<https://www.starcinema.org.au/movie/larche-bendigo-fundraiser-80-for-brady>

Enquiries to Jim Rolfe on 0407 554 263. Everyone is welcome to come along to a night of fun for a good cause.



St Mel's Parish would like to acknowledge the elders past and present of the Yorta Yorta Nation, and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our parish and church is situated.

Ladies High Tea

PLEASE JOIN US

ON
FRIDAY 12TH MAY

AT 11AM - 1PM

TO BE HELD AT ST MEL'S PARISH HALL

COST \$15 PER PERSON

* Lucky door prizes * Raffle Prizes
* Entertainment



R.S.V.P BY
WEDNESDAY 10TH
MAY
to the school office

CELEBRATIONS OF BAPTISM

Our congratulations and welcome to Logan Fantig, child of Dean and Renee, to Pia Taylor, child of Lincoln and Caitlin and to Mila Sellwood, child of Mark and Tammy.

All were baptised into our Church here last Sunday.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM Last Thursday

evening our Candidates and their parents/guardians gathered at St Mel's Parish Hall to begin their Confirmation preparations in the Steps in Faith program. 'Belonging' was the focus of this session, and we heard many ways in which the children felt they belonged in our community. Thank you to the staff and students of St Mel's Primary for supporting our Parish. The Candidate's profiles are now on display in the Church. Please continue to pray for them as the Sacramental Mass day nears, Sunday, May 28th.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 Is an event bringing

great hope to our Church, particularly for the many going to Portugal across Australia. For ourselves, we are fortunate in having Zoe Hamilton who is preparing herself to go along. This morning after Mass, we have an opportunity to support Zoe going to WYD, through our generosity, and then again on Sunday June 4th. A morning tea will be held after the 9:30am Mass on these Sundays. Envelopes are available today in the Narthex for your financial support. Please return these at your convenience.

In anticipation of your generosity,

Fr Peter

ST MEL'S PARISH MISSION AND PASTORAL COUNCIL It has been suggested after the FIRST SUNDAY of each month a cuppa and biscuits be served after the 9:30am Sunday Mass. This will begin THIS SUNDAY, and happens to coincide with support for Zoe Hamilton going to WYD, as will the first Sunday next month, June 4th. So, from July 2nd, a cuppa will be provided after the 9:30am Mass and continue the first Sunday of each month, purely as an opportunity of getting to know others in our Parish community.

The PMPC meet again this Wednesday, May 10 at 7pm in the Gathering room.

Fr Peter

MASS COUNTS Will be taken over the next four weekends. The purpose of such counts is to attain an estimate of the number of people attending mass in the Diocese. Thank you to those in our Parish who assist with this.

CATHOLIC EARTH CARE AUSTRALIA Is supporting 'LAUDATO SI' week in conjunction with an ONLINE 'ACTION' event. The theme this year is 'Hope for the earth, Hope for humanity'. On Wednesday, May 17 from 4pm to 6pm you can go online for this by registering at <https://www.trybooking.com/CHVPE>

FAITH DEVELOPMENT A recent talk given by the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Christophe Pierre said he is now convinced, "The Church today is in need of an eye – opening experience", similar to the one where the disciples on the road to Emmaus, encountered the risen Christ. He went to say, "many today are disillusioned thinking that Christ is not the answer to their quest for happiness and meaning". The hardships of living out the faith in face of a society that is increasingly secularized and polarized are evident. The temptation to remain stuck in the past is real, the path forward is often difficult to discern, and discouragement can set in, Pierre said.

The Eucharist is the place of encounter, giving discernment, affording new visions of reality and an ecclesial vision. Maybe there is a connection to our Australian understanding and in a local context too. Fr Peter

PENTECOST WITH SANDHURST YOUTH MINISTRY Young People ages 15-35 are invited to gather together to celebrate Pentecost! There will be music from Melbourne musician Gen Bryant and her band, talks and other activities, and a BBQ. We will also celebrate the Pentecost Vigil Mass as part of the evening. Further information, including how to register, will be available on Instagram and Facebook on the Sandhurst Youth Ministry pages so make sure you follow us to find out more.

Saturday 27th May at Our Lady's Church, Wangaratta Sth, 5:30 – 9:30pm (arrive from 5pm)



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sheppartonsouth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY MAY 14TH 2023

First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring.

And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God.

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The Word of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week May 8th to May 14th 2023

Monday May 8th - No Mass
 Tuesday May 9th - 9:15 am
 Wednesday May 10th - 9:15am
 Thursday May 11th - 9:15am
 Friday May 12th - 9:15am
 Saturday May 13th - 9am
 Sunday May 14th - 9:30am & 5pm



READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER Sunday, May 14th 2023

9:30am - Chris Summers (Commentator) Sev Cortese (L1)
 Mary Calandro (L2)
 9:30am - Special Ministers: Chris Summers &
 Maree McKenna
 5:00pm - Helen May (Commentator) Luisa Cassise (Lector)
 5:00pm - Special Ministers: Erin Tanner & Helen May

Recently Deceased: Patricia Florence, Kath Feehan, Domenic Mallamaci (one month mind)

Anniversaries: Filippo Presti, Rosa & Antonino Presti, Rosaria, Filippo & Giuseppe Mobilia, Guiseppa Pumeriano, Antonio Manno, Terry McManus, Soledad Lee, Girolamo & Guilia Tassone, Antonia Cosimo Tassone, Mary Fenn, John Lorimer, Nymfa Mendoza