



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

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

18 Hamilton Street, Shepparton 3630
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Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9:30am - 2:30pm
Friday closed during August & September
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.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20 August 2023

Readings for
this week:



Isaiah 56:1,6-7
Romans 11:13-15,29-32
Matthew 15:21-28

Readings for
next Sunday:



Isaiah 22:19-23
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20



Liturgical Jottings Kerygma

Generally speaking Kerygma is the proclamation of the good news of Jesus. Kerygma is the content and the activity and the task of the preacher. Writers express this concept in various ways: The Proclaimer, Jesus Christ, became the Proclaimed (R Bultmann), or the public proclamation of Christianity to the non-Christian world (C H Dodd) but also includes the teaching and training of the disciples and all believers. Kerygma is linked to the literary form of the Gospels. Mark presents Christ's words and works with mystery of the cross and the call to be disciples. Matthew by five great discourses revealing Christ's message for the community. Luke uses the journey motif to explain Jesus' death and resurrection and John by revealing Christ's glory by the seven signs and the events of crucifixion and resurrection. Today's readings highlight the role of kerygma: to proclaim and preach salvation for all.

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Looking at the Readings

The three readings and the psalm all mention foreigners and pagans and the call from God to them and the mission of the church towards them. The Gospel of Matthew was written for a church community comprised of Jewish converts to Christianity. The Gospel included many old testament references with which they would be familiar. But the Gospel particularly emphasises Jesus contacts with the gentiles (non-Jews). First three women are named in the family tree of Jesus, Tamar and Rahab Canaanites, and Ruth a Moabite (Matt 1:3,5). Matthew was the only Gospel to relate the wise men from the East coming to worship the Infant Jesus. A Roman Centurion asks Jesus to cure his servant (Matt 8:5-13) and the Canaanite (Syro-Phoenician) woman her daughter in today's Gospel. Jesus' initial response creates some speculation: Is he harsh or reluctant or discriminant or even humorous? He is also prophetic, like Isaiah, and educative to his listeners. He acknowledges the woman's deep and persistent faith and is compassionate to her and her daughter.

St Paul reveals his passion in his ministry and energy in his language and is definite in his arguments: for he brings the good news of salvation to the pagans. The Good News is the mercy and love of God for all.

Prayer for the Week

Lord Jesus, may we have the courage to pray for our needs and the strength to accept your answer. In your name we pray. Amen.

The Quirky Calendar

Today the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time falls on the twentieth of August. Coincidentally the last concurrence was the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time on the twenty-first of August 2022. These concurrences have occurred 22 times this century!

Quote of the Day

It is important that it have two main goals. One is the development of the *kerygma*, the foundational experience of encounter with God through Christ's death and resurrection. The other is growth in *fraternal love*, community life and service.

Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation Christus vivit (March 2019)

On the Lighter Side

Joseph Byrne's "Dictionary of Unusual, Obscure and Preposterous Words" simply defines Kerygma as Christian preaching. Above the entry is keraunophobia: abnormal fear of thunder and lightning and kerdomeletia: excessive attention to material wealth. The last two words are not in my spellchecker!

St Mel's Parish Is...

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

REFLECTION FROM FR PETER

Today's gospel is about crossing boundaries into new territories that is not just geographical but also a venture into differences of culture, and religion. Jesus finds himself in 'pagan' territory, is confronted by a Canaanite woman, a descendant of one of the ancient enemies of Israel. She is revealed as a mother whose own daughter is in dire need of help. No husband or father is mentioned. We gather from this she is devoted to her daughter, and at the end of her tether.

Jesus' response to her is one of silence. Maybe Jesus is coming to terms with his own identity, crossing his own border, yet acknowledges the woman and her faith. For all the differences revealed in this story, Jesus' reveals his humanity, suggesting his own mission is expanded by the presence of the Canaanite woman. This might reveal something of today's meaning of people and their community... Are they part of us? If not, why then associate with them?

Being people of faith and life one of the great understandings this gospel brings is a mindset to being inclusive. Our Church is one where we keep hearing of the call to reach out. It's like Paul striving to resolve the differences between Jews and Gentiles in his community. Both groups have a history of disobedience, yet it God's greater mercy being there for all.

This might call us to see... What groups find themselves being excluded from Church life? or how might we at St Mel's live the radical hospitality of God's love in our time?

SANDHURST PRIESTS DAYS OF INSERVICE This year we gather at Cadel on the Murray at Moama, from Monday evening September 4th to Thursday 7th. These are important days for our wellbeing and learning and being with each other in our ministry.
Fr Peter

GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER (GSWNS)

"Where two or three are gathered, I am there among them." (Matt 18:20)

St Mel's group has been blessed with so many volunteers, including Wes from the South Shepparton Community Church, in providing meals and company down at the Lake. We first met Wes when our Churches combined to provide overnight shelter in 2021-22, even when he experienced difficult circumstances. During the 2022 winter the various Church groups realised there wasn't that need, so we changed to providing hot meals each night during winter. This project has been most beneficial to all concerned.



ST MEL'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

An information night for the 2023 – 2024 St Mel's Parish Steps in Faith Sacramental Program

Reconciliation – Confirmation – First Eucharist

Will be held on Thursday, September 14th at 7pm in St Mel's Christ the King Church
(Please enter through the side door off the Hamilton St car park)

Parents wishing for their child/ren to journey through the program and receive the Sacraments of Initiation are encouraged to attend as expectations, dates and costs will be explained, any queries discussed, and enrolment packs distributed.

This program is suitable for children in Years 3 and above.

THANK YOU FROM MONSIGNOR PETER JOHN JEFFREY It was very moving for me to receive cards, messages, and gifts on the occasion of my 60th anniversary of ordination. I was humbled, but delighted to have Arch Bishop Peter Loy Chong as main celebrant at the Jubilee Mass. To have Bishop Steve Lowe of Auckland, Bishop Les Tomlinson, and Bishop Shane Mackinlay as concelebrants reminded me of my times as Rector in Melbourne, Fiji, and New Zealand. I was thrilled to have so many friends and parishioners at the Mass at St Brendan's and afterwards at the celebration dinner at the GV Hotel. Thank you very much for the letters and keep praying for one and other.
Peter J

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.

THIRD SANDHURST MISSION AND PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council will conduct their third meeting on 25 & 26 August 2023. Please pray for the Council using the following Prayer for the Mission and Pastoral Council.



We turn to Mary, our Mother of Good Counsel and patroness of our Diocese, as we seek to become a more missionary and pastoral Church: people of faith, hope and love for our world. May we be led by the same wisdom and courage sent by the Holy Spirit to guide her along unfamiliar paths and through challenging decisions. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us!

SANDHURST LAUNCH OF SEASON OF CREATION

You're all invited to come and celebrate our Care for Creation at Notley Picnic Ground, Whipstick Forest, Bendigo on **Friday, September 1st**, beginning with **Mass at 11am** celebrated by Bishop Shane followed by **Picnic Lunch**. BYO chairs encouraged although some seating available. Sausage sizzle provided or BYO lunch if preferred.

BYO hot/cold drinks; BYO water bottles – water on site.

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

It's also the first day of spring and National Wattle Day! RSVP not essential but if you & friends are coming then letting us know by texting 0408 579 904 would be helpful.



Let Justice and Peace Flow
Season of Creation 2023

CCR SANDHURST You are invited to “Living in the Holy Spirit”, guest presenter is author Adrian Commadeur. Saturday, September 2nd, 2023 start 9am to 4pm, at the Monsignor Peter Jeffrey Centre, St Brendan’s, Knight Street Shepparton. Shared lunch, tea and coffee provided. See flyer in the Narthex for more information or contact Brigita Hore 0412 042 196 or Denise Illott 0407506813.



CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE Is running an Online Information Session for the Graduate Certificate in Teaching Meditation on Monday, September 4th at 7:30pm (AEST). Please see flyer in the Narthex for more information.

ENNEAGRAM DAY – SATURDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2023, 9 AM – 4.30 PM (in-person event) This one-day practical workshop offers a transformational experience where you will gain invaluable insight into the unique way in which we relate and respond to the people with whom we share our lives, and the world around us. Facilitated by our Program Director Dr Lynn Moresi, she will dwell into topics of discovering your Enneagram Type; identifying your pathways of strength and challenge; understanding/interacting with other Types; handling conflict; and effective communication. Join this small group setting for a day of fun, laughter, challenge and insight. Places limited. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/enneagram-day/> or email info@heartoflife.melbourne. Cost: \$80 including notes (BYO lunch)



INNER PEACE IN DIVINE LOVE A ‘retreat in daily life’ - it is for busy committed people who cannot afford to take time off work and pay for increasingly expensive retreats in spirituality centres. The retreat is made over four weeks (16th October – 6th November) and is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. The retreat will be directed by Paul White, who brings a background of living Ignatian Spirituality as a member of Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia. Paul has a Graduate Diploma in Spiritual Direction and enjoys and is greatly experienced in giving retreats in Victoria and NSW.

(Dependent on numbers) the retreat will be offered with a choice of times:

Mondays: 16th October; 23rd October; 30th October; 6th November

Times: 1:30pm – 3:00pm or 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Venue: Mons. Peter Jeffrey Centre, St. Brendan’s Parish, Knight St. Shepparton.

Cost: \$40.00 (covers the cost of the retreat book if required.)

Registration is required by Sunday September 2nd. Enquiries to Paul White – mob. 0437290950



PROJECT COMPASSION 2023 Concluded at the end of the financial year. Nationally, Project Compassion 2023 raised \$9.7 million which is an increase of about 1.2% on 2022. Sandhurst Diocese can be very proud of its amazing \$512,591.73 which is an increase of 2.7%. **THANK YOU** for your particular part in this. The theme of Project Compassion this year was *FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS* so thank you for helping change lives in many impoverished countries *FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS*.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY AUGUST 27th 2023

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week August 21st to August 27th 2023

Monday August 21st to Friday August 25th

No weekday Masses at St Mel's



Saturday August 26th - 9am

Sunday August 27th - 9:30am & 5pm

READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER Sunday, August 27th 2023

9:30am - Sev Cortese (Commentator) Sr Pam Barlow (L1)

Denis Muto (L2)

9:30am - Special Ministers: Lucy Ciancio & Jacqui Avard

5:00pm - Helen May (Commentator) Dom Poppa (Lector)

5:00pm - Special Ministers: Lin Waite & Helen May

Recently Deceased: Mattea Benson, Frank Purcell, Josephine Rennie, Maria Parlapiano

Anniversaries: Manuel D`Silva, Sisto Muto, Denis McGurgan, Ben O`Donoghue, Francesca Sasone, Nazzarena Tassone, Franco Tassone



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