



WELCOME TO ST MARYS PARISH

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Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays: 9.30am —3:30pm

The Living Word

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

13 September 2026

First Reading Sir 27:30–28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults (R.)
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel Mt 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'



Reflection by Nick Brodie

Twice in today's gospel we hear indebted servants cry 'Give me time'. Through this parable Jesus shows us that patience and forgiveness are high virtues. These inform the Church's teaching on what Pope Francis calls an 'integral ecology', which basically insists that human progress should be sustainable and compassionate. All human beings exist as part of nature and in relation with each other. God too is part of this dynamic by virtue of the mystery of Creation, but also in a special way through Jesus in the Incarnation and through the Spirit in the Church. We Christians are called, therefore, to be patient and forgiving with nature and with each other as part of God's transcendent plan.

Our opportunities to do this come in many forms. We can reconsider whether our consumer habits are too burdensome on our planet, extracting resources more quickly than they can be replenished. We can choose to buy foods that are sustainably produced, and which justly supports small farmers. And we can encourage our political leaders to be like the good master, supporting debt relief for impoverished countries, abiding by international climate agreements, and taking other such actions that might give our world and its people time to heal.

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Celebrating St. Mary's PS Alumni

The Alumni Visits have continued this term at each assembly, providing students with a wonderful opportunity to hear from former St. Mary's students who have gone on to achieve success in a variety of fields.

Ester Janke recently shared her wonderful St. Mary's story as part of the **90 Years of St. Mary's celebrations**. Ester took the audience back to the early days of the school, when the first classes were held in the church and students wrote using **ink wells!** She also shared fond memories of Athletics Days on the oval and learning the much-loved song "*I'm a Little Teapot*."

The personal memories provided a beautiful glimpse into the history of St. Mary's and reminded us of the many traditions, experiences and special moments that connect generations of the school community. The grateful to Ester for helping us **Let Our Light Shine** through these treasured memories.



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 10.30am

RECONCILIATION

10:30am to 11:15am Saturday

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Mon 14/09	No Mass	
Tues 15/09	Holy Hour	5pm
Tues 15/09	Mass	6pm
Wed 16/09	Mass	6pm
Thurs 17/09	Mass	6pm
Fri 18/09	Mass	10am

Safeguarding Sunday

This **Sunday, 13 September**, the Catholic Church in Australia marks **Safeguarding Sunday**, formerly known as Child Protection Sunday. Safeguarding Sunday is observed on the second Sunday of September each year, at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week.

This year's theme is **Love Protects**.

On Safeguarding Sunday, we pray for those who have experienced abuse, as well as their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done in Church settings and acknowledge the vulnerability of some within our parishes and communities.

We recommit ourselves to supporting survivors and to making the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires our constant work and vigilance.

The **Love Protects** theme reminds us that real love is not passive goodwill. Rather, it actively shields the vulnerable, tells the truth, and never allows silence to stand in the way of safety.

EASY WORSHIP

Sat 5th Sept: Filipino Choir

Sun 6th Sept: Imelda

Sat 12th Sept: Sarah Richards

Sun 13th Sept: AM Carroll

St Mary's Baptism Dates 2026

Sunday 20 September

Sunday 18 October

Sunday 15 November

Formation Meetings Dates for 2026

- Tuesday 13 October from 7pm in the Church.

SAVE THE DATE

**10th Anniversary of the
Annual Public Rosary**

Saturday 10 October 2026 at 10:30am

St Brendan's Parish Gardens
More details to come
Maureen: 0403 876 578



52nd Marian Festival

Sunday 11 October 2025

Pray the Rosary for World Peace

Sacred Heart Cathedral
Bendigo



St Brendan's are looking for an

Administration Support Officer

13.5 hours per week

Tues, Wed & Thurs during school hours

Permanent part time position

Location: St Brendan's Catholic Church Office

Enquiries: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Contact: 58212633

Applications close: 24 September 2026



CARITAS AUSTRALIA NEPAL APPEAL

The Caritas network is working alongside affected communities and local authorities to assess needs and ensure assistance reaches those most impacted. We are asking Australians to stand with the people of Nepal during this devastating time.



You can support the Appeal at www.caritas.org.au/nepal or call 1800 024 413.

YOUNG ADULTS SUNSET SESSION

Friday 25 September
From 6 – 8pm

Pastoral Centre (behind St Brendan's Church)
Young adults aged 18-35 are invited for dinner, discussion
and a guest speaker, Fr Luke Bulley.

Pope Leo's Message on the Season of Creation

Although the challenges before us are enormous, God does not leave us without the means of healing and transformation. In place of the weapons of war, the God of peace grants us the strength to heal, to reconcile and to build a civilization of love. In this way, we are called to safeguard the many "ecosystems" entrusted to us: the ecosystems of creation, of human relationships and of the human heart itself. Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development, to overcome poverty, protect human dignity and reconcile divided peoples. Such a vision reflects faith in the coming of God's Kingdom.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal—Retreat Day

Saturday 19 September 2026

St Brendan's Shepparton

Meet at 9:30am for a cuppa.

Time: 10:30am—3:30pm

Venue: Pastoral Centre, Knight
Street, Shepparton

Lunch: bring a plate to share
All welcome

Contact: Brigita 0412 042 196 or
Mary 0427 190 282



First Reconciliation

Congratulations to Eddie Weis who celebrated his First Reconciliation a few weeks ago during the 3/4 Unit Mass. Thank you to Fr Addin for celebrating this special occasion.



MEN'S GROUP

Movie and Pasta Night
Sunday 13 September at 5pm
St Brendan's Pastoral Centre
Movie: "A Man Called Otto"





Readings
for
this week:

Sirach 27:30-28-7
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

Readings
for
next week:

Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20-24,279
Matthew 20:1-16

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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Sick List: Graeme Weir, Dennis Corboy, Pat Hicks, John Raleigh, Josie Anderson, Rosemary Haig, Logan Clarke-Lines, Margaret Campbell, Nathan Campbell

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

ALTAR HELPERS Sat 12 Sept: Chris Flower and Faye Flower

Sat 19 Sept: not required

BINGO 19th September: Maree Williams, Francesca Richards, Alex Ransom, Sarah Richards, Emma Difede

12th & 13th Sept	COMMENTOR	READER	SPECIAL MINISTER	OFFERTORY
6:30 pm	Kevin Murphy	Mary Coad	Inez Raleigh	Angelina Vigliaturo
10.30 am	Maree Williams	Marie O'Meara	Angela Iacono	TBA
19th & 20th Sept				
6:30 pm	Mavis Murphy	Millicent Raymond	Rob O'Meara	Annette Rau
10.30 am	Helen Betson	Fiona Dowling	Liam Cowan	TBA