

WELCOME TO

ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan'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, Year B

2 May 2021

First Reading Acts 9:26-31

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:26-28, 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

or:

(R.) Alleluia.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 3:18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children,
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,
but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain
that we are the children of the truth
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,
whatever accusations it may raise against us,
because God is greater than our conscience
and he knows everything.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.
Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;

my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 15:1-8

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,
and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit he
prunes
to make it bear even more.
You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,
neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away
- he withers;
these branches are collected and thrown on
the fire,
and they are burnt.
If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.
It is to the glory of my Father that you should
bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the 'classic' gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many 'famous' or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt - we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don't need to pay it much attention.

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action: it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It is an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to 'prune' our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

I am reminded of the old *Karate Kid* movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.

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Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am

Saturday 8.30am *Syro Malabar Rite*, Sunday 5.30pm *Syro Malabar Rite*

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday mass.

Holy Hour— Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament— Fridays 5pm to 6pm *Note change of time*

Please note also — there will not be Adoration on Friday 7th May.

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation Saturday 10am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Mass Count

The annual Mass Count will be conducted at each weekend mass during May (except 29th/30th May).

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

We're beginning a new chapter, how do we open our hearts to those enquiring about joining our faith community? We will begin on Thursday the 13th of May at 7.30pm in the MPJC with three enquiry nights. The Alpha program will begin in late May and we are hoping to have the RCIA group start their journey with the Alpha program. If you know of anyone who would like to find out more, please have them call Anthony 5821 2633 Tuesday, Thursday or Friday.



Serra Club

Mass for the Serra Club will be on Friday 7th May at 7.15pm. We pray for vocations and for our wonderful priests. Everyone is welcome to come to this mass.

Men's Group

Our next meeting we will head across the causeway to Mooroopna parish. We have a few men from St Mary's who join us for our breakfast each fortnight so now it is our turn to travel to their home Parish. We will gather at 7.30am in Mooroopna's Marian centre for breakfast and a faith topic for discussion. Queries: call Anthony 58212633 Tues, Thurs or Friday

There will not be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Friday 7th May.

Painting works within the church

During this week commencing 3rd May to 7th May the church will undergo a bit of a facelift: painting of ALL the skirting boards, painting of the entire Narthex and the entire Reconciliation Room.

The 9.15am Masses on 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th May will be held in the Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre.

2021 Parish Sacramental Program Commitment Mass - Reconciliation

This weekend we welcome our Sacramental Candidates and their families to the start of the program and Commitment Mass for Reconciliation. During the mass, during a special prayerful ceremony, the children and their parents will make a commitment to the preparation for Reconciliation and we as a parish will also be asked to commit to supporting the children and their families on this journey. The children will celebrate their First Reconciliation on either Saturday 22nd or 29th May. Please keep our sacramental candidates and their families in your prayers.

Reminder for all parents of children participating in the parish Sacramental Program.

Primary School Program – At home during this coming week, Children with the help of their parents are to complete week one in the purple Steps in Faith Workbook.

Secondary School Program – Preparation classes for the Sacrament of Reconciliation begin this Tuesday 4th May. 4pm to 5pm in the Mons Jeffrey Centre (located behind the Church).

This Rite of Enrolment ceremony marks the beginning of a "journey of faith" for children and their parents who are starting the sacramental formation process. It is also a sign to the larger community that all of us have a role in the formation of anyone in the parish.

Faith doesn't always
take you out of the
problem, Faith takes
you through the problem.
Faith doesn't always
take away the pain,
Faith gives you the ability
to handle the pain.
Faith doesn't always
take you out of the storm,
Faith calms you in the
midst of the storm.
Amen

ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



121 Knight Street, Shepparton
Phone: 5821 2633 | Email: shepparton@cdos.org.au
Website: sheppartonicatholic.org.au Facebook: /sheppartoncatholic

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
Priest in Residence: Fr Varghese Vithayathil
Deacon: Rev Francois Baguma
Office Manager: Diane Teitzel
Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm
Child Safety Officer: Paul White, phone 0437 290950



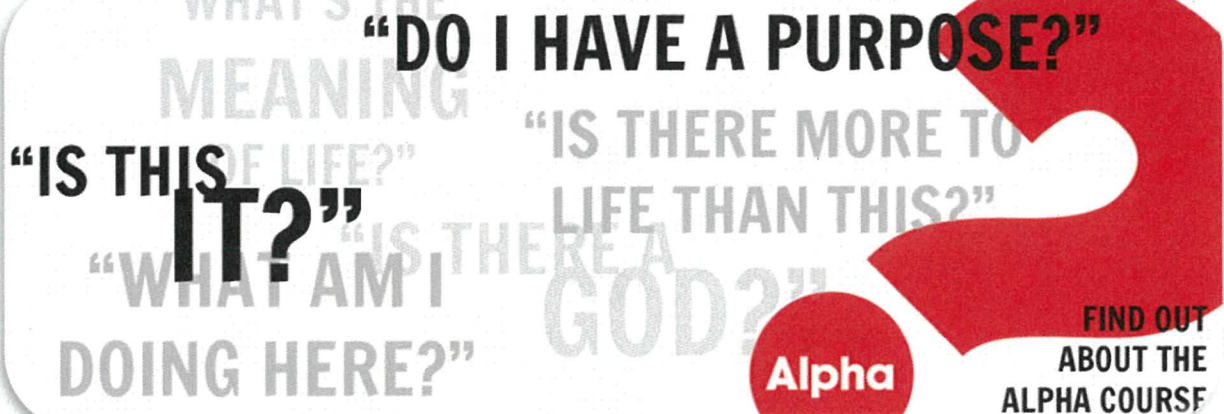
*Christ in community...the
heart of our faith*

Recently Deceased: Johanna Riordan,
John Corboy.

Anniversaries: Ann & Mary Fenn,
Neil Allowings.

Readers & Commentators 8th & 9th May, 2021

6pm	D Sullivan,	M Keyte
8am	C Naughton,	P Naughton
11am	S Quilty,	J Pilkington



Alpha in the Catholic Context:

Our Alpha programme will run from 31st May till 23rd August 2021, with a 3-week break during the winter school holidays, every Monday night. We invite everyone to deepen their faith and experience the Holy Spirit in their lives. St Brendan's hopes that all Parishioners, especially young adults will undertake an Alpha programme.

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a fellowship activity where we share a meal with people, watch a 30-minute movie clip about a faith-based topic each week, and then engaging in small group sharing and talk. The magic of Alpha begins when, after a couple of weeks, people look forward to catching up with those with whom they shared a meal and fellowship.

In this simple act of table friendship, and certainly in the learning and fun that comes from group discussion, people encounter Jesus, and their lives are changed forever. Would you consider investing in your faith this year?

Alpha will be run at Monsignor Peter Jeffery Centre at St Brendan's Parish from 7 – 9 pm. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to contact Sr Agnes: agnes.murphy@mercy.org.au or Martina: gaughan.martina@gmail.com to register.

May is the Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

An Evening for Musicians

On Wednesday 5th May
7.30pm

At St Brendan's Church

Presented by Dr Paul Taylor

All musicians/singers and
potential musician/singers
are welcome to come along.

Please RSVP by 1st May to
5821 2633 or email
shepparton@cdos.org.au

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Day

Saturday 22nd May 10.45am

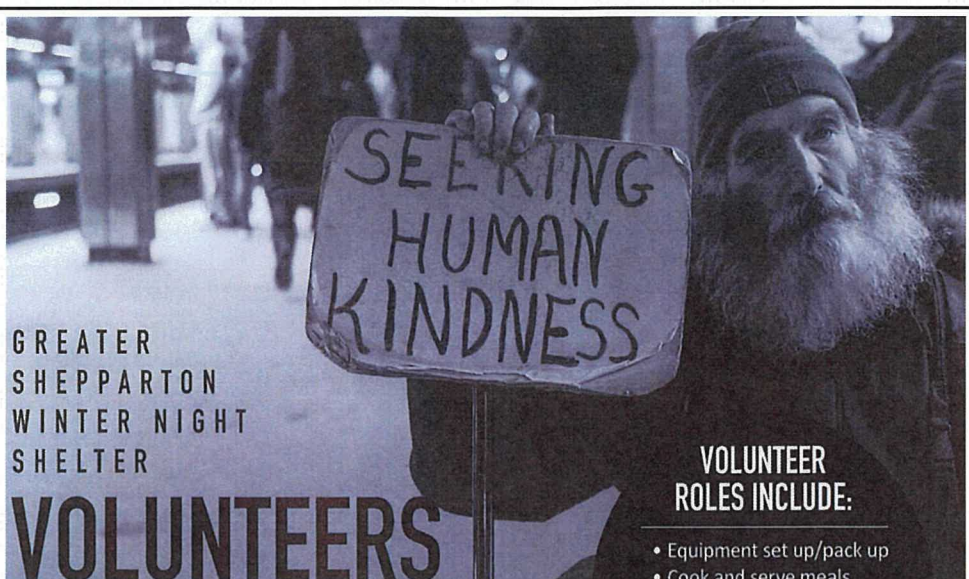
Details to follow.



Ashley & Vanessa Madeira

Shop 1, Tirana City Walk
302 Wyndham St Shepparton
5821 0311

eyeshopshepparton.com.au
Personalised thorough eye
Examinations



GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

JUNE - AUGUST | 7 NIGHTS A WEEK | 150 VOLUNTEERS

GSWNS WORKS WITH LOCAL CHURCHES AND FAITH COMMUNITIES TO PROVIDE OVERNIGHT SHELTER, HOSPITALITY, SUPPORT AND CONNECTION TO THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS. SHELTER LOCATION ROTATES DAILY, FROM ONE CHURCH FACILITY TO ANOTHER, AND RELIES 100% ON VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE THE PROJECT POSSIBLE.

We are so grateful for the support already of the community who have come together to support this project to help those that are most vulnerable in our community, but we need more help to assist us with this project including financial generously and the support of volunteers.

Volunteers will be provided detailed information to gain an understanding of how the project works and their role. It is very important that our volunteers are well-trained and feel safe. As a volunteer you will need to obtain a Working With Children Check and commit to the GSWNS facilitated training requirements.

VOLUNTEER ROLES INCLUDE:

- Equipment set up/pack up
- Cook and serve meals
- Connect to support services
- Engage in conversation
- Build positive relationships
- Preserve dignity
- Overnight supervision (optional)

DRIVERS:
transporting guests/equipment to and from venue

SHIFT LEADERS & SHIFT WORKERS:
devoting time, conversation, connection & compassion to our shelter guests

OVERNIGHT SHIFT LEADERS & SHIFT WORKERS:
committing to stay awake to protect guests & other volunteers while they sleep

KITCHEN STAFF:
preparing and serving healthy, hearty meals for guests and volunteers. Dinner and breakfast shifts available


KEEN TO GET INVOLVED?
PLEASE REGISTER INTEREST VIA OUR VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM
<https://forms.gle/NkYTYVK7IJTRJduG6>

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
gswinternightshelter@gmail.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter

KEEN TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT?
DONATE VIA OUR GOFUNDME PAGE
<https://gofund.me/393e6224>

DONATE VIA DIRECT DEBIT
Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter
BSB. 633 000
ACC. NO. 17 338 5816



Greater Shepparton
WINTER NIGHT SHELTER



Notre Dame College Open Day: Friday 7th May

Notre Dame College will be holding its **Open Day** on Friday, 7 May 2021. Tours commence from the front of the Administration Building at selected times throughout the day. Prospective 2022 students and a parent/guardian are invited to attend. Bookings for tours must be made prior to 4 May via www.schoolinterviews.com.au. Booking code: 55zfy. For further information please phone the College on 5822 8400.