



This Week's Readings

Jeremiah 31:7-9
Hebrews 5:1-6
Mark 10:46-52

Next Week's Readings

Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 12:28-34



Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!

St. Mel's Parish

BULLETIN

Focus on the Readings

Throughout this liturgical year we have examined several aspects of our faith. We have pondered the history of our salvation, the merciful compassion of God, God's willingness to lead us out of the bondage of our addictions. We have meditated often and long on the person of Jesus, on his life and death, on the meaning of his sacrifice, on his resurrection, on his influence in our lives today. We have considered our own ongoing transformation as disciples of Jesus, baptised into his death and resurrection, commissioned to bring the news of his love to all those with whom we come into contact. We have reflected on all of these wonderful deeds of God, and now we must ask the question: What difference has it made?

Have we merely acquired some information about the biblical readings, about our religious ancestors, about the ministry of Jesus and the life of the early church? Or have our eyes really been opened; have we been enabled to leave behind whatever prevents us from living the Christian life fully, to abandon our exiles or the trappings of our former lives? Have we accepted more genuinely the Christian responsibilities that are ours as baptised followers of Christ, in our own personal lives, in our families, in our relationships with others, at the workplace? To what degree have we been transformed into Christ? How open have we become to the action of the Spirit in our lives? Have we been made a new creation? Do we recognise Christ in our midst? © *Dianne Bergant CSA*.

Prayer for the Day

Have pity on us, God our Saviour. Grant us grace and courage to cast off our sins and turn to you for healing. Show us in Christ the sure path of salvation and strengthen us to follow gladly in the way of the gospel. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Quote of the Week

"Let listening to worldly news be bitter food for you and let the words of the Saints be as combs filled with honey." St Basil the Great (329-379). **All Saints Day Friday 1 November**

On the Lighter Side

A photographer was determined to get a picture of a ghost on Halloween. He found a ghost who was friendly and posed for a snapshot. The photographer downloaded his photos and found they were underexposed and completely blank. Moral to the story: The spirit is willing, but the flash is weak!



Liturgical Jottings Inculturation III

The Liturgy must be capable of expressing itself in every human culture, all the while maintaining its identity through fidelity to the tradition which comes to it from the Lord.

Varietates Legitimae n. 18

While the process of inculturation and adaptation of the liturgy in the local Church some caution is expressed in the 2010 General Instruction of the Roman Missal:

"Inculturation requires a necessary length of time, lest the authentic liturgical tradition suffer hasty and incautious contamination. The pursuit of inculturation does not have as its purpose in any way the creation of new families of rites but aims rather at meeting the needs of a particular culture, though in such a way, that adaptations introduced either into the Missal or coordinated with other liturgical books are not at variance with the proper character of the Roman Rite. GIRM 398-399.

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.



Weekly Reflection

Reflection on Creation and Human Sexuality

The Book of Genesis presents two distinct accounts of creation, each offering a unique perspective on the divine act. The familiar first account unfolds over six days, portraying a structured creation process. In contrast, the second account, which we explore today, presents a more intimate view—a close-up that sheds light on human sexuality and our inherent dignity. This account emphasizes the profound truth that "God created man in his own image and likeness; male and female he created them," underscoring the beauty of our differences and the unity intended by our Creator.

In reflecting on this second account, it becomes clear that our understanding of sexuality is integral to our human experience. As we delve deeper, we realize the significant impact of original sin, which disrupted the harmonious relationship between the sexes. This disruption remains prevalent in our world today, leading to confusion and pain. It is essential to recognize that this isn't merely a historical account; it speaks directly to the challenges we face in contemporary society.

Jesus' teachings in the Gospels reaffirm these truths about human sexuality. By addressing the Pharisees, He emphasizes God's original design, reminding us of the importance of upholding these values in a world that often undermines them. In an age where cultural narratives frequently clash with Christian perspectives, we are called to embody and share these essential truths—to preserve the sanctity of our relationships and to be instruments of God's message.

In our commitment to understanding and living out God's design for human sexuality, we must first cultivate this understanding within ourselves. This personal journey will equip us to support those around us, especially individuals who may not grasp the beauty of God's plan. As we navigate life's complexities, may we strive to reflect the love and wisdom inherent in our creation, becoming beacons of hope and clarity in a world that desperately needs it. Through this reflection, we can embrace our identity and its divine purpose, fostering a deeper connection with ourselves and others.

St Mel's Parishioners to Attend Melbourne Alpha Conference

Fr Rene Ramirez, along with Anthony Holligan, our PPC coordinator for Evangelization, and some other parishioners, are scheduled to participate in the Alpha Catholic Conference in Melbourne this November. The conference, titled 'Every Generation,' aims to equip and empower intergenerational renewal within the Catholic Church.

The conference will officially commence on November 8th and continue through the following day. This two-day event guarantees a rich experience with exceptional guest speakers, workshops, Mass, adoration, and opportunities for prayer, as well as enjoyable moments of food and friendship.

Father Rene is eagerly anticipating the conference, highlighting the significance of invitation and prayer in the successful execution of an Alpha program. He views this event as a valuable opportunity for the parish community to explore Alpha as a tool for evangelization in the upcoming year.

The parish is excited about engaging with other passionate individuals from across Australia who are dedicated to parish renewal. The group is enthusiastic about participating in the informative and interactive sessions and connecting with like-minded individuals who share the mission of strengthening their faith community.

The parish is thrilled about the chance to attend the Every Generation Conference and eagerly anticipates the spiritual growth and camaraderie that the event will provide.



Farewell Inaugural St Anne's College Year 12 Students

This week St Anne's College officially farewelled the inaugural Year 12 cohort.



A special Farewell Mass at St Mel's Church was held on Tuesday to hand over the captaincy and wish the Year 12 students the very best on their next adventure.

These pioneers are the first Year 12 class to graduate from the College after it opened in 2019 with many of them starting their journey there in Year 7 that same year.

We wish for the inaugural Year 12 students to go forward into their next chapter with hope and find joy in what they do.



Misa de Gallo
9 day novena.
Mass at 8am each day
from December 16-24
at St Brendan's Church

Join us for breakfast
afterwards each day in the
Pastoral Centre
(behind the Church)

To support the novena,
please reach out on
58212633 or
shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



Parish Volunteers Bring a Plate Christmas Dinner.

Wednesday, 11 December from 6 pm in the Gathering Room.

We encourage all parish volunteers to join us for a festive evening!

On the 21st of December, St. Mel's Parish will be leading the Misa De Gallo celebration at St. Brendan's. Our priest, choir, and lectors will lead the celebration as part of the 9-day inter-parish preparation for Christmas. Attendees are encouraged to bring a plate for the breakfast following the Mass.

\$13,212
October Target
\$
Week Four
\$8,083
Week Three \$2,784
\$5,299
Week Two \$2,330
\$2,969
Week One \$2,969

**TOGETHER
 WE CAN MAKE A
 DIFFERENCE**

JOIN US IN REACHING OUR
 MONTHLY GOAL



**DONATE
 TODAY!**

ST. MEL'S PARISH

St Mel's Parish Sacramental Program

Thursday evening our Candidates and their families came together for the first session of preparation leading to Reconciliation.

Thank you to St Anne's College for hosting the session, and to our wonderful Sacramental leaders for an engaging program.

The next two sessions will now be completed at home, and we will meet during this time for a catch up and support session, and to visit the Church to familiarise the Candidates with the upcoming service of the Second Rite of Reconciliation on Thursday 5 December.

November Masses

As we approach November, we have the opportunity to honor our departed loved ones in a special way. We are encouraged to use dedicated November Masses envelopes (yellow) to inscribe the names of our cherished departed family and friends. These envelopes will be placed before the altar, where Masses will be offered for their souls throughout the entire month of November. The envelopes will be blessed with holy water, symbolizing our baptism and our connection to the Church.

We understand that there may be special occasions during November, such as death anniversaries or birthdays of loved ones, and we will still accept separate mass intentions for them inscribed on the (white) Please Offer Holy Mass envelopes. These special occasions will be mentioned in the bulletin and prayers of the faithful.

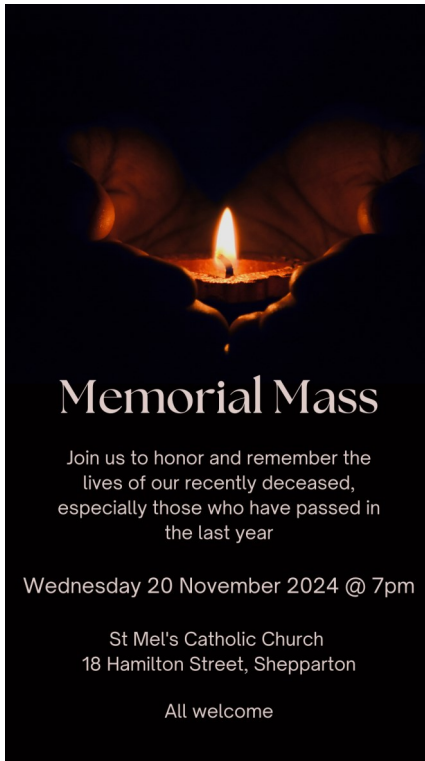


Subscribe to Flocknote, to receive parish news & updates about upcoming events: Subscribe by using the QR Code.



New Cathedral Book Now Published

A full-length book (286pp, lavishly illustrated) dealing with all aspects of the Sacred Heart Cathedral is now available for purchase. Written by Brian Coman, Harry Oldmeadow and Monsignor Frank Marriot, this book was originally produced as a hand-bound edition and presented to the Priests of the Diocese. This new printing in softcover will now make the publication available to a wider audience. Orders can be lodged with Brian Coman 0418 510 610 or email bcom1080@gmail.com, local pick-up can be arranged. Price \$30. All proceeds to the Priests Retirement Fund. Brian will be on-site at the Cathedral (with books) after the 8.30 and 11.00 am masses this Sunday and next Sunday.



Memorial Mass

Join us to honor and remember the lives of our recently deceased, especially those who have passed in the last year

Wednesday 20 November 2024 @ 7pm

St Mel's Catholic Church
 18 Hamilton Street, Shepparton

All welcome



Shepparton & Nagambie Mass Schedule

St Mel's

SUNDAY

St. Mel's 9:30 am
 St. Mel's 5:00 pm

TUESDAY to SATURDAY

St. Mel's 9:15 am

St Malachy's

SUNDAY (1st & 3rd)*

St. Malachy's 09:00 am
*2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays
 Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

CONFESSIONS

St. Mel's: Every Thurs at 8:10 - 9:10 am

BAPTISMS (St Mel's)

3rd Sunday of the month

MARRIAGE

2 months-notice required

Parish Staff

Fr. Rene Ramirez RCJ
 Parish Priest

Fr. Ruel Desamparado RCJ
 Assistant Priest

Sr Pam Barlow
 Religious Sister of Mercy

Carmel Zito
 Bookkeeper

Mel Shiels
 Secretary
 Sacramental Program Coordinator

Office Address

18 Hamilton Street
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 www.smps.org.au
 (03) 5831 2194

Office Hours

Tuesday to Thursday: 9:30am- 2:30pm
 Friday: 9:30am -12:30 pm

Support your Parish!

Help fund our initiatives to move from maintenance to mission!
"Together we do more"
Use the QR Code to access our Donations Page.



The Holy Rosary at St Mel's Parish

Before each Sunday Mass in October the Rosary will be recited in St Mel's Church, commencing at 9am and again at 4:30pm. If anyone would be interested to assist in leading the Rosary, please see Maureen or contact the office.

Commentators/Lectors/ Special Ministers

Sunday 3rd
November

Commentators
9:30am Trish Mathisen
5pm Elizabeth Holligan

Lectors
9:30am Sev Cortese (L1) David Sellwood (L2)
5pm Helen May (L1) Paul Bertoli (L2)

Special Ministers
9:30am Sarah Maloney & Gita Kelleher
5pm Cathy Cannatelli & Helen May

**NOVENA MASSES IN PREPARATION
FOR THE 2025 FEAST OF
SEÑOR STO. NIÑO**

St. Mel's Parish,
Shepparton

Join us for 9 first Friday Masses at St. Mel's Parish Church to honour the Infant Child Jesus starting on 3rd May 2024 at 6:00pm.

18 Hamilton St. Shepparton VIC 3630

Upcoming Changes to Office and Mass Times

All Souls Day

We will have three Masses at St Mel's on Saturday, November 2, 2024.

9:15am - Weekday Mass @ St Mel's Church
11:30 am - Outdoor Mass @ St Anne's College, 72 Wendouree Drive, Kialla
5:00 pm - Italian Mass / Vigil for Sunday @ St Mel's Church

Office Closure

The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday 5 November for the Melbourne Cup public holiday. There will still be a weekday Mass at 9:15am on this day.

Alpha Conference

Due to Fr. Ruel's holiday and Fr. Rene's attendance at the Alpha Conference, there will be **no 9:15am Mass on November 8th and 9th.**

We ask for your prayers for the Eternal Repose of

Recently Deceased:
Mary Appleton

Anniversaries:
Salvatore Gagliardi,
Antonio &
MariaAngela Parini,
Giuseppina & Bruno
Cavallaro,
Vincenzo Campi,
Maria Centurino,
Angelo Michielin



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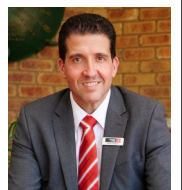
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We are committed to the
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**

We are a Safe Church Community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to abuse.

St Mel's Parish Safeguarding officer is Trish Mathisen. Ph: 0428 213 757

To find out more ways on how you can help improve our Parochial Community please contact Mel at **(03) 5831 2194**
Tuesdays to Thursdays, between 9:30am to 2:30 pm
email: sheppartonsouth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
or visit our website at www.smps.org.au