



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

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

18 Hamilton Street, Shepparton 3630

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:30am - 3:30pm

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.

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 18 September 2022

Readings for
this week:



Amos 8:4-7
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 16:1-13

Readings for
next Sunday:



Amos 6:1, 4-7
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31



Liturgical Jottings

Anointing of the Sick 3

Rite for Anointing outside Mass

consists of a greeting, sprinkling of holy water, an instruction, a penitential rite, liturgy of the Word, litany, laying hands, prayer over the oil, Anointing of the forehead and hands accompanied by the words of anointing, prayer after anointing, the Lord's prayer and final blessing. The instruction is scripturally based and directed to the patient and the community:

"... Through the apostle James, the Lord has commanded us: 'Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up; and if they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them.' Let us therefore commend our sick brother/sister to the grace and power of Christ, that he may save him/her and raise him/her up." Rite of Anointing p84

Looking at the Readings

Amos was a fiery prophet called out of the sheep fields near Bethlehem eight centuries before Christ. His book was the earliest book of prophecy in the Hebrew scriptures. He delivered judgements and threat of disasters for the injustices towards the poor and neglect of duties towards God. He spoke in times of economic expansion and prosperity. The rich land-owners were getting richer, the poor farmers were getting poorer. Observance of the Sabbath had disappeared; trade had taken over and there was corruption in the courts. Sounds all very familiar 2,800 years later. Amos is not a radical or troublemaker but a voice calling for conversion and godliness.

The Parable in today's Gospel is woven by Jesus with snippets of debts, forgery, mismanagement and sackings that would be very familiar to his listeners in the marketplace. But he surprised them and us with the twist at the end when the dishonest steward is praised. However, with attentive ears Jesus continues with his message of trust and service overriding any commonplace economic practices. The final statement about two masters implies service. We are called to serve God wholehearted, with total engagement. "We give thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and to serve you." (cf. Eucharistic Prayer II) To serve or minister is to worship our God!

Prayer of the Earth (part 4)

Father, we praise you with all your creatures. They came forth from your all-powerful hand; they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love. Praise be to you! Son of God, Jesus, through you all things were made. You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, you became part of this earth, and you gazed upon this world with human eyes. Today you are alive in every creature in your risen glory. Praise be to you!

Quote of the Week

The rich man who gives to the poor does not bestow alms but pays a debt.
St Ambrose of Milan 340-397

On the Lighter Side

A man died and was met by St Peter who led him down the golden streets. They passed stately mansions until they came in front of a rundown cabin. The man asked St Peter why he got a hut when there were so many mansions he could live in. St Peter replied, "I did the best with the money you sent us."

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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

One word coming out of today's Gospel, is the word **STEWARDSHIP**. It's a word we hear so much about especially in relation to our commitment financially to our Church and our capacities in making our Church financially viable. Our Parish through support of the finance committee and this year through the committee looking at the Parish owned blocks have been meeting and seeing how is the best way of moving forward through discussions and communication. Through these meetings we have come to know accountability is a "big new word"! As with most things in matters relating to finance in parishes, we are connected with what is called the Roman Catholic Trust Corporation . (R.C.T.C). Property and management has to be seen as relational these days from Parish with Diocese. It's not to say the Parish is letting the Diocese take ownership, the Parish owns what it has!!!! Here at St. Mel's we are fortunate from past leadership in enabling our Parish to have a base of looking into the future.

I offer this to you as some may be aware of this, others not so. Here at St. Mel's we need to keep a balance in our thinking and understanding as to how we see property and income as being in harmony. Sure, we need to keep our stewardship program to be viable, meaning we see this as ongoing income. We have an advantage of keeping a future direction with property as a support. Just because the Parish is fortunate to have four blocks at the rear of the Church to our disposal, doesn't by any means suggest, we can do without a regular inflow of parishioner in stewardship. Please, can I seek your continuing support, and if for many reasons you need to see your contribution as being adjusted please see to this for the benefit of the Parish and your active participation.

Coming then to the Gospel, Jesus speaks of not being the slave both of God and money. Unfortunately, we live in a time where money can be seen as outdoing God and where God seeks of us keeping a balance between our spending, and priority with matters of money. The great spiritual master, St. Ignatius of Loyola, a master on discernment, taught that discernment is something we do everyday. Ignatius says that feelings and desires bring joy, happiness, and where a love for God overcomes areas not of God. In light of the Gospel, we discern our willingness as a people who give and doing this generously.



This week we pray for those who hold political and institutional power across our lands. May they have courage and integrity to use their power and influence to develop the Kingdom of God here on earth.

REFUGEE AND MIGRANT SUNDAY is celebrated on Sunday 25th September. Pope Francis has asked we be drawn to the theme of: "*BUILDING THE FUTURE WITH MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES*". Each is a greater means of building construction, the Pope says. Our prayer leading to this day is one of all Australian's working together, to welcome the stranger. More information available at www.acmro.catholic.org.au

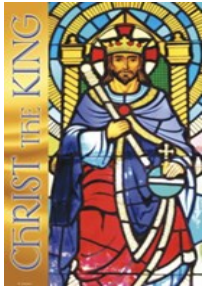
CATHOLIC ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM (CAPSA) Will be hosting a National Week of Prayer and Action this month (September 25 -30) This National Week of Prayer starts on Migrant and Refugee Sunday, September 25th. It's an opportunity for our Catholic Community to enable people seeking asylum to find a way with welcome, humanity and compassion. A key event will be the CAPSA in conversation: building a better future together webinar on Tuesday, September 27th at 6.30pm. For further details refer www.capsa.org.au/nwpa_2022.

YOUNG AND OLD REFLECT ON LIFE AS CATHOLIC PRIESTS IN 2022 From Cath News source; Australia's youngest Catholic priest is Nathan Webb, 24 years, ordained this year for the Toowoomba Diocese, and one of our older priests is Hal Ranger, at 87 years, also from Toowoomba. Both recently reflecting upon their calling, Nathan Webb commented, "it's about challenging the stereotypes the priesthood creates, people's perceptions!" As he says, "an old man in a white dress reading out of a book on Sundays!" Hal Ranger says, "Saying Mass is the 'meeting of the teams'. The game is out there in the world. You get the team together to kind of realign yourself with the spirit of the team, listen to the Word of God and talk about a bit!" Just an interesting comparison...

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.

Our Parish Office will be CLOSED this coming Thursday, September 22nd and Friday, September 23rd. All notices / anniversaries for the bulletin will need to be received by the office no later than 2pm Tuesday, September 20th. Thank you.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR OUR OFFICE sheppartonsouth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



SPECIAL CELEBRATION GATHERING

On Sunday, November 20th, we will celebrate the feast of *Christ the King*. To add to this occasion members of the Parish Pastoral Council are inviting all parishioners to join them at the St Mel's Parish Hall (located at the Primary School) to enjoy some entertainment, food and refreshments commencing at 12 noon. It has been so long since we have been able to get together and enjoy each other's company, apart from our attendance at Sunday Mass. So, we ask that you set aside this day to help us all celebrate together our shared faith in a relaxed and happy environment.

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM Welcome to Cody Jay McCann, who was Baptised last Sunday here at St Mel's. Cody we wish you well in your faith journey among us.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION Will be celebrated for our candidates, who were presented last Sunday, on Thursday, November 10th at 7pm. Their preparation through the Steps in Faith booklets will begin next school term. Please keep the candidates, and families in your thoughts.



UPCOMING EVENTS / DATES

- . **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL'S** September meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 14th at 7pm.
- . **COMMITTEE MEETING FOR THE PARISH OWNED BLOCKS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** Will meet on Wednesday, September 21st at 5pm. At this meeting members of the two committees will join together to combine as one committee.
- . **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS / OFFICE CLOSURE** Thursday, September 22nd and Friday, September 23rd.
- . **FR PETER ON HOLIDAYS** From October 3rd to October 28th Fr Peter will be taking annual leave. The office will remain open and Fr Paul Sireh O.CARM will be the Priest in residence during this time.
- . **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - RECONCILIATION** The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Thursday, November 10th at 7pm at St Mel's Christ the King Church.
- . **NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE MASS** will be held on Wednesday, November 16th at 7pm, follow by refreshments in the Parish House Gathering Room.
- . **CHRIST THE KING CELEBRATIONS** Sunday, November 20th. Please join us for a special festive celebration of the feast of *Christ the King* at the St Mel's Parish Hall, commencing at 12 noon. Food, drinks, and entertainment will be provided. All welcome at no cost. Just bring yourself.

POSITION AVAILABLE ST BRENDAN'S PARISH MAINTENANCE / GARDEN

OFFICER Permanent Part Time, 4 hrs per week 8am—12 noon Wednesdays. Applications close 7th October 2022. For all enquires or to obtain a Position Description Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au OR phone 5821 2633 Monday-Friday 9am—2pm.

CATHOLICS CHOSEN TO ATTEND QUEEN'S FUNERAL

Catholics Miriam—Rose Ungunmerr Bauman, and Danny Abdallah, have been named among 10 everyday Australian citizens chosen to attend the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II next week. Dr Ungunmerr Bauman AM, is a Catholic Aboriginal elder, artist, and activist who established the Miriam Rose Foundation in driving reconciliation at a grass roots level. She was named senior Australian of the year in 2021. Mr Danny Abdallah is a Maronite Catholic who founded the i4Give Foundation to assist families like his own who have suffered through trauma and increasing community awareness for the power of forgiveness.



WORLD DAY FOR DEMOCRACY WAS REMEMBERED LAST THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th.

We are invited to reflect upon all it means to be an Australian citizen and our expectations we have from our governments. Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ says, "Our starting point as Catholic people, and indeed as human beings, is that each person is precious - not because of their virtues or accomplishments, but because of their human dignity. We are also joined in a shared humanity. We are shaped by our relationships which become part of us as persons." He goes on to say, "The test of our democracy and citizenship is whether they do express our dignity and mutual dependence."

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25th 2022

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Amos

You who give yourself to licentiousness and revelry will be exiled.

The almighty Lord says this: Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria.

Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all.

That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Obey the commandments until the coming of the Lord.

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

During your life good things came your way just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted while you are in agony.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things come your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning, so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week September 19th to September 25th 2022

Monday 19th September - No Mass

**Tuesday 20th September - 11am Funeral Mass
for Kevin Bradley**

Wednesday 21st September - 9:15am

Thursday 22nd September - No Mass

Friday 23rd September - 9:15am

Saturday 24th September - 9:00am

Sunday 25th September - 9:30am & 5:00pm

READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER Sunday September 25th 2022

9:30am - Maureen Munro (Commentator) Jacqui Avar (L1)

Mary Calandro (L2)

9:30am - Special Ministers: Leanne Daldy & Hollie Daldy

5:00pm - Tim Kelly (Commentator) Sr Pam Barlow (Lector)

5:00pm - Special Ministers: Pauline Pettigrew & Angie Knez

Recently deceased: Queen Elizabeth II, Kevin Bradley, Giuseppina Franze (one month mind), Santina Cortese (Italy, Aunt of Sev Cortese)

Anniversaries: Bruna Ryan, Nancy & Bernie Beard, Bill & Boots Torres, Mary Luz Torres, Macario Navarro, Dalisay Pili, Bruno Ciancio (5yrs)