



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

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

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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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 8 May 2022

Readings for
this week:



Acts 13:14,43-52
Apocalypse 7:9,14-17
John 10:27-30

Readings for
next Sunday:



Acts 14:21-27
Apocalypse 21:1-5
John 13:31-35



Liturgical Jottings Lamb of God

The liturgical hymn "Lamb of God" (Agnus Dei) is sung or recited at every Mass. It is based on the saying of John the Baptist: "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). Pope Sergius (687-701) introduced this chant into the Mass. The words "Have mercy on us." are added from Ps 123, 66, Isaiah 33:2; The third stanza ends in "Grant us peace." The last benediction in the 18 Benedictions" or Amidah 19 Sim Shalom ("Grant Peace") - asks God for peace, goodness, blessings, kindness and compassion.

The second reading concludes: "The Lamb will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water, ..." (Rev. 7:16-17). The Easter Preface V, describes Christ as the "Priest, the Altar and the Lamb of sacrifice" and also in the Preface I for the Apostles: "Eternal Shepherd, who does not desert the flock. Christ is at different times both Lamb and Shepherd.

Looking at the Readings

This Sunday, Good Shepherd Sunday, received its title from the gospel. Each year verses from Chapter ten of John's Gospel are proclaimed. Year A: 10:1-10, Year B: 10:11-18 and Year C; this year. 10:27-30. The passage on the Good Shepherd is not a parable but one of the "I Am" that helps to explain Christ's role. Year A reading contains: "I am the gate" vv 7&9; Year B: "I am the good shepherd" vv 11&14. Today's Gospel states in a few words its implications. There is a real, permanent and intimate relationship between Jesus and the people for whom he gives his life and unites them with him to the Father.

A primary student explained that if the Father is the Shepherd; the people are the sheep, then the world is a big paddock! Yes. It is a good and practical image but we should be careful not to be too allegorical and to allow some extension: not one big paddock but many paddocks and then there is space beyond the paddocks. We are not penned in all the time but led out to new pastures. We are actively called into new relationship to "Listen", to "Know", to "Follow", and to "Be Given" eternal life.

Sunday Eighth of May

Good Shepherd Sunday is the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** and many countries, like New Zealand it begins Vocations Awareness Week. In Australia, however, Vocations Awareness Week begins on Sunday 7 August.

Today is **Mother's Day**, a day to celebrate, remember and thank the work, life and love of one's mother.

United Nations adds other causes: **World Migratory Bird Day** and Time of Remembrance & Reconciliation for those who lost lives during WWII.

Prayer for the week

Lord Jesus, you are the light rising in darkness for the just. To show your love for us you offered yourself in our place as a victim, as the Lamb of God. Teach us to love one another as you love us, that our love may bring peace and joy to the world and enable us to find the happiness of your home.

On the Lighter Side

A shepherd tells his dog to go count the sheep. The dog returns and says: "100 sheep". The shepherd inquires: "How's that? I only had 97 to begin with!" The dog replies: "Yeah, but I rounded them up"



REFLECTION FROM FR PETER

This Sunday many through families, across communities, will be gathering in celebration of Mother's Day. It's a day of sharing one's gratitude for all mothers give and have given through their lives. Interestingly, Mother's Day began in gratitude and conflict. A woman whose name is Anna Jarvis initiated a service of remembrance and gratitude for all mothers on May 10th 1908, at her Methodist Church in West Virginia. Mother's Day came to be seen as a religious event, like the older English tradition of Mothering Sunday where worshippers returned home to their 'mother church'. Mother's Day came to be known accompanied in private rituals asserting that true womanhood was a motherly quality.

Anna Jarvis who began the tradition in her church became horrified at the commercialisation of Mother's Day she sought to have it cancelled! By the 1930's many Australians argued that Mother's Day was a sentiment for profit. In conflict over the nature women were assuming, the idea of motherhood as women's sacred calling was preserved by secular forces of unholy commerce! Here in Australia, The Catholic Women's Social Guild came into its own through Our Lady's Day

The past year's of Covid – Pandemic experiences has caused us to see more the relationships of families especially mothers. The present images coming out of Ukraine of mothers and their children has been raw, in the face of conflict and war.

Mothers looking over their homes in flooded areas of Queensland and New South Wales has been significant, facing the task of seeing where home will be in the future.

These images says Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ have shown women in a spirit of great resilience, people finding the necessary inner resources in times of threat and anxiety.

For the images of heroic mothers and women in positions of responsibility, public life, seeing the rightful positions in Church life and leadership, (still being sought), are proper to an inclusive society.



Our appreciation, love and gratitude is extra real this Sunday as we honour the mother to us, the mother whose example we are following, the mother whose eternal presence is a close bond in our hearts. May our society in 2022, see for the recognition women and all mothers are and continue being for a more harmonious and respectful society.

From the PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING last Tuesday evening... Just to highlight some areas for your attention...

Presently we have 177 committed parishioners on our stewardship program.

We have come to a stage where we need more people to become financially committed to our Church. I realize the past two years have become difficult. Some have changed in their level of giving. Please check your contribution and let the office know of your intentions. It is important we see each in our giving as building the life of our Church. I too am on our stewardship program. Secondly, it is the hope of our committee to do an internal program in attracting more to come on board in giving, at some stage this year. Thirdly, our committee is need of two more new members preferably women to join the committee presently in place.

I thank you for taking this to your attention and continued support of our Church and Parish.

Fr Peter

LAUDATO SI WEEK will be celebrated throughout Australia on the week of **16 -24th May**. It is a time where each of us take up the invitation of Pope Francis in his desire for a world in connection with the natural forms of the environment, especially the 7 points mentioned last week. **Catholic Earthcare's Laudato Si principal event is on Tuesday 17th May, from 6pm to 8pm.** This will show a film of *Regenerating Australia* followed by a Q & A panel. Being an online presentation you need to book for the event at: Laudato Si Week Regenerating Australia Movie Screening Tickets at Trybooking Australia.

SUNDAY 22ND MAY, IS ONE CELEBRATING LAUDATO SI SUNDAY (6TH Sunday of Easter). At this Mass the emphasis will be on gifts of God's creation. EACH ONE intending to come to the 9:30am and 5pm are asked to please bring a flower, or cutting of leaves, these are then to be placed in a basket / container provided at the door of the main entrance, which will then be brought forward in the entrance procession. More to come.

Fr Peter

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL meets this Tuesday at 7pm in the gathering room.

PARISHIONERS CELEBRATE IMPORTANT MILESTONES IN THEIR LIVES

Luisa Cassise is celebrating **50 years** teaching in our Catholic Education Community of Sandhurst. Luisa is still currently teaching at St Mel's Primary School.

Maureen Matthews reached the age of **80 years** last Tuesday, 3rd May.

Recently **Joe and Angie Knez** celebrated their **40th anniversary** of Marriage on April 17th.



We as a Church community congratulate you all on these special occasions and celebrations in your lives, and seek God's blessings being with you.
Fr Peter

PAY WAY (Tap and Go) Parishes are providing this facility for people in their financial contribution to the Parish. The electrical side of things should be in place by the end of this month.
WHEN ready to function, you will be informed. Thank you for this.
Fr Peter

MASS ATTENDANCE COUNTS On Saturdays and Sundays here at St. Mel's, for the 14/15, 21/22, 28/29 of May along with the 4/5 of June, we need to count each person in attendance at all Masses. The purpose of the counts is to gather an estimated number of people attending Mass throughout the Diocese, in person and online. An important consideration with the counts, is to enable pastoral planning and the workloads of the Priests in the Diocese.
Fr Peter

MINISTRY OF THE EUCHARIST at the 5pm Sunday Mass. Now is the time to have TWO ministers to present themselves for distribution of the Eucharist. The format being come forward at the sign of peace, sanitise your hands, receive the Eucharist with me, sanitise again and wait until we all are ready, then proceed to either side of the altar area. Distribute the Eucharist as normal. Thank you.
Fr Peter



ST MEL'S WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

Jesus said: "I was homeless and you gave me shelter". (Matt 25: 36)

It is time for the Winter Night Shelter to begin: 3 weeks to go. St Mel's Parish is again partnering with South Shepparton Community Church to provide shelter, warmth, food and companionship each

Friday this June, July and August. There are several ways to offer support: 1. Pray for God's blessing on this important community work. 2. Offer to go on a shift: 5.30pm-10pm, 10pm-7am, 7am-9am. Contact Melanie Domaschenz on 0417 217 213 or email: melaniedomaschenz@bigpond.com. 3. Contribute financially or with donations of food. Contact Maree McKenna on 0409 956 464. Thank you. (Sr Pam)

We pray to hear what Jesus is saying to us and to follow where he leads in the weeks ahead.



**Happy Mother's
Day to all the
wonderful women
in our Parish
community here at
St Mel's .
We wish you many
blessings.**



Loving God,
we thank you for the love
of the mothers you have
given us, whose love is so
precious that it can never
be measured, whose patience
seems to have no end.

We pray for those mothers
who fear they will run out
of love or time, or patience.
We ask you to bless them
with your own special love.

Amen.

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READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 15th MAY 2022

First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon.

My little children,

I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:

love one another;

just as I have loved you,

you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another,

everyone will know that you are my disciples.'



The Gospel of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week 9th May to 15th May 2022

Monday 9th May - No Mass

Tuesday 10th May - 9:15am

Wednesday 11th May - 9:15am

Thursday 12th May - 9:15am

Friday 13th May - 9:15am

Saturday 14th May - 9:00am

Sunday 15th May - 9:30am & 5:00pm



READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER

Sunday 15th May 2022

9:30am - Maureen Munro (Commentator) Chris Summers (L1)
Sev Cortese (L2)

9:30am - Special Ministers: Gita Kelleher & Trish Mathisen

5:00pm - Dom Poppa (Commentator) Paul Bertoli (Lector)

5:00pm - Special Ministers: Erin Tanner & Cathy Cannatelli

Anniversaries: Terry McManus, Cosimo Rullo, Frank & Maria Cehun, Rosa DiBella, Joe West, Amelia Corazza, Gesualda Canbariiera, Marianna Nesci, Carmela & Antonia Gallace, Francesco Sofra (50 years), Ralph, Leo & Caterina Madafferi, Cosimo & Genoveffa Cirillo, Antonio Manno
We remember all our deceased Mother's and Significant Woman in our lives