



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 9am - 3pm

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.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - C

Sunday 6 February 2022

Readings for
this week:



Isaiah 6:1-8
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Readings for
next Sunday



Jeremiah 17:5-8
1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20
Luke 6:17,20-26



Liturgical Jottings

Seraphim

The Prophet Isaiah introduces the angelic order of seraph to Judaism, Christianity and Islam. "Seraphim" means "those who are on fire, Today's first reading we learn that the Seraphim or seraphs give praise and glory to God in Heaven. Likewise angels in the Responsorial Psalm (137:1) accompany the psalmist to sing praise. In both testaments the Angels are depicted as messengers, defenders and generally agents of God's providence.

Seraphim also feature in our liturgy in four of the Roman Prefaces. In the Franciscan Missal St Francis is called the Seraphic Father and St Bonaventure the Seraphic Doctor. The Franciscans are called the Seraphic order.

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Looking at the Readings

Installing lights on tractors, explained a farmer's wife, was the worse innovation for agricultural life. No longer did the farmer, grazier, harvester, come home at sunset for dinner. Before Christ to the latter part of the twentieth century outdoor work, especially farming, was done in daylight. Nefarious activities were confined to night-time. Hence the situation in today's Gospel: The fisherman caught nothing all night. Now in the daytime they had a marvellous haul of fish.

The double lesson did not escape Peter. The dawn of new light gave deeper insight to his life and the miraculous catch, far beyond the natural order, revealed Christ as a great and holy person. Like Peter, the disciple is invited to recognise Jesus in their life, and leave everything to follow him. We do so in a Christian way. We retain balance in life, with work and family and give priority to God and his Word that gives true life.

Word of God Sunday

In September 2019, Pope Francis instituted Sunday of the Word of God encouraging the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God. While most countries celebrate the day on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Church in Australia celebrates it on the first Sunday in February each year since 2020.

The first Eucharistic Prayer of Masses for Various Needs would be particularly appropriate. It acknowledges the Word of Christ's Gospel calling us to unity across every people, tongue and nation, and asks that the Church be renewed by the light of the Gospel.

Other suggestions to celebrate, study and disseminate include: Procession and Enthronement of the Book of the Gospels, Brief Homily on the beauty of the Word in our daily lives, Scripturally based Prayers, Commissioning Readers. Bible Study groups, Gifts of the Bible or just a copy Mark's Gospel for this year.

World Day of Prayer for the Sick

This day is celebrated on the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, Friday 11 February, around the world. "A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned." Pope Francis World Day of Prayer for the Sick 2021

On the Lighter Side

St Peter declared himself a sinner (peccatore [Ital], pécheur [Fr], pecador [Sp] peccator [Lat]). Jesus called him a fisherman (pescatore, pêcheur, pescador, piscator). At least in these languages there is not much difference between the two.



St Mel's Parish Is...

"A welcoming and caring community that helps all people grow stronger in our Catholic Faith."

REFLECTION FROM FR PETER



Pope Francis in his prayer intention for this month of February has asked for our support for the presence of Religious Women of their place in the Church and through local Parish and Church communities. Here at St. Mel's we are grateful for the presence of Sr. Pam Barlow, as a Sister of Mercy who continues today the presence of the Mercy Sisters from time ago and in more recent times the Sisters of the Divine Zeal. Religiously committed women are a gift we need to value from their congregation and for all they bring in making connections of the Gospel as a continuing means of faithfulness and life.

Sr Pam we offer our appreciation in all you continue to be for us through our extensive and vast parish. I am fully aware of the works Sr Pam brings to us and may she know our appreciation and support.

From my family through my late parents Wilma and Charlie both of whom have sisters in religious life. My mother has a surviving sister, Norma Harrison who is a religious sister of Mercy, who in her life has been a nursing sister at what was the Mercy Hospital in East Melbourne, and my dad's late sister, Monica was a Mercy Sister who taught in number of schools in Melbourne. So I have plenty of Mercy Blood in me! having been taught in early primary schooling from the Mercy Sisters in Bendigo.

I'm sure many of us know or have known of Religious Women from our families and close relations. Stories from many Religious Women have stirred our minds. The Josephite Sisters for example used to walk in pairs along new railways in Australia, staying in tents at the rail heads and gathering in schools for teaching. Some like the Sisters of St John of God, who came to Australia through the Kimberly region of Western Australia established an Leprosarium hospital and eventually hospitals, have carried a great tradition of health care to this day.

So we give recognition in taking up Pope Francis' prayer month for consecrated Religious Women and Men in their commitment across the Church in our country and through the many communities they serve. May the presence we bring in faith be mindful of the traditions we have inherited from the Religious Women who have given ministry here at St. Mel's be a continuing encouragement to the community we become.

OUR CHURCH AND PARISH year is well under way Some information to help along the way.... Given the nature of the Pandemic and to where we are as a Church in our community, our wellness and taking of precautions is just so important. I encourage you in this and continue to seek your co – operation in all matters with your protection and the protection of one another.

A COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT This week saw the first of our meetings relating to the Parish Owned blocks at the Corner of Newlyn St and St Andrew's road. This committee is significant to me in giving support to what I see as a long term solution to the blocks for the benefit of the Parish, financially and otherwise.

PARISH BULLETIN ... This takes time to produce each week. I'm beginning to collect more bulletins left on the seats or crunched up in the stand in the Narthex. PLEASE!!!! Take a copy of the Bulletin ... if not please leave at the doors in the stand or table in the Narthex and not crunched up !!!

SUNDAY MASS COLLECTIONS As you know this procedure has changed in practice because of the Pandemic. We have reached a time of RESUMING our normal taking up of our collections. On Sunday February 13th we commence again with TWO collections... just before the offertory procession and when communion has finished. Thank you for your understanding with this and for your contributions in keeping this side of our Church life functioning.

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY IS ON SUNDAY 27TH FEBRUARY.... MEANING THE SEASON OF LENT COMMENCES ON ASH WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH. Please note this in your planners. Church times for Ash Wednesday will be forwarded soon.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Convenes for our first gathering this year on Wednesday 9th February at 7pm. Would be encouraging for all to come for our first meeting.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONER Fr Michael Grace known to us is soon taking up a new life of ... retirement !!! and will be living in our Parish. We offer Fr Michael our best of good wishes for this new living of his life and for God's blessing being with him.

Thank you for taking the above information to your thoughts Fr Peter

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT - Position Available at St Brendan's Catholic Church Office. Two days a week. (Thursdays and Fridays) 9am to 3pm. Email Shepparton@cdos.org.au or phone 58212633 to obtain Position Description. In line with current state COVID-19 requirements, this position has been identified as requiring a COVID-19 vaccination.
Application close 14th February 2022.

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN WHAT THE CATHOLIC FAITH TEACHES?

In 2022, the local Adult Faith Education ministry will once again be running every week. These classes are for anyone who wants to learn more about what the Catholic faith actually teaches, by taking an in-depth look at the Catechism. Led by a local Theology teacher, each week we unpack the teachings of the Church in a clear and approachable way.

The classes run **every Tuesday night, 7:30pm-8:30pm** at the St. Brendan's Parish Centre, beginning on **February 15th**.

Make 2022 the year where you commit to learning the Catholic faith in a deeper way. All are welcome!

For more information, please contact Hayden on 0438 071 630.

Back-To-School Prayer

Dear God,

Please bless all children in this new school year. Give them strength to learn, concentrate and act in love towards their classmates. Watch over them at home and at school. When days become challenging, grant them peace and relaxation, knowing that Your patience, wisdom and courage is excellent in every way. Guide them in their mind, thoughts and body so they may use the knowledge gained to build your kingdom. We thank you for this new school year and ask that you bless the students, families and faculty that make school such a wonderful place.

In your name we pray!



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2022

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah - 17:5-8

A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

The Lord says this:

‘A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,
who relies on things of flesh,
whose heart turns from the Lord.
He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:
if good comes, he has no eyes for it,
he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,
a salt land, uninhabited.
‘A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,
with the Lord for his hope.
He is like a tree by the waterside
that thrusts its roots to the stream:
when the heat comes it feels no alarm,
its foliage stays green;
it has no worries in a year of drought,
and never ceases to bear fruit.’



The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - Happy are they who hope in the Lord

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians - 15:12, 16-20

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke - 6:17,20-26

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

‘How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

‘Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets. ‘But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

‘Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.’

The Gospel of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week 7th February to 13th February 2022

Monday 7th February - No Mass

Tuesday 8th February - 9.15am

Wednesday 9th February - 9.15am

Thursday 10th February - 9.15am

Friday 11th February - 9.15am

Saturday 12th February - 9.00am

Sunday 13th February - 9.30am & 5.00pm

READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER

Sunday 13th February 2022

9.30am - Maureen Munro (Commentator) Chris Summers (L1)
Sev Cortese (L2)

9.30am- Special Ministers: Sr Pam and Pauline Pettigrew

5.00pm - Dom Poppa (Commentator) Paul Bertoli (Lector)

5.00pm - Special Ministers : Helen May and Angie Knez

Recently Deceased: Salvatore Gagliardi

Anniversaries: Keith Glidden, Giuseppe Primerano,
Cosimo Cirillo, Rosina Roccisano, Giovanni Cari.