



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.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 17 July 2022

Readings for
this week:



Genesis 18:1-10
Colossians 1:24-28
Luke 10:38-42

Readings for
next Sunday:



Genesis 18:20-32
Colossians 2:12-14
Luke 11:1-13



Liturgical Jottings The Creed

The Missal contains two Creeds: the Apostles' Creed which is simple and forthright and the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed which bears the theological concerns of the fourth century Christological debates in the Councils of Nicea, Constantinople and Chalcedon. First in the baptismal rite it came into the Oriental Mass in the sixth century and in the West two centuries later.

"The purpose of the Profession of Faith or Creed is that the gathered people may respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings and explained in the Homily and that they may also honour and confess the great mysteries of the faith before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist.

The Creed is to be sung or said on Sundays and Solemnities. It may be said also at particular celebrations of a more solemn character."

Cf GIRM 67&68

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Looking at the Readings

Today we see the people of God offering the hospitality rather than receiving it, first Abraham and then Martha. What lessons of discipleship can be learned from these readings?

First and foremost we see how important openness is, for in each case those to whom the hospitality was offered were divine visitors in human form. We can never be sure under what guise God will come to us. It could be the person on the street who asks for directions, or the one who comes to our place of work to engage the service that we provide. It may be the friend who comes to dinner or the co-worker who acts in a way we did not expect. God comes into our lives in unexpected ways and we must have an open attitude of hospitality if we are to receive the blessings that might come with such visits.

We know that we cannot lay aside the responsibilities of our lives in order to sit with Mary at the feet of Jesus. However, we cannot allow ourselves to be held captive by these responsibilities, regardless of how legitimate they may be. And so we continue to struggle; to carry the burdens that are ours for the sake of the people that we serve; to serve the people in our care realising that we will probably not be able to accomplish all of our tasks or at least as well as we would like. It is in this way that the reign of God struggles to be born. © Dianne Bergant CSA

Prayer for the Week

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ and make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our daily lives, make us attentive to your voice and alert to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Quote of the Day

Action and contemplation are very close companions; they live together in one house on equal terms. Martha and Mary are sisters.
Bernard of Clairvaux

Calendar Additions

In 2021 Pope Francis has added the memorial of Sts Mary, Martha and Lazarus to the General Roman Calendar, giving the siblings the combined feast day of July 29 ready for this year.

On the Lighter Side

While helping his mother, Martha, washing the dinner dishes, young Jake said: "I'm going to be a dad when I grow up - then I won't have to do the dishes!"



St Mel's Parish Is...

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

REFLECTION FROM FR PETER

When Jesus arrives at Martha and Mary's house, he and his companions are on a journey, it is hardly possible Jesus would have left them outside the door and presented himself as a kind of privileged and one off guest. Quite a crowd enters! Martha emerges as the one who takes control. It's described as her home! Martha welcomes! Mary given her sister. Martha gives service, Mary sits at Jesus' feet. Martha and Mary have something to offer to us in our Church at this point of time.

The Plenary Council has finished, deliberations I imagine are being sought. Many are asking 'Where to from here?' I saw a concluding statement which might be helpful. Since the Plenary Council was inaugurated some four years ago much has happened, by way of world events, patterns of Church life the rhythms of daily life not to say the pandemic itself. There has been other events, yet through all these the Catholic People of Australia have been asking ... 'What is the Holy Spirit saying?' A deeper solution is to see the sower who plants hope filled seeds in our proclamation of the Kingdom bringing deeper equality of women and men in being doers of the field, seeing the seeds ripen for a more inclusive and life giving Church speaking relevance and fulfillment in the hearts of God's people.

It just might be the story of Martha, Mary and Jesus, are calling us to be a Church hearing the Spirit as God's way for the Church being a visible sign of a hospitality and service with listening as a clear way forward. Through the advancement of the Plenary Council another word has been overlapping... Synodality! It might be a word relating about seeking, discerning, even hoping. However way its thought Synodality relates to mission putting into practice a hospitality of God within us and where hospitality invites the unexpected guest to a place around the table.

Synodality with hospitality is an action open to and for all. Like Jesus entering the lives of Martha and Mary ours is an opportunity of encounter in our homes, workplaces, in our social settings. Martha in her serving, Mary in her listening compliment our presence to others of the guest who is open to our providing and listening.



I will be away from Monday, July 25th to Friday (late), July 29th, 'winter escape'. No weekday Masses Tuesday to Friday that week. Mass will be offered on the Saturday, July 30th at 9am as usual.

Fr Peter

WELCOME BISHOP SHANE MACKINLAY

To our St Mel's Parish community. He joins us today, in celebrating the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time. We also welcome our recently confirmed candidates from 2021 and 2022, who will today come forward for a special blessing from the Bishop.

Please join us after our 9:30am Mass in the Narthex for a light morning tea and an opportunity to meet and converse with our Diocese of Sandhurst Bishop.

FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL From our gathering last Wednesday evening;

- . In the formation session, Tim presented a reflection from Fr Richard Leonard SJ who, from a personal, experience gave his insight on an image of who God is in light of tragedies, grief, and where God is understood.
- . Both our school principals, mentioned their hopes for teaching and learning this term. Chris (St Mel's) said, the school has undergone some refurbishments after recent water damage. There are some new staff members; Brooke Cimera and Anita Damainopolous.
- Sue (St Anne's) mentioned the latest child safety standards are in operation now with eleven new procedures.
- . Parish report: Peter mentioned the success of the recent Sacramental Masses. The Plenary Council generated discussion as to where from here?
- . General discussion centred around the great work Melanie Domanchenz is doing in support of the homeless. The challenges she faces in doing and coordinating this work.
- The winter night shelter program is doing differently this year. The tasks of meeting the homeless is greater than ever.
- . Looking at improving our communication to parishioners, for example the Facebook page.

St Mel's Parish would like to acknowledge the elders past and present of the Yorta Yorta Nation, and pay our respects as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our parish and church is situated.

CELEBRATIONS OF BAPTISM Welcome to Hudson James Bilney, child of Hannah, Baptised here at St Mel's last Saturday. Welcome to Xavier John Foley, also Baptised here at St Mel's last Sunday, child of Brett and Leah. May the Baptism of these children enable to see a pathway of life in God's love.

PARISH COMMITTEE OVERSEEING THE PARISH BLOCKS Meets on Wednesday, August 3rd at 7pm.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL Meets next on Tuesday, August 9th at 5:30pm.

SANDHURST PRIESTS CELEBRATING JUBILEES AT THIS TIME

60 Years: Monsignor Francis Marriott OAM

50 Years: Fr Des Welladsen, Fr Vin Walsh, Bishop Les Tomlinson

The Priests gather in Bendigo this Wednesday, July 20th to celebrate with our jubilarians.



A SANDHURST DEVELOPMENT For a Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council. A preparation and consultation stage. Bishop Shane has written to parishes informing us of the hope for this new Diocesan Committee.

We are in a stage of preparation and in coming months (dates to be confirmed) to engage people across the Diocese in a spirit of co-responsibility and synodality. The meetings will encourage expressions of interest in becoming a member of the council. Feedback from the meetings will inform the Statutes of the Council. The Preparation and Consultation meetings are to commence in July concluding in December. Given this is to bring effect to parishioners, in particular parish pastoral council's, parish staff, be given an opportunity to attend such meetings. On behalf of the Parish I will do my best to keep you informed of dates and developments.

PLENARY COUNCIL A general reaction overall from the conclusion of the Plenary Council is 'The Holy Spirit has been both a comforter and disruptor'! Brisbane Archbishop Mark Coleridge and outgoing president of the ACBC who instigated the Plenary Council in 2016, said decisions made after voting on dozens of plenary motions would "have their effect in communities all around Australia". A general thought would be for ongoing effects of the Plenary Council would happen over time!

A FAITH VIEW THIS WEEK Feast Day of St Mary Magdalene, this Friday, July 22nd. In recent times her place in the Church has been raised. Referred by Pope Francis as the 'Apostle of Apostles', Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ writes, 'Of John's Gospel Mary Magdalene is a woman above all of deep faith and with a gift of deep friendship'. In the Gospels we meet crowds of Marys! Often seen in a different light. Mary was the more common of female names at the time. They include Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary, the mother of James. Mary of Bethany, and her sister Martha. Mary, the wife of Cleopas, who supported Jesus on his preaching rounds, and who with Jesus' mother and Mary Magdalene are described as; standing by Jesus at the foot of the cross. Along with other Mary's it makes us wonder... would the real Mary please stand up! The Mary Magdalene we gleam from the scriptures is one we can take to heart. She keeps hoping, keeps believing, and above all keeps loving as she has been loved.

First century

Feast Day: July 22nd

Patron: Perfumers, converts, hairdressers.



WELCOME TO TERM THREE To both our school and educational communities of St Mel's Primary and St Anne's College. Hopefully this term is less stress free given the conditions our schools are working with in this pandemic period.

Fr Peter

THE ITALIAN CONSULT Will be in Shepparton Saturday, July 23rd. A gathering at the Italian Social Club will commence at 12pm, light refreshments will be available.

All are invited to come along. For more information please phone Maria on 0447 739 853.

ST MEL'S / SSCC'S WINTER NIGHT (SHELTER) SUPPORT

"Go and do the same" (Luke 10v 37)

Thank you for supporting us as we continue to support our brothers and sisters experiencing homelessness. Sometimes we feel helpless as we look at the numbers, but our guests, both men and women, appreciate the meals and company. Our Coordinator, Melanie, is doing a magnificent job leading our efforts.

Thanks (Sr Pam).



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 24th JULY 2022

First Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.' Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Ask, and it will be given to you.

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray: "Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."'

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.'

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

The Gospel of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week 18th July to 24th July 2022

Monday 18th July - No Mass

Tuesday 19th July - 10:30am

(Funeral Mass for Ed Walsh)

Wednesday 20th July - No Mass

Thursday 21st July - 9:15am

Friday 22nd July - 9:15am

Saturday 23rd July - 9:00am

Sunday 24th July - 9:30am & 5:00pm



READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER

Sunday 24th July 2022

9:30am - Sev Cortese (Commentator) Zoe Hamilton (L1)

Melissa Hamilton (L2)

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

5:00pm - Tim Kelly (Commentator) Helen May (Lector)

5:00pm - Special Ministers: Maureen Matthews & Sr Pam Barlow

Recently deceased: Barbara Teesdale, Ed Walsh, Nim Beutler (Catholic Education office, Bendigo)

Anniversaries: Rocco and Maria Stella Gagliardi