

WELCOME TO

ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan'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 of Lent, Year C

3 April 2022

First Reading Is 43:16-21

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done
before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not
see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the
wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the
wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

*(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What
marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back,
full of song,
carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 3:8-14

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in
order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will
outweigh the supreme advantage of
knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have
accepted the loss of everything, and I look
on everything as so much rubbish if only I
can have Christ and be given a place in him.

I am no longer trying for perfection by my
own efforts, the perfection that comes from
the Law, but I want only the perfection that
comes through faith in Christ, and is from
God and based on faith. All I want is to know
Christ and the power of his resurrection and
to share his sufferings by reproducing the
pattern of his death. That is the way I can
hope to take my place in the resurrection
of the dead. Not that I have become perfect
yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running,
trying to capture the prize for which Christ
Jesus captured me. I can assure you my
brothers, I am far from thinking that I have
already won. All I can say is that I forget the
past and I strain ahead for what is still to
come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize
to which God calls us upwards to receive in
Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation JI 2:12-13

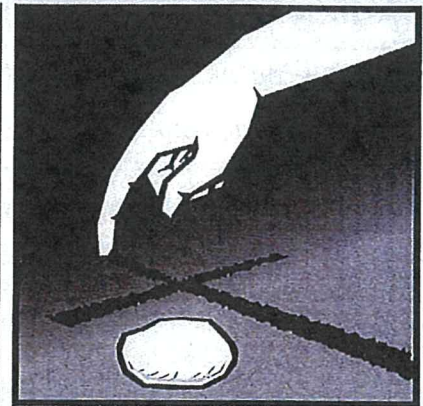
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!*

Gospel Jn 8:1-11

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At
daybreak he appeared in the Temple again;
and as all the people came to him, he sat
down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman
along who had been caught committing
adultery; and making her stand there in
full view of everybody, they said to Jesus,
'Master, this woman was caught in the very
act of committing adultery, and Moses has
ordered us in the Law to condemn women
like this to death by stoning. What have
you to say?' They asked him this as a test,
looking for something to use against him.
But Jesus bent down and started writing on
the ground with his finger. As they persisted
with their question, he looked up and said,
'If there is one of you who has not sinned,
let him be the first to throw a stone at her.'
Then he bent down and wrote on the ground
again. When they heard this they went away
one by one, beginning with the eldest, until
Jesus was left alone with the woman, who
remained standing there. He looked up and
said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one
condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied.
'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go
away, and don't sin any more.'



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up'
to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that
adultery was to be punished by death for
both parties. However, the Roman
occupation had forbidden the Jewish
authorities to carry out the death penalty.
By bringing the woman to Jesus they
sought to place him in a no-win situation. If
he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the
death penalty, then he was flaunting
Roman law. If he did not uphold the law
then he could be branded as a false
teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap!

But where is the man with whom the
woman was committing adultery? When he
is not also brought forward for judgment as
any legitimate accusation would demand,
Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He
realises that those accusing the woman
must have somehow been involved in
setting her up so that she could be 'caught
committing adultery'. In Jewish law,
accessories to a crime were equally guilty
and subject to the same penalty. When
Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one
of you who has not sinned ...,' he's letting
them know that he's aware of their part in
this crime and what judgment is due them
also! If they persist with their accusation,
they'll also be tried as accessories! So they
quietly walk away.

Jesus' words to the woman sum up his
message throughout the gospel: 'Neither
do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin
any more.' As with others in the gospels,
Jesus recognises that the woman has
indeed sinned, but he does not condemn
her for it. By telling her not to sin any more
he is calling her to conversion. He is saying,
yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do
better and I'm challenging you to try.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for
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ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



121 Knight Street, Shepparton
 Phone: 5821 2633 | Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
 Website: sheppartoncatholic.org.au
 Facebook: sheppartoncatholic
 Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
 Priest in Residence: Fr Varghese Vithayathil
 Associate Priest: Fr Jophin Joy
 Deacon: Francois Baguma
 Seminarian: Adonis Pena (Don)
 Office Manager: Diane Teitzel
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm



*Christ in community ...
 the heart of our faith*

Recently Deceased: Roderick Maher

Anniversaries: Nazzareno Ganino, Mary Fenn

A message from Bishop Shane Mackinlay

As many of you would be aware, Adonis Peña spent most of his recent time in the Philippines caring for his father, who was very seriously ill at that time. Though his father's condition has improved and stabilised, he has significant ongoing health issues. Don has now decided to withdraw from seminary formation and return to the Philippines so that he can support his family, and his father in particular. Don informed parishioners about this at St Brendan's, Shepparton, where he has been undertaking a 12-month pastoral placement.

I have expressed to Don our appreciation for his involvement in the Diocese since his arrival in the diocese in mid-2018 and assured him of our continuing prayers and good wishes for him and his family.

+Shane Mackinlay

Readers & Commentators 9th & 10th April

6pm	Sr. Bing	K. Hunt
8am	P. Naughton	C. Naughton
11am	M-A Demase	S. Pivac

HOLY WEEK &

Easter **MASS TIMES**

Wednesday 6 April 5-6pm Reconciliation

Thursday 14 April 5pm Mass of the Lords Supper

Friday 15 April 3pm Celebration of the
 Passion of the Lord

8pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 16 April 6pm Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday 17 April 8am Easter Sunday Mass

11am Easter Sunday Mass



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT COMPASSION
FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS



Shaniella 23, from the Solomon Islands was determined to forge a path out of poverty, moving away to vocational school. With your support, Shaniella was able to overcome further challenges of natural disasters, and gain the skills she needs to create a brighter future for herself.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow

For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



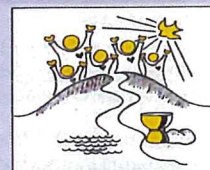
RCIA

This week our RCIA participants Annie and Brooke are asked to look again at their choice to join the Catholic faith.

The Third and last Scrutiny calls for more discernment, are they on the path to a new life, to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ? This is the aim of the RCIA process to plant the seed, to open the door to a life of faith.

We commit ourselves as a Parish to walk with them on this path, especially in the initial stages. The question is also asked of us as followers of Jesus, are we open to being transformed, our life renewed, strengthened through our faith and love for Jesus?

Does our life show evidence of this faith and love ?



Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am

Saturday 8.30am *Syro Malabar Rite*, Sunday 5.30pm *Syro Malabar Rite*

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday mass.

Holy Hour— Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament— Fridays 5pm to 6pm

St. Brendan's Parish Sacramental Program 2022 Final opportunity to enroll

Enrolments into this year's Sacramental Program will be accepted for another two weeks.

Families intending to enrol their children in the program are asked to return their enrolment paperwork during one of the following Masses.

Saturday 2nd April 6pm OR

Sunday 3rd April 8am or 11am OR

Saturday 9th April 6pm OR

Sunday 10th April at 8am or 11am.

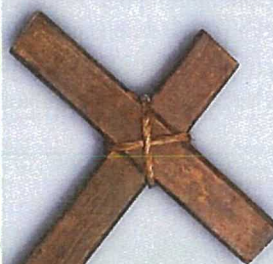


Enrolments are to be placed in the collection plate.

For further details call the parish office on 5821 2633 or email Laura at sacramental.coord@bigpond.com.au

ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH SECONDARY SCHOOL SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

THIS PARISH BASED PROGRAM WILL PREPARE SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO WISH TO CELEBRATE THEIR FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION.



BEGINNING TUESDAY 3RD MAY

For more information and to enrol please contact either

Brendan Lindsay - brendan.lindsay@notredame.vic.edu.au
or Laura O'Sullivan - sacramental.coord@bigpond.com

Sandhurst Diocese Chrism Mass:

The Chrism Mass for 2022 will be at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, 11.00am Tuesday, 12th April.



Parish representatives will present oils to be blessed by the Bishop for use during the coming year.

All parishioners of the diocese are warmly invited to this very significant Mass for our Diocese.

A light luncheon and beverages will be provided after the Mass. Please RSVP to your Parish Office by Thursday 7th April for catering purposes.

All welcome, bookings essential.

Parking around the Cathedral can be limited so please allow time to find a suitable park in the nearby streets.

The Chrism Mass will be livestreamed on the diocesan website and YouTube channel for those unable to attend in person.

NETFLIX

Our Pastoral Associate, Anthony has been watching a series on Netflix called, **Stories of a Generation** which has some input from Pope Francis. He describes it as a wonderful insight in to the lives of ordinary people all around the world, living everyday life to the full, amidst very difficult and trying circumstances. The link is attached if you too would like to watch it.

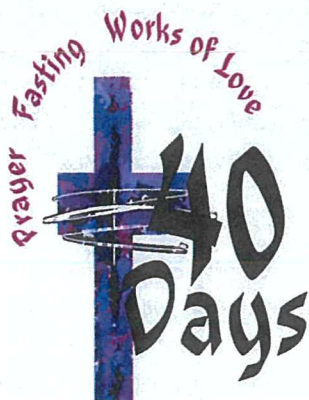
<https://www.netflix.com/au/title/81306329>

Stations of the Cross
An Ecumenical service on the
"Way Of The Cross"

GOOD FRIDAY, 15 APRIL, 7.30pm
at ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Performed by Notre Dame students,
Music by the 11am musicians and singers.

Written and Directed by Les Billings,
Coordinated and Produced by Dale Wright.
For information phone Dale on 0408216522
or St Brendan's Parish Office 5821 2633



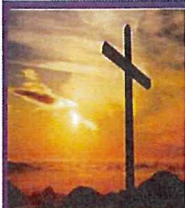
FRG Ministry
PRESENTS

ONLINE HOLY WEEK RETREAT

10TH - 17TH APRIL 2022

LISTEN

Register at
www.encountercourses.com/retreat



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
DURING LENT
EVERY THURSDAY @ 6pm
IN THE CHURCH**

**LENTEN MEDITATION GROUP
MARIAN CHAPEL (in CHURCH)
EVERY THURSDAY
[7.15am - 7.45am] ALL WELCOME**

Pope Francis has said,
there are two ways of thinking..
"We can fear to lose the Saved or
we can want to save the Lost".



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice.

Are you looking for a new Opportunity??

Maybe you could see yourself as a Mission & Pastoral Life Coordinator..

A new & exciting opportunity exists for a suitably qualified person to provide administrative and operational support to the Director of Mission and Pastoral Life on matters related to the implementing of mission and formation in the Diocese.

This is a full time role. Applications close: **Monday, 11 April 2022.**

For more information, a copy of the position description and how to apply— go to <https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/positions-vacant/mission-and-pastoral-life-coordinator>

Sandpiper e-News

Sandpiper e-News is the official newsletter for the Sandhurst Diocese.



You can subscribe to Sandpiper e-News from the homepage of the Diocesan website www.Sandhurst.catholic.org.au and keep up to date with all of the Good News.

It's a way for people in our parish communities across our Diocese to connect with each other and share their stories which, whether you know it or not, can inspire, motivate, and uplift others to live their lives more fully.

Sandhurst e-news is published every fortnight.

To talk about your story, or for any questions, contact the editor: Katrina on 0419 015 696.

Lets welcome Refugees 2022

Bendigo Churches & Bendigo RAR

Bendigo Palm Sunday Gathering & Picnic—April 10th, 12.30 -1.30 pm

People are invited to gather at the following points from 12.00 noon, to converge on the Library Gardens by 12.30 pm (or meet us there)

- ⇒ St Killian's Catholic Church
- ⇒ St Andrew's UCA,
- ⇒ St Paul's Anglican Cathedral
- ⇒ Outside Dudley House, View St

***There will be activities for Children**



FOOD FOR FAITH (new venture for the parish)



This weeks YouTube clip, takes us to Fr Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest from America. Fr Richard founded the Centre for Action and Contemplation.

He is discovering a new way to look at the creation story, our story, and it's link to the Bible creation story.

This clip may challenge you, it may set you on a path of self discovery.. either way I feel it is good to be challenged it might confirm your ideas or unsettle them. Fr Richard Rohr <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m2zz9Do-n14>

>>> FEEDBACK REQUESTED <<<

Are you finding these clips interesting?? Are they stimulating?

What would you like to see otherwise? As this is a new venture for our parish, we are interested in your thoughts. Be it Good, Bad or Indifferent..

Please email anthonypastoral@bigpond.com with your feedback or you are welcome to leave a note for Anthony at the Parish Office.

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GOING FORWARD TOGETHER ...

Fifth Sunday of Lent 2022

FROM THE READINGS

No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before.

See, I am doing a new deed,

Even now it comes to light; can you not see it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. *Isaiah 43:18-19*

Those who are sowing in tears

will sing when they reap. *Psalms 125/126:5*

All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 3:13-14*

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery ... looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their questions, he straightened up and said, 'Let the one among you who is guiltless be the first to throw a stone at her.'

As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus. 'Go away, and do not sin any more.' *John 8:3-11*

FROM FELLOW TRAVELLERS

By the grace you grant me

of silence without loneliness,

give me the right to plead,

to clamour

for my brothers and sisters

imprisoned in

a loneliness without silence!

It is worth any sacrifice,

however great or costly,

to see eyes that were listless

light up again,
to see someone smile
who seemed to have forgotten
how to smile;
to see trust reborn in someone
who no longer believed
in anything or
anyone.

Dom Helder Camara quoted in *Heroes of Faith*, 120

What unites us,
is much greater than what divides us.

Pope John XXIII, Quoted by Pope John Paul II: Address 'To the Catholic Bishops of the Russian Federation', 2001

Newman was convinced,
as am I, that in embracing what often appear at first sight to be contradictory
truths and trusting in the kindly light to lead us, we will eventually come to see
the greater truth that lies beyond us.

Pope Francis, *Let Us Dream*, 56

There is no contradiction
between being solidly rooted in the truth and at the same time being open to
a greater understanding. The Spirit continues to guide us in our translating the
Good News into different contexts ... The Spirit shows us new things through
what the Church calls "signs of the times".

Pope Francis, *Let Us Dream*, 57

What is the grace on offer here,
if we can only embrace it; and what are the obstacles and temptations?
What humanises and dehumanises? Where is the good news hidden ... ?

Pope Francis, *Let Us Dream*, 60

To recover the dignity of the people
we need to go to the margins of our societies to meet all those who live there.
Hidden there are ways of looking at the world that can give us all a fresh start.

Pope Francis, *Let Us Dream*, 119

FOR THINKING AND PRAYING

- What words or phrases stand out for you in these readings and insights of 'fellow travellers'?
- What insights might you take with you on your own journey?

PRAYER

**Dearest God,
Teach me to be generous,
Teach me to serve you as you deserve –
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to heed the wounds,
To toil and not to seek rest,
To labour and not ask for reward –
Except to know that I am doing your will.**

St Ignatius of Loyola, 'With God's Help' quoted in Carol Graser, *Pray to Love – Love to Pray*, 27

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SANDHURST 2022 – JOURNEYING TOWARDS THE SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE 5TH PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AND THE 16TH ORDINARY SYNOD OF BISHOPS ON 'SYNODALITY' IN THE THIRD YEAR OF A PANDEMIC. **Prepared by:** Adult Faith Education Sandhurst, PO Box 201, Bendigo, 3552. Email: adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au. **Acknowledgements:** Bruce D. Prewer, *Australian Prayers* 4th Edn., Kingston Springs, TN, USA: Westview, 2002; Pope Francis, *Let Us Dream: The Path To A Better Future*, Sydney Australia: Simon & Schuster, 2020; Roland Ashby Ed., *Heroes of the Faith*, Mulgrave Vic: Garratt Publishing, 2015; Pope John XXIII, Quoted by Pope John Paul II: Address 'To the Catholic Bishops of the Russian Federation', 2001; Carol Graser, *Pray to Love – Love to Pray*, Milwaukee, WI: Hi-Time Publishing Corporation, 1996.