



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

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

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9:30am - 2:30pm
Friday 9:30am - 12:30pm
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.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

14 May 2023

Readings for this week:



Acts 8:5-8,14-17
1 Peter 3:15-18 or 4:13-16
John 14:15-21 or 17:1-11

Readings for next Sunday:



Acts 1:1-11
Ephesians 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20



Liturgical Jottings

Dedication of a Cathedral

Through his death and resurrection, Christ became the true and perfect temple of the New Covenant and gathered together a people to be his own. This holy people, made one as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one, is the Church that is, the temple of God built of living stones, where the Father is worshiped in spirit and in truth. Rightly, then, from early times 'church' has also been the name given to the building in which the Christian community gathers to hear the word of God, to pray together, to celebrate the Eucharist and to receive the sacraments. #1

The anniversary of the dedication of its cathedral is a solemnity in the cathedral and a feast in the churches of the diocese. It is desirable that the bishop celebrate the Eucharist with the council of priests and as many people as possible. #26 Rite of Dedication of a Church.

Anniversary of Dedication of Sacred Heart Cathedral is on Monday 15 May.

Looking at the Readings

We live in hope because we have been blessed with the opportunity of participating in the exaltation of Jesus. This hope is based on promises: the promise that we will not be left orphaned when Jesus returns to his Father; the promise that we will be comforted by the Spirit whom Jesus will send. It is trust in God that enables us to live in this world as if the promises have already been fulfilled, for in fact, it is precisely such living that fulfils them.

We have not celebrated the Ascension, and yet all three readings speak of the Spirit. The same Spirit, who quickened the resurrected life of Jesus, enlivens us. This Spirit strengthens, comforts, guides and inspires us. Life in the Spirit requires that we conform our lives to the commandments of God, not in a legalistic or constraining way but out of love. The love that comes to us through the Spirit will then overflow into the lives of others, and we will be agents of God's love in the world.

The Spirit given by Christ is mediated through the laying on of hands. This still happens in our day in the gentle touch of friends, in the loving touch of parents, in the healing touch of those who cure both the body and the spirit. The liturgical year is preparing us for the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and Jesus is preparing us for life in the Spirit here on earth. This is the reason for our hope." © Dianne Bergant CSA

World Social Communications Day 14 May

Focus for this Day 2023 is "speaking with the heart". It is the heart that spurred us to go, to see and to listen, and it is the heart that moves us towards an open and welcoming way of communicating.

May the Lord Jesus, the pure Word poured out from the heart of the Father, help us to make our communication clear, open and heartfelt.

May the Lord Jesus, the Word made flesh, help us listen to the beating of hearts, to rediscover ourselves as brothers and sisters, and to disarm the hostility that divides.

May the Lord Jesus, the Word of truth and love, help us speak the truth in charity, so that we may feel like protectors of one another.
Pope Francis Message for 57th World Day of Social Communications.

On the Lighter Side

What is Thor's preferred method of communication?

Norse code.

What are gangsters preferred method of communication?

Gmail

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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

The word ADVOCATE sits strongly in our hearts this day. In human terms an Advocate is one who pleads our cause, for example in a court of law it might be a solicitor or barrister. In matters of Christian faith, THE ADVOCATE is the Holy Spirit. In our growth as people, we can identify an Advocate being our mothers, or women significant in providing example and love, women who stand with us giving formation to all we become, especially through to adulthood.

Mothers ...!!! How do we describe them? Women and mothers have a contemplative side to them. They by nature bring value to the sacred. My own late mum, Wilma always recognized a desire to meet the sacred by her faith and how she passed this through her siblings and of course through my late dad, Charles in their lives together by their married life. For me Mother's Day takes on different meanings in thought and where I hold mum in prayer this day especially.

A quote for this day on mums and women goes like this "A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take."

AND "A mother understands what a child does not say."

However way this day holds for you, allow the mother and women in your life be the best for you. Taking Mary's quality of one who waited, for all her Son Jesus would turn out to be, Mary who went out of herself, into quiet suffering, who carried quiet hopes, who trusted, who demonstrated that waiting with trust is about letting God define our life Wow!!!! This is our mums and women loving to us. They are the 'wow' factor we hold this day!

Blessings on all mum's and women this day and all days

Fr Peter

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 Last Sunday's efforts were most encouraging in our support of Zoe Hamilton going to W.Y.D late July into August in Portugal. The generosity given by all was a testimony of how we see our being a community in faith reaching out to others. Thank you to all who helped behind the scenes, to our *MAJELLAN LADIES*, and many who supported the 9:30am and 5pm Masses. The amount gathered for our first contribution was \$948.75. The next Sunday in support for Zoe will be on Sunday, July 4th at both 9:30am and 5pm Masses. Congratulations and Thankyou.

Fr Peter

REPORT BACK TO PARISHIONERS FROM OUR PARISH MISSION AND PASTORAL COUNCIL

From our meeting last Wednesday... Still progressing in getting flags organized as representative of nations making up our people and nationality here at St. Mel's. Sr Pam presented great information regarding the SYNOD in the continental stages, in particular to our region making up Oceania. Support for Zoe Hamilton going to World Youth Day is significant to us here at St Mel's. An article was presented on Nathalie Becquart, who is Pope Francis', undersecretary to the upcoming Synod in October.

ST MEL'S PARISH FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meets this Wednesday, May 17th at 7pm in the Gathering Room.

CONGRATULATIONS Dale Wright, who last Sunday marked 40 years of dedicated music to the Church here in Shepparton, particularly to St Brendan's Church. Dale from all at St. Mel's our congratulations on this ministry to Church music

Fr. Peter

EVANGELIZATION CATHOLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE: BECOMING CATHOLIC

A new website and companion book answering the big questions people commonly ask when considering becoming catholic is now available. This can be found at www.becoming.catholic.au This could be helpful for those you know who might be considering a call in joining the church.

May is a month
devoted to the
Blessed Virgin Mary

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.

“Dear God, Bless all mothers with strength, patience and love. Guide them through their journey and let them know they are cherished and appreciated. Amen.”



MOTHER'S DAY GIGGLES From the Majellan Media

Two children told their mother to stay in bed on Mother's Day morning. As she lay there looking forward to breakfast in bed, the smell of bacon floated up from the kitchen. But after a long wait she finally went downstairs to investigate. She found them both sitting at the table eating bacon and eggs. "As a surprise for Mother's Day," one child explained, "We decided to cook our own breakfast."

Why is Mother's Day before Father's Day?
So the kids can spend all their Christmas money on Mum.



The school teacher says to one of her students, "Tell me, George. Do you say prayers before meals?"
Says George, "No, I don't have to. My Mum's a good cook."



LAUDATO SI' WEEK 16th – 24th May is a global celebration where we remember Pope Francis urging us in his encyclical *Laudato Si'* to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor and to humbly place ourselves in communion with our common home. As a Catholic Earthcare Parish we celebrate our part in the great progress the whole Church is making on its journey towards the seven *Laudato Si'* Goals set before us by Pope Francis to achieve ecological conversion.

CATHOLIC EARTH CARE AUSTRALIA Is supporting 'LAUDATO SI' week in conjunction with an ONLINE 'ACTION' event. The theme this year is 'Hope for the earth, Hope for humanity'. THIS Wednesday, May 17th from 4pm to 6pm, you can go online for this by registering at <https://www.trybooking.com/CHVPE>

A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. AMEN *Pope Francis Laudato Si'*

FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH Last week I gave some information from the Nuncio of the Catholic Church in America, Archbishop Christoph Pierre. This week he goes on to say, "The task of evangelizing is entrusted to all the Baptised and as a Christian people we are never spectators and the need to find a path where we encounter a charism of all we each bring in the context of the Eucharist". He offers this thought, "The task of being a Synodal Church is by expression in being Church". More particular with this is the worldwide gathering of Bishops and other church representatives in Rome in October 2023 and 2024. SYNODALITY is a word inviting for deeper listening and where new discoveries are realized, listened to, and acted upon.

SAFEGUARDING AND POTENTIAL RISK FACTORS Keeping our Church and community safe is now an ever-increasing priority. A new dicastery has been created called the commission for the Protection of Minors. This commission recently met in Rome on May 3-6. Among the tasks at hand is responding to Pope Francis in animating the Church to combat evils of online child abuse and commissioning an in-depth study on the theme of vulnerability in its various forms to equip the church entities with robust measures to combat abuse.



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sheppartonsouth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY MAY 21ST 2023

First Reading A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The Word of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week
May 15th to May 21st 2023

- Monday May 15th - No Mass
- Tuesday May 16th - 9:15 am
- Wednesday May 17th - 9:15am
- Thursday May 18th - 9:15am
- Friday May 19th - 9:15am
- Saturday May 20th - 9am
- Sunday May 21st - 9:30am & 5pm



READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER
Sunday, May 21st 2023

- 9:30am - Maureen Munro (Commentator) Xavier Tanner (L1)
 Trish Mathisen (L2)
- 9:30am - Special Ministers: Jacqui Avard &
 Pauline Pettigrew
- 5:00pm - Tim Kelly (Commentator) Sr Pam Barlow (Lector)
- 5:00pm - Special Ministers: Rosana Legalo & Maureen Matthews

Recently Deceased: Angie Seca **Anniversaries:** Cosimo Rullo, Genovessa Cirillo, Letizia Salamone, Carmine DeGrazia, Emanuela & Lena D'Augello, Mickella 'Mick' Rendina (one year)