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.

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B *17 November 2024*

First Reading Dn 12:1-3

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 15:5. 8-11. R.v.1

(R.) Keep me safe, O God:
you are my hope.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. *(R.)*

2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. *(R.)*

3. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness forever. *(R.)*

Second Reading Heb 10:11-14, 18

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful, and pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 13:24-32

He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

Please note the following items are available for sale in the Piety Store for those interested:

2025 Columban Art Calendar

$ 10 each

2025 Daily Mass Book

$ 25 each

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Our GARABANDAL Prayer Group will meet again on Monday, November 18 for the last time this year.
1.30 - 4pm in the Mary MacKillop Room of the Parish Centre.
Please feel free to join us.

Reflection *by Greg Sunter*

The whole of chapter 13 in the Gospel of Mark is devoted to a discourse about the future. In the section preceding this week's passage, Jesus has foretold the destruction of the Temple and the fall of Jerusalem. He has also predicted war on a massive scale and the persecution of his followers. Now, in this passage, Jesus predicts the return of the Son of Man and the fulfilment of the kingdom of God.

Why does the gospel include such an extended description of the collapse of the world as it was? Because that's exactly what was going on around the community of this gospel writer! This gospel is understood to have been written somewhere in the period 70-75 CE. In the year 70 CE the city of Jerusalem was besieged by Roman troops who stormed the city and destroyed it. As a sign of complete disdain for the people of Jerusalem and a mark of overwhelming victory, the Romans burnt and completely destroyed the Temple in the heart of Jerusalem. For the entire Jewish community, this was absolute devastation. The destruction of the Temple surely marked the coming of the end times – the day of judgment and completion of this world. The community gathered around this gospel writer were no less affected. On top of this, the Roman Emperors were reaching new heights (or depths) in their persecution of the followers of Jesus.

In the midst of this despair and fear, the followers of Jesus are challenged to remember the teachings of the one they follow. This passage is written for them as an encouragement to not give up in the face of what appears to be overwhelming odds. It is a call to hope. Although we can understand the context in which it was originally written, we are also challenged to apply its message of hope and perseverance to our own lives.

ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS

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Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
Priest in Residence: Fr. Saji Thomas MST
Associate Priest: Fr Jackson Saunders
Office Manager: Diane Teitzel
Safeguarding Officer: Kathy Hunt Ph: 5821 2633
Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm

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.

Readers & Commentators November 23 & 24, 2024

6pm	Sr Bing	M. Johnson
8am	M. Keenan	D. Keenan
11am	M. Frizzell	A. Vales

Anniversaries: Allan Townsend, Arnold Neessen, Therese Stent, Gerrard Stent.

Recently Deceased: Angelica Conti, Maria Sanchez





Our office will be closed on **Monday, November 18.**

If you would like to receive our Parish Bulletin on email, you can subscribe using this QR code or visit: https://www.catholicparish.app/subscription?id=0018w000004eUxHAAU&req=subscribe

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am & 11am

Syro Malabar Rite: Wednesday 6.00pm, Saturday 8.30am, Sunday 5.30pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Rosary — The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday Masses and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays 7pm to 8pm and Fridays 5pm to 6pm

SPECIAL BLESSING OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED WITHIN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

To recognise this precious Sacrament of Baptism, we are having a special blessing during the **11am Mass on Sunday, November 17**.

We invite all those families who have baptised their children in the last 12 months, no matter in which Parish they had their Baptism.



Feast of Christ the King

Flag carriers needed for the Feast of Christ the King at the weekend Masses on Saturday, November 23, at 6pm, and Sunday, November 24 at 8am and 11am.

We are looking for parishioners to carry flags into Mass next weekend at each of our Masses, representing the many nationalities which make up our vibrant parish. You may like to carry a flag representing your country of origin, the country of your ancestors, or a country you feel a particular connection to. We have a collection of over 41 flags to share. We would also like some parishioners to read a Prayer of the Faithful in their first language. If you can help with either of these, please call or text Kathy Hunt on 0416 058 431, or speak to one of the people holding a clipboard in the Narthex after Mass this weekend.

We are looking forward to another vibrant display this year.



The eye Shop

Locally owned business
servicing for 36 years.
For all your eye care needs,
you can contact Ashley and Vanessa
Madeira at The Eye Shop.
Phone 5821 0311
enquiries@eyeshopshepparton.com.au



Two Sandhurst Ministry Leadership Vacancies

Excellent opportunities for qualified individuals, motivated to work within the Church environment possessing exemplary service delivery skills, working with diverse and complex stakeholders.

Assistant Director, Mission and Pastoral Life
Youth Ministry Team Leader

To Apply:
If you believe your skills and experience align with these positions, we would love to hear from you. To submit an application, please click apply and provide a copy of your resume and a cover letter addressing the selection criteria (located at the conclusion of the position description).
Please note we will be reviewing applications on a rolling basis, if you believe this role might be for you, please apply as soon as possible.
To be successful in this role you must hold valid working rights in Australia.
Application Closing Date:
Close of Business, 25 November 2024
Contact Person:
Dr Chris Cotter –
chris.cotter@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
or (03) 5445 3655
Apply Now:
Assistant Director, Mission and Pastoral Life
Youth Ministry Team Leader



St Brendan's Friendship Group

will meet for lunch:

12:30 pm, Sunday, November 17,
Pizza Plus Restaurant
204 Corio Street, Shepparton.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! RSVP to Pat Simpson 0423 343 711 (leave message)

Fr Jean-Sebastien Gery



Fr Jean-Sebastien Gery will be coming to St Brendan's Parish, Shepparton, to celebrate the **9.15am Mass on Friday, November 22.** Afterwards there will be a cuppa in the Pastoral Centre.
Fr Jean-Sebastien resided at St Brendan's Presbytery during 2021 while he was completing Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Ave Maria Aged Care as part of his studies for the priesthood. He was dearly loved at Ave Maria and around the Parish. He is good friends with Fr Joe and Fr Jackson, who he studied with at Corpus Christi College in Carlton. Fr Jean-Sebastien was ordained at St Patrick's Cathedral in East Melbourne in September. He has since been appointed as the Assistant Priest of Wheelers Hill and Mulgrave Parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Please come along, say hello to Fr Jean-Sebastien and pray for him in his ministry.

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE UPDATE



After careful consideration, Jason Giuliani has decided to step down from his role as the Safeguarding Officer at St. Brendan's. We take this opportunity to thank Jason who gave a lot of time and energy into this commitment.

Sr Agnes Murphy rsm, also a long-standing member of the Safeguarding Committee, also tendered her resignation recently. We sincerely thank Sr Agnes for her wisdom and faithfulness to the safeguarding and well-being of our children and vulnerable adults.

We welcome and congratulate Kathy Hunt for stepping up to the role of Safeguarding Officer for St Brendan's Parish.

The Committee had their last meeting for the year through the week and we would like to recognise and thank three (3) parishioners who have recently joined our Team. They are Terry Ben, Mavis Amankwaah and Lale Mapusua. Despite being new to the role Terry, Mavis and Lale are keen to support the Parish wherever possible in this vital ministry.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM ENVELOPES AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION



Thank you to everyone who is on our Planned Giving Program. NEW envelope packs are now ready for collection in the Narthex. These envelopes all commence on December 1, 2024. We ask that you collect your packs as soon as possible. This will assist us greatly in cutting down our postage costs. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office on 5821 2633. We encourage anyone who would like to come on to our Program to give the office a call. Thank you to everyone who contributes financially to St Brendan's. Your generosity not only assists us with current costs but also helps us to plan for our future.

CANCELLATION OF HOLY HOUR

We have had to cancel Holy Hour which was to occur on Thursday, November 21, between 7pm and 8pm in the Church.
We apologise for any inconvenience.

Hour of Adoration

Sunday, November 24, from 9am until 10am.
This will follow the 8am Mass. All welcome!

Fr Rene Ramirez & Reverend Fr Thinh Nguyen

Fr Rene Ramirez (pictured right), was born on March 28 , 1969, and hails from Gapan, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, a city located 90 km north of Manila.
He has been a priest since June, 1998 after completing 13 years of seminary formation and joining the Congregation of the Rogationists of the Heart of Jesus in May, 1985. His first assignment as a priest was as the Vocation Director for his Congregation in the Philippines.

From 1999 until early 2003, Fr Rene later served as Administrator, Treasurer, and Vice Rector at Rogationist College in Cavite City while pursuing a Master's in Educational Management at De La Salle University in Dasmariñas City. He then moved to Rome in 2003 to complete his Licentiate studies in Spirituality and earn a Diploma in Social Communications from the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Upon returning to the Philippines in 2006, he was appointed Director of Social Communications and Spiritual Director for the seminary students of Philosophy at Rogationist Seminary College in Parañaque City, where he also taught. From 2009 to 2015, he served as the Superior of St. Hannibal Rogate Centre, which included the Communications Office, the Provincial House, and the House for Rogationist Late Vocation Seminarians.

In Australia, Fr Rene became the pastor of Holy Family Parish in October 2015, overseeing the Catholic communities of West Footscray, Maidstone, and Braybrook within the Archdiocese of Melbourne. He played a crucial role in the amalgamation of the partnered parishes of Maidstone and Braybrook in 2018 and has been actively involved in parish renewal through Ron Huntley Leadership Coaching.

In November 2023, he was assigned by his Congregation to establish a new presence in the Diocese of Sandhurst as the Parish Priest of St Mel's Parish in Shepparton South and St Malachy's Parish in Nagambie. In January 2024, he was tasked by the Bishop of Sandhurst to be the Supervising Priest (Canon 517 §2) in Rushworth, which includes four Mass centers (pictured left).



Reverend Fr Thinh Nguyen has also said 'YES' to his call to being an Auxiliary Bishop for Melbourne.

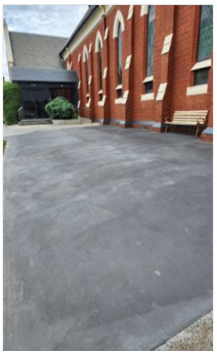
Their Episcopal Ordination for the Bishops-elect is to take place on the morning of 1 February 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne.

CONCRETING AROUND WEST SIDE OF CHURCH

We can all agree the new concrete works look great around the west side of the Church.

Gallace & De Rose Concreting recently completed these works which cost $19,382.

Line marking of disabled parking bays are yet to be completed. Common rule is that we need to wait 4-6 weeks AFTER the concrete has been poured for best results. Frank Thorsen from GV Linemarking will undertake this work in early December for $450.



A BIG THANK YOU FROM 'VOICE FOR SILENT PEOPLE'



Through our fundraising stall held after the three Masses last weekend we raised $2732. Your generosity means that the children/teens in the household in the city of Butembo, in the D.R. Congo, will have good nutrition and their educational and medical costs covered for the next 12 months. We can't thank you, the parishioners, enough for your ongoing support of Voice for Silent People.

If anyone would still like to donate, our details are:
BSB 803078
ACC 100097806

Advent Reflection Group



Advent this year begins on **Sunday, December 1.**
Each year we are asked to take time to reflect and prepare for the great feast of Christmas. As human beings our record is not great in changing our perception or understanding of an event that happened so long ago. We need to take opportunities to deepen and grow our understanding of Gods great plan for humanity, the miracle of the incarnation, God becoming man, entering the human experience. We have a couple of groups meeting during Advent, using a reflection booklet called "The Light" from the Wollongong diocese, please let us know if you would like to join a group. Or, you may choose to use this resource for your existing group. Please contact Anthony on 5821 2633 on Tuesdays or Thursdays, or email shepparton.pastoral@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

We welcome Fr Saji Thomas MST, who had been intended to serve as a full-time priest in Bendigo, has now arrived in the diocese, and for the time being will serve as Chaplain to both communities, as previous Syro-Malabar priests have done.



CARITAS GLOBAL GIFTS

What better time to spread hope than in the season of giving? By giving a **Global Gift**, we bring hope and joy to some of the most vulnerable families in our world. We also bring a smile to our loved ones when they find out we've given hope and joy on their behalf.
There are some printed catalogues in the church to collect or scan here for further information.

As part of the **Greater Shepparton Open Days**, St Brendan's Catholic Church will be open, **Saturday, November 30, 12pm to 1pm**.

