

Catholic Parishes of

St. Brendan's, Shepparton & St. Mary's, Dookie

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A, 13 SEPTEMBER 2026

Our Parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

Looking at the Readings

The Book of Sirach, also known as Ecclesiasticus because it was used in the church (Ecclesia) to instruct the catechumens, was written about 195 years before Christ but is as much relevant now as it was then. For we are confronted with selfishness, fierce competition, jealousy, brutality, resentment, and anger. The way we relate to one another is vitally important. Hence sorrow for wrongs and forgiveness of others and oneself are just as essential for good living today. Peter thought he was being generous forgiving his brother seven times, but Jesus asked of him and us to forgive always. We pray the Lord's Prayer asking Our Father to forgive us as we forgive others. Yet we must pray it often and sincerely so that we have the gift of grace and cooperate with grace to keep on forgiving.

Pope Leo's Message on the Season of Creation

Although the challenges before us are enormous, God does not leave us without the means of healing and transformation. In place of the weapons of war, the God of peace grants us the strength to heal, to reconcile and to build a civilization of love. In this way, we are called to safeguard the many "ecosystems" entrusted to us: the ecosystems of creation, of human relationships and of the human heart itself. Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development, to overcome poverty, protect human dignity and reconcile divided peoples. Such a vision reflects faith in the coming of God's Kingdom.

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Join Us in Worship

St Brendan's, Shepparton

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am & 11am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9.15am

Syro Malabar Rite

Wednesday 6pm
Saturday 8.30am
Sunday 5.30pm

Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays 7pm - 8pm
Fridays 4.45pm - 5.45pm

Rosary

Following weekday Masses and after
8am Mass on Sunday

Confession

Saturday 9.45am - 10.30am



121 Knight Street, Shepparton, VIC 3630
shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au
(03) 5821-2633
Office Hours - Mon-Fri | 9AM-2PM
catholicparish.app/shepparton

St Mary's, Dookie | Sunday Mass 10am



93 Saddleback Rd, Dookie VIC
5821-2633
dookie@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



Our Priests

Assistant Priest | Fr Ruel Desamparado, RCJ
Assistant Priest | Fr John Paul Pasala
Assistant Priest | Fr Addin Doe, RCJ
Assistant Priest | Fr Wilford Urmaza, RCJ

Parish Notices



VOICE FOR SILENT PEOPLE FUNDRAISER THIS WEEKEND!

Saturday, 12 September, 6pm Mass
& Sunday 13 September, 8am and 11am Masses
Walnuts \$10 per kg; Handmade Soap \$3 each;
Also a variety of Baked Goods
Enquires: Celie 0488 583 112



MENS GROUP
MOVIE & PASTA NIGHT
Sunday 13 September at 5pm
Pastoral Centre
Movie: A Man Called Otto



CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL - RETREAT DAY
Saturday 19 September 2026 | St Brendan's, Shepparton
9:30am cuppa | 10:00am-3:30pm
Venue: Pastoral Centre, Knight St
Lunch: Bring a plate to share | All welcome
Contact: Brigita 0412 042 196 | Mary 0427 190 282



St Brendan's Parish Friendship Group
All welcome to join for lunch on Sunday, 20 September at the RSL club
(Cnr Wyndham and Knight St) at 12.30.
New parishioners all welcome!!
Any enquiries to Pat (0423343711. Leave a message)



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP
Friday 25 September | 6:00pm-8:00pm
Pastoral Centre (behind St Brendan's Church)
Young adults aged 18-35 are invited for dinner, discussion and guest speaker, Fr Luke Bulley.
For more information, contact: shepparton.ym@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



Annual Public Rosary
All are welcome to attend this prayerful
and social gathering.
Saturday October 10, 2026, 10.30am,
St Brendan's Parish Church Gardens.



Marian Festival
Sunday 11 October at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo
All are welcome to the 52nd Marian Festival dedicated
to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
For more information go to: www.bendigofatima.com
Contact: info@bendigofatima.com

We ask for your prayers for the eternal repose of:

Recently Deceased: Lois Della Vedova

Death Anniversaries: Joseph P, Maurice Boschetti, Carmela Sepe, Valentino Pati, John De Lai, Imelda Mahoney,
Katherine Phelan, Gertrude O'Grady



First Reading: Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour
ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High,
and overlook the offence.

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live,
we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or
dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and
came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the
living.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:

love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?'
Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Responsorial Psalm

**(R.) The Lord is kind and
merciful; slow to anger
and rich in compassion.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

Job Vacancies

Join the **St Brendan's**
Catholic Church Office team

Administration Support Officer



13.5 hours per week



Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday during school hours



Permanent part-time position



Location: St Brendan's
Catholic Church Office

An opportunity for an organised and reliable person to provide administration support in a parish office setting.



Enquiries:
shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au



Contact:
5821 2633



Applications close:
24 September 2026



The St Vincent de Paul Society
St. Brendan's Conference
is seeking a new Treasurer.

The position will involve basic IT skills
and bookkeeping.

Perhaps up to 5 hours per week.
Training and support will be provided.

For any queries please call

Gerry Goonan on
0413400318.



Know someone looking for work?
Please share these job opportunities with
anyone who may be interested.

Safeguarding Sunday 2026 - Love Protects | Sunday 13 September 2026

This Sunday, 13 September, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, formerly known as Child Protection Sunday. Safeguarding Sunday is observed on the second Sunday of September each year, at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week.

This year's theme is Love Protects.

On Safeguarding Sunday, we pray for those who have experienced abuse, as well as their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done in Church settings and acknowledge the vulnerability of some within our parishes and communities.

We recommit ourselves to supporting survivors and to making the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires our constant work and vigilance.

The Love Protects theme reminds us that real love is not passive goodwill. Rather, it actively shields the vulnerable, tells the truth, and never allows silence to stand in the way of safety.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA NEPAL APPEAL

Caritas is working alongside
affected communities and local
authorities to ensure assistance
reaches those most impacted.
You can support the Appeal at
www.caritas.org.au/nepal
or call 1800 024 413.

Follow us for all
our updates.



Little Red Skips



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your dirty needs**

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