

Catholic Parishes of

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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A, 20 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

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: 0821 2633
Applications close: 24 September 2026



DIVINE RENOVATION CONFERENCE

1st OCT - 3rd OCT 2026

In October, St Brendan's parish is sending Fr Ruel, Fr Addin, Tiff Chandler and Emma Christy to the Divine Renovation conference in Sydney.

What is Divine Renovation?

Divine renovation accompanies priests and lay leaders who desire to see their parish come alive by providing them with the tools and coaching they need to bring renewal.

For more information visit: www.divinerenovation.com

On our return we look forward to sharing what we have learnt and starting St Brendan's on the path to renewal.

Imagine St Brendan's being a place where...

- Lives are transformed as people encounter Jesus in a very personal way.
- Parishioners are disciplined to grow into their missionary identity.
- New people come, bringing new passion and energy to the parish.
- Priests can share their responsibility of leadership with a dedicated team.
- A strong leadership culture empowers volunteers to step up.
- Everyone has the opportunity to serve out of their individual gifts and strengths.

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



We ask for your prayers for the eternal repose of:

Death Anniversaries: Margaret Macgill,
Catherine Entriiken, Eddie Curran,
Thomas Francis



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)



Garabandal Prayer Group

Monday, 21 September at 1:30pm
Mackillop Room of the Parish Office



Our Parish Office will be closed on **Friday 25 September** due to the public holiday.
We apologise for any inconvenience caused.



AFL Tipping Presentation/Morning Tea

All parishioners, family and friends are invited to attend our annual Footy Tipping presentation ceremony on
Friday 25 September. A morning tea with some footy trivia will commence in the Parish Centre at 10.00 a.m.
after Mass. Lots of fun giveaways for everyone. It is a public holiday, so come along in your footy colours with
footy themed snacks to share.



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.vm@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



Greeters/Welcomers Needed - especially for the 6pm Mass

A warm welcome can make all the difference. We are currently seeking parishioners to join our ministry of
hospitality as a Greeter/Welcomer at the church doors, particularly for our 6pm Saturday Vigil Mass.
No special skills are required, just a friendly smile and a welcoming spirit. Greeters simply arrive a little before
Mass, offer a warm greeting, hand out the bulletin and help make everyone feel at home in our parish
community.

At present, we have no one rostered for this Ministry over the coming months. If you could spare a little time
before Mass, your presence would be a wonderful gift to our parish.

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you". (Romans 15:7)

Thank You and Farewell to Jess!

We would like to sincerely thank Jess, our Sacramental Coordinator, for all that she has done for our
Parish community here at St Brendan's.

Jess handed back her Parish keys on Wednesday 16 September as she begins the next chapter of her journey,
studying to become a teacher. We know that any school will be incredibly lucky to have her!

Jess has played a vital role in the life of our Parish through her work as Sacramental Coordinator.
She has been a wonderful team player, always happy to help and support others wherever she could.

Her care, commitment and willingness to get involved have been greatly appreciated by our Parish community.
We are incredibly grateful for everything Jess has contributed to our sacramental programs and
to the families she has supported along the way.

Thank you for everything, Jess. We wish you every blessing and all the very best for your studies and
your future career in teaching!





First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

*Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.*

Second Reading: Philipians 1:20-24, 27

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last."

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is near to all
who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured.
(R.)

2. The Lord is kind and full of
compassion, slow to anger,
abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.
(R.)

3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.
(R.)

14 September 2026



Appointment of Vicar General

To the People of God in Sandhurst,

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed Very Rev. Dr Brian Boyle as Vicar General of the Diocese of Sandhurst, effective 14 September 2026, for a term of two years.

The Vicar General assists the Diocesan Bishop in the governance of the Diocese and, in accordance with canon law, exercises the executive authority entrusted to that office (cf. canons 475–481).

Fr Brian is well known throughout the Diocese and brings considerable pastoral and administrative experience to this responsibility. He currently serves as Administrator of the Cathedral Cluster of Parishes and, from 15 September 2025 until my installation as Bishop of Sandhurst, served the Diocese generously as Diocesan Administrator. During those months, I came to appreciate his wisdom, prudence and deep commitment to the life and mission of the Diocese personally.

I also wish to express my sincere gratitude to Fr Joseph Taylor, who served as Vicar General during the episcopate of Archbishop Shane Mackinlay. I thank him for his faithful service, loyalty and generous commitment to the Diocese in that important responsibility.

I am grateful to Fr Brian for accepting this appointment and look forward to working closely with him in the pastoral governance and mission of our Diocese.

I ask you to join me in praying for Fr Brian as he begins this new responsibility, that the Lord may grant him wisdom, strength and joy in his service of the Church in Sandhurst.

Yours sincerely,

✠ René Ramirez RCJ
Bishop of Sandhurst

Priests Retirement Foundation Appeal – Date Change

Please note that this year's Priests Retirement Foundation (PRF) Appeal has been moved from its usual September date.

New Appeal Date: 10–11 October 2026

The change allows the Diocese to give appropriate space and support to the appeal for St Killian's Parish following the recent tragedy involving the church.

Further information about the PRF Appeal will be provided closer to the October appeal weekend.

Bishop's PVP Pastoral Visitation – Postponed

Bishop René Ramirez RCJ has confirmed that the Bishop's Pastoral Visitation to the parishes of Dookie, Mooropna, Nagambie, Shepparton and Shepparton South, originally scheduled for 2026, has been postponed.

Over recent months, the parishes have been working through the Parish Visitation Program (PVP) process, reviewing parish life and ministry, and preparing reports for the Diocese. We are grateful to all those who have contributed their time, ideas and feedback to this important process.

The Office of Mission and Pastoral Life, in conjunction with the Bishop's Office, is currently investigating possible dates for the Visitation in 2027. Once the dates are confirmed, they will be communicated to the parishes and parishioners.

Follow us for all
our updates.



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THANK YOU from Voice for Silent People

A big thank you to St. Brendan's parishioners for your ongoing generosity in supporting the VSP fundraising stall. Across the three masses, we raised \$2152.35. These funds will go directly to pay for the educational and essential needs of the children in the Butembo household, in the D.R. Congo. Your support gives these children a much brighter future and is greatly appreciated.