



St Brendan's & St Mary's Parishes are child safe communities. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

First Sunday of Advent, Year A

30 November 2025

First Reading Is 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz,
concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.
All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it;
and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of
the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from
Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into
ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.
Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.
O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.

*(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house
of the Lord.*

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. *(R.)*
2. It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of
judgement
of the house of David. *(R.)*
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!' *(R.)*
4. For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. *(R.)*

Second Reading Rom 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must
wake up now: our salvation is even nearer
than it was when we were converted. The
night is almost over, it will be daylight soon
– let us give up all the things we prefer
to do under the cover of the dark; let us
arm ourselves and appear in the light.
Let us live decently as people do in the
daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity
or licentiousness, and no wrangling or
jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus
Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in
Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of
Man comes. For in those days before the
Flood people were eating, drinking, taking
wives, taking husbands, right up to the day
Noah went into the ark, and they suspected
nothing till the Flood came and swept all
away. It will be like this when the Son of
Man comes. Then of two men in the fields
one is taken, one left; of two women at the
millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know
the day when your master is coming.
You may be quite sure of this that if the
householder had known at what time of
the night the burglar would come, he would
have stayed awake and would not have
allowed anyone to break through the wall
of his house. Therefore, you too must stand
ready because the Son of Man is coming at
an hour you do not expect.'

**The Serra Club—This coming Friday,
December 5, we will have Mass at 7.15 pm,
for vocations and our priests.
Weekly Friday Adoration will continue up to
beginning of Mass.
We will have a cuppa afterwards
in the parish centre. All welcome!**



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The first Sunday of Advent sees the
commencement of the new liturgical year.
This new liturgical cycle is referred to as
Year A and features the gospel of
Matthew. (Year B features the gospel of
Mark and Year C, that we have just
completed, features the gospel of Luke.)
Advent comes from the Latin word
Adventus which literally means 'coming'; it
is also reflected in the Greek word
Parousia, which is used to describe the
second coming of Jesus. So Advent is a
time of preparation and anticipation of the
coming of Christ into the world that is
celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas.
The gospel passage chosen for today's
reading richly expresses that anticipation
and need for preparation.

It may seem a little confusing that we
begin our year-long exploration of the
gospel of Matthew by taking a reading
from chapter 24. However, the need for
readiness and alertness that Jesus
speaks about in relation to the coming of
the Kingdom is equally suitable for a
modern audience when preparing to
celebrate once again the coming of Jesus
into the world. Jesus is the best
expression of the Kingdom that we have
yet experienced and so rather than seeing
the choice of this passage as a confusion,
we should recognise the alignment that
exists between the anticipation of the
Kingdom and the anticipation of the
Nativity.

The two great feasts of Christianity – the
Nativity and Easter – are each preceded
by a period of preparation: Advent and
Lent. The emphasis of these seasons is
on the mental and spiritual preparation to
fully enter into one of the great mysteries
of faith. In the Nativity, we celebrate God
become human; God present in the world
in a physical way. Advent is a time to
remember the many and varied ways that
God continues to be present in the world.

ST BRENDAN'S PARISH

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

Phone: 5821 2633

Email: shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website: catholicparish.app/shepparton

Facebook: [sheppartoncatholic](https://www.facebook.com/sheppartoncatholic)

Parish Administrator: Fr Ronald N. Masilang, RCJ

Assistant Priests:

Fr Adi Indra

Fr Ruel Desamparado, RCJ

Fr Addin Doe, RCJ

Office Manager: Diane Teitzel

Pastoral Associate: Anthony Kilmartin

Sacramental Coordinator: Jess Doyle

Administration Support: Laura Thompson

Youth Worker: Emma Christy

Housekeeper: Louise Tumua-Malolo

Maintenance Officer/Gardener: Gavin Doherty

Visiting Psychologist: Estela Hutchings

Safeguarding Officer: Kathy Hunt Ph: 5821 2633

Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am



Syro Malabar Rite: Wednesday 6.00pm,

Saturday 8.30am & Sunday 5.30pm

St Mary's Dookie, Sunday 10 am

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 4.45pm - 5.45pm

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 Dec 6 & 7 2025

6pm	Julie Kelly	Kathy Hunt
8am	Paul White	Sara White
11am	Mavis Amankwaah	Rett Aitken

Recently Deceased: Peter Sireh (Fr Paul Sireh's brother) , Monsignor Frank Marriott, William O'Dwyer, Walter (Wally) Niederle

Anniversaries: Doreen Townsend, Tess Love , Janet De Lai, Bencily Francis

The weekend Masses this weekend will include the Rite of Acceptance for the RCIA group.

The Rite is to formally welcome and accept the people on the RCIA journey, asking them what they are looking for. The Rite also asks us, as a faith community, to commit to walking closely with these people, praying for them, and getting to know them.

Tyler, Ebony, Rosy, Penny, Nathan, Jason, Daryl, Kelly and Leigh will take this formal step in their faith journey.

Let us commit to supporting them.

Amen.



ANOINTING MASS

Wednesday, December 3 at 11am
at St Brendan's Church



Blessing of the birthday celebrants

This weekend is the last Sunday of the month, and we will be offering a special blessing for all parishioners celebrating birthdays this month. Please join us at any of the weekend Masses to receive this blessing.



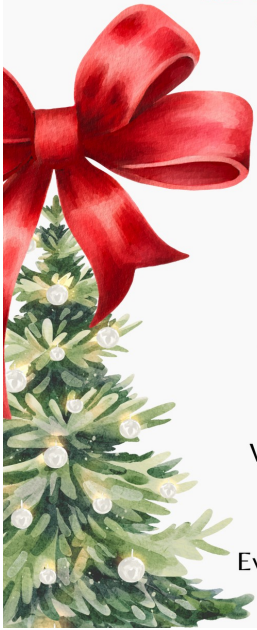
THANK YOU FROM VOICE FOR SILENT PEOPLE

Once again, a big thank you to St Brendan's parishioners for your very generous support of our stall after each of the masses last weekend.

We raised \$2105.20. This will go directly, and in full, to paying for the essential needs of the orphans that we support.

We pay for school fees, uniforms, books, any medical needs and food for the household of children/teenagers in the city of Butembo in D.R. Congo.

ST Brendans Parish Friendship Group Christmas Lunch



YOU'RE INVITED

Join us for our Christmas lunch at
McGuire's Bistro, Sherbourne Hotel!

Sunday, 30 November 2025

🕒 12:30pm

💰 \$32 per head – includes roast turkey
and dessert

Please confirm your attendance by
Wednesday, 26 November by contacting
Pat Simpson: 0423 343 711
(please leave a message).

Everyone is welcome – come celebrate the
festive season with us!

**Catholic Mission sincerely thanks the parish community of
St Brendan's for your generous and faith-filled
support of this year's World Mission Day Appeal.**

Your kind gift of **\$1,075.15** is more than a donation - it is a
lifeline of hope. Through your compassion, mothers in Zambia
will walk safer roads to give birth with dignity, and children in
remote villages will take steps towards a brighter future
through access to healthcare and education.

Your generosity not only strengthens local missionaries in
Zambia, but also sustains the Church's vital work across more
than **1,000 mission dioceses worldwide.**

In a world where many feel forgotten, your parish has
reminded them they are seen, loved, and never alone. Thank
you for walking with us - hand in hand, heart to heart,
and mission to mission.

We look forward with joy to continuing this journey together,
bringing life, faith, and hope to those on the margins.

**With deepest gratitude,
The Catholic Mission team**

SENIOR'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

St Brendan's Pastoral Centre,
12 noon,

Wednesday December 10
2 course lunch, raffles and
lucky door prizes

**RSVP IS A MUST by
December 5 to the Parish
office on: 5821 2633.**



NEW ROSTERS for the months of

January, February and March

Please let the Parish Office know by

Monday, December 15, if you would like any
changes to your current roster.

If we don't hear from you,
we will assume your availability remains the same.

The following Ministries
contain Rosters:

- Minister of Communion
- Reader
- Commentator
- Offertory
- Communion to the Sick and Housebound
- Greeters and Ushers



We thank everyone for their time and effort in
being part of these important roles
within our Parish.

Mons. Marriott Funeral Mass Livestream

**The Funeral Mass for
Mons. Frank Marriott will be livestreamed
from Sacred Heart Cathedral on
Wednesday, December 3, at 1:00 pm.**

**Go to www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au
to watch.**

Thank You for Your Service, Louise Tumua-Malolo!

We would like to extend a
heartfelt thank you to Louise for
her service to our
parish as the housekeeper of
the Presbytery over the past 18
months. Louise has now
concluded her role,
and she will be greatly missed.

We are blessed to still have her as a regular
member of our St Brendan's parish community.

Thank you, Louise, for all your hard work!





ST. BRENDAN'S PARISH
INVITES YOU TO COME
AND JOIN OUR

Misa De Gallo
**A CHRISTMAS
NOVENA MASS**

16-24 DECEMBER 2025
@6:00AM

"Come Lord Jesus, come!"



SEND O LORD HOLY APOSTLES INTO YOUR CHURCH



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PLEASE PRAY FOR ACYF PILGRIMS

Preparation for the Sandhurst Pilgrimage to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival is currently underway, with Pilgrims undertaking formation in the lead-up to the Festival at the end of November. We ask that the Sandhurst community of faith pray for all the Pilgrims, Festival organisers, Coordinators and Leaders. I believe the Festival will bear much fruit in bringing young people closer to Jesus and inspiring them on their journey.
Hope is Alive!

THANK YOU DAVID VILLANI

The last Parish Finance Committee meeting for 2025 was held during the week. It was Fr. Ronaldo's first in his new role as Parish Administrator, but it was also David Villani's last meeting as Chairperson. David had served on the Finance Committee for 14 years, 13 of those at the helm.

Whilst David was Chair, the Parish Centre was extended to incorporate the existing parish office facilities, moving the office out from the parish house. The church has had many renovations performed including replacing the entire carpet, and the parish grounds have been transformed to incorporate the new Garden of Eden. The bitumen driveways have been replaced in stages and the parish house had its first major refurbishment in over fifty years. Solar panels were installed to help reduce our energy costs. Many decisions have had to be made during these years, too many to list them all.

Through this entire era, David has been a calm, humble and pragmatic leader of the Finance Team.

Ashley Madeira will be the new Chair of the Finance Committee.

The Parish of St. Brendan's wishes to thank David for his outstanding contribution and leadership. Along with Julie and their beautiful daughters Chiara and Sienna, they continue to be active members of our parish.



Advent & Christmas Prayer & Reflection

Leaflets 2025 The Diocese has again created its traditional Advent and Christmas leaflets. This year, they focus on the scriptures of Advent and Christmas Year A, and Dilexi Te, Pope Leo XIV's Apostolic Exhortation to all Christians on Love for the Poor. These six handy A5-sized leaflets can be downloaded from our website,
CatholicDioceseofSandhurst.Victoria.Australia