



Readings for
this week:

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20
1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37



Readings for
next week:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18
1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Matthew 5:38-48

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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Sick List: Luke Holford, Robert Kelso, Jean and Bryan Mulcahy, Chris McIntyre, Graeme Weir, Gerard Hicks, Mary Hehir

ROSTERS

BINGO ROSTER: 18th Feb - N. Russell, M. Carnolvale, R. & M. O'Meara, N. O'Brien, J. Petts

COUNTER ROSTER: 12th Feb - A. & M. McGrath, A. Conti; 19th Feb - M. Williams, B. Ryan

11/12 Feb	READERS	OFFERTORY	SPECIAL MINISTERS	ALTAR HELPERS
6:30 pm	H. Betson I. Tumua Valoia	Betson Family	S. Richards F. Dowling T. Tumua	J. Cortese C. Fasano
10 am	AM. Carroll E. Macdonald	E. Macdonald & Family	M. Lee S. Griffin (RP/G1) R. O'Meara (RP/G2)	J. Cortese C. Fasano
18/19 February				
6:30 pm	K. Murphy L. Donnelly	Angela Brown & Family	L. Turk M. Janke E. Janke	M. Murphy P. Noble
10 am	I. Raleigh K. Pearse	Helen Crilly & Family	A. Butts K. Treacy (RP/G1) M. Hogarty (RP/G2)	M. Murphy P. Noble

WELCOME TO

St Mary's Parish

2 TOOLAMBA ROAD (PO BOX 365) MOORoopNA VIC 3629
PH: 5825 2034

Parish Priest: Mons Peter Jeffrey Email address: mons.peterj@bigpond.com
Parish Secretary: Diane Teitzel Email address: mooroopna@cdos.org.au
Parish Office Hours: Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am - 1pm
Website: www3.smmooroopna.catholic.edu.au/parish



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 February 2017



Liturgical Jottings

Proper & Common Masses

Most celebrations of the mysteries of Christ and feasts of the Saints have prayer texts and scripture readings proper for the particular feast. Others do not so texts are found in the Missal under Common Prayers, they include: the Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church; the Blessed Virgin Mary (in Ordinary Time, Advent, in Christ-mas and Easter times). Then there are Martyrs (one or several, pastors, missionaries and virgin martyrs and Holy Woman Martyrs). Next are Common of Pastors: popes, bishops, pastors (several or one), Founders of Churches, Missionaries and Doctors of the Church. Then there are Common of Virgins, Holy Men and Women: Monks and Religious. Nuns, those who practiced works of mercy, educators and Holy Women.

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Looking at the Readings

Today's First Reading, Psalm and Gospel all relate to the way in which we are called to live in right relationship with God and with one another. What is referred to as the 'Law' is generally used as shorthand for the Torah – the first five books of the Bible – which first of all establishes the history of relationship between God and humanity through the books of Genesis and Exodus and then provides detailed instructions about how that relationship should be honoured and observed. When Jesus speaks about the Law and the Prophets, he is deliberately including the extensive collection of prophetic writings that interpret the Law in terms of justice and right relationships with others as being a reflection of the right relationship with God.

By declaring that he has come not to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to complete or fulfil them, Jesus is making it perfectly clear that his ministry and teaching is in alignment with and in accordance with the historical tradition and he is not setting out to overthrow the Jewish tradition. Throughout his ministry, Jesus repeatedly calls the people to be true to the teachings of old and to live them with integrity and dedication. His constant complaint is against those who live by the letter of the Law and ignore what we would call the spirit or intention of the Law. This is the root of his swipe at the shallow virtue of the scribes and Pharisees in today's gospel. The criticism that Jesus levelled at these two groups was that their adherence to the Law made no room for the compassionate heart that the writings of the Prophets demanded.

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Saint of the Week St Valentine 14 February

St Valentine was a priest in Rome at the time of Emperor Claudius II who urgent to recruit soldiers for his armies, banned all weddings to encourage single men to enlist. Seeing the anguish of young couples forbidden to marry, St Valentine performed secret weddings in defiance of the Emperor. He was arrested, beheaded on 14 February 269 and buried in the catacombs where an ancient church is dedicated in his name. He is the Patron Saint of engaged couples, happy marriages, love and lovers.

Prayer for Married Couples

Father, look with tenderness upon your daughters and your sons gathered in your name. Together, may each couple continue to both praise you in their gladness and turn to you in their troubles so that you may fill them with the joy of salvation. Keep them faithful in their marriages, and let them be living examples of Christian love.

On the Lighter Side

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Sherwood! Sherwood who? Sherwood like to be your Valentine!



ST MARY'S PARISH MOTTO

“Reaching out to each other
- growing together in love”

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm at St Mary's

Sunday: 10am at St Mary's

**Sunday: 8.30am at St Joseph's, Undera
(Monthly Mass - 2nd Sunday of the month)**

RECONCILIATION

10.30—11am at St Mary's

WEEK-DAY MASS TIMES

- ◆ Tuesday 14 February - 6pm Mass
- ◆ Wednesday 15 February - 6pm Mass
- ◆ **Thursday 16 February - 9.30am Mass
(NOTE: CHANGE IN MASS TIME)**
- ◆ Friday 17 February - 10am Mass

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

**TUESDAY 14th February
8.50AM - 9.10AM 5/6 BD**

PARISH NEWS

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Enrolments are currently being taken for our **Reconciliation Program** starting in Term 1. Children in Grade Three, who have been baptized and any children above Grade Three who have not made their Reconciliation need to enrol in the program as soon as possible.



**The information meeting will take place on
Wednesday 22nd February.**

Enrolment forms can be collected from the School or Parish Office.

For further information please contact Di Teitzel at the Parish Office or Marg Lee.



Powerpoint Operators Roster: Firstly a BIG THANK YOU must be extended to Maree Pearce and Margaret Campbell who week in, week out, put together the Powerpoint presentations for our weekend Masses. It is hoped that in 2017 a Roster for **Powerpoint Operators** can be established to assist these ladies. If you would like to help out please contact either Maree or Margaret, or email the Parish Office on mooroopna@cdos.org.au. Training and assistance in this will be provided. Thank you



BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING

**14th FEBRUARY 2017
at St MARY'S CHURCH
7pm - 8.30pm**

To register for a baptism at St Mary's Parish please contact the Parish Office on 5825 2034 or email Di at mooroopna@cdos.org.au

MEETING DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2017

- ⇒ PPC Meeting - Wed 15th Feb at 6.45pm at Parish House
- ⇒ Finance Meeting - Mon 20th Feb at 5.30pm at Parish House
- ⇒ Visitation Meeting - Thurs 23rd Feb at 10am at Parish House

St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Care Volunteer Visiting Service

We provide a friendly visiting service to lonely, isolated, sick and frail people within the Parish.



Our service is available for ALL, irrespective of individual faith or belief.

NEXT MEETING: 23rd FEB at Parish House

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

FOR LENT



It would be a great opportunity for faith formation to participate in a **Lenten Discussion Group**. We are ordering a scripture based programme entitled 'Hope'. The meetings will start in the last week of February (*Ash Wednesday is March 1st*).

Please give consideration to availing of this opportunity. Groups will meet once a week. Please put your name on the sheet provided in the porch area. Booklets are \$7 each.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 3 MARCH 2017

Rodney Park Activity Centre @ 2pm

Hosted by the Uniting Church

Everyone most welcome!

Royal Commission Findings

Over the last week and in the coming weeks the findings of the Royal Commission into Sexual Abuse in Institutions will be widely publicized and discussed. For many people this is a time of intense emotion, including anger, grief, sadness and pain. **On Thursday February 16, 7pm, in the Parish Centre** we are offering time and space for our community to gather together to give and receive support. Estella Hutchins and Selina Quilty will be available to facilitate our discussions and outline some of the supports available. Kathy Hunt, Fr Joe

Statement from Bishop Leslie Tomlinson – Royal Commission

The figures released yesterday about the Diocese of Sandhurst by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse between 1950 and 2010 require a response.

The evidence of the Royal Commission, along with all we have heard over the past four years, can only be interpreted for what it is - a massive failure on the part of the Catholic Church as an institution in Australia to protect our children from abusers and predators.

I acknowledge that the Diocese of Sandhurst, like every other Diocese in Australia, had its share of perpetrators of sexual abuse. To have a single priest abuser was one too many and to have a single claim against a Diocese was also one too many.

It has been reported that the Diocese of Sandhurst was the second worst in Australia for rates of alleged child sexual abuse. This statement needs to be read in the correct context.

Over a 60-year period, the Sandhurst Diocese had a total of 27 claims of abuse, of which 14 were substantiated.

The report identified 1880 alleged perpetrators across Australia, of which 384 were Diocesan priests. The total number of priests from the Sandhurst Diocese alleged to have been perpetrators, using the 14.7 percent figure stated in the report released yesterday by the Royal Commission, is 16. This is consistent with data held by the Diocese.

On these figures, the 16 Sandhurst priests represent 4.1 percent of the total alleged perpetrators Australia-wide.

The last report of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest in this Diocese was 26 years ago in 1991.

As the Bishop of the Diocese of Sandhurst, I have apologised to victims and survivors of sexual abuse on several occasions in the past. I wish to take this opportunity to do so again. I remain committed to working with victims, survivors and their families into the future. As a Diocese and community we will work together to ensure that this betrayal can never occur again.

We have recently recruited a Child Safety Officer to work across the Diocese to ensure that all proper processes for protection of children are in place and maintained. This important position will assist in meeting the requirements of the Victorian Government's Child Safety regulations in our schools, parishes and charitable organisations.

We commit to working with the findings of the Royal Commission to ensure a positive future for our young people and those entrusted to our care.

I believe that the Diocese is very well served by a dedicated clergy, in who I have the utmost confidence.

I encourage anyone who has suffered sexual abuse to report it to the police.

Bishop of Sandhurst, Leslie Tomlinson

CatholicCare Workshops for Couples

CatholicCare are conducting Life Partnership and Relationship education workshops in Bendigo and Shepparton.

1. FOCCUS Life Partnership Program for Couples, a program that aims to support couples strengthening their relationship.

2. Life Partnership Workshop for Couples, for all couples preparing to marry or commit to a long term relationship. Relationship Education Sessions for Couples, one on one sessions, for all couples preparing to marry or commit to a long term relationship.

For more information please see the CatholicCare flyers or contact Anne-Maree Britt at CatholicCare Bendigo on 5438 1300 or CatholicCare Shepparton on 5820 0444.



**6th Sunday in Ord Time
12th February 2017**



“For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven” . Matthew 5:20

The scribes and Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear - it's the love that you have in your heart that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules out of obligation, not love, does not put you on the path to heaven. Attending Mass on Sunday and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of a modern day Pharisee.

ST BRENDAN'S MEN'S GROUP

Saturday 18th February
7.30am Brekky @ Mons Peter Jeffrey Centre
Ref: John Cortese