

5th Sunday of Lent- Year A, 28th—29th March 2020

PARISH BULLETIN

St Macartan's Catholic Parish



4 Drake St, Mornington VIC 3931

Parish Office: 9:30am-3pm Tuesday to Friday; **Ph:** 5975 2200

Email: mornington@cam.org.au **Web:** stmacartansparish.com.au

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Geoffrey McIlroy

Parish Secretary: Theresa Collard



MASS TIMES

The Bishops of the Province of Victoria have given this prayerful and considered reflection, and have determined the following actions:

- **Immediate suspension of public liturgies, celebrations of the Mass, until further notice.**
- **All other gatherings are suspended.**

In light of this, all Catholics in Victoria are dispensed from their Sunday obligation until further notice (canon 1248). We encourage you to continue active participation in the life of the Church, through activities such as time in personal and family prayer, reflecting on the Scriptures, making a spiritual communion, or participating in a Mass online

(<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand> or <http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> or www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass). Or <https://www.stmacartansparish.com.au/>

Also - St Macartan's <https://www.belindajanevideo.com/client-video/st-macartans-catholic-mass/>

PARISH INFORMATION

St Macartan's Primary School

Ph: 5979 9200

Principal: Colleen McGreal

Deputy: Philip Hills, Kathleen Ronchi

Padua College Ph: 5976 0100

Parish Pastoral Council: Bernard Butler
0419 427 408

Finance Committee: Frank Crea
0417 104 041

AV Technical: Graeme Wilson
Email: gpw611@bigpond.com

St Mac's High Spirits - Faye Melhem
Contact Parish Office or email
stmacshighspirits@gmail.com

Parish Caretaker : John Spaziani:
0419 598 911

Parish Care Contacts: Parish Office
5975 2200

Music & Wedding Co-Ordinator-
Veronica Ryan 5975 6981/ 0418 358 213

Baptism Preparation: Kathy Raccanello

Next Baptismal Meeting — Suspended

Marriage Preparation: See Fr Geoff

Pray for the sick and their Carers: Graham Oliver, Laura Castlelow, Julie Nash, Margaret O'Connor, Jay Keogh, Sophie Davidsen, Cinzia Caboche, Robert Warne, Dean Pratt, Trent Wilkinson, Esma Murphy, Eva Balista, Kate Maree Ayoub (Tunks) Frances McLean, Richard Meech, Colleen, Noah Guest, Carly Guy, , Elizabeth Brennan, Bob Barrett, Ally Roe, Colleen & Jim Husin, Maryanne Husin, Eileen Young, , Peter Hingston, Dave Mortby, Lynne Anderson, Naomi Andrews, Peter Atkinson, Kevin Paganoni, Jeannie Fox, Phyllis Molloy, Renee Barker, Courtney Stevens, Mary Cattermole, Joseph Aquilina, Helen & Denis Chambers, Mark Allan, Lucas Pingiaro, Fernando Pineda, Jim Kershaw (NZ), Bernadette Harvey (NZ), David Taylor NZ), Maureen Spargo, Tony Formosa, John Mahony, Terry Smyth and Michael Nicolaou.

Mass Intentions

First Reading Ez 37:12-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 129 R. v.7

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading Rom 8:8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 11:25.26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Jn 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'
Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to

Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me. 'When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Jn 11:26

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

Dear St Macartan's Parishioners,

As you are fully aware, we are living in times that are extremely challenging and require us all to adjust and adapt to these new circumstances. But they are not beyond our control. We can minimise our risk of spreading and possibly acquiring this virus, if we listen to the government's expert medical advisors and the government rules and regulations, which are designed to help our society get through this emergency as quickly as possible.

As your Parish Priest, I have been looking at ways to keep us connected spiritually and relationally, as we need each other more than ever now. We may not be able to congregate together for the liturgy, but prayer knows no boundaries. I am offering a private Mass daily for you all and will be trialling a video Mass (see link above and on our Parish webpage titled "links"). We will see how this goes and hopefully I can present the Easter Masses and all Sunday Masses in this type of format, until we can all come back together again. Just on that; "all coming back together again." We will get through this crisis; so we should start looking ahead and looking forward to the day we can celebrate the Eucharist together again – What a glorious day that will be, how we can celebrate and party then - Yippee ;-)

Blessings to you all - Keep the faith! Fr Geoff

Sunday Mass at St Macartans will be Recorded

Fr Geoff will be recording the Mass this Sunday 29th March for viewing via a link available on the St Macartans Website. <https://www.stmacartansparish.com.au/> To view the Mass click on the link which will be located on the **homepage** as well as under '**Links**'.

If you know of any parishioners who do not have e-mail could you please contact them and make them aware of the recorded Mass, they maybe able to view with the help of a family member.

THINGS WE CAN STILL DO!

Here are some ways to love your neighbour, especially those vulnerable people, during Coronavirus and while still social distancing:

Make a call - 'Every hand we don't shake must become a phone call we make'. Be generous with phone calls, text messages, emails with photos, Kids call your parents and grandparents; parents and grandparents, call your children and grandchildren.

Send a letter - Tried and true ways are also necessary. Rediscover the lost art of letter writing with friends and family in addition to phone calls and FaceTime. Send get well cards, letters and if you feel particularly artistic, try sending a drawing.

Do the shopping - Get in touch with elderly or vulnerable people in your community and offer help with their shopping. Ensuring they have adequate provisions in this time is one of the most valuable acts of service you can offer.

Join or set up a volunteer help group - During this time when supermarket shelves are often empty, community groups are springing up across Facebook finding ways to provide excess food supplies and toilet paper to people who need it, and providing up to date information on shops that still carry stock of various items.

Shop local - Local business owners are our neighbours too, and while national corporations will be able to weather these rough times, smaller businesses may struggle over the next few weeks. Where you can, shop local.

Fight the hoarding impulse - Over-stockpiling leads to a shortage of essential provisions for more vulnerable communities that don't have the means or opportunity. Buy in moderation, so others are also able to meet their needs.

Ask how you can help - Check in with neighbours and people who may be socially isolated and ask how you can help. It might be picking up groceries or prescriptions or offer a chat.

Create care packages - With other members of the parish, create care packages for people in your community who are isolated, especially those who may suffer financial strain over the coming weeks.

These suggestions are aimed at inspiring action. *"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are my members of my family you did to me."* Matt 25: 40 NRS

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

- Sacrificial giving envelopes can be placed in in the 'Notices' box located at the front door of the Parish House.