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

CHANGE TO PARISH MASS ON LINE
For several weeks we have been using a Videographer, Belinda Jane Videos Inc and they have been exceptional, but they were only ever to be an interim measure until we, as a Parish, could find an alternate, more permanent and more cost effective way.

Today's Mass On Line will now be found on the Parish's new YouTube page
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOpptks0Fw/videos

Also view our Parish website:
https://www.stmacartansparish.com.au/

Mass Intentions: Masses were recently offered for:

- Anne Flood & Anne Glover
- Michael, Greta & Mike Redmond
- Peggy Foley
- Daniel Joseph Rodgers
- Anne Leighton & Michael O'Brien
- Peter Taylor

Parish Child Safety Officer: Carmel McGrath 0400 076 067.
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
Email: stmacshighspirits@gmail.com
Parish Caretaker & Memorial Wall: John Spaziani: 0419 598 911
Music & Wedding Co-Ordinator- Veronica Ryan 5975 6981/ 0418 358 213.
Marriage & Counselling: *Charmaine Holmes: 5977 2567*
Marriage Preparation: *See Fr Geoff*
Baptism Preparation: Kathy Raccanello
Next Baptismal Meeting — Suspended

Mass Intentions

Anniversaries: Barb Walker

Pray for the sick and their Carers: Graham Oliver, Laura Castelow, Julie Nash, Margaret O'Connor, Jay Keogh, Sophie Davidsen, Cinzia Caboche, Robert Warne**,** Dean Pratt, Trent Wilkinson, Esma Murphy, 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, Joseph Aquilina, Helen & Denis Chambers, Mark Allan, Lucas Pingiaro, Fernando Pineda, Jim Kershaw (NZ), Maureen Spargo, Tony Formosa, John Mahony, Terry Smyth and Michael Nicolaou.

First Reading Acts 2:14, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.)The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.
This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:14
Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out.
When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'
Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.
So Jesus spoke to them again:
'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.
Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.
The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Care Packages for those in Need

As part of the Mornington Peninsula 'Caring for our Community' initiative, the Shire is offering care packages for the most vulnerable, disadvantaged and isolated community members to address the impacts of Coronavirus on the Peninsula.

You are eligible to receive a care package if you:

·are experiencing short term issues due to COVID-19 are unwell
·are considered 'at risk' of getting COVID-19
·have no support locally
·are experiencing significant hardship

How do I or someone I know, register to receive care packages?

To register to receive a care package from Mornington Peninsula Shire phone 1300 850 600.
If you need the assistance of an interpreter phone 131 450
TTY/voice calls: 133 677 Speak and listen: 1300 555 727 SMS relay: 0423 677 767
If you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment contact us through the National Relay Service: communications.gov.au

For those in mandatory self-isolation, the state government have Emergency Relief packages you can access by calling the Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398.

Continuing to Keep Our Parish Secure: Now and in The Future

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we encourage all parishioners to participate in thanksgiving contributions by using direct debit, thank you to the few who have taken up this option. Our Parish contributions over the last three weekends has dropped by 50%. This is leaving the Parish in a financially vulnerable position and I am seeking alternate ways of topping up this loss.

Contribution Envelopes - can still be placed in the 'Notices' box located at the front door of the Parish House.

Direct Debit - Is the preferred payment method (Call Office for details)

Direct Deposit - BSB: 083-347 Account No.: 547373281

Could I please encourage everyone to use either of these facilities above to ensure that our planned giving contribution is maintained through these testing times. For those who are still contributing, I am deeply grateful. It means the work of the parish can continue in these difficult days.

Thank you for your commitment to the parish. It is deeply appreciated.

Blessings Fr Geoff

LET US KEEP PRAYING TOGETHER

For Health Carers

Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure. Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For ill or isolated

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Merciful God, we entrust to your tender care those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For Us

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.
We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.
We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.
We are your people God,
giving and loving, wherever we are, whatever it costs
For as long as it takes wherever you call us.

Amen.

EXPLORING THE WORD

In the Gospel of John, we do not find parables in the traditional sense. They are not a literary device that John employs, but this text is as close an approximation to a parable as we have. The contrast he draws between the shepherd who enters the fold by the gate and the thieves and brigands who seek to enter another way is really about leadership. There are good leaders and bad leaders. The good leader of God's people must come to them through Jesus, who is the gate. The thieves and brigands will only lead the people to fear and confusion, where they will be scattered. Perhaps John is addressing a situation in his community where those who are seeking leadership are not following the voice of Jesus but seeking their own aggrandisement or following their own agenda. Such people will ultimately lead the flock to destruction, but Jesus gives life in abundance to all who know his voice and follow him as shepherd.

- What false voices can be heard in our world today?
- What message do they proclaim that is different from the message of Jesus?
- What are the things that make it difficult to resist the false voices in our world?

DID YOU KNOW?

- In ancient times, shepherds and their sheep wandered in search of pasture, often travelling many miles. At night, the shepherd would build an enclosure to keep his sheep together and safe from predators. Often he would form a human gate by sleeping at the entry to the enclosure.
- The words pastor and pastoral come from the Latin word for 'shepherd'.
- This is one of seven sayings of Jesus in John's Gospel known as the 'I am' sayings. In John, this wording is an indication of the divinity of Jesus because it echoes the sacred name of God revealed to Moses: 'I am who am' (Exodus 3:14).

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Opportunities for discussion and personal prayer

- What does it mean to you to have 'life to the full'?
- Where is the voice of Christ calling you to go?
- Share together some reflections on people you have known who have been a guide and a protector to you. Try to describe the positive attributes they had and how they used these gifts in caring for others.
- When you pray this week, pray before an image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Be a protector of someone in need of help this week.
- Psalm 22 (23) is one of the best loved and most well-known psalms. Try to learn it by heart and recite it often this week: *The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.*

Good Shepherd Sunday 2020

Today is the World Day of Vocations. Pope Francis tells us:

Every vocation is born of that gaze of love with which the Lord came to meet us, perhaps even at a time when out boat was being battered by the storm. We will succeed in discovering and embracing our vocation once we open our hearts in gratitude and perceive the passage of God in our lives. (Message for World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 2020) Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers and presence reflect the gaze of love from the Lord to help them discover their vocation.

Pope Francis – Message for 2020 World Day of Vocations

'Take heart, do not be afraid! Jesus is at our side, and if we acknowledge him as the one Lord of our lives, he will stretch out his hand, take hold of us, and save us.'

'The Lord knows that a fundamental life choice - like marriage or special consecration to his service - calls for courage. He knows the questions, doubts and difficulties that toss the boat of our heart, and so he reassures us: "Take heart, it is I; have no fear".

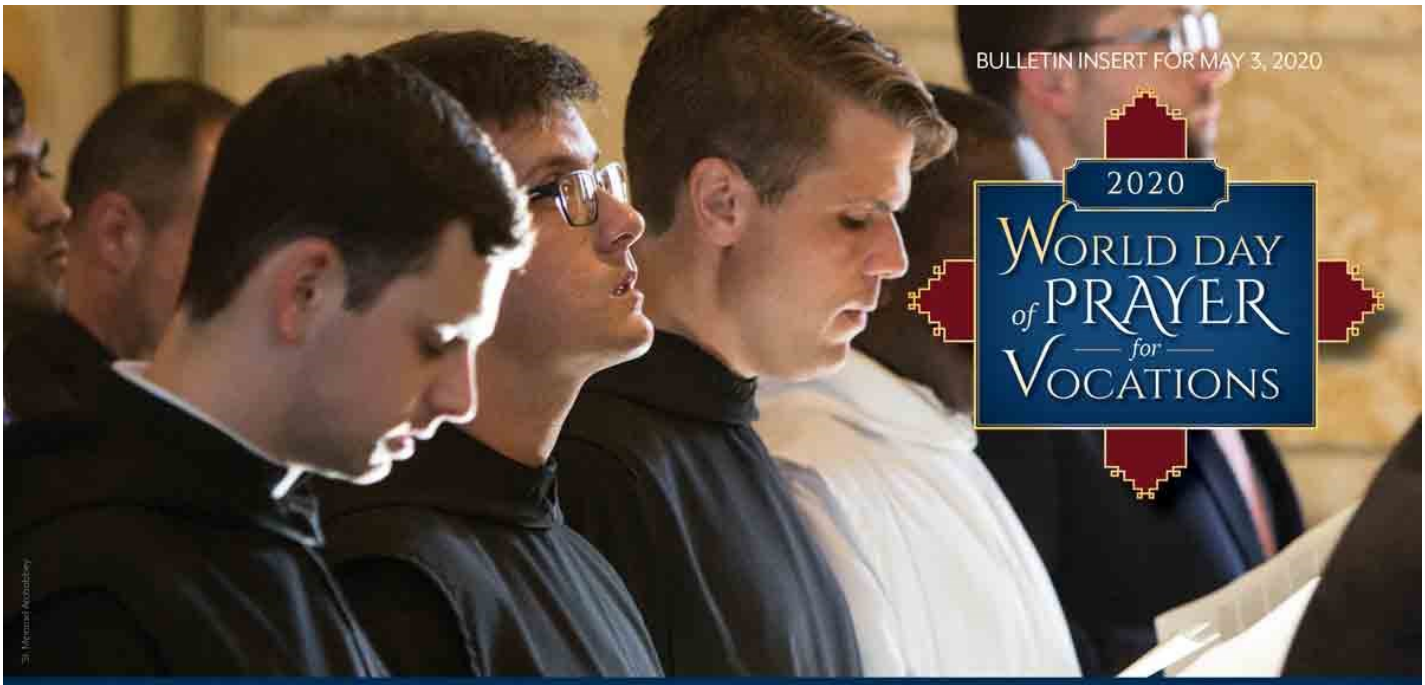
'Dear friends, on this day in particular, but also in the ordinary pastoral life of our communities, I ask the Church to continue to promote vocations.

What can I do?

Each one of us can do something for the future of the Church in our nation. We all want and need more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. What can I do? The most important and essential thing that each of us can do is to pray. Intentionally, regularly, insistently. Make a decision today to include a prayer for vocations in your daily prayers.

On Line ideas

At this time when we are communicating with people on line much of the time, it is an opportunity to enter into the world of young people, and engage with them in a new way. The Masses that are being streamed may be one of the few times that they may engage with the Church; the posts on social media; the new and innovate ways of pastoral ministry – these are all opportunities to spread the message of vocation in a new way.



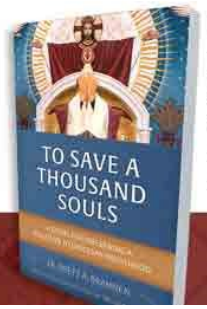
"I MYSELF WILL BE THE SHEPHERD OF MY SHEEP, SAYS THE LORD." ~EZEKIEL 34:15

Seminarians Need Our Prayers

"These last four years have been incredible, but they haven't been easy." That's how one seminarian from the Midwest, now preparing for ordination, described his time in seminary.

"The academics are tough, sure. But for me—and I think for most of the other guys—the hardest part is abandoning yourself to formation, to admit there's stuff you need to work on personally, and to put a hundred percent into growing in virtue." He laughs, "Thankfully seminary formation works! When I visit home, my brothers say I've lost my edge on Xbox, but I can tell I've become a stronger Catholic man... Honestly, my classmates and I are just eager to be ordained, get into the parish, and start bringing Jesus to people."

Because we Catholics care so deeply about the quality of our priests, we need to redouble our prayers for seminarians. They are striving to be faithful to daily prayer, discern the gift of celibacy, serve part-time in hospitals and schools—all while doing master's level coursework. On World Day of Prayer for Vocations, will you adopt a seminarian to pray for daily?



Clarity for the Called

Many seminarians credit Fr. Brett Brannen's *To Save a Thousand Souls* for helping them discern the priesthood. On the occasion of the book's new tenth anniversary edition, Bishop Robert Barron called it a "classic of the genre." Available at vianneyvocations.com

Forming Men Fully Alive in Christ

Seminaries have a rigorous program that focuses on four interconnected dimensions of formation:

- **Human:** forming Catholic gentleman
- **Spiritual:** falling deeply in love with the Lord
- **Intellectual:** mastering the truths of the Faith
- **Pastoral:** serving God's people with charity

The goal of seminary formation is to raise up men to be virtuous leaders, humble servants, and devout men of prayer who are eager to give their lives fully to Christ and His Church.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Due to the suspension of Masses, could we please ask you to hold onto your boxes until Masses resume.
However if you wish to donate now, you can do so by -
Credit Card—go online at "lent.caritas.org.au"
Send a Cheque to Caritas Australia GPO Box 9830 Sydney NSW 2001
Online transfer –Caritas Aus BSB:062-217 A/C No 1007 2446 REF Donor IDPC
You can find out more at **http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or ring - 1800 024 413**

PROJECT COMPASSION
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

Caritas AUSTRALIA

On Saturday May 9th, Australian singer, songwriter and musician, Gary Pinto will lead a free online concert for Project Compassion.
Gary wrote a song for Project Compassion titled ***Walk With Me*** this year and wanted to do more to help so he is bringing Australian and international musicians together in support of Caritas Australia. Through this free concert, he is urging thousands of school children, teachers, and churches across Australia during this challenging time, to stand in solidarity with those most vulnerable to COVID-19.
You can find more details on the concert and view the great artist line-up at caritas.org.au/loungeroomsessions . To view the concert, supporters will need to register at livemusic2u.com/loungeroomsessions/

VIDEO MASSES (online)

Hello all,

As I have mentioned on the first page of the newsletter, we are trialling new ways of bringing the Mass to you online. We have all been going through steep learning curves with having to access media and other things via our phones, computers and other devices, I too am learning about how to provide information to you in the most user friendly way and which we, as a Parish, can afford and sustain, not just during this pandemic but also into the future.

One thing that has come to light, is where one door has closed others have opened. Being able to provide opportunities to the house-bound and those in nursing homes, via Mass Online has been a wonderful door that has opened to our Parish community. Being able to connect and in some instances re-connect to those who are not able to come to Church is having a positive effect on those watching and family and friends of those who are watching. It even reaches outside our Parish across Melbourne and overseas.

Because of cost and availability of videographers, I will be trialling a new platform for our Masses and this week will be using YouTube. We have our own YouTube Channel, so this link will get you there: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOpptks0Fw/videos

It is still, however, a work in progress, so please be patient - Thank you, and
Pray it works - Fr Geoff

May the Month of Our Lady and the Holy Rosary.

"The Family that prays together, stays together".

Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Faithful for the Month of May 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020

“The Family that prays together, stays together”.

FIRST PRAYER

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus’ suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

“The Family that prays together, stays together”.

SECOND PRAYER

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.