

PARISH BULLETIN

St Macartan's Catholic Parish



4 Drake St, Mornington VIC 3931

Parish Office: Tuesday and Friday 9am to 4pm; **Ph:** 5975 2200
Email: mornington@cam.org.au **Web:** stmacartansparish.com.au

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Geoffrey McIlroy

Parish Secretary: Theresa Collard



MASS TIMES

Today's Mass On Line found on Parish's YouTube page: (Ctrl and enter) on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos>

Also view our Parish website:

<https://www.stmacartansparish.com.au/>

Due to COVID-19 restrictions
NO SATURDAY NIGHT or SUNDAY
MASSES

And No

WEEKDAY MASSES
Now Suspended for the next
6 weeks

See details in bulletin

Upcoming Holy Days:

- Wed 22nd: St Mary Magdalen
- Sat 25th: St James Apostle

Baptisms: SUSPENDED

All ministry PRAYER GROUPS: SUSPENDED

Office: Closed Wednesdays and Thursdays

Parish Child Safety Officer: Carmel McGrath 0400 076 067

Email: Mornington.childsafety@cam.org.au

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 - 5th August via Zoom, please contact office to book.

Anniversaries: John McCarthy

Mass Intentions

Pray for the sick and their Carers: Janet Smyth, 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, Michael Nicolaou, Torquil Hansen and John Spaziani.

And especially for Ruben Pateman

First Reading Wis 12:13.16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgment, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.

Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. (R.)

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:24-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

Communion Antiphon Rv 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.

Light in the midst of darkness:

A video message from Archbishop Peter

<https://youtu.be/pBGkihCE-c>

Scriptural Context

Matthew's explanation

In the gospel passage, following the presentation of the three parables, Jesus explains the parable of the wheat and darnel to his disciples. It is explained in terms of a final judgement. (Compare it with Matthew 25: 31-46.) The parable of the weeds, or darnel, and its explanation only appear in the gospel of Matthew – although the parable does occur in the non-canonical gospel of Thomas. The interpretation belongs to Matthew more than it belongs to Jesus. It is an unapologetic direction to his community that living a righteous life in the midst of wickedness will be rewarded.

EXPLORING THE WORD

The contrast between the good and bad seed reflects a reality within Matthew's community. This text highlights the difficulty of being a church called to spread the Good News while there are some within its ranks who scandalise others by their bad behaviour or decadent way of life. This parable counsels patience. The answer to the dilemma is to let both the righteous and the lawless members of the community grow together until the harvest time and then let God be the judge. Ultimately, this parable assures its hearers that God will not allow evil to destroy what is good. In the longer version of this gospel, the short parables of the kingdom compare it to a mustard seed and to the yeast in dough. Both are small and insignificant, but both develop almost

imperceptibly, and once begun, there is no stopping them.

- What small signs of the kingdom already present do we see in our world?
- What signs of the kingdom not yet present do we see in our world?
- What small signs of the kingdom already present do we see in ourselves?
- What signs of the kingdom not yet present do we see in ourselves?

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The kingdom of heaven that is proclaimed by Jesus is not explained by him. What Jesus does do is to convey its meaning through the parables he uses, and his life illustrates some of the key characteristics of the kingdom: the overcoming of evil, the triumph of mercy, the welcome extended to all. The kingdom of heaven was established among us through the death and resurrection of Jesus, but clearly it has yet to come in its fullness. There is a future dimension to the kingdom as well as a present dimension. In the Lord's Prayer we pray for the kingdom to come. There are also two dimensions in the location of the kingdom. It exists in heaven but we pray for it to come in its fullness on earth as well. We participate in the building of the kingdom each time we act in harmony with the teaching and example of Jesus.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Darnel is an annual grass commonly found in grain fields as a weed. When it first shoots it looks very much like wheat.
- There are echoes in this gospel of the final judgment, when the good will be separated from the bad, the sheep from the goats, the weeds from the harvest.
- The Jewish faith has a profound respect for the name of God, and the holy name is never pronounced or even written in full. The Gospel of Matthew is the most Jewish of the gospels and characteristically always refers to the 'kingdom of heaven' rather than the 'kingdom of God'

SHARING THE TRADITION

Just as this text reflects both good and evil within Matthew's community, there have been times in the history of the church when it acted in a way that was contrary to the call of the Gospel. In the Jubilee Year of 2000, Pope John Paul II issued a historic apology for some of those past wrongs. While insisting that the church is 'holy in Christ', he also recognised that it may be 'sinful in its members' and at various times in history, those members carried out actions like the Crusades and the Inquisition. Both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have expressed a similar message in more recent times, particularly with reference to the failings of some clergy. It is only in recognising past wrongs that the church can be truly reconciled to alienated groups, including Protestants, Muslims, the Orthodox and victims of abuse.

Following the statement from John Paul II, the Australian bishops also recognised some of the wrong actions of the church in Australia by apologising to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for any harm the church may have caused them by cooperating with the government policy of the time to remove children to be raised in orphanages and institutions. Apologies were also issued to those who have suffered exploitation and abuse at the hands of clergy or religious in the past. Such recognition of the human failings of the church is a mark of growing maturity as the church itself journeys towards a full and complete understanding of the kingdom.

- Discuss ways in which the church has been both persecutor and persecuted, especially in Australia.
- How do you see the role of the church today?
- How important is it that we recognise and acknowledge our own weaknesses and failings and take positive action to rectify those?

Spreading the Word

If you know of anyone who does not have e-mail or able to use a computer, as long as it is safe, maybe you could pass on a copy of the Bulletin, or let them know there is Mass on line, they may have family members that can access it for them.

Visitation Team

Due to the increase in number of COVID19 cases in Victoria a number of Aged Care Facilities have again gone into lock down.
There will be continued updates given as information comes to hand.

COVID-19 - THINGS WE MUST GET USE TO DOING

SIMPLE - KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCING and WASH HANDS OFTEN!
And,
if you are showing any signs or have any symptoms of a cold or flu,
stay isolated and schedule a visit to your Doctor.

HIGH SPIRITS

(Catechism for State School children)

BELOW - ALL SUSPENDED until further notice

As with the Confirmation program, that has just ended, the proposed sacraments classes for 1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist may also be done via ZOOM Meetings? However, if restrictions are eased, then they will be in the Parish Community Centre, Tuesday nights from 4:30pm-6pm.

The proposed dates for these programs are:

First Reconciliation:

- July 14th information night

First Eucharist

- August 25th information night

To enroll your child or to get more details please email Faye at:

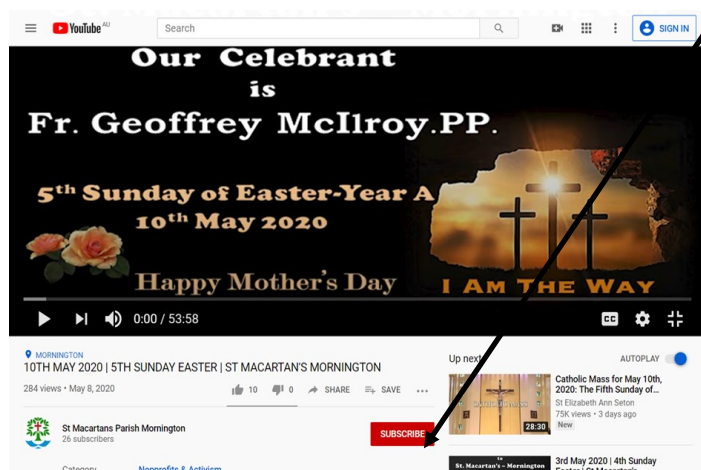
stmacshighspirits@gmail.com

PS - A volunteer assistant is needed.

St Macartans YouTube Mass

Fr Geoff is continuing to do an amazing job bringing the Mass to our homes during this very different time. **This will continue even when Masses resume.**

The St Macartan's YouTube Chanel is our new way of viewing the Mass and if we can increase our subscribers this will enable us to get more benefits from YouTube. Please subscribe by selecting the red 'SUBSCRIBE' button below and then entering your e-mail address. **DO NOT PURCHASE OR PAY**



Mens Night

"Greetings to all in isolation. We hope that you and your families are all fit and well. It will be some time before we can resume our monthly get together, so in the meantime remember the immortal words of Vera Lynn "We'll meet again , don't know where, don't know whenAnd that Social Distancing doesn't apply to the water of life !

Safe travelling The Three Amigos."

Church Cleaners

Could the volunteer Church cleaners please contact the office to provide us with your contact details so we can send you the new roster. We are also looking for more volunteers to clean the Church on a rotating roster. Please contact the office on 5975 2200. thank you .

We have found a coordinator - Thank you.

Parish Footy Tipping

Round 5 was a very successful round for both Borgie and LikiMisti who both had 9 correct and received the bonus point.. Well done and well done to Peter Keightley who scored an 8. Unfortunately the Magpies let him down!!!.

Round 6 was an interesting round with a very low score in the Richmond/ Swans game. The scores were more like a Soccer match. We now have joint leaders on 38. They are Borgie and Like Misti. It is strange not having an AFL game in Melbourne8 Carolyn and Lizzie share 3rd place

HISTORY. Back in 1938 There were 20 players in each team with 18 players from each team playing and 19th and 20th players. The reserve players could only come on if someone was injured and if a player came off they were off for the whole game different to now. where players can come off but able to return to the field. In 1938 Carlton won the premiership. Only 18 received a medal . The 19th and 20th did not get to go on the field. The unlucky 19th man was Jack McElroy



COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE: 19th July 2020

As of 11.59pm Wednesday 08 July 2020 the following has applied If you live in the Melbourne metropolitan area and the Shire of Mitchell you must stay at home.

People may leave their home for four reasons:

1. Shopping for food or other essential items
2. To provide care giving, for compassionate reasons or to seek medical treatment
3. For exercise (outdoor exercise only, with only one other person or members of your household)
4. Work or study, only if you cannot work or study from home

PLEASE NOTE: The Government has indicated that police patrols will be present in the Hot Zone Postcode areas to restrict travel to the four reasons listed above

Additional restrictions have also been put in place:

- Weddings will be limited to 5 people (the couple, two witnesses and the celebrant).
- Baptisms are **to be postponed** where possible, unless there is an urgent and grave pastoral need. (Can. 857; 860). In that instance, numbers will be limited to 5 people (the child, couple and godparents within the total of 5 limitations) + celebrant.
- Funerals will be restricted to 10 people plus those required to conduct the funeral.
- A wedding or funeral held in a private residence outside of a restricted postcode will be limited to five visitors, plus the celebrant.
- Religious services and private worship will need to be streamed online as places of worship will be closed except to hold weddings, funerals or public services such as foodbanks.
- For those liturgies permitted above, all density, number and hygiene regulations must be adhered to, including the recording of participant contact details (first name and phone number).

Except for the exemptions noted regarding Weddings and Funerals, **all public Masses, Liturgies and communal devotions (whether indoors or outdoors) are temporarily suspended for 6 weeks or until further notice.**

Also affected by this closure are church buildings, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services.

Priests may celebrate Mass privately in a closed church, including for the purposes of live streaming. In doing so all precautions such as physical distancing and hygiene measures must be modelled and met.

Masses in family homes or other such private or domestic locations are not permitted until further notice.

During this Coronavirus pandemic, many are tempted to fear, anxiety and perhaps even despair. Some have lost their precious lives, some have lost those whom they love, some have suffered through the debilitating effects of this illness, some have lost their jobs, their income, and most have encountered much disruption to the normal flow of their daily lives.

Every crisis in life is also an opportunity to turn to our beloved Saviour in trust and complete abandonment so as to rest in His merciful hands. To rest in the hands of God means we are secure, despite the uncertainty of life. It means we are free to love God and others, despite the challenges we face. It means we raise our eyes to Heaven, rather than look down in fear.

A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic*

Most Merciful and Triune God,
We come to You in our weakness.
We come to You in our fear.
We come to You with trust.
For You alone are our hope.

We place before You the disease present in our world.
We turn to You in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home.

Stabilize our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in Your care.

(mention your particular concerns and prayers now)

Jesus, I trust in You.
Jesus, I trust in You.
Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen.



Prayer of Pope Francis During the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Is this the road ahead?

Why some Catholic churches in England are struggling to resume public Masses

CNA (Catholic News Agency) Staff, Jul 11, 2020 / 12:00 pm MT ([CNA](#)).- When the government permitted churches in England to resume public Masses Fr. Rick McGrath faced a difficult dilemma.

The pastor of St. Wilfrid's, Burgess Hill, in the county of West Sussex, realized that in order to comply with social distancing requirements, numbers at weekend Masses would be severely limited. He decided that rather than turn people away, he would only offer public Masses on weekdays.

"It was just a judgment call because I couldn't bear the idea of shutting the doors in the face of people," he told CNA July 9.

McGrath, a native of Minnesota, explained that normally more than 400 people attend Mass on a Saturday evening and Sunday at St. Wilfrid's, one of four locations where Mass is celebrated within the parish. But under the strict new regulations to prevent the spread of coronavirus, only 50-60 people would be permitted to attend each of the weekend Masses.

While other parishes introduced online booking systems, McGrath felt that would discriminate against older parishioners with limited internet access.

"I just couldn't see any fair way of doing it," he said. "The secretary is overworked already and doesn't have time to be fielding phone calls and checking lists to see if you were there last week and therefore can't come this week."

"So I made the decision that we would try to provide daily Masses Monday through Saturday. A total of about 16, I think, we will have at various places during the week, but then have no Saturday evening or Sunday Masses at all until the situation has clarified itself."

McGrath is not alone: other priests are struggling to resume public Masses, particularly in smaller churches away from England's big cities.

It is difficult to assess the scale of the problem: there are no centrally collected statistics showing how many of the country's Catholic churches have reopened for public Masses.

A spokesman for the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales told CNA: "The decision on which parishes to open and which to remain closed for public worship is down to each diocese. Each bishop will make his own decision, largely based on size, geographical spread, among other local reasons."

McGrath said he was monitoring the situation to see whether the regulations will change. He is also in discussion with priests in neighbouring parishes.

"I know some people have started Sunday Mass with a ticketing system or to just shut the door after the number is in. And fair enough: there's nothing wrong with that," he said. "But I do know a few priests who are doing as I am -- that is, having a daily Mass and not the Sunday Mass, pretty much for the same reasons."

We too are monitoring the situation and will do what we can when allowed.

12 ways to cope with coronavirus anxiety, according to psychologists

1. **Know that feeling anxious about coronavirus is OK and normal.** “Anxiety is mother nature’s way of trying to protect us by pushing us to resolve uncertainty and figure out a solution”.
2. **Tell yourself something that is certain.** “Uncertainty fuels anxiety,” To counter that, remind yourself of what is certain, no matter how minuscule. Say something like, “I am certain that no matter what happens, we will find a way to deal with it.
3. **Limit your media exposure, especially if you struggled with anxiety before the pandemic.** Panic arises when people overestimate a threat and underestimate their coping abilities – both behaviours media consumption can fuel. “While it is fine to have a general idea of what is happening, it’s important to limit media exposure, particularly from unreliable sources,”
4. **Do what you can to protect yourself and your family, including excellent hygiene and social distancing practices.** Action is the antidote to anxiety, wash your hands frequently and thoroughly, wear a mask when you venture out, and keep your distance from people you don’t live with.
5. **Do your part in protecting your community, whether by helping more vulnerable neighbours with groceries or simply staying home.** Try helping an elderly neighbour get groceries, donating blood, or staying in even when you feel healthy and are able to go out.
6. **Try to focus on what you are grateful for, not wish you would change or go away.** Rather than marinating in worries that you’ll get the coronavirus, “focus on what you value and what you are grateful for,” make a daily “gratitude list” in order to build psychological resiliency.
7. **Seek virtual help from mental-health professionals, or download a de-stressing app.** Therapists are shifting their practices online, and many established virtual therapy services, and some therapists are holding free online group therapy sessions,
8. **Just breathe.** You don’t even need to download an app to experience the anxiety-reducing magic of simply breathing. Try the 4-7-8 method, breathing in for four seconds, holding for seven, and exhaling for eight.
9. **Attempt to maintain a routine.** Schedule reading times and other activities. Maintaining structure and routine is critical because it reinforces order and predictability
10. **Eat healthy, don’t smoke, and exercise when possible.** Good nutrition and sufficient movement are good for both body and mind.
11. **Use the time to reach out to loved ones and reconnect with old friends.** You can, and should, stay socially connected. “If you check in with people once a month, check in four times a month.
12. **Use the experience to re-evaluate areas of your life.** Use the time to reconsider how you want your life to look after coronavirus.