

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



(D)

MASS TIMES

Today's Mass AND Weekday Masses

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOpptks0Fw/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

Upcoming Holy Days:

- Sat 25th: St James, Apostle
- Wed 29th: St Martha

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.

Recently Deceased: Bonnie Vereker and Anthony Smith

Anniversary: Colin Conlan

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 1Kgs 3:5.7-12

A reading from the first book of Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R.)

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose especially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation see 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 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Communion Antiphon Mt 5:7-8

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.



Have you thought?

Interpretation

In today's passage the gospel writer appears to describe himself: "every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old." It is a fantastic description of what it means to be an interpreter of the gospel. To interpret scripture, one must draw on what is old; applying understandings of the text in its original context and its original audience. But one must also draw on what is new; making connections between that original setting and the context in which it is being read today.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Jesus continues to convey his teaching about the kingdom using the imagery of everyday life. Pearls were highly valued in the Near East and were regarded as a symbol of wisdom—hence the saying 'pearls of wisdom'. In the first two of these parables, the protagonists commit everything they own to acquiring what is beyond price. According to Jesus, gaining a place in the kingdom is worth the sacrifice of everything we value most. The parable of the dragnet tells us something more of the kingdom. There will be those who have not recognised its value and are unworthy of the kingdom. However, it is not for people to judge who is worthy and who is not. That task belongs to God. Jesus is very concerned that his followers clearly under-

stand his message, and he questions them directly: 'Do you understand all this?' There must be no confusion over the meaning of the gospel! Matthew stresses that believing in Christ does not mean a total rejection of Judaism. Indeed, both the old and the new have value. Jesus did not come to overturn the Law but to fulfil it, and those who recognise this truth will honour both the old and the new.

- What are the new understandings you have gained on your journey so far?
- Recall a moment of delight or discovery in your life: falling in love, mastering a skill, coming to understanding. Are these experiences pointers to the kingdom?

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The image of treasure dominates this text. Jesus sees the search for God as part of the journey of people in all walks of life, because everyone is searching for 'treasure' in their lives. We need to have discerning hearts so that we can recognise what is real treasure and then give our whole lives to it.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In ancient times, people often buried their treasures as they fled from enemies or invaders. Sometimes their owners may return to recover the treasure, but often it remained buried for many years. Among priceless discoveries of treasure buried as the owners fled invaders are the Dead Sea Scrolls, hidden from the Roman army in the late first century.
- A scribe in the ancient world was someone who could read and write and who often held government positions. At the time of Jesus, the scribes were influential teachers of the Jewish faith, well versed in Scripture and the Law.
- The householder who brings out things both old and new may be a reference to people like Matthew himself, who as well as receiving the teachings of Jesus and believing in him, retain a profound respect for the Law and traditions of Judaism.
- The blazing furnace referred to here is the place of eternal punishment for the wicked, known by the Hebrew terms Sheol or Gehenna. Hell is the English word used to translate these terms.

SHARING THE TRADITION

The church has a long tradition and history. Many of the things we value as a church are ancient indeed. The practice of the Eucharist, gathering together as a community, some of the prayer forms we use, like the Lord's Prayer, were the actions of the earliest followers of Jesus. We honour these 'old' things of the faith. The church is like the householder in that it has a long tradition that has been handed down through the generations—beliefs, customs and practices that are of enduring value—yet it is still alert to the hand of God in what is happening now in our own time, still reading 'the signs of the times'. In the early 1960s, Pope John XXIII called a Council of the whole church to take the ancient wisdom and restate it for the modern world. See *Gaudium et Spes*, §4.

- Refer to the Second Vatican Council and discuss some of the changes to practice that occurred as a result, and how the self-understanding of the church is reflected in those changed practices. Many of the changes reflect a desire to return to the understandings of the early church. You could discuss how the RCIA is a return to the initiation process of the first centuries of Christianity.
- Discuss the issues of the modern world (the signs of the times) on which the church is now commenting, such as social justice and the economy, the use of human stem cells, euthanasia, technological advance, globalisation, environmental concerns, and so on. You could discuss how the secular media portray church comment on these areas.

WEEKDAY MASSES NOW ONLINE!

(Available from approx. 10:30am - Tues to Sat)

(same YouTube link as Sunday Mass - see page 1)

Yes, I'm putting weekday Masses online, the same as the Sunday Mass.

However, the sound quality of the weekday video is not as good.

It's a video using my mobile phone.

But I'm working on improvements all the time.

Stay safe physically, emotionally and spiritually ;-)

Fr Geoff

COVID-19 - THINGS WE MUST GET USE TO DOING

SIMPLE - KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCING and WASH HANDS OFTEN!

And now WEAR A MASK!

**if you are showing any signs or have any symptoms of a cold or flu,
stay isolated and schedule a visit to your Doctor - IMMEDIATELY!**

HIGH SPIRITS

(Catechism for State School children)

BELOW - ALL SUSPENDED until further notice

Confirmation program, that has just ended, the proposed sacraments classes for 1st Eucharist may also be done via ZOOM Meetings. Once restrictions are eased, classes are run in the Community Centre, Tuesday nights from 4:30pm-6pm. Proposed date, depending on restrictions being eased—First Eucharist is on 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 or classes cannot commence.

Parish Footy Tipping

Round 7 supplied some interesting results. The number of goals scored each game is still on the low side. Seven was the highest score for our tippers. After 7 rounds the top ten are Like Misti (45), Borgie (44), Barry Murphy (41), Terry Roberts ,go Pies(40), Hafeys Hacks (39), Granny Finn (39), Lizzie (39), Paul Stinnear (39), and Marie O'Halloran. It is going to be interesting to remember to put tips in as the AFL have organised 33 games to be played over 12 days. One team having to play a game in three different States
HISTORY In 1900 there was a play off between Melbourne and Essendon with the winner to play Fitzroy in the Grand Final Melbourne 7--3--45 def/ Essendon 5--13--43. Melbourne went on to win the Grand Final. Melbourne 4--10--34 to Fitzroy 3--12--30 Accurate the winner each game. .the attendance at the Grand Final was 20,181



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**



CHILD SAFETY NEWS

Dear Volunteers at St Macartans,

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these most unusual times. While most of us have not been able to physically assist those in the community, there has been attention given to the administration of various groups within the Parish.

The Child Safety Committee has been working through relevant documents that need to be addressed. One of these has been our Code of Conduct, which addresses how we respect and behave towards those in our care; this document is now available to be printed off the St Macartan's website.

Once you have read the document, please sign to confirm you have read and understood it and then please scan and e-mail it back to Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au or drop it in the notice box at the Parish Office.

By doing this, you show acceptance of the code, and this will be filed with your WWC details. If you are having difficulty accessing this document at the moment, there will be opportunities to do so once CoVid19 restrictions are lifted. Please contact me then.

Carmel McGrath - St Macartan's Child Safety Officer
Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE: 26th July 2020

As of 11.59pm Wednesday 22nd July 2020 the following has applied If you live in the Melbourne metropolitan area and the Shire of Mitchell you must wear face masks/coverings when leaving the house and stay at home where you can.

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

From St Macartan's School

COVID-19 Term 3 PARENT UPDATE #4 Wednesday 15 July, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers, Earlier this week, the Victorian Government announced that those in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire must wear a face covering when they leave home from 11.59 pm on Wednesday 22 July 2020. Face coverings will be mandatory for people aged 12 and over. These measures will slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and help protect our school community. PRIMARY Students who attend primary school for onsite supervision will not be required to wear a face covering. Students who are aged 12 by Year 6 will not be required to wear face coverings. The Victorian Chief Health Officer has advised that it is not practical to require some primary school students to wear face coverings while others are not required to.

Parents and carers will be required to wear face coverings whenever they leave the house, including for school drop-off and pick-up. The Department of Health and Human Services website has advice about face coverings, including: · which different types can be used · how to make your own · how to safely wear one · how to safely remove it.

Thank you for your support in limiting the spread of COVID-19 and keeping our school community safe.

Yours sincerely,
Colleen McGreal
Principal

I want to thank Colleen, her deputies and all her terrific staff, for unselfishly holding the fort (so to speak) and continuing on with their duties, so as the children get their learning requirements met. I know things are not for everyone's liking but Colleen has done a wonderful job leading the way in this crisis, so please let us continue to support and trust her.

Blessings - Fr Geoff

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.

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.