

**PARISH BULLETIN**

**St Macartan's Catholic Parish**

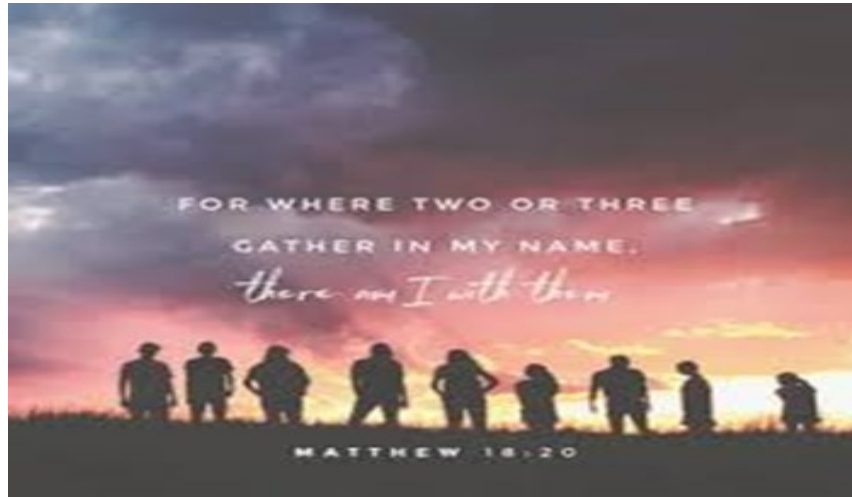


**4 Drake St, Mornington VIC 3931**

**Parish Office:** Tuesday and Friday 9am to 4pm; **Ph:** 5975 2200  
**Email:** [mornington@cam.org.au](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au) **Web:** [stmacartansparish.com.au](http://stmacartansparish.com.au)

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr Geoffrey McIlroy

**Parish Secretary:** Theresa Collard



**MASS TIMES**

**Sunday's Mass and weekday Masses**

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOpptsOFw/videos>

Also view our Parish website:

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

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions  
ALL MASSES ARE ONLINE**

**Upcoming Holy Days:**

- Tue 8th Sep: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Office: CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**If you leave an audible voice telephone message. Fr Geoff will return your call.**

**Parish Child Safety Officer:** Carmel McGrath 0400 076 067

**Email:**

[Mornington.childsafety@cam.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:gpw611@bigpond.com)

**St Mac's High Spirits - Faye Melhem**

**Email:** [stmacshighspirits@gmail.com](mailto: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 Prep:** See Fr Geoff

**Baptism Preparation:** Kathy Raccanello

**Next Baptismal Meeting - Postponed**

**Anniversary:** Graham Caswell

Mass Intentions

**Pray for the sick and their Carers:** Janet Smyth, Tony Ryan, Graham Oliver, Laura Castelow, Julie Nash, Margaret O'Connor, Jay Keogh, Sophie Davidson, 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 especially for Ruben Pateman.**

**First Reading** Ez 33:7-9

**A reading from the prophet Ezekiel**

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

**Second Reading** Rom 13:8-10

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.**

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

## **Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 5:19**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

## **Gospel Mt 18:15-20**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered lost in heaven.

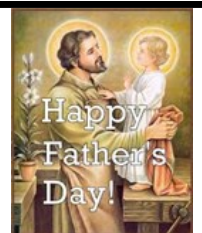
'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

## **Communion Antiphon Ps 41:2-3**

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

## **Happy Fathers Day**

Happy Father's Day to all the wonderful Fathers out there,  
and those acting as Fathers and let's not forget,  
those beloved deceased Fathers.



### **Father's Day Prayer**

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for all fathers young and old.  
We pray for our own fathers who nurture, love and care for us so unselfishly.

We pray for young fathers and fathers newly embracing their vocation;  
may they find the courage and perseverance to balance work, family and  
faith in joy and sacrifice. We pray for fathers around the world whose children are  
lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in  
their sorrow. We pray for men who are not fathers but who still mentor and guide  
us with fatherly love and advice. We lovingly remember fathers, grandfathers and  
great grandfathers who are no longer with us, but who  
live on forever in our memory.

Amen.

# **Living the Gospel**

## **Facing the issue**

*It can be very difficult when we feel that someone has hurt us to actually go and speak to them about how we are feeling. It is so much easier to revel in our hurt or seek payback for the hurt. Sometimes we feel that we might ruin a friendship by speaking to our friend about a way in which they have hurt us. But a hurt that goes unaddressed will continue to hurt and will probably be repeated. This week's gospel reminds us of the need to challenge our friends when they hurt us but it also reminds us that when we have hurt others we need to be challenged about it and called to account for our actions.*

## **EXPLORING THE WORD**

The gospel readings for this week and next week come from a section of Matthew that deals with ways the community might regulate its behaviour. Clearly there were some in the group who were behaving in ways that brought the community into disrepute and were contrary to the teaching of Jesus. The question was how the community should confront such issues of human sinfulness and help each other in the spirit of love that Jesus professed. Matthew recalls the words of Jesus to suggest a way forward in this dilemma. This text comes immediately after the parable of the lost sheep, where the shepherd expends all possible effort to find the lost one and bring it back to the fold. For Matthew, the main point of that parable is the joy that the mas-

ter expresses when the lost one returns. That point is emphasised in this text when Matthew again suggests that all possible effort must be made to correct those in the community who err before taking the final step of exclusion from the group. Even then, all is not lost, and Matthew reminds his community that they should pray together and that their prayers will be heard.

## **LIVING THE WORD**

Practical ideas to employ in connecting Scripture and daily life.

- One area of concern within the Church today is the exclusion of divorced and remarried Catholics from the eucharistic table. It could be useful to discuss the process of the Church's annulment tribunal, and the ways individual communities seek to care pastorally for those in this difficult situation.
- This gospel emphasises the worth of each member of the community; we are all interconnected and we are all responsible for others. Love and the desire for reconciliation should govern our responses, not the desire to humiliate or chastise.
- When difficulties arise this week, try the approach of this gospel: listen, talk things through, try gentle persuasion and aim for reconciliation, not accusation.
- Use the Scriptures and a candle as a focus for prayer. Pray for all those caught up in conflict, whether it be political, emotional or spiritual. A suitable song might be Psalm 33: 'Let your mercy be on us'.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- In the ancient world, the testimony of two witnesses was needed for any charge to be upheld in a civil or religious court. We see many examples of this practice in the gospels—for example, John 9:18.
- Formal exclusion from the Church is called excommunication. Today it is rarely used, but through history, many people, even saints, have been excommunicated. Galileo was excommunicated during the Renaissance for his views on science—later proved to be correct. This excommunication was rescinded only in recent years. Even Australia's own St Mary MacKillop was once excommunicated!

### SHARING THE TRADITION

The Church has had an 'up-and-down' history in the way it has dealt with conflict, and in how it has balanced the exercise of its legitimate authority with the call to announce God's forgiveness to the world. There have been low points, like the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, and high points, like the papal apologies of the Jubilee Year. In recent years, the scandal of sexual abuse by members of the clergy and religious has caused the Church to re-examine appropriate processes for dealing with such wrongdoing by its members. Various statements from Pope Francis have highlighted this.

- Why isn't it acceptable to turn a 'blind eye' to wrongdoing within the Church? In what ways do you think this may have undermined the credibility of the Church in the modern world? What role have the media played in this?
- You could discuss the modern process employed by the Church in dealing with sexual abuse or other controversial issues like the Stolen Generation of Aboriginal Australians.
- Balance this by highlighting some of the truly great works done by priests at a local level - for example, Fr Ernie Smith's establishment of Sacred Heart Mission in St Kilda, or Fr Chris Riley's foundation Youth Off the Streets.
- There may be local initiatives in your own community that could be highlighted as examples of the positive action of the Church in the world.

### MAKING CONNECTIONS

- Have you ever been in the position of being torn between 'turning a blind eye' to a wrongdoing or confronting the culprit? What did you do to resolve the situation?
- One of the greatest prayers about being a peace maker is the prayer often associated with St Francis of Assisi: ***Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.***

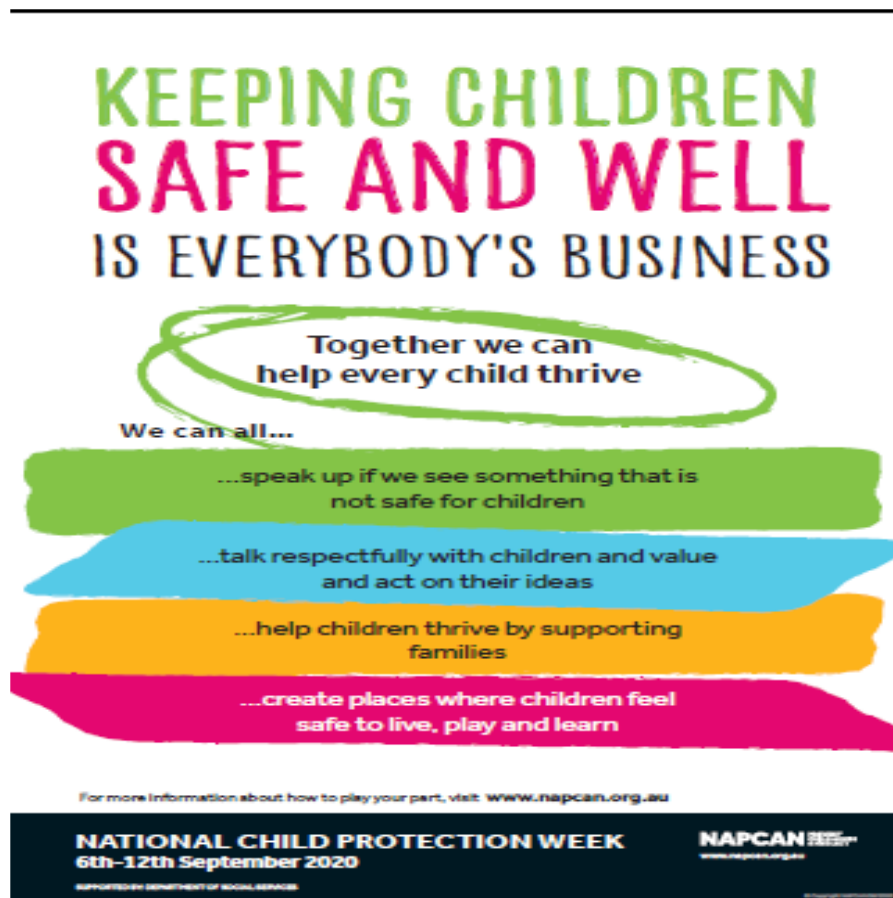
## From St Macartan's Parish Primary School

### #EndCOVIDForAll Advocacy Campaign

Caritas Australia has banded together with other churches, international aid agencies and thousands of Australians to sign the pledge for the #EndCOVIDForAll campaign. This is an opportunity to show support for our neighbours around the world, many who don't have access to clean water, soap and healthcare to deal with this pandemic. Sadly, this pandemic has the potential to push an additional 70 million people around the world into extreme poverty. COVID is not going to be over for anyone until it is over for everyone.

Kathleen Ronchi—Deputy Principle St Macartan's Primary School

## CHILD SAFETY NEWS



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

## HIGH SPIRITS

(Catechism for State School children)

**We have begun 1st Reconciliation classes:**

They are via Zoom

NEXT will be 1st Eucharist

To enroll your child or to get more details please email Faye at:  
stmacshighspirits@gmail.com





Gracious God,  
you love and care for all of your children,  
especially the smallest and most vulnerable.

We entrust to you the lives of children and  
adults at risk  
who have been sexually abused,  
and whose trust and innocence have been  
destroyed.

Help us to hear their cries of pain  
and to take responsibility for those whose lives  
have been broken.

Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those  
wounded by abuse,  
and the failure to be heard.

We pray that with the help of your grace  
communities and families will find  
understanding and support,  
so that now and in the future  
their wounds may be healed  
and they may find lasting peace.

Let your grace and love fall gently now upon  
our children,  
giving them the inner strength, peace and  
resilience  
to seek out assistance when required.

We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus  
Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever  
and ever.

Amen



### **Pope: peace with Creator, harmony with creation**

In his message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and the Season of Creation, Pope Francis reflects on the Biblical significance of the Jubilee, as evoked by the theme of the Season of Creation, "Jubilee of the Earth".

### **By Vatican News**

As the September 1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation kicks off the month-long Season of Creation, Pope Francis offers a profound reflection on respect for the earth, its resources, the evils caused by man's greed and the need for "restorative justice" such as debt cancellation for poor countries.

### **This decisive moment**

In his message, the Pope notes that "the pandemic has brought us to a cross-roads". "We must use this decisive moment," he says, "to end our superfluous and destructive goals and activities, and to cultivate values, connections and activities that are life-giving." "We must examine our habits of energy usage, consumption, transportation, and diet. We must eliminate the superfluous and destructive aspects of our economies, and nurture life-giving ways to trade, produce, and transport goods."

### **Listen to the land and creation**

The Pope reminds us that "we cannot live in harmony with creation if we are not at peace with the Creator who is the source and origin of all things". The Jubilee is a time for thinking once again of our fellow human beings, especially the poor and the most vulnerable, to share the common heritage of creation in a "spirit of conviviality, not in competitive scramble but in joyful fellowship, supporting and protecting one another". The Jubilee is also a time to listen to the land, to hear the voice of creation and return to our rightful place in the natural created order, remembering that we are part of this interconnected web of life, not its masters. "The disintegration of biodiversity, spiralling climate disasters, and unjust impact of the current pandemic on the poor and vulnerable," the Pope says, are a "wakeup call in the face of our rampant greed and consumption".

A jubilee, the Pope says, is a time to set free the oppressed such as the indigenous people who face injustice and others who are subjected to various forms of modern slavery, such as trafficking in persons and child labour.



### **Debt cancellation**

Stressing that the Jubilee is a time for “restorative justice”, the Pope renews his “call for the cancellation of the debt of the most vulnerable countries, in recognition of the severe impacts of the medical, social and economic crises they face as a result of Covid-19”.

### **Restoring the Earth**

Alarmed by the climate emergency, the Pontiff warns that “we are running out of time”, and unless we take action it “will prove catastrophic, especially for poor communities around the world”. He thus invites all nations to adopt more ambitious national targets to reduce emissions.

Lamenting the unprecedented loss of species and degradation of ecosystems, he urges for “restoring the earth to be a home of life in abundance, as willed by the Creator”.

### **Indigenous rights**

The principle of “restorative justice”, the Holy Father continues, calls for restoring the right of indigenous communities to regain control of the usage of the land on which they have lived for generations.

“Indigenous communities,” he says, “must be protected from companies, particularly multinational companies, that ‘operate in less developed countries in ways they could never do at home’, through the destructive extraction of fossil fuels, minerals, timber and agroindustrial products.”

He denounces as a “new version of colonialism” the corporate misconduct of shamefully exploiting poorer countries and communities that are desperately seeking economic development.

### **Joining hands**

The Pope admits, “We are aware that the cries of the earth and of the poor have become even louder and more painful in recent years.” Yet it is a reason for joy to witness how the Holy Spirit is bringing individuals and communities around the world together to rebuild our common home and defend the most vulnerable.

Young people, communities and indigenous communities are on the frontlines in responding to the ecological crisis. They are calling for a Jubilee for the earth and a new beginning, aware that “things can change”.

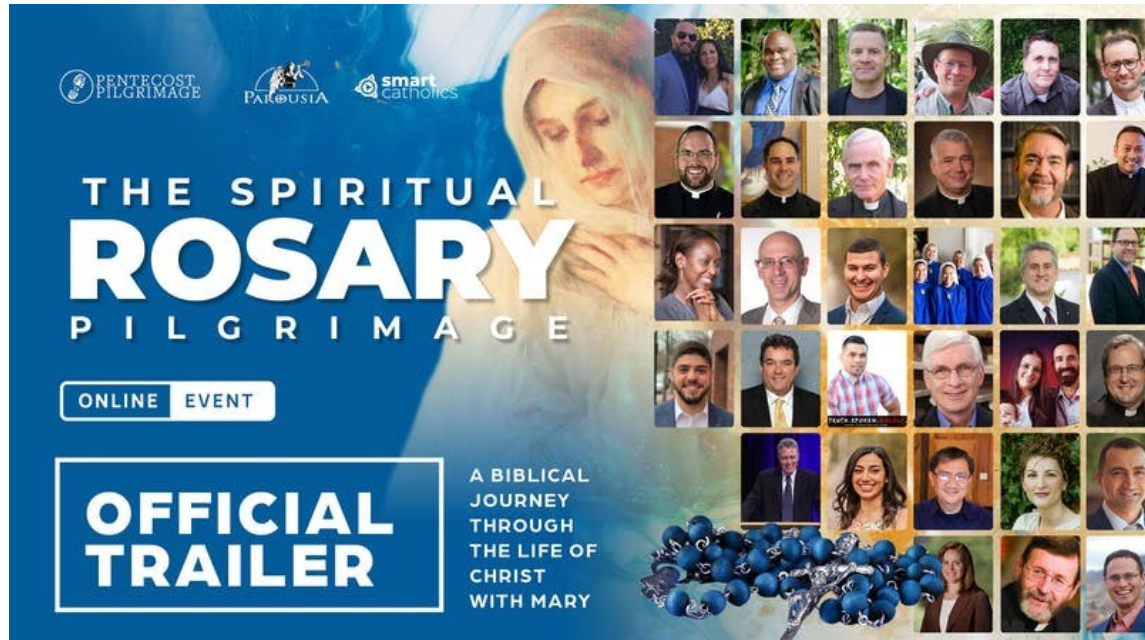
The way the “Laudato Si’ Special Anniversary Year” is unfolding is another reason to rejoice. The numerous initiatives at local and global levels for the care of our common home and the poor during the year, the Pope says, should lead to long-term action plans to practise integral ecology in our families, parishes and dioceses, religious orders, our schools and universities, our healthcare, business and agricultural institutions, and many others as well.

Faith communities are coming together to create a more just, peaceful and sustainable world, and the Season of Creation is becoming a truly ecumenical initiative.

## The Spiritual Rosary Pilgrimage.

We are less than 7 days away and have now reached 23,000 pilgrims from over 90 countries! Here is a second video trailer below. This gives you a small sampler of some of the presentations in the pilgrimage.

<https://youtu.be/iq-aV1VDMOo>



Exciting New Announcement!

We are pleased to announce that the final Keynote talk is confirmed and it will be Immaculee Illibagiza! Immaculee is from Rwanda and now based in the USA. She shares the story of how she survived the 1994 Rwandan genocide, when over one million people were slaughtered. She describes the role that the rosary played during this time while locked up in a tiny bathroom with 7 other women for 3 months! The rosary was her refuge and source of peace.

We are so excited that she will be sharing the power of the Rosary with us.

Look out for that in the final week of the pilgrimage.

### Parish Footy Tipping

**The top tippers:** There were only 8 games in round 14, and due to the first game starting on Thursday at 4pm, a number of our top tippers failed to put their tips in on time. However they were lucky as they all were awarded the away team and the point. All achieving a top score of 8, were Lizzie, Maree O'Halloran, Tessa Houlihan and Barry Murphy.

Round 15 starts Saturday.

**QUIZ ANSWERS :** Who were the three players to kick 300 goals at two clubs. Answer Eddie Betts was the latest. The previous two were Tony Lockett and Buddy Franklin, Betts has the incredible record of winning goal of the year 4 times.

**HISTORY:** Who were the three players to kick 300 goals at two clubs. Answer Eddie Betts was the latest. The previous two were Tony Lockett and Buddy Franklin, Betts has the incredible record of winning goal of the year 4 times



VectorStock



### Dad jokes!

- Jesus can wash away our sins, but you still have to wash your hands.
  - Can we uninstall 2020 and install it again? This one has a virus.
  - Jesus never worried about losing data from his computer - Why?  
Because Jesus Saves, Jesus Saves, Jesus saves.
    - Jesus cleans the heart; we disinfect the pew.
  - Prophecy class cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.
    - I hadn't planned on giving up quite this much for Lent.
    - How do you make holy water? You boil the hell out of it.
- I bought some shoes from a drug dealer. I don't know what he laced them with, but I was tripping all day!
  - If a child refuses to sleep during nap time, are they guilty of resisting a rest?
- The secret service isn't allowed to yell "Get down!" anymore when the president is about to be attacked. Now they have to yell "Donald, duck!"
  - Spring is here! I got so excited I wet my plants!

### HAPPY FATHERS DAY: A poem just for you

God took the strength of a mountain,  
the majesty of a tree,  
the warmth of a summer sun,  
the calm of a quiet sea,  
the generous soul of nature,  
the comforting arm of night,  
the wisdom of the ages,  
the power of the eagle's flight,  
the joy of a morning in spring,  
the faith of a mustard seed, the patience of eternity,  
the depth of a family need.

God then combined all these qualities  
and when there was nothing more to add  
He knew His masterpiece was complete  
and so He called it -  
Dad.

## News - Why the world needs the Church

Wednesday 26 August 2020 - by Rosie Kendall

'Is religion good for society?'

Would you be confident to ask this question to your friends or family that don't profess any kind of faith? If you would hesitate — you have good reason to. According to the most recent National Church Life Survey (NCLS) report, which draws information from congregations of Catholics, Anglicans and Protestants around the country, six in ten people can't think of a reason why religion is good for society. It's disheartening, especially when you consider all the good things churches do that benefit the wider community. It's not a fair assessment. This may be true, but given that the survey was conducted in the context of public engagement with outcomes of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, societal attitudes have been marred by negative elements about religious institutions that were revealed at that time.

The NCLS report also revealed something that seems contradictory at first glance: six in ten also think the most important role for churches in society is to serve the poor. Australia may have lost confidence in religion as a vessel for good. However, people recognise that benevolence is the language of the Church. This insight is directly from the vision of the Church from its earliest days, as found in James 2:16-17: 'If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.'

We live in a crucial moment for the Church in Australia. Jesus commissioned the Church to continue what he started: to serve the poor, to save the lost and to point people to his Good News. His good news is needed in a world full of chaos, uncertainty and division, hurting from the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19. The economic fallout is predicted to be large and ongoing, and felt by our communities for a long time. The Church is the people of God, bringing His kingdom here on Earth until it comes in fullness. But how does this translate to someone searching for employment alongside nearly 4 million others after the government stimulus and rental freezes cease? What about those unable to afford groceries or are facing eviction? The answer is in the way the people of God are instructed to live. James 2 instructs the people of God to provide for the needs of their brothers and sisters. We're instructed not just to wish them well and offer up a Psalm, but to stand in solidarity alongside the poor and disadvantaged, say 'we're with you' in hardship, loneliness and anxiety.

When you're with someone, you're attentive to their needs. If it's only metaphorical, the sentiment becomes meaningless. That's why organisations like Christians Against Poverty (CAP) exist, to equip churches of all denominations to carry out the mission to serve and include the poor in their communities and do so while confidently proclaiming the good news of Jesus. CAP resources, equips, and trains churches to do what Jesus called all of us to do, in the context of need in modern Australia. Through CAP Debt Centres, churches are stepping into the homes of some of the poorest and at-risk people, offering them a practical solution, and sharing the love of Jesus. Churches have a unique opportunity to regain public faith by taking action to help people crippled by debt in the post-pandemic world. When the pandemic hit, CAP clients Mark and Sarah found themselves in a desperate financial situation, and their local church was able to stand with them. Almost immediately after social distancing was put in place, Sarah's bookings as a professional photographer dried up. Mark's hours at his retail position in menswear were dramatically reduced, then stopped altogether. Both were unemployed and getting calls each day by creditors demanding repayments from debt incurred to pay for medical bills when their first child was born with a congenital condition. Through their church, they called their CAP caseworker and together, they worked out a solution to keep them afloat.' We feel like there's so much uncertainty and there's definite anxiety there. But I just can imagine it being so much worse,' Sarah says. 'We're looking forward to things at the moment, which sounds ridiculous in the midst of a pandemic.'

It doesn't need to be said that taking opportunities like this to help those in need also assists in redeeming the nation's perception of the Church. It's not about ourselves; it's about bringing transformation into people's lives and bringing glory to God in the process. There are many reasons one could make a case for why Christianity has been good for society and will continue to be good for society. But historical analysis aside, it's quite simple. Keeping our focus on Jesus' mandate and example to truly care for the poor will inevitably shine the light of God into our communities and into the world. Recognition of this work will likely come and go, but transformed lives are forever. Rosie is the CEO of CAP Australia and has been working for CAP in both Australia and in the UK for 10 years.





# Are you thinking of becoming a Catholic?

## R.C.I.A.

**RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

**Is a guided faith journey towards becoming a Catholic**

### **WHO IS RCIA FOR?**

Adults who are not baptised.

Adults who are already baptised in another Christian Church.

Non-practising Catholics who wish to renew their faith.

### **Where do you begin?**

New sessions begin with an information night TBA.

There is no obligation – Call and find out more:

**Classes will most likely be Wednesday nights**

**7:00pm-8pm via Zoom under restrictions**

**or in the presbytery (restriction free).**

The RCIA process is a period of reflection, prayer, instruction, discernment and formation.

Those who join the process are encouraged to go at their own pace but on average the journey takes several months of weekly or fortnightly sessions leading to, if the candidate wishes, reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at Easter, with an on-going attendance at Sunday Mass and observance of Catholic teachings and practices.

### **Like to find out more?**

Ring the Parish office at

5975 2200

Or email

[mornington@cam.org.au](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au)