

**PARISH BULLETIN**

**St Macartan's Catholic Parish**



**4 Drake St, Mornington VIC 3931**

**Parish Office:** Tuesday to 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



**Matthew 25. 31-46**

**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/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOpptks0Fw/videos>

Also view our Parish website:

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

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions**

**WE'RE BACK!!!!**

**All Mass times!**

**Upcoming Holy Days:**

- Tue 24th Nov: Sts Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and Companion Martyrs
- Sunday 29th Nov: First Sunday Advent: Sunday cycle Year B, weekday cycle 1.

**Office: CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

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

**BUT PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE!!!**

**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.  
Email [veronicaryan2250@outlook.com](mailto:veronicaryan2250@outlook.com)

**Marriage & Counselling:** Charmaine Holmes: 5977 2567

**Marriage Prep:** See Fr Geoff

**Baptism Preparation:** Kathy Raccanello  
**Next Baptismal Meeting - 2 Dec 2020**

**pm Via Zoom**

**All Baptisms: CALL OFFICE**

**Recently Deceased:****Anniversaries:**

# Mass Intentions

**Pray for the sick and their Carers:** Janet Smyth, Tony Ryan, Sue

Hale, 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, Torquil Hansen, Betty Corke, **And especially for Ruben Pateman.**

**First Reading** Ez 34:11-12. 15-17**A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel**

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

**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. (R.)

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. (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 Cor 15:20-26. 28

### **A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

### **Gospel Acclamation** Mk 11:9-10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

### **Gospel** Mt 25:31-46

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

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

### **Communion Antiphon** Ps 28:10-11

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

# GOSPEL FOCUS

## The Final Judgment

*Often referred to as 'The Final Judgment', this gospel presents an understanding of judgment and punishment that reflects the theology and culture of the first century. It is an image that has continued to dominate Christian art and theology for most of its history: the idea of God sitting in judgment on the final day and weighing up each individual's actions. It is often applied very literally and it is a dominant image of God represented in the media – TV sit-coms and movies often draw on the image. It is a literalist image of God that needs to be challenged. We must remember that the focus of the gospel passage is on the call to action for justice.*

## EXPLORING THE WORD

Over the last few weeks, the gospel texts have dealt with issues of being prepared, staying ready, and using our gifts well. In some ways, all these themes culminate in today's text. This gospel presents us with the bottom line! Are we judged worthy of a place in the kingdom? The criteria for being judged worthy are very clear—it is how we have served those most in need. This is what will count. If we do not see Christ in our brothers and sisters in need, then our faith is blind and will not lead to the kingdom. There is another aspect of this gospel that should not be overlooked. It is the apocalyptic vision of the Son of Man coming in glory and reigning over all the nations as King. To the King belongs the right of judgement and reward or punishment. While Matthew's community was in the 'in between' time, the evangelist

held before them the central truth that the Son of Man, the King, will come again in his glory as judge.

- During his life, Christ was not a king in a political or autocratic sense. Far from it. The subjects of his kingdom are called to service with the marginalised, the poor and the powerless.
- How does your community engage in this service? How might you and your family become involved?

## DID YOU KNOW?

- The 'Son of Man' is a title that is often used of Jesus in the gospels. Scholars still debate the precise meaning of this title and whether Jesus used it of himself. The term, as used in the Book of Daniel, has messianic overtones; that is, it is used as a title for the Messiah.
- Service has always been at the heart of the church's work. Traditionally, the 'corporal works of mercy' are loosely based on Jesus' words in this gospel and include feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. See The Catechism of the Catholic Church, §2447.
- The church also identifies 'spiritual works of mercy' (see CCC, §2447) as 'instructing, advising, consoling, comforting, forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently.'

## WEEKDAY VIDEO MASS

As more & more people are now getting to a Mass. The onerous task of recording and uploading the weekday video Mass will cease.

Sunday Mass will still be videoed and available on our YouTube Channel.

If there are any out there who could advise on a suitable camera and other necessary equipment, to be permanently mounted in the Church, please call the Office.

## **COVID-19: AND ST MACARTAN'S?**

Hi All,

Many are asking - How do you get to attend Mass? Is it by Phoning? Emailing? Booking? etc. Well all these and other things have been tried but until we can support a larger number of people - at the moment only 20. We will be doing the following:

For **WEEKDAY & WEEKEND Masses**: NO bookings - First 20.

This arrangement will take place till the 22nd Nov, when Premier Dan Andrews will make another announcement re numbers. It may be 50+?

Note: Church doors will only open 30 minutes prior to start of service. After Mass all must leave the Church, as the Church needs sanitizing and we are not yet allowed to be open for public worship outside Mass.

Note: These are NOT OUR RULES. But we are being obedient to what we have to enforce and avoid us ... and you, getting a large fine!

### **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS - THIS MEANS YOU!**

If you attend Mass we need your help:

- 1) To open church 30min prior to service and count people in.
- 2) To help clean pews and contact surfaces after Mass
- 3) To help with some outdoor Christmas Liturgies we are planning - Coordinator, Gate attendants, ushers, Covid Cops, Eucharistic Ministers etc.

For any or all of the above, please email the office: [mornington@cam.org.au](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au) or call 59752200 & leave a message and we will have someone contact you.

**WITHOUT YOU, SOME THINGS WON'T GO AHEAD!**

### **BAPTISMS - Are back!**

Office is working on a schedule. All those who have contacted us will be notified. Parents please remember there is no urgency! But let me know of any exceptional circumstances and I will review.

### **St Macartan's School CONFIRMATIONS: Approx. 75 children**

Several ceremonies in St Macartan's Church have been scheduled to accommodate the 75 children.

Tue 24th Nov 4:30pm (28 students) & 6:30pm (25 students) - Two ceremonies

Wed 25th Nov 2pm (27 students)

A decree has been issued by the Archbishop, whereby I as a Parish Priest, have been given the faculties to preside at Confirmations, in place of a Bishop. I am still awaiting approval of the schedule from the Vicar General.

### **High Spirits 1st Reconciliation: Approx. 8 children**

Most likely Thursday 26th Nov 7pm

### **High Spirits 1st Eucharist: Approx. 9 children**

Most likely Sunday 29th November 5pm

### **High Spirits CONFIRMATIONS: 10 children - 2 groups:**

5pm Sunday 6th December

5pm Sunday 13th December

Blessings  
Fr Geoff

## St Macartan's Parishioners Photo Display



**PLEASE SEND IN YOUR PHOTO**

The photos will then be included at the start of our Video Mass

Take a selfie and then e-mail it to our Parish Office at—  
[mornington@cam.org.au](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au)

## HIGH SPIRITS

(Catechism for State School children)

1st Eucharist & 1st Reconciliation

CEREMONIES

These are being planned to be conducted  
before the end of November  
[stmacshighspirits@gmail.com](mailto:stmacshighspirits@gmail.com)

## Coming out of Lockdown—St Macartan's Groups.



As we eagerly await for the next announcement from Daniel Andrews on the 8th November, we need to start preparing for how we can recommence our **Prayer, Gathering and Visiting** groups in a COVID-19 safe way.

To all these Groups please start preparing so we are ready to go ahead once we can again come together. **All group leaders will be invited to a zoom meeting with Fr Geoff to discuss COVID safe plans.**

Please e-mail the office at [mornington@cam.org.au](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au) with any of your ideas or plans on how we can begin to a COVID-19 normal at St Macartans.





A close-up photograph of a Christmas tree branch with green needles, a silver bauble, a blue star, and white lights.

## Give a Gift this Christmas

Christmas should be a joyous occasion for us all. However, there are many families in our local community for whom it is a very stressful time, especially those who are unable to afford gifts for their children.

Mornington Community Information and Support Centre, with the support of a range of local churches, organisations and businesses, run a Present Roo or families who have children on their parent's Health Care Card and who are struggling financially. Last year the program gave out 345 major presents to children who otherwise may have missed out at Christmas.

You can help by donating a gift. We invite you to donate an unwrapped toy or book for a child under 16 years (please no soft or stuffed toys). We have found that teenagers love a gift card or voucher.

You can drop them off at the Centre, 320 Main St Mornington from 23rd November to 11th December.

This year, the Present Room will operate from The Corner Youth Centre from 14th – 18th December.

**For further information you can contact  
Stuart Davis-Meehan at the Centre on  
59751644**



## **Pope at Audience: Mary a woman of prayer and model for our prayer**

Pope Francis greeted the faithful on Wednesday morning, saying: "Today we meet the Virgin Mary as the prayerful woman." Continuing his catechesis on prayer during the weekly General Audience, which is currently streamed live from the Apostolic Library, the Pope upheld Mary as a model for our own life and prayer.

### **Humble of heart**

He recalled her in her youth, "the young girl of Nazareth wrapped in silence, in dialogue with God, who would soon entrust her with a mission." Although she was already full of grace and immaculate from the moment she was conceived, the Pope said, she knew nothing "of her surprising and extraordinary vocation and the stormy sea she will have to cross."

"One thing is certain," he said. "Mary belongs to a great host of the humble of heart whom the official historians never include in their books, but whom God used to prepare for the coming of His Son."

### **Waiting for God's will**

Pope Francis went on to describe how Mary waited for God to take the reins of her path and guide her, and how she prepared, with great docility, "the grand events in which God takes part in the world." The Catechism, he said, recalls her constant and caring presence in the benevolent design of the Father throughout the course of Jesus's life.

Mary was praying, Pope Francis recalled, when the Archangel Gabriel brought his message to her in Nazareth: "Her small yet immense 'Here I am,' made all of creation jump for joy at that moment". He said that trusting obedience was preceded throughout salvation history by many other trusting obediences, by so many people who were open to God's will.

### **An attitude of openness**

Pope Francis said there is no better way to pray than to place oneself in an attitude of openness: "Lord, what You want, when You want, and how You want".

He said that this attitude allows many believers to face reality without getting upset when their days are filled with problems, "knowing that in humble love offered in each situation, we become instruments of God's grace." Prayer, the Pope said, "knows how to calm restlessness, knows how to transform it into availability."

### **Prayerful acceptance**

He recalled the many moments of tremendous trial endured by the Virgin Mary and of how she was accompanied by prayer in every moment of her life, and in every moment of Jesus' life, right up to His death and resurrection. "If in prayer we understand that each day given by God is a call, our hearts will then widen and we will accept everything. We will learn how to say: 'What You want, Lord. Promise me only that You will be present every step of my way,'" he said.

### **Mother of God and Mother of the Church**

Mary, the Pope said, prayerfully accompanied the newborn Church and through her openness to the power of the Holy Spirit, the Mother of God thus became the Mother of the Church. "In the Virgin Mary, natural feminine intuition is exalted by her most singular union with God in prayer. This is why, reading the Gospel, we note that she seems to disappear at times, only to reappear for crucial moments: it was God's voice that guided her heart and her steps where her presence was needed," he said.

### **A splendid pearl**

Saint Luke tells us that Mary "treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart," he continued, explaining, "Everything ends up in her heart so that it might pass through the sieve of prayer and be transfigured by it." The Mother keeps everything and brings it to her dialogue with God, Pope Francis concluded: "Someone has compared Mary's heart to a pearl of incomparable splendour, formed and smoothed by patient acceptance of God's will through the mysteries of Jesus meditated on in prayer. How beautiful it would be if we too could be a bit like our Mother!"



## *St Mac's - POETS CORNER*

*Have you got something to say, that's said in a nice poetical way.  
That's kind and uplifting, or spiritual and Christian.*  
You maybe a Poet and just don't know it - Just send it in and we'll see?

### WILD APPLE TREES

God of abundance, we thank you for wild apple trees,  
Bursting with so much fruit that the branches can hardly cope.  
We know that a bit of pruning might have helped the tree  
And led to fewer but larger apples.  
Yet it is great to see what can happen when we don't get in the way.  
Loving God, thank you for the abundance of our own lives.  
Sometimes we can hardly cope either  
We wish you might prune our lives,  
And make them simpler.  
But the complexity is your gift.  
It stops us settling for simple answers.  
Faith doesn't have one liners.  
It is a relationship ripening in your love.

Amen.

Michael McGirr

