

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 **Web:** stmacartansparish.com.au

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Geoffrey McIlroy

Parish Secretary: Theresa Collard



Mass Times

Weekdays: Tues-Sat 9:15am

Saturday: Vigil 6pm. As usual

Sunday: 9am, 11am & 5pm. As usual.

RECONCILIATION:

After the Wednesday and Saturday morning Masses

Video Sunday Mass

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/>

Upcoming Holy Days:

- Tue 2nd: The Presentation of the Lord
- Fri 5th: Saint Agatha
- Sat 6th: Saints Paul Miki & his Companions

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday to Thursday 9am—4pm

Friday 9am—3.30pm

Office CLOSED Weekends & Mondays

Phone: 5975 2200

Email: mornington@cam.org.au

Parish Contact Details

Parish Pastoral Council: Contact Office

Finance Committee: Frank Crea
0417 104 041

Child Safety Officer: Carmel McGrath
0400 076 067 Email:

Mornington.childsafety@cam.org.au

AV Technical: Graeme Wilson
Email: gpw611@bigpond.com

St Mac's High Spirits - Faye Melhem
Email: stmacshighspirits@gmail.com

Parish Caretaker: John Spaziani
0419 598 911

Music & Wedding Co-Ordinator-
Veronica Ryan 0418 358 213. Email
veronicaryan2250@outlook.com

Marriage & Counselling: Charmaine
Holmes 5977 2567

Marriage Prep: See Fr Geoff

Baptism Preparation: Kathy Raccanello
Next Baptismal Meeting - 3rd Feb 8 pm

Via Zoom

All Baptisms: Contact Parish Office
Memorial Wall Contact Parish Office only on Friday.

Schools

St Macartan's Primary School
Ph: 5979 9200

Principal: Colleen McGreal
Deputy: Philip Hills, Kathleen Ronchi
Padua College Ph: 5976 0100

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries:

Pray for the sick and their Carers: Janet Smyth, Jim Kershaw (NZ), Maureen Spargo, Tony Formosa, John Mahony, Terry Smyth, Torquil Hansen, Betty Corke, Hugh Murphy and Ruben Pateman.

First Reading Dt 18:15-20

A reading from the Prophet Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) If today, you hear 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 kneel 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 1 Cor 7:32-35

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

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Is Mt4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia

Gospel Mk 1:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Communion Antiphon Jn 30:17-18

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Historical Context

He said what?

In an age when most people were illiterate, Jesus appears to have been quite well educated. Some suggest that he may have spoken three or four different languages. He obviously spoke everyday Aramaic, as it was spoken in that region. Jesus also appears to have been taught Hebrew, the language of religious texts and religious practice. Greek, the language of trade in marketplaces, was a language that Jesus probably used when helping Joseph sell his carpentry products at stalls and markets. Finally, Jesus probably picked up a reasonable amount of Latin, the language of the Roman occupiers – he was able to hold a conversation with Pontius Pilate.

EXPLORING THE WORD

This is the first of the miracles of Jesus recounted in Mark's Gospel and it is a significant introduction to the person of Jesus and the power he possesses. Only a few verses earlier, at his baptism, Jesus had been revealed as the beloved Son of God. In this short text, Mark contrasts Jesus and the authority of his teaching with that of the scribes. Jesus teaches in such a way that he makes a deep impression on his hearers. Clearly, this is because his authority and his wisdom come from God. While his human audience may still be unclear as to the true identity of Jesus, this is not the case with his 'other-worldly' audience: the unclean spirits know exactly who Jesus is—the Holy One of God—and they recognise

his authority and obey his command. They know that the power of the Almighty is greater than the power of the evil one.

- In what ways today do we see evidence of the 'power of evil'? How are people held captive by this power in our world?
- In what ways can we speak and act with the spirit of Jesus against the evil we encounter?

DID YOU KNOW?

- In the ancient world, many forms of mental illness were attributed to being possessed by 'evil spirits'.
- In Mark's Gospel, Jesus is often presented in confrontational situations with evil spirits, with the Jewish authorities and even with his own disciples when they fail to understand who he is and what his mission entails.
- This text shows that where absolute good is, evil cannot remain

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

Illness is frequently used in the gospels as a symbol of the state in which all human beings find themselves. Spiritually, all of us are somehow afflicted. The healing of the sick and afflicted is a sign of how Jesus can liberate people from all that burdens them. This is not to suggest that suffering will magically disappear, but that Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

SHARING THE TRADITION

In the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the catechetical process is often begun or concluded with a 'prayer of exorcism'. Our understanding of what is meant by this term may be clouded by 'Hollywood' representations of casting out demonic possessors. The Rite itself suggests that the prayers of exorcism 'draw the attention of the catechumens to the real nature of Christian life, the struggle between flesh and spirit, the importance of self-denial for reaching the blessedness of God's Kingdom, and the unending need for God's help' (§90). The question of how a good and gracious God can allow the existence of evil in the world is one that has been debated for centuries.

- You could explore a scriptural response to this question— for example, using the Book of Job or some of the texts from the Wisdom literature.
- The Catechism of the Catholic Church provides a Catholic Christian exploration of how evil is understood within the tradition.
- You could lead the discussion towards an understanding of the personal responsibility each one has in responding to evil where we encounter it.
- You could examine some of the prayers of exorcism from the Rite. Analyse the prayers to discern what they are really leading the catechumens towards.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth?' What does Jesus want of you at this point in your life?
- 'I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' Is it difficult for you to make this claim? Who do you think Jesus is?
- Recall someone who made a deep impression on you. What were the qualities of that person that so impressed and drew you to them? Was there a quiet authority? Was it a charismatic presence? Share your recollections and reflection with others.
- Jesus challenged the evil that oppressed people in his time. This week, speak out, publicly or privately, against oppression or an evil in our world. Confront evil at all levels this week, wherever you may encounter it. Become part of lifting the burden from others.

HIGH SPIRITS - 2021

This is catechism for primary aged school children, that do not attend a Catholic School and is designed to instruct them about the Sacraments of first Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation. It will held every Tuesday from 4:30 to 6pm in the Community House, beginning end of February.

Enrolments will be taken now. Please **e-mail** the Parish Office or email:

fayesayah@hotmail.com



This weekend we Welcome 8 Children who join our Parish Community through the Sacrament of Baptism

Congratulations To:

Fraser Wood, Lorne Wood, Rory Wood, Ned Sherriff,
Josie Sherriff, Isola Jane Sherriff, Audrey Cominiti and
Maya Cominiti

May they always walk in the light of Christ

Men's Night

Dear Friends

Men's Night will be commencing again on Thursday 18th February, at 5.00pm.

We shall resume our social gatherings with the traditional BBQ, but due to COVID-19 restrictions our **new meeting place is in the Hall**.

Please note you will be required to sign in using the QR Code and we will also have attendance sheets if you wish to sign in manually.

It has been a long time between drinks, so PLEASE put this date in your diary, and tell your friends.



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ROSTER FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS/COMMENTATORS

Roster for the next 3 weeks are available for collection from entrance foyer to the Church. If you are involved with this ministry please take a copy.

There is also a copy of the roster on the last page of this Bulletin.

Thank you

The Liturgy Committee.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

1st COLLECTION: The Money Collected goes to the running of the Presbytery and the Parish Priest

2nd COLLECTION: This Collection consists of the Pledged Sacrificial Giving and any Loose Cash donated, this goes to the running of St Macartan's Church. Paying staff, Bills, Suppliers, insurances and maintenance of all Buildings plus Gardens.

LAST WEEKEND TOTALS

SACRIFICIAL GIVING (2nd Collection) : \$2893

PRESBYTERY COLLECTION (1st) Collection): \$1040

THANK YOU

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Hi All

This brief update is to prepare you for bigger and better things for this coming 2021.

Yes, why wait for Covid to be gone? We can still plan and do things, even if somewhat restricted.

You may have noticed in the back of the Church up on the mezzanine we have scaffolding. Yes, we are replacing the window, and having the outside of the church re-rendered, as well as clean the roof.

Small subtle maintenance which will make a big visual but mainly safety improvements.

I have also been looking at Parish growth with the PPC and specific target areas for this year, so I will be making some announcements on that next week.

Stay tuned :-)

Also, any motorcycle riders out there? I am setting up a Motorcycle club. It will be for those who like safe riding, form good friendships and do some outreach and charity events.

The rides will be on Monday's - why Mondays?

It's my day off.

(not every Monday, but lets start with one per Month)

So if interested give me a call or email me,
59752200 email: geoffmcilroy@gmail.com

or look for this travelling down the road and follow.



Blessings
Fr Geoff



St Macartan's Gift Shop

Dear Parishioners,

We have had a few Volunteers step aside for the moment due to health issues. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope to see them back soon.

If you would like to become a Volunteer, please contact me for the details, my contact details are below.

**The Gift Shop will Opening Hours—
30 minutes before**

The 6pm Mass

The 9am Mass

The 11am Mass

Wednesdays Mornings 9am – 10am

If you need anything urgently outside of these hours please can contact me

Trish Thomas
0425 749 379

Prayers for the Sick



Dear Parishioners,

Please note, in future we will only be keeping names on the Sick List for two weeks unless we are notified.

Please contact the office on 5975 2200 by no later than Friday 10 am.
Thank you
Theresa



Dear Students and Families of St Macartans Primary School,
We hope you and your families had a fun and relaxing Christmas & January vacation.

We welcome all of you back to the 2021 school year and hope that this school year will be full of successful experiences for all students, staff and parents.

St Macartans Parish



St Macartan's Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), is your voice.
A voice of parishioners; created to assist and support the
Parish Priest, in steering the Parish into the future.
Its role includes; meeting regularly to discuss:- growth,
improvements, and the ever-changing needs
of the Parish community.

This committee is formed by volunteers and we
would like more members of the PPC team.
So if you are interested, please let Fr Geoff know,
or email the office and we will give you a call.

The only requirements are;

- you live in the Parish
- attend Mass regularly and
- are keen to be active in helping the Parish grow.



Pope at Audience: The Bible, the place where God meets man

Continuing his catechesis on prayer at the Wednesday General Audience, Pope Francis reflects on the importance of the Sacred Scriptures in the life of prayer, saying it was written for each one of us. By Lydia O'Kane

“The words of the Sacred Scripture were not written to remain imprisoned on papyrus, parchment or paper, but to be received by a person who prays, making them blossom in his or her heart.” Said Pope Francis’ .

Bible written for each one of us

Reflecting this week on prayer that accompanies the reading of Sacred Scripture, the Pope underlined that the Bible was written for every one of us individually, to bring us “a word of God.” This experience, he said, happens to all believers. A passage from the Scripture, heard many times already, unexpectedly will speak to a person one day, and enlighten a situation that they are living, offering fresh insights and often challenging our habitual way of thinking about and seeing the world.

However, the Pope stressed that it was necessary “that I, that day, be present for that appointment with that Word,” in order for it to sow a seed “in the soil of our lives.”

Christians as tabernacles

Pope Francis noted, “Through prayer a new incarnation of the Word takes place. And we are the ‘tabernacles’ where the words of God want to be welcomed and preserved, so that they may visit the world.” He went on to say, “The believer does not turn to the Holy Scriptures to support his or her own philosophical and moral view, but because he or she hopes for an encounter; the believer knows that they were written in the Holy Spirit.”

It is a grace, said the Pope, “to be able to recognize oneself in this passage or that character, in this or that situation.” In off-the-cuff remarks, Pope Francis said that it irritated him “to hear Christians reciting Bible verses ‘like parrots’.” He went to say that it was important to encounter the Lord with the heart and not just to recite a verse from memory.

Lectio divina

Pope Francis went on to describe how the Christian tradition is rich in experiences and reflections on prayer with the Sacred Scripture.

In particular, he observed, “the method of ‘Lectio divina’ has been established; it originated in monastic circles, but is now also practised by Christians who frequent their parishes.”

“One then enters into dialogue with Scripture,” said Pope Francis, “so that those words become a cause for meditation and prayer,” while also asking what it “says to me”.

The last step of Lectio divina, explained the Pope, is contemplation. “Words and thoughts give way here to love.”

“The biblical text remains, but like a mirror, like an icon to be contemplated,” he said.

Concluding his Catechesis, the Pope emphasized that “Through prayer, the Word of God comes to abide in us and we abide in it.”

**ROSTER FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS/
COMMENTATORS**

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 30th & 31st January 2021.

6.00pm Readers Fay Murphy, Brian Scantlebury

Eucharistic Mins Kathie & Josie Raccanello, Barbara Peach

9.00am Readers Spencer Meier, Don Ziino

Eucharistic Mins Delina Frank, Joseph Thoppil, Patricia Thomas

11.00am Readers Bernadette McLean, Terry Roberts

Eucharistic Mins Ann and Peter Hancock, Lisa Chiezey

5.00pm Readers Danielle and Mia Field

Eucharistic Mins Maureen Ellis

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 6th & 7th February 2021

6.00pm Readers Kees Duyvenstyn, Iris Hallinan Eucharistic Mins Alis Fisher

9.00am Readers Paul Girolami, Kevin Morley

Eucharistic Mins Patricia Thomas

11.00am Readers Joan Clements, Bernard Butler

Eucharistic Mins John Spaziani

5.00pm Readers Jacinta Jolly, Marino Cassamento

Eucharistic Mins Richard Jolly

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 13th & 14th February 2021

6.00pm Readers Fay Murphy, Frank Raccanello Eucharistic Mins Faye Melham

9.00am Readers Michael Kerr, Kath Ronchi Eucharistic Mins Zofia Krause

11.00am Readers Terry Roberts, Michael Harrison

Eucharistic Mins Elvira Spaziani

5.00pm Readers Craig Nugent, Michael Turner

Eucharistic Mins Maureen Ellis