

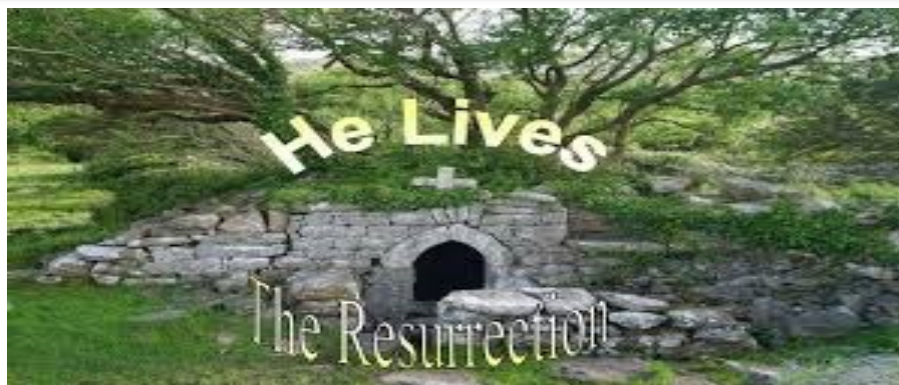
PARISH BULLETIN

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



**Mass Times**

**Weekdays:** Tues-Sat 9:15am

**Saturday:** Vigil 6pm. **Sunday:** 9am, 11am

**SUNDAY 5pm (NOT weekly) -  
ONLY 2nd & 4th Sunday each Month**

**Holy Hour / Adoration**

Every Friday after 9:15 Mass & 1st Saturdays  
each month after 9:15am Mass

**RECONCILIATION:**

After the Wed and Sat 9:15am Masses

**Video Sunday Mass**

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

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos)

Also view our Parish website:

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

**Upcoming Holy Days:** None

- GOOD FRIDAY

**Youth Mass** - 2nd and 4th Sundays at 5pm  
+ Holy Hour 3:30-4:30pm

**Parish Office Hours:**

**Tuesday to Thursday** 9am - 4pm

**Friday** 9am - 3.30pm Phone: 5975 2200

**Office CLOSED** Weekends & Mondays

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

**Schools**

**St Macartan's Primary School**

Ph: 59799200

**Principal:** Colleen McGreal

**Deputies:** Philip Hills & Kathleen Ronchi

**Padua College** Ph: 5976 0100

**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](mailto:Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au)

**Volunteer Application Support Officer:**

Tim Lambourne - email Office

**St Macartan's Social Justice Awareness**

**Group:** Contact Kerry McInerney  
[kerrymcinerney111@gmail.com](mailto:kerrymcinerney111@gmail.com) 59762155

**AV Technical:** Graeme Wilson

Email: [gpw611@bigpond.com](mailto:gpw611@bigpond.com)

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

Email: [fayesayah@hotmail.com](mailto:fayesayah@hotmail.com)

**Parish Caretaker:** John Spaziani  
0419 598 911

**Music & Wedding Co-Ordinator-**

Veronica Ryan 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** - 5th May 8 pm

Via Zoom

**All Baptisms:** Contact Parish Office

**Memorial Wall:** Contact Parish Office **ONLY**  
on Fridays.

## WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS



**Recently Deceased:** Peter Foster

**Pray for the sick and their Carers:** Vera Kesik, Dean Pratt, Maureen Spargo, Tony Formosa, Torquil Hansen, Betty Corke, Ruben Pateman, Sue Hale and Sheila Wright.

**First Reading** Acts 10:34. 37-43

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, , for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' (R.)

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R.)

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

**Second Reading** Col 3:1-4

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians**

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

## **Second Reading** Col 3:1-4

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### **Sequence**

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;  
and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

### **Gospel Acclamation** 1Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel** Jn 20:1–9

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

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

### **Communion Antiphon** 1 Cor 5:7-8

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

# **Historical**

## **Context**

### **Mary Magdalene**

*Mary Magdalene, or Mary of Magdala, plays an important role in the gospel accounts of the resurrection. She was obviously a significant follower of Jesus, being named as a witness to the crucifixion, discovering the empty tomb and the first to encounter the risen Christ. One would think that she would hold a prestigious place in the Church, but for many years she was confused with another character identified in the gospels and was portrayed as a prostitute and sinner. Mary is named in each of the four gospels and not once is it indicated that she was a sinner or prostitute. She has been a victim of mistaken identity for 2000 years.*

### **EXPLORING THE WORD**

You could perhaps allow time to read over some of the many Scripture texts used over these three days of the Triduum. You could point out the unity of the three days and how the readings fit together. It is essentially one liturgy with various moments. It is not simply a re-enactment of the past but a way of drawing people into the present reality of the mystery of God.

- The death and resurrection of Jesus is the fundamental pattern of life for the Christian. Give some examples of dying and rising from your life or the lives of the saints.
- In what ways was the baptism of the neophytes a dying and rising to new life in Christ?
- In what ways did the liturgy of these days draw you into the mystery?

### **MAKING CONNECTIONS**

- What memories of these three days do you want to remain with you always?
- Do you feel a sense of 'amazement' at what has happened to you?
- Reflect together on the ceremonies of the Vigil. Share responses and recollections. What was the highlight for you? What did it mean to you? How did you celebrate with friends and family? How will your life now change?
- Light a candle each time you pray during this Easter season as a sign of keeping the light of Christ consciously before you.
- Repeat this proclamation of the mystery of faith often this week: We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

### **SHARING THE TRADITION**

A closer look at the Scripture of the day, to see how it makes more explicit God's word to us through the teachings of Jesus Christ

The neophytes now enter the period of mystagogy or postbaptismal catechesis. 'This is a time for the community and the neophytes together to grow in deepening their grasp of the paschal mystery and in making it a part of their lives through meditation on the Gospel, sharing in the Eucharist, and doing the works of charity' (RCIA, §234).

Explore the meaning of this, how it may be carried out with the community

## **SYMBOLS AND IMAGES**

The cross and the paschal candle are the central symbols of these three days. Death is conquered in new life. The darkness of the tomb is conquered by the light of Christ. Much of this symbolism is present in the baptism ceremony of the Easter Vigil.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- The Easter Triduum (which means ‘three days’), lasting from Holy Thursday evening to Easter Sunday evening, is the climax of the Church’s year.
- Holy Thursday is sometimes known as Maundy Thursday, a corruption of the Latin word for ‘commandment’, *mandatum*. This is to commemorate the ‘new commandment’ that Jesus gave his followers at the Last Supper: love one another as I have loved you.
- The stories of the Passion, death and resurrection of Jesus were the earliest stories told and later recorded by the early church. The commemoration of the events of the Triduum is the earliest of Church celebrations, when the first Christians gathered to break bread together.
- Good Friday and Easter Saturday are the only days of the year on which Mass is not celebrated.
- The women come to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus early on Sunday morning because it is the first chance they have to do so. The Jewish Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and ends at sunset on Saturday. During this time no ‘work’ can be done, so the women must wait until dawn on the first day of the week.

### **LIVING THE WORD**

- How will the community ‘rejoice in the resurrection’? How can the members of your broader community be drawn more deeply into this period of mystagogy? In what ways will the community celebrate the baptism of the elect? What roles are now open to the newly baptised? How does your community encourage them to become participating members of your local parish?
- Use a candle and yellow flowers as a focus. Offer prayers of thanks for the gift of faith. Sing an Easter song. Choose one of the responses to a canticle or responsorial psalm from the Easter Vigil liturgy to conclude your prayer—for example: Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory. or I will praise you Lord for you have rescued me. or Lord you have the words of everlasting life.
- Be sure to celebrate with the newly baptised! Make a gift to them to mark this great occasion, perhaps a Bible, missal or a crucifix if they do not already have one.



## **Volunteers needed to join the Visitation Team**

With the number of nursing homes and aged care facilities increasing in our area **more hands are needed.**  
We would like to extend an invitation to volunteers to join our group.  
There will be coaching and training provided to put you at ease.  
Please call Barb (0410649622)



## **Deepest Sympathy**

**Funeral Service for Moira Renouf will be held at  
St Thomas Moore Mt Eliza on the 6th April at 11.00 am  
Followed by a Private Burial.**



In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we invite you to  
***“Take fresh courage.”***

This year is the ten year anniversary of Mary’s canonisation.

During the challenging times we all face, please pray and support Mary MacKillop Today, so that we can continue to transform lives through our vital works and carry on the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross.

For more information please call 02 8912 2777 or visit  
**[marymackilloptoday.org.au](http://marymackilloptoday.org.au)**

## **HIGH SPIRITS - 2021** **ENROL NOW!!!!**



This is catechism for primary aged school children, that do not attend a Catholic School and is designed to instruct them about the Sacraments.  
It will held every Tuesday from 4:00 to 5:15pm in the Parish Community House

**Classes for Confirmation start on the 2nd March.**

Reconciliation Info night June 22nd & 1st Eucharist Info night Aug 24th.

Enrolments will be taken now. Please ring Faye 0421443632 or

**e-mail : [fayesayah@hotmail.com](mailto:fayesayah@hotmail.com)**



## Business Owners

St Macartan's would like to support our Parishioners who are business owners by advertising their Business in our Bulletin.

Please contact the office during business hours on 5975 2200 or e-mail your Ad to [mornington@cam.org.au](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au)



### Donato Cafe Restaurant Mt Martha | Mornington | Italian

In the original corner store known as MPH Café, and now three generations on, 88 Craigie Road, Mt Martha is the new home to Donato est. 1980.

A fresh new face for a local, Italian family café.

We have created a unique meeting place for our local community and regular visitors to the Mornington Peninsula.

Coffee has become part of a daily routine for so many of us and we are proud to have Coffee Mio as our supplier of choice – of course, every cup being made with a whole lotta love.

Come in and see Frank and Luana

## St Macartan's Gift Shop—Change of Opening Hours



**For the Weeks of 5th – 11th April AND 12th – 18th April the Gift Shop will now be open on Tuesday in place of Wednesday**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8.30am – 9.00am</b>	<b>6th &amp; 13th</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8.30am – 9.00am</b>	<b>10th &amp; 17th</b>
	<b>5.30pm – 6.00pm</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8.30am – 9.00am</b>	<b>11th &amp; 18th</b>
	<b>10.00am – 11.00am</b>	

**For the Weeks of 19th – 25th April AND 26th – 2nd May Gift Shop Opening times are increased as follows**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8.30am – 9.00am</b>	<b>20th &amp; 27th</b>
	<b>3.00pm – 3.30pm</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>4.00pm – 6.30pm</b>	<b>21st &amp; 28th</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>4.00pm – 6.30pm</b>	<b>22nd &amp; 29th</b>



**St Macartan's Parish wish to Welcome and  
Congratulate the following to God's Family  
and the Holy Catholic Church**

**Emily Witney  
Paul Keane  
Natalie Sheean  
Jarod Griffin**

**They are great examples of following the invitation of Holy  
Spirit within them, that prompts us all  
to seek the Lord.**

**Blessings  
Fr Geoff**



### **Child Safety**

Dear Parishioners,

At our recent meeting it was decided to conduct three (3) information sessions to assist with updating our St Macartan's volunteer records. The aim of these informal chats is to clarify any enquiries and or misgivings you may have regarding volunteering at St Macartan's.

Please be reassured your efforts as a volunteer at St Macartan's is valued highly, however we must be compliant to the standards as outlined by the Melbourne Archdiocese.

At this point in time we aim to have our "Child Safety" records up to date by the end of June 2021. In order to achieve this goal we need to have everyone on board & up to date.

Please contact Tim Lambourne, [timlambourne@yahoo.com](mailto:timlambourne@yahoo.com) or the Parish Office for any more information.

Carmel McGrath  
Child Safety Officer





## Scripture reflections for Holy Week

During this past year, all aspects of our lives have been dominated by the coronavirus pandemic. But as Pope Francis said in a homily given at St Peter's Basilica on Palm Sunday 2020:

'When we have our back to the wall, when we find ourselves at a dead end, with no light and no way of escape, when it seems that God himself is not responding, we should remember that we are not alone. Jesus himself experienced total abandonment in a situation he had never before experienced, in order to be one with us in everything. He did it for me, for you, to say to us: Do not be afraid, you are not on your own. I experienced all your desolation in order to be ever close to you.'

Far from being absent or turning his back on us, Jesus is with us, supporting us and sharing in our suffering.

'Today, in the tragedy of a pandemic, in the face of the many false securities that have now crumbled, in the face of so many hopes betrayed, in the sense of abandonment that weighs on our hearts, Jesus speaks to each one of us, saying,

Courage, open your heart to my love. You will feel the consolation of God who sustains you.

'The Father, who sustained Jesus in his Passion also supports us. May we reach out to those who are suffering and those most in need. May we not be concerned about what we lack, but what good we can do for others.'

This Holy Week, we suggest you spend some time each day meditating on the compassion of Jesus (from the Latin *compati* – 'to suffer with'). That compassion is for us all, whatever our age or walk of life. Each reflection in this booklet invites us to remember how Jesus in his compassion responded to human need, as we hear him say to us, too:

I know how you feel. You are not on our own.

I am with you, let my compassion enfold you. Lean on me.

As we pray through Holy Week with these words, we look forward with hope to Easter Sunday and the Resurrection.

## MONDAY

Jesus suffers with the sick, and those who care for them at home or in hospital

### READING

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to,' he said, 'you can cure me'. Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once, and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' Mark 1: 40

### REFLECTION

'I'm not a hero – that's not what I ever asked for. I just want to do the job I've been trained for – to get people better, to help them cope, to keep them safe, to stop their pain, to make life worth living. But the impact of Covid – it's just relentless and it's getting so hard to keep bouncing back. On my way out of the door today though, I remember a prayer: 'Christ has no body but yours', and in that instant I know he's there. I hear Jesus say ...

'I know how you feel. You are not on your own.  
I am with you, let my compassion enfold you. Lean on me.  
Do you remember what I did for the leper?  
You'll be my outstretched hands today.'

As I recall that story, it's hard to imagine what leprosy looks like – but I can envisage the isolation, the loneliness, the despair. And then there is Jesus – reaching out with his healing touch, and the leper is cured. Again, I hear his voice, feel the compassion – 'I will be there for you and all those you'll care for today'.

As I begin my journey to work, I am strengthened by knowing that the Lord will be suffering with us today – with me, my colleagues, and the ones we'll be there for."

### PRAYER

Christ has no body now but yours ...  
Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes through which he looks  
with compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.  
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.  
– Teresa of Avila (1515–82)

## TUESDAY

Jesus suffers with the families kept apart by Covid



### READING

Soon afterwards, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, 'Do not weep'. Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, 'Young man, I say to you, rise!' The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Luke 7: 11–16

### REFLECTION

"After yet another frustrating video conference with the younger generation in my family, and a long phone call with my elderly parents, I feel very low. How I long to be able to touch them, hug them, explain yet again why I can't visit them. So, I decide to spend some time with the Lord. I tell him what is in my heart, my deepest longings, and I listen:

'I know how you feel. You are not on your own.  
I am with you, let my compassion enfold you. Lean on me.  
Do you remember what happened  
when I went to Nain and met that poor widow?'

I take a few moments to read the story. I try to visualise the people, the widow, Jesus himself ... and I imagine the pain of the woman who now has no family, no social status. I pause and ponder. 'Do not weep'.

I hear the compassionate tone of Jesus's voice. He is saying this to me too. My family will be given back to me. We will be reunited once more. They and I need to be patient.

I tell the Lord what is in my heart now, and in gratitude I thank him for his compassion and sustaining consolation."

### PRAYER

Oisín at 6

Streetlamps pale into dawn. I drive by your house,  
Straight from a hospice ward,  
And think of you  
In the heavy warmth of your room,  
Your comfort-blanket fallen from your fingers:  
And pray a bright angel to visit you in your dreams,  
Telling you how deeply loved you are  
In your earnestness,  
Your tripping-excitedly-over-words-iness,  
Your joy in being in the world:  
For all the shining self of you.  
– Padraig J Daly OSA, God in Winter (2015)

## WEDNESDAY

Jesus suffers with children and young people suffering from disrupted education or abuse

### READING

People were bringing little children to Jesus in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. – Mark 10:

13–16

### REFLECTION

"I look at the brother and sister again. With so few children in school now, it's easier to see the signs. How do I feel, knowing that I might be the only one who smiles at them today; the only one who says, 'Well done! Good job!'; the only one they're safe with? These are the ones really suffering behind closed doors in lockdown. So many times this week I've wanted to yell at God, 'Why aren't you there for them?' But as I'm looking at them today I'm moved by a whisper ...

'I know how you feel. They are not alone.

I am with them, my compassion enfolds them. They can lean on me.

Do you remember what I told my disciples  
when the people brought the children to me?'

I'm drawn into that scene, watching as Jesus draws these children closer to him, and blesses them. As he speaks he looks straight at me, and the warmth of his compassion is almost overwhelming: he knows, he cares, he is suffering with them. I return to the reality of my classroom thanking the Lord for showing me the depth of his love for me, and for these little ones.

I will be here for them too, their education will not be disrupted and they will be safe today."

### PRAYER

Whoever Welcomes

'Welcome', the word is always on your lips,  
Each welcome warms another one inside,  
An interleaving of relationships,  
An open door where arms are open wide.

First welcome to the child and through the child  
A welcome to the Saviour of the world  
And through the Saviour's welcome all are called  
Home to the Father's heart. Each call is curled  
And nested in another, as you were  
Nested and nestled in your mother's womb,  
As Mary carried One who carried her,  
And we are wrapped in you, deep in the tomb,  
Where you turn our rejection into welcome,  
And death itself becomes our welcome home.  
– Malcolm Guite, Parable and Paradox (2016)

## HOLY THURSDAY

Jesus suffers with the furloughed, the unemployed, the bankrupt,  
the hospitality industry



### READING

Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 'I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.' The disciples said to him, 'Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?' Jesus asked them, 'How many loaves have you?' They said, 'Seven, and a few small fish.' Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, he took the seven loaves and the fish; and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. Matthew 15: 32–37

### REFLECTION

"I'd worked so hard building up my business; things were beginning to take shape nicely. Then the lockdown came: we had to close. No income for me, or for those working with me, and the bills keep coming in. The government does try to help, but it's not enough. I am so downhearted and desolate. So I turn to the Lord. I tell him how I feel, how my heart aches, and I listen:

'I know how you feel. You are not on your own.  
I am with you, let my compassion enfold you. Lean on me.  
Do you remember what happened that evening  
when I was surrounded by this crowd who had no food?'

I take a few moments to read the story. I try and imagine that I am one of the people present in the crowd, or one of the disciples. I feel their hunger or their powerlessness. I hear Jesus say: 'I have compassion for the crowd ... How many loaves have you?' I pause awhile. I hear the compassionate tone of his voice. I ponder. In time, I realise that he knows; he will sustain us, feed us till we are full. Thank you Lord, for giving me hope and courage, for helping me to find new ways to reach out to those in need around me."

### PRAYER

Blessing the Bread, The Cup – for Holy Thursday

Let us bless the bread that gives itself to us  
with its terrible weight its infinite grace.

Let us bless the cup poured out for us  
with a love that makes us anew.

Let us gather around these gifts  
simply given and deeply blessed.

And then let us go bearing the bread,  
carrying the cup laying the table  
within a hungry world.

– Jan Richardson, Circle of Grace (2015)

## GOOD FRIDAY

Jesus suffers with the terminally ill



## READING

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.' – Luke 23: 39–43

## REFLECTION

"It's often worst when I wake up very early in the morning; I'm alone and have to admit that I'm so frightened sometimes. It's like an enormous wave engulfs me – I feel like I'm drowning. I can't get my breath, and everything is black around me. I'm so afraid of what will happen at the end.

How will I leave behind these precious ones whose love and care have carried me through this far? My heartbeat quickens and I feel the panic arising again, but then, in the sliver of light that is coming through the gap in the curtains, I catch sight of the crucifix on the wall of my room, and at that moment I know Jesus is here with me. His voice surrounds me:

'I know how you feel. You are not on your own.

I am with you, let my compassion enfold you. Lean on me.

Do you remember what I promised the thief  
who was put to death beside me?'

I recall our Lord's suffering, and his kindness and compassion to all those he encountered along the journey to his own death. My fears begin to subside. I know I won't be alone – the Lord will be with me on every step of my journey towards his kingdom.

When my time comes, I know I will be with him in Paradise."



**HOLY SATURDAY**  
**Jesus suffers with the bereaved**

**READING**

Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother Lazarus would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!'

Jesus said to Martha, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' He cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' – John 11: 30.31–36, 40, 44

**REFLECTION**

"We thought we'd taken every precaution, followed all the rules, but to no avail. We rushed him to hospital, but they couldn't help. He waved to us as we left him. We could not stay. And then the phone call. He'd died.

Suddenly, all seems dark, empty, barren, hopeless. Why? What's the use?

'Where were you Lord?' I cry bitterly. And from the depth of my heart, there is a small inner voice:

'I know how you feel. You are not on your own.  
I am with you, let my compassion enfold you. Lean on me.  
Do you remember what happened when I went to see Lazarus  
and his sisters Martha and Mary? I wept with them, too'.

I spend a few moments reading the story again ... I might as well, what else is there to do? I  
ponder ... slowly, I start leaning on the Lord.

No, I am not on my own, thousands of others suffer like me, thousands like me feel numb and  
sorrowful. I pray for them.

Maybe today, with the Lord's help, I will be able to see some light at the end of the tunnel. Jesus  
suffered with me, died on the cross for me, but his death was not the end. There will be a new  
dawn tomorrow."

**PRAYER**

Nothing  
I must come to understand  
what it means  
to hold on to nothing –  
it is the ultimate experience of faith.  
There is nothing left,  
only God,  
only God  
and me –  
my little self  
in God.

Edwina Gateley, Growing into God (2000)

**QUARATAINE QUATRAINS**

O Christ who suffers with us, hold us close  
Deep in the secret garden of the rose,  
Raise over us the banner of your love  
And raise us up beyond our last repose.  
Malcolm Guite, Quarantine Quatrains (2020)

## **SACRIFICIAL GIVING**

**1st COLLECTION:** The Money Collected goes to the running of the Presbytery and the Parish Priest **Last Week: \$1,425**

**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 Week: \$2,864**

**THANK YOU**

## **AV Operators needed for mass**

Training available. Please contact parish office



## **Flower Arrangers for the Alter Required**

If you love Flower and arranging, please contact Mary on 0437102483



## **Parish Footy Tipping Round 2**



**Round 2** produced some very exciting football with some close results. Football so far ,after two rounds seems so much better to watch then 2019. We had our first tipper to tip the nine winners. Helenslyn123 alias Barry Murphy chose the nine winners and earned a bonus point. He now leads with 16 points. In second position is a previous winner Adam Bulldogs on 14. A number chose 8 correctly. They were Paul Stinear, Delina Frank, Tessa Houlihan, Chris Houlihan and Helen Babies!

**HISTORY** Over the last 16 months there have been many walkers around the Peninsula. This lead one to see if there were many Walkers who played VFL/AFL football up until 2011. Apparently there were enough to field a "Walker" team. There were three who only played one game and kicked no goals. Most seemed to be good defenders. One of the best was Ray Walker who played for Footscray (won best and fairest)and represented Victoria. He hailed from Braybrook the home of two greats Ted Whitten and Doug Hawkins. One player for Melbourne Max Walker (tangles) gave up football to play cricket for Australia.

# SMYTM – St Macartans Youth Ministry!

## Youth Mass

St Macartan's currently has three congregational Masses  
6pm Saturday, 9am & 11am Sundays.  
The 5pm Sunday service was always intended for a Youth focus.  
But over the years has become another congregational Mass.

We are trying again to allow a liturgical outlet for the Youth,  
and so will NOT be having a 5pm Mass every week.  
It will Only be on the  
**2nd and 4th Sunday's of the Month.**

We will be encouraging the Youth to support the liturgy with:  
Readers, Music, Singing etc  
It will be orientated to the style the Youth themselves want.

Anyone is welcome to attend and show your support for the Youth  
and hopefully it will take off.  
So keep them in your prayers.  
(pray to Saint Frassati)  
Fr. Geoff

## Encounter Youth Group (Years 7-9)

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday's of the month. 6:30pm-8:30pm**

**'Encounter' youth Group for students in high school years 7-9 will  
kick off this Friday! 26<sup>th</sup> of March.**

### Details:

**Location: St Macartans Hall, 4 Drake Street Mornington**

**Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

**Free Pizza provided!**

**All are welcome!**

**Bring: Good vibes only!**