



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



PLEASE NOTE

Churches are now opened and Masses can now go ahead with a MAXIMUM OF 50 PEOPLE ONLY ALL MUST QR Code scan in. If you cannot, find someone to scan in for you.

Mass Times—

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday

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 or by appointment.

Video Sunday Mass

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8IyzEMe20DLyOpptks0Fw/videos>

Also view our Parish website:

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

Upcoming Holy Days:

- Sat 12th: The Immaculate Heart of Mary

Youth Mass - 2nd and 4th Sundays at 5pm

- Holy Hour 3:30-4:30pm

Next Baptismal Meeting - 3rd August 8 pm Via Zoom

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS



Anniversaries: Colin Conlan

Pray for the sick and their Carers: Dean Pratt, Tony Formosa, Torquil Hansen, Betty Corke, Ruben Pateman, Sue Hale, Sheila Wright and Wilma McCoy

First Reading Ez 17:22-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this:

‘From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.’

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)

The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)

Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

Second Reading 2Cor 5:6-10

A reading from the 2nd letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 4:26-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.' He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

Communion Antiphon Ps 26:4

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

GOSPEL FOCUS

The Kingdom of God

The references to the kingdom of God in the gospels always carry a paradox. It exists in the present, yet is something to be achieved in the future. It is here, but not yet. If we live 'as if' we are living in the kingdom here and now then we hasten its coming. The kingdom of God is not a place but a way in which the world operates. It is a kingdom that is ruled by justice and gives precedence to those who are regarded as nothing in the world. It is a kingdom of promise and hope that inspires and calls all people to more than they currently are.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Parables provoke interpretation. They make us wonder what Jesus was referring to and what he really meant. At times, he is quite vague about the real meaning and his disciples are left wondering. Think, for example, of the parable of the Sower, which Jesus must later explain (Mark 4: 13-20). At other times, like the instances we have in this gospel reading, Jesus is quite explicit: he tells his hearers that he is talking about the kingdom of God. Even so, he must still explain his meaning to the disciples when he is alone with them. Unfortunately, Mark does not report for us what interpretation Jesus places on these parables. In the Old

Testament, the imagery of the reign of God had an apocalyptic dimension; it was to come to fullness at the end times, when the wicked would be punished and the faithful vindicated. Only then would there be a new heaven and a new earth. The message in Mark's Gospel, however, is quite different. Jesus proclaims that the kingdom of God has already begun. It is among us now. 'This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand' (Mark 1:15). Like the seed planted, it takes root and grows mysteriously into something much larger than itself. The kingdom or reign is a gracious gift from God brought near in Christ and demanding a response of faith from those who recognise the truth of his word. The kingdom offers a challenge; like the man who sowed the seed, we must be ready to cooperate in God's work when the harvest time comes.

- The kingdom or reign of God refers to the time when God's will is done. What signs of the growth of the kingdom of God can we discern in our world today? Where do we see God's will being done?
- What things do you think hinder the growth of the kingdom today?
- How are we called to cooperate in God's work? What must we do?

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The mystery of the kingdom of God is at the heart of this reading. Humans cannot understand how it will grow and spread, but once planted, it will prosper as the seed does, taking root and growing to fullness. What begins as a tiny seed like the mustard seed will grow into something much larger and offer shelter for all.

DID YOU KNOW

- Parables are very short stories with a double meaning. They act like metaphors and can be interpreted very broadly. To understand the parables of Jesus we must be attentive to both the literal and metaphorical language used.
- The nearness of the kingdom (or reign) of God is the central plank of the teaching of Jesus in Mark's Gospel.
- The term 'kingdom of God' occurs only in the New Testament, but similar expressions are found in the Old Testament. It refers to a time when God's will would be done on Earth.
- Matthew uses the term 'kingdom of heaven' as a way of avoiding the use of the sacred name of God.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- 'He spoke the word to them so far as they were capable of understanding it.' How much has your understanding grown so far in your journey?
- Are you ready for the harvest?
- What more needs to be explained to you? •
- Have you ever been a part of something that began as a small thing but took on a life of its own and grew much larger? Were you swept away and overwhelmed? Were you able to grow with it and become something more than you ever thought possible? Was it terrifying or exciting? Share your reflections together.
- Be attentive this week to how the seed of God's word and love is growing within you. Foster this growth in as many ways as you can and try to plant the seeds of faith in the hearts of others.
- Use today's gospel acclamation as your prayer this week: *The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live forever.*

LIVING THE WORD

- What signs of the coming of the kingdom are discernible in your community? What ministries does your community engage in which help to grow the kingdom? Is there a role that catechumens can play in these ministries? Invite them to participate.
- Use a wooden bowl filled with seeds and the open Scriptures as a focus for prayer. Pray for the fullness of the kingdom to become a reality in our world. Pray for each other as you journey towards fullness of faith. Pray the Our Father together.

COVID-19

Melbourne's Lockdown ended Thursday 10th June at 11.59PM with the following restrictions still in place

- Visitors to homes still banned
- Travel must be limited to 25km from your home unless for essential work, education, caregiving or vaccination.
- **Masks still Mandatory indoors**
- **Funerals limited to 50 people, weddings 10**
- **Religious ceremonies capped at 50 inside**
- Offices can return with 25 per cent or a cap of 10, whichever is greater
- Restaurants and cafes can reopen with a max of 50 inside
- Retail can reopen with density limit of 1 person per 4 sqm
- Beauty services can resume for services where a mask can be worn
- Community sport can resume training
- Auctions can happen outdoors with max 50 people

Child Safety

Dear Parishioners,

This month the Commission for Children & Young People are auditing parishes throughout the diocese of Melbourne. The audit pertains to Child Safety. Our Child Safety Committee has been very active & diligent in developing & advertising our policies & procedures. The audit will involve some members of the parish being interviewed by the Commission. It is compulsory that all volunteers have a current Working with Children card. Please check the expiry date of your card & if it needs renewal or replacement please go on this link :

<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

or contact the office via phone or email and you will receive assistance.

Many thanks.

Carmel McGrath

Child Safety Officer

St Macartan's Mornington 3931

ph: 0400076067

HELLO DEAR PARISHIONERS

Coming out of Lockdown

I will resume all weekday and weekend Masses at St Macartan's following the latest restrictions, from this Friday 11th, but unfortunately, only 50 people are allowed, so some may be turned away?

ALL are asked to QR code Scan in - If you do not have a phone capable, please have someone you know in the Church scan you in. I repeat ALL must scan in - sign in books will be restricted.

Eased restrictions to take effect from Friday. This information will be updated when restrictions next change.

Across the state, masks will no longer be required outdoors if a 1.5-metre distance can be maintained, **but must be worn indoors** except in the home.

Otherwise, there are notable differences between Melbourne and the regions from 11:59pm on Thursday.

The following limits will apply in Melbourne:

- *Outdoor gatherings increased to 10 people*
- *Visitors to homes still banned*
- *Students will return to the classroom from Friday*
- *Funerals limited to 50 people, weddings 10*
- **Religious ceremonies capped at 50 people inside**
- *Offices can bring back 25 per cent of workers or a cap of 10, whichever is greater, but "should" continue to work from home if possible*
- *Restaurants and cafes can reopen with a max of 50 people inside*
- *Retail can reopen with density limit of 1 person per 4 square metres*
- *Beauty services can resume for services where a mask can be worn*
- *Community sport can resume training*
- *Auctions can happen outdoors with a max of 50 people*

So let's make the best of it and participate where and when we can in the worship services,
I am still posting Sunday Mass Online.

Blessings to you all - Keep the faith!

Fr Geoff



VATICAN NEWS



Cardinal Pell: in prison I forgave my accusers, faith kept me alive

(By Fabio Colagrande)

Cardinal George Pell, Prefect Emeritus of the Secretariat for the Economy, has been a free man for fourteen months. Today, 8 June 2021, he was able to celebrate his eightieth birthday in his home country, Australia. We reached him by phone at a time in which he is in self-isolation for health reasons related to Covid. The conversation took place as the Cantagalli Publishing House releases his "Prison Journal" - Volume I in Italian. The 400-page book collects the notes that make up the Cardinal's daily diary between 27 February and 13 July 2019, while he was in prison in Melbourne on charges of sexual abuse of minors, charges from which he was completely acquitted by a High Court ruling in April 2020. Pell had been sentenced to six years in prison in March 2019 and his lawyers' appeal to the Supreme Court of Victoria had been rejected by two out of three judges in August that year. Subsequently the appeal to the High Court of Australia overturned the conviction. The Cardinal has always declared himself innocent, calling the crime he was accused of a horrible and intolerable crime. The sentence of acquittal was greeted with satisfaction by the Holy See, which - in a statement - said it had always trusted the Australian judicial authorities. Then, on 12 October last, the meeting with Pope Francis in the Vatican during which the Holy Father thanked him for his testimony.

Would you ever have imagined that your life was to include the experience of prison?

No, of course not! I would never have thought that. I fought hard not to, but unfortunately without success. It was a combination of circumstances, lies and deceit, but then my release finally came, thanks to the Supreme Court.

Why did you keep a diary of your 13 months of imprisonment?

For many reasons. I thought it might be helpful for those who are in difficulty, for those who are going through a time of suffering, like I was. Then I thought that keeping a diary would be of some interest from a historical point of view, because there weren't many cardinals who had the experience of prison. But then also because I had discovered that many prisoners had dedicated themselves to writing, starting - in the Catholic sphere - with St Paul. Writing when you are in prison is good therapy.

How much has prayer helped you to cope with the humiliation and discomfort of imprisonment?

I have to say that faith and prayer were fundamental; they helped me to completely change the perspective during those days of detention. Today I tell everyone, using an English expression, that in prison I have had confirmation that "the Christian package works." My experience shows how much the Church's teachings help us, how much praying and seeking God's grace helps. Especially when we understand that we can live our personal suffering for the greater good, that we can associate our suffering with that of Jesus. As Christians, we know that we have been redeemed by the passion and death of the Son of God. Living this teaching on the value of suffering really changes everything when you find yourself in a situation like mine.

Continued.....VATICAN NEWS

During the days of your imprisonment, what was your relationship with the other prisoners? You write that you “felt” their suffering...

I was in solitary confinement to ensure my personal protection. I never saw the other eleven prisoners who were with me in the same section. Only during the last four months of my imprisonment was I able to meet three other prisoners and talk to them. But most of the time I could only hear the anger, the anguish, of my fellow prisoners, without having any personal relationship.

In your diary, you say that you often listened to the prayers of Muslim detainees from your cell. What did it feel like to pray while listening to those prayers?

For me there is only one God, we are monotheists. The theological conceptions of Christians and Muslims are obviously different, but we all pray in different ways to the same God. There is no God of Muslims, Christians or other religions, there is only one God.

In your diary you write that every day in prison you forgave, blessed and prayed for your accusers... Was it difficult to forgive them?

I must admit that sometimes it was difficult. But once I made the decision to forgive, everything else followed. For me, it was not so difficult to forgive the person who accused me. I knew that he was a person who had suffered and was in great confusion and who knows what else...

While you were in prison you received thousands of letters of support, what affect did they have on you?

They helped me enormously. Many were obviously from Australia, but also from the United States and the rest of the world. Also from Italy, Germany, England, Ireland. They were a great help and encouragement to me. Sometimes families wrote to me. Often they were full of spirituality, sometimes of theology, sometimes of historical culture. They were really letters that dealt with a wide variety of topics and that helped me a lot.

Did you continue to believe in providence while in prison?

Yes, even if sometimes I did not understand what God's providence was doing. But I always believed that God was behind everything that was happening to me.

What have these thirteen months taught you as a man of the Church?

The importance of perseverance. The importance of simple things, like faith, forgiveness, the redemption of suffering. Usually, when you live in prison you are forced to confront the fundamental issues of life, the simple and fundamental things. This also happened to me, and I must say that thanks be to God I survived.

Can the sex abuse scandal be an opportunity for the renewal of the Church?

It must be. We cannot continue in the same vein. It is a kind of spiritual and moral cancer. It seems to me that here in Australia we have worked seriously to eradicate it, but it is a duty for all priests and all bishops in the world to ensure that these scandals do not happen again. Too much suffering, too much pain. The phenomenon of abuse in the Church shows once again that we have often not followed the teachings of Jesus. If we had followed the commandments of the Decalogue, none of this would have happened.

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.

Held every Tuesday from 4:00 to 5:15pm in the Parish Community House

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

Enrolments will be taken now. Please ring Faye 0421443632

E-mail : fayesayah@hotmail.com

Please note the rehearsal at the Cathedral on the 9th June has been cancelled due to the lockdown

Confirmations on the 11th June - Cancelled

All Night Vigil—St Macartan's Church

**Friday 11th June 7.30pm to
Saturday 12th June 8 am**

Next Youth Mass! Sunday 13th June at 5PM

Limited to the first 50

Social hang outs and pizza after



mass, concluding at 7:00pm.

Look forward to seeing you all there!

Like our instagram to have an update on all our events:

St Macartan's Gift Shop Opening Hours

Saturday 5.30pm – 6.00pm

Sunday 8.30am – 9.00am and
10.00am – 11.00am

Tuesday 8.30am – 9.15am and
9.45am – 10.15am

Friday 9.00am – 10.00am

If you should require something urgently, please contact Trish on 0425 749 379.

Parish Footy Tipping Round 12

There Were only six games played in R12. Expectations were high that we would have tippers getting 6 correct. Unfortunately that did not happen. Most stayed around 60%. However our top tippers who scored 5 were Granny Finn and Mollie Meier. Mollie has entered the top 10 despite a loss to the Bombers/ Essendon supporters were on a high when they hit the front in the last term with a show of determination and skill. What happened in the next ten minutes they never imagined. The Tigers scored 9 goals in as many minutes. This week there are 7 games as the AFL copes with the difficulties associated with finding grounds on which to play.

HISTORY

This week we look at the name Collard. We found there were three players of that name. If we go back to 1935 there was George who played for three years at Carlton. He then moved in 1938 to South Melbourne where he played 56 games, finishing in 1942. He wore number 13 at Carlton and 31 at South In 1957-8 Cyril played at Hawthorn having come from Subiaco (WA) and in 2007 Clayton played one game for Fremantle. He then went back to South Fremantle in the WA League.

**This week's Men's Night
Cancelled due to COVID
restrictions**

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday to Thursday 9am - 4pm
Friday 9am - 3.30pm Phone: 5975 2200
Office CLOSED Weekends & Mondays
Email: 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

Volunteer Application Support Officer: Tim Lambourne :

timlambourne@yahoo.com.au

St Macartan's Social Justice Awareness Group: Contact Kerry McInerney

kerrymcinerney111@gmail.com 59762155

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

St Mac's High Spirits - Faye Melhem Email: fayesayah@hotmail.com

Parish Caretaker: John Spaziani: 0419 598 911

Pastoral Youth Minister: Joe Melham: Morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au

Music & Wedding Co-Ordinator-Veronica Ryan 0418 358 213. Email

veronicaryan2250@outlook.com

St Macartans Gift Shop: Trish Thomas 0425 749 379

Marriage & Counselling: *Charmaine Holmes* 5977 2567

Marriage Prep: *See Fr Geoff*

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays after 11 am Mass Contact Office 5975 2200

Baptism Preparation: Kathy Raccanello

Memorial Wall: Contact Parish Office **ONLY** on Fridays. 5975 2200

Catholic Mission Parish Ambassador: Jody Kerrins jody54@westnet.com.au