

The 28th Sunday Ordinary time, Year B 10th Oct 2021

## 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: Cynthia Goorah



### PLEASE NOTE:

**ALL MASSES CANCELLED!**

**LOCKDOWN CONTINUES**

**Until possibly 5th November?**

### 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:** Not at the moment!

### Note:

**ALL NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS TO  
BE EMAILED TO OFFICE BY 4PM  
EACH WEDNESDAY!**

### 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://](https://www.stmacartansparish.com.au/)

[www.stmacartansparish.com.au/](http://www.stmacartansparish.com.au/)

### Upcoming Holy Days:

- Fri 15th: St Teresa of Jesus

### Youth Mass -

2nd and 4th Sundays at 5pm

And Holy Hour also on the 2nd and 4th Sundays 3:30-4:30pm

### Baptism Meetings:

**1st Wednesday** of each Month (except school holidays) - at 8pm via Zoom.

### Thanksgiving Envelopes:

New thanksgiving envelopes are available for next year and will be in the church foyer for collection, once we are open.

## **WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS**



**Recently deceased:** Elizabeth Horvath, Ronald Allen, Patricia Oakman

**Pray for the sick and their Carers:** Dean Pratt, Tony Formosa, Torquil Hansen, Betty Corke, Sheila Wright, Wilma McCoy, Kevin Paganoni, Maria-Louisa Di Rosato, Fiona Rush and Mignon Field.

**Anniversaries:** Julius Meyer

### ***First Reading***

**Wis 7:7-11**

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*In comparison to wisdom, I held riches as nothing.*

I prayed, and understanding was given me;  
I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.  
I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;  
compared with her, I held riches as nothing.  
I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer,  
for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,  
and beside her silver ranks as mud.  
I loved her more than health or beauty,  
preferred her to the light,  
since her radiance never sleeps.  
In her company all good things came to me,  
at her hands riches not to be numbered.

### ***Responsorial Psalm***

**Ps 89:12-17. R. v.14**

**(R.)** Fill us with your love, O Lord,  
and we will sing for joy!

1. Make us know the shortness of our life  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Lord, relent! Is your anger forever?  
Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**
2. In the morning, fill us with your love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Give us joy to balance our affliction  
for the years when we knew misfortune. **(R.)**
3. Show forth your work to your servants;  
let your glory shine on their children.  
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:  
give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

## **Second Reading**

Heb 4:12-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*The word of God discerns the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

The word of God is something alive and active; it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

Mk 10:17-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*Go and sell whatever you have and come follow me.*

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another, 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said, 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

## **Communion Antiphon**

Cf. Ps 33:11

The rich suffer want and go hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

## from the perspective of the Disciples

*'What about us?' Peter cried. The disciples were staggered that Jesus could turn away the rich man so easily and declare how difficult it is to enter into the kingdom of God. They suddenly see themselves in the shoes of the rich man: what more do they have to do? They've left their homes and families to traipse after Jesus, believing that this sacrifice would be enough to assure them a place in the kingdom, and suddenly they are faced with doubts. Has it all been worth it? Jesus reminds them that if they have followed him for all the right reasons then their reward is assured.*

### EXPLORING THE WORD

As we saw last week, the major themes of 'being receptive' and 'being of service' have emerged. In this gospel, Jesus challenges attitudes about the right ordering of possessions. Clearly the young man who approaches Jesus is a good man. He has sincerely tried to follow the law of God as laid down in the Ten Commandments, and for this Jesus loves him. But more is demanded of a disciple. Jesus recognises that there is something in this young man that hinders his receptivity to the fullness of the kingdom, and that is his wealth. Jesus is not saying that to have wealth is a bad thing in and of itself. But true discipleship entails casting off all pretensions to wealth and power for the

sake of something far more precious. Indeed, if the desire to retain wealth and social standing is more important to us than the attainment of the kingdom, there is no hope. Discipleship entails the emptying of oneself for others. Salvation is impossible for those who are interested in protecting their own interests. Salvation is a gift from God because for God all things are possible. But it is necessary that human beings are open, receptive and welcoming of this great gift.

- What attachments are holding you back from following Jesus wholeheartedly? Examine your own attitude to material possessions. Are you as generous in sharing your wealth as you could be?
- Pope Francis, reinforcing the teaching of both Pope Benedict and Pope John Paul II, speaks of 'being more' rather than 'having more'. Explore what this means.

### SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

This gospel highlights the tension between merely observing the law and really giving oneself totally and wholeheartedly to the way of Christ. Jesus makes the point that paying undue attention to the material things of life will ultimately mean too little attention is given to the spiritual dimension and our relationship with God. It is not the owning of property that is the hindrance. The real problem lies in the fact that this man gives greater priority to his wealth than he does to following Christ. He is missing the point!

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Jesus is again quoting from the Torah or Law, this time the Ten Commandments (see Exodus 20:7–17, Deuteronomy 5:11–21) also known as the Decalogue. The commandments are a blueprint for how Israel must live in righteousness in order to be God's people.
- At the time of Jesus, being a wealthy person was seen as a sign of God's favour, a reward for being a righteous person. Jesus' teaching here is a challenge to that attitude.
- In the early Church, it was the practice that wealth and goods were shared in common (Acts 2:44–47). No one should be in need.
- The Church upholds the right to own private property, but this right comes with a responsibility to share our wealth with those who do not have the basic necessities of life.

## **SHARING THE TRADITION**

Over the last 120 or so years, the Church has developed what is known as its 'social teaching'. This great body of material, anchored in the human dignity of each and every person, deals with the way society should be ordered in its social, economic and political institutions so that the dignity of the person is safeguarded and enhanced and the common good achieved. Christians are called upon to share their wealth because the goods of earth are meant for all to share. Beyond a charitable response to the poor, Christians are called to challenge those 'structures of sin' that keep people poor and marginalised. A core reference on the Church's social teaching is the:

Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church.

- What is the difference between charitable action and action for justice.
- Introduce catechumens to the main principles of Catholic Social Teaching.
- How these principles can be applied to the situations of the present day.

## PPC - Needs more of you!

This 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 those invited to attend.

We would really like two parents to join, who have children at our Parish School.

If you could help in this way - Please contact Jody the PPC Chairperson  
[jody54@westnet.com.au](mailto:jody54@westnet.com.au) or me at the Office.

## SPECIAL - Thank you

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Phillip Deneefe (Parishioners), who so kindly donated their Honda Jazz Car to the Parish, as they no longer require two cars.

Frank Crea had the car inspected, and with help from **Roger and staff at (Tyrepower Mornington, 47 Tyabb Rd Mornington)** who supplied 2 new tyres at cost price, and then rotated and balanced all tyres for free, and **Warren and staff at (Well Automotive, 5 Progress St. Mornington)**, for doing a pre road-worthy check and condition report under cost. These companies and Frank, all participated in getting the car ready for sale at minimum cost. Well done to all!

The Parish received \$5500. This will help in many ways around the Church.



5:00pm each Sunday night

Email [morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au](mailto:morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au) for the zoom link

All youth are welcome!

Come along to compete for a home delivered pizza!





## **CHILD SAFETY**

Dear Parishioners, prior to the COVID pandemic, St Macartan's was very proud to announce that it had a team of over 250 volunteers. Hopefully when our church re-opens early in November, our team of volunteers will be able to continue it's amazing work of helping & supporting not only those in our parish but also those in the wider community.

During October, it would be very proactive for every volunteer to check the expiry date of their working with children check. If your check is due to expire you will receive a reminder email as follows:

### **Expiry of your Working with Children Check**

Your Working with Children Check

To continue doing child-related work, you will need to renew your Check. The renewal process is online.

If you would like to renew your Check, go to <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au> and:

- Select the option 'Renew my card' on the home page, or under the 'Current cardholders' menu.
- Log in to, or register for, MyCheck.
- Review and, if necessary, update your personal and work details.
- Complete the renewal application process.

Volunteer Checks are free.

You can choose to renew your Check as a Volunteer or an Employee Check but you will not be able to change your name online.

If you have changed your name and would like the new name on your card, go to 'Apply for a Check' at <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au> to start a new application.

For more details about the Check, go to <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>.

If you need any assistance with renewing or applying for a WWCC please contact the Parish Office or email [Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au](mailto:Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au)

Much appreciated,

Carmel McGrath

St Macartan's Child Safety Officer

## **LOOKING FOR A STEAM CLEANER**

We are looking for a steam cleaner to clean the carpets in the Church.

Please contact the office for referrals: Ph: 5975 2200

## **St Macartan's Gift Shop Opening Hours**

### **CURRENTLY CLOSED DUE TO COVID LOCKDOWN**

**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

**Saturday** 9.00am – 10.00am

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

## **Parish Footy Tipping Grand Final**



On behalf of St. Macartan's Parish Footy Tippers, I would like to thank **Hawthorn AFL Club** for their donation of a signed 2021 Jumper, which we were able to sell for \$300. The money has been donated to the Parish. Over the years we have had memorabilia donated to us. The proceeds have been shared with different groups (for example, the Parish, Father, Joe's special overseas project and BASP project. At the start of this year it was decided that if we received anything, the proceeds would go to a special Parish project.

**HISTORY:** Vale to Albert Mantello. It was sad to learn this week of the death of Albert. Who was he? He was a very talented player and former captain of North Melbourne in the 50's. He represented Victoria. Albert had a reputation for playing hard! Sportswriter, Alf Brown, once wrote that a Mantello stoush with Kevin Murray was the longest toe-to-toe punch-up he had ever seen. Despite his reputation he was only reported once and that was in a night game. He thought you could not get reported in a night game. A well known and respected Italian Speaking Lawyer, Valentino Adami, was well aware of the other attributes of Albert, which were evident when he was President of North Melbourne for over a decade. Albert was responsible for getting Barassi to coach North and they won their first premiership

**Farewell:** We say farewell till next year, when we hope to recruit more members. It is great enjoyment and too good to miss. Thanks again to Father Geoff for his support and opportunity to report to you.





# Are you thinking of becoming a Catholic?

## R.C.I.A.

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

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

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

Adults who are not baptised.

Adults who are already baptised in another Christian Church.

Non-practising Catholics who wish to renew their faith.

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

New sessions begin with an information night TBA.

There is no obligation – Call and find out more:

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

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

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

Ring the Parish office at 5975 2200

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



# Lockdown Light Week 6

A weekly series bringing 'light' to this  
time of lockdown...

Well and truly done with sourdough starters? Not interested in another DIY project? To help fill the void during lockdown, each week we'll suggest some inspiring content to bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations below.

## PODCASTS FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

*Quality podcasts navigating marriage and family life*

### The Irreplaceable Role of Parents

The role of parents cannot be underestimated. And while parents have a natural role—to protect and provide—we can sometimes forget the irreplaceable role parents have in the spiritual and emotional lives of their children. Find out more here [www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving6a](http://www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving6a)

## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE

*Resources to help you explore the Bible*

### Understanding Mary in the Bible

Getting started: Why do Catholics call Mary their mother? Isn't that taking away some of the respect due to Jesus and giving it to Mary? On the contrary, in this video, Fr Mike Schmitz discusses how a relationship with Mary can strengthen our faith life. Watch at [www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted6](http://www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted6)

Going deeper: How are Mary and the Ark of the Covenant from Exodus connected? What relevance does that have today? In this video, Dr Brant Pitre explores Mary's role as the new Ark of the Covenant—the dwelling place of the Lord on earth. View here [www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper6](http://www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper6)

PRODUCED BY THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

<https://melbournecatholic.org/live/lockdown-light>



# I CANNOT CONTROL

(So, I can LET GO of these things.)

IF OTHERS  
FOLLOW THE  
RULES OF SOCIAL  
DISTANCING

THE AMOUNT  
OF TOILET  
PAPER AT THE  
STORE

## I CAN CONTROL

(So, I will focus on these things.)

THE  
ACTIONS  
OF  
OTHERS

MY POSITIVE  
ATTITUDE

TURNING  
OFF THE  
NEWS

FINDING FUN  
THINGS TO DO  
AT HOME

HOW  
LONG  
THIS  
WILL  
LAST

HOW I FOLLOW CDC  
RECOMMENDATIONS

MY OWN SOCIAL  
DISTANCING

LIMITING MY  
SOCIAL MEDIA

PREDICTING  
WHAT WILL  
HAPPEN

MY KINDNESS &  
GRACE

HOW  
OTHERS  
REACT

OTHER  
PEOPLE'S  
MOTIVES

Clipart: Carrie Stephens Art  
TheCounselingTeacher.com



**There's been a lot  
to take in lately.**

Share the load with us.



 [coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au](https://coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au)

 1800 512 348

## **Pope: Religions reaffirm mission of integral education**

Speaking at a meeting on “Religions and Education,” Pope Francis repeated the commitment of the various religious traditions of educating the “head, hands, heart, and soul” of each individual.

By Christopher Wells

Pope Francis joined other leaders of world religions on Tuesday for a meeting on “Religions and Education: Towards a Global Compact on Education.” According to a press release from the Vatican’s Congregation for Catholic Education, participants engaged “in a fraternal dialogue on the major challenges for education today.”

### **Shaping the future**

In his address at the meeting, Pope Francis recalled his appeal, in gaged in education to are shaping the future that change requires cess aimed at devel- solidarity and a more This, he said, is the “broad educational ationships in order to



meeting, Pope Francis 2019, to all those en- dialogue on “how we of our planet,” noting “an educational pro- oping a new universal welcoming society.” reason for his call for a liance” to restore rela- build a more fraternal

humanity. “If we desire a more fraternal world,” he said, “we need to educate young people ‘to acknowledge, appreciate, and love each person,” regardless of our differences. He explained that education must be established not only on the “fundamental principle ‘Know yourself,” but also on other “essential principles”: knowing one’s brothers and sisters; knowing creation; and knowing the transcendent “in order to educate in the great mystery of life.” The Pope added, “We cannot fail to speak to young people about the truths that give meaning to life.”

### **Religions and education**

Emphasizing the close relationship between religions and education, Pope Francis said that, “as in the past, so also in our day, with the wisdom and humanity of our religious traditions, we want to be a stimulus for a renewed educational activity that can advance universal fraternity in our world.” The Pope acknowledged harmful practices that, at times, may have disfigured religious education, including conflict between different religions; discrimination against minorities; disrespect for the rights of women, children and the most vulnerable; and tolerance of exploitation of creation. In contrast, he said we are now committed to peaceful coexistence; defense of the dignity of all, and of the rights of all; and love and care for all of creation.

### **Reaffirming the mission**

Today, Pope Francis said, “we want to state that our religious traditions, which have always played a leading role in schooling, from teaching literacy to higher education, reaffirm their mission of integrally educating each individual: head, hands, heart and soul.”

He explained, “Let one think what one feels and does; let one feel what one thinks and does; let one do what one feels and thinks: the harmony of human integrity, that is, all its beauty of this harmony.” The Holy Father concluded his address by inviting participants to pray silently, “asking God to enlighten our minds so that our dialogue will bear fruit and help us courageously to pursue the paths of new educational horizons.”

Hello Parishioners - I thought I would share this letter that was sent to me and every Priest in our Archdiocese. Fr Geoff

## **A Message from the Executive Director Stewardship Authorised Workers and Vaccinations**

Dear Fathers,

You will be aware, both as a matter of law and the common good, of your obligation as an employer to maintain a safe workplace for all employees. This obligation is even more important in a time of pandemic. Over the last 18 months, in common with all organisations, we have sought to comply with legitimate direction from Government Health Officers and reduce the risk of infection to each other and those we love. These requirements have involved social distancing, working from home, use of face coverings, QR codes and other measures. Whilst burdensome, they have been necessary.

We now know that COVID vaccinations are the surest and most effective way of keeping people safe. Pope Francis tells us that ***“getting vaccinated is a simple yet profound way to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable”***.

Manifesting our obligation to love our neighbour and in line with Government advice, I would urge you to strongly encourage any Parish employees to get vaccinated and to do so as soon as possible. Below is a link provided by the Australian Government Department of Health to information relating to the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines.

[Is it true? Get the facts on COVID-19 vaccines | Australian Government Department of Health](#)

The Victorian Government has recently announced a mandatory vaccination requirement for all authorised workers (those who are holding a permit to attend the workplace in person) in Melbourne and regional Victoria with the following deadlines:

- **15 October 2021** – all authorised workers in Melbourne and regional Victoria will require their first COVID-19 vaccine dose in order to continue working onsite.
- **26 November 2021** – all authorised workers will be required to be fully vaccinated (two doses) in order to continue working onsite.

These requirements will impact you and possibly parish employers.

If any of your employees are holding an authorised workers permit that covers the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and beyond, you will need to discuss how the mandate relates to them. It will be necessary for them to provide Vaccination Information to you in order for them to continue to hold the permit. That information should be held by you in confidence and not disclosed to any person except as required by law. Whilst we have not yet seen the formal documentation requirements of the public health order, we expect a certificate of immunisation or letter from a medical practitioner are likely to be sufficient.

If any of your employees currently hold a permit, but are unable to provide the required Vaccination Information, then the permit must be revoked. If you have questions or need support with these conversations, please reach out via email to: [covidsupport@cam.org.au](mailto:covidsupport@cam.org.au).

Naturally the same obligations apply to you as an authorised worker.

For all remaining parish employees who are working from home and do not hold an authorised workers permit, there is currently no government requirement for mandatory vaccination. It should be noted that parish office staff undertaking work that is not an authorised service are not permitted to attend the parish office.



## **A Message from the Executive Director Stewardship Authorised Workers and Vaccinations**

Continued,

From an Archdiocesan perspective, we are not currently mandating vaccinations for CAM employees. Nonetheless, we must have regard for the health directions, common good and prioritise workplace safety (as well as public safety) over personal preference.

We are monitoring the situation carefully and will advise if the government or CAM position regarding vaccination changes. These are not easy issues to navigate and we are conscious that there has been coverage in the media recently about the so-called right not to be vaccinated.

Here some recent comments by Prof Patrick Parkinson, Chair of Freedom for Faith at the University of Queensland are instructive:

*"If I object to taking a vaccine because I am worried about side-effects, or because I am concerned that it is insufficiently tested, I am not objecting on moral or conscientious grounds. I am making a decision based upon my assessment of risks versus the benefit to myself on medical grounds.*

*We should not fool ourselves into thinking such a judgement is a religious one. The Bible gives us no guidance whatsoever on the medical efficacy or benefit of a new vaccine.*

*A religious person who has a non-religious objection to vaccination is absolutely entitled to refuse a violation of his or her bodily integrity; but this does not mean that governments and employers are not justified in imposing restrictions to protect others so long as the restrictions are reasonable."*

Finally, I have set out below some links to further helpful information.

[COVID-19 vaccinations: workplace rights & obligations - Fair Work \(updated 4 October 2021\) Ombudsman](#)

<https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/covid-19-vaccinations-workplaces>

<https://www.humanrights.vic.gov.au/resources/explainer-mandatory-covid-19-vaccinations-and-your-rights/>

God bless, Tim

**Tim O'Leary**  
Executive Director Stewardship

St Patrick's Centre, 486 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002

Cont>>>>



## Topic Continued:

Below is from Annie Carrett Chancellor of the Archdiocese, Chief of Staff to the Archbishop Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne:

Good morning Bishops, Fathers and Deacons. There are two items I would like to bring to your attention.

Firstly, a Statement has been offered from the Archdiocese on the proposed amendment to exemptions for religious organisations. It is important that our people know the advocacy and work being done, and it would be very good to make the document available to your communities where possible (website etc). The Statement is attached – and you will be able to source a link to the website when it is posted later this morning.

Secondly, and something of immediate impact to ministry and employment, is the Government's announcement yesterday that vaccination will be required to undertake authorised work (work that is not done from the home) as the State moves through its Roadmap to re-opening. This includes ministers of religion.

*"On the advice of our public health team, all workers – in Melbourne and regional Victoria – on the Authorised Worker list will require **their first COVID-19 vaccine dose by Friday, 15 October** in order to continue working onsite. **They will need to be fully vaccinated by 26 November.**"*

As you may be aware 'authorised workers' include the following:

- funeral or mortuary services or related activities;
- marriage celebrant only if one or both of the two persons being married are at the end of life, or will be deported from Australia unless the marriage takes place;
- essential services that are required to maintain or protect human health, safety and wellbeing (whether provided by a public or private undertaking);
- faith leaders broadcasting services and ceremonies at places of worship, with the minimum number of people required for the broadcast to occur (no more than 5 people);
- administrative services provided by an employer to enable its employees to work from home (Example: Payroll and IT services); care services for people with particular needs because of homelessness, family violence, age, infirmity, disability, illness or a chronic health condition or other essential support services;

(<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/authorised-provider-and-authorised-worker-list>)

Late yesterday afternoon we had the opportunity to meet with Minister Ros Spence (Multicultural Affairs); David Burns (Exec Dir. Dept Jobs, Precincts and Regions); Evelyn Wong (Public Health Registrar Dept. Health); and other faith leaders to hear further the reach of this directive and how it is to be implemented. Essentially it covers anyone (employed or volunteer) who needs to leave home to undertake their service or ministry, and notably where that service is a venue open to fully vaccinated patrons and staff. There was no definitive answer offered as yet as to management at 'venues' other than there will be obligations for service providers (churches and places of worship) to sight and maintain a record of some sort (they have indicated it will be a record of limited information). The Government is exploring 4 ways that vaccination confirmation might be available – through the Medicare App, the AI Register; an integration with the Victorian Services App, and through medical certification. No directions have been officially rolled out as yet for the broader industries and services named yesterday.

Naturally there were many questions raised – and we will presenting more questions this week to get further clarity particularly around: operator requirements, privacy, exemptions, management, record keeping and liability. I would be very grateful if you could send me any of your own questions – which will help form what we need to work through and raise with authorities.

With kindest regards, Annie.

## **A Statement from the Archdiocese on the proposed amendment to exemptions for religious organisations.**

2 October 2021

Re: Government's proposal to remove exemptions for religious organisations

Victoria, like all other Australian states, is a pluralist society, that celebrates and protects diversity.

The recent announcement by the Government to further limit employment freedoms from discrimination law for religious providers weakens this simple but important protection.

People of faith want to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic free to shape their communities in accord with that faith, rather than finding themselves further restricted.

The proposed changes mean that various faith-based ministries and services will be impacted, such as education and social services.

In a Catholic context, our schools are known for being inclusive and welcoming, but they need to be allowed to give an authentic witness to our faith.

If the Government values fairness to people of faith, we ask that it pause a head-long rush to legislate, sit down with faith communities, and talk it through properly.

The Archdiocese of Melbourne looks forward to engaging in constructive discussions with the Attorney General on this important matter.

Statements attributable to the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne,  
Archbishop Peter A Comensoli.

Media Enquiries to:

Annie Carrett, Chief of Staff to the Archbishop: 0439 600 233

# PLENARY COUNCIL - UPDATE!

## Members unpack big questions facing the Church

The 278 members of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia have continued to break open the 16 questions related to how we can create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia at this time. After the broad discussions of the first small group sessions on Monday, yesterday's "spiritual conversations" moved to more specific questions, suggestions and even proposals. Reflecting on the day's Gospel reading of Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42), the small groups continued their discernment and reported back during the assembly's livestreamed session this morning.

On the topic of conversion, Helen Belcher told the assembly that her group had begun looking at concrete points around training and formation, small ecclesial communities (home/family groups), structural changes such as diocesan synods and parish pastoral councils, and lay preaching by men and women.



She said elements of the group's prayer and discernment included the need to "come down from the mountain and live in the world" and to be "mindful of the optics – how we present and act".

Carol Teodori-Blahut said her group heard the Spirit calling them to "name and respond to the darker side of our Church and society where racism, exclusion and injustice have caused trauma, woundedness and suffering".

"Truth-telling around this part of our story is really important," she said. While the group has not identified any concrete actions yet, two themes emerging were a "yearning for a Church that celebrates and brings into respectful dialogue Indigenous peoples and others" and an urgent call to use "our privilege and our voice to influence society" and change structures leading to injustice and suffering.

Fr Peter Whitely told the assembly his group's discernment on prayer sparked concerns that "too few young people in our schools have not yet been invited into a close relationship with Jesus". He said the group questioned how the Church could engage people to pray, particularly when people were feeling disconnected due to COVID.

Discussions included consideration of the many people who did not feel welcome in our communities: "Sometimes we are seen as too 'clubby' or too comfortable in what we do?"

Tackling the question of how the Church might better embrace the diverse liturgical traditions of Churches and immigrant communities, Dr Sr Maeve Heaney said her group reflected on the need to know and understand one another's rites and celebrations through education in schools and in the formation of future leaders and clergy.

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The aim, she said, was to remove a sense of superiority of any rite over another and, to facilitate this, the group suggested a national body or commission might be necessary.

Significantly, the group voted on two motions: to cease using the term immigrant communities and use language that reflects our inter-cultural reality; and to recommend that the prayer and liturgies of the second general assembly of the Plenary Council reflect the diversity of rites within the Church in Australia.

Deepening the concept of leadership and distinguishing between mission and ministry were the basis for discernment on formation by Gabriele Turchi's group. He said there was also practical discussion around "accessibility, competing with busy lifestyles, the value of work and the challenges faced by workers and the stress on families and marriages".

Also addressing formation, in relation to equipping ordained ministers to be enablers of missionary discipleship, Gemma Thomson said her group reflected that holiness was "as much about looking out as looking in".

There is a "need for cultural change, not just structural change", she explained.

The group explored the "ministry of presence" and the practical aspects of the priestly role that would free them to focus on relationship. Collaboration, professional supervision and the need to go back and start with Jesus and "Jesus as priest" were other topics discussed.

Similar themes emerged in the group discussion on parish structures with Raj Rajasingam reporting that there was a lack of understanding of priests and parish leaders on their roles, which could lead to tensions. The need for a new catechist role was raised.

Dr Nimmi Candappa said her group identified that effective governance capitalised on the giftedness of the laity and well-formed clergy who are "truly pastoral leaders with mature faith".

"True authority was seen as the ability to 'bring into being'," she said.

The group was conscious that a lot of work has been done previously on governance, with documents such as the Light from the Southern Cross and the Woman and Man publication, providing well-defined recommendations yet there had been obstacles or resistance to their implementation. There was a question on what currently prevents women deacons.

The group asked whether the Church bureaucracy was serving the people well: "The ease with which regional communities, for example, adapt to meet the pastoral needs of a community was contrasted with the hindrances experienced in other areas."

Also looking at governance, Danny Casey said his group discussed the need for mission clarity and noted how important it was to maintain Catholic identity in the work of agencies.

"Structures and governance do not do the saving; people do," he said.

The group also talked about the importance of being an "outward-facing Church" and, to that end, it was looking forward to inviting expert input on the "why" of mission.

The final small group report, from Fr Cameron Forbes, addressed Catholic education and the desire to strengthen the connection with the faith and to accompany parents as the first educators.

"A challenge exists for educators to ensure that all receive a sense of welcome as we accompany them towards faith, away from the many distractions that exist," he said.

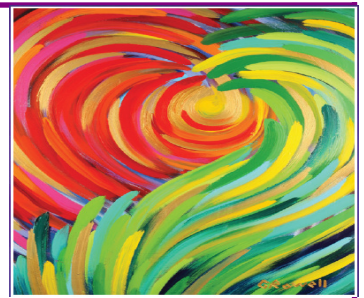
The idea of developing a "national understanding of what a graduate of Catholic education looks like" was put forward.

**Find out more and access the livestreams at [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)**



### **Jonathan Antony: Don't stop the work of the Holy Spirit**

At 23-years of age, Jonathan Antony is one of the younger members participating in the Plenary Council. He's also one of the few representatives who can speak from the personal perspective of being involved in a charism – the Neocatechumenal Way. For Jonathan, both his youth and involvement in the community is the very 'experience and perspective' that he hopes to bring to the plenary discussions. 'The Church has been gifted with so many different charisms and groups, which are so effective in many parts of the world in terms of evangelisation and spreading the Word so we shouldn't stop the work of the Holy Spirit.'



Heart of Life is a centre for spiritual and pastoral formation:

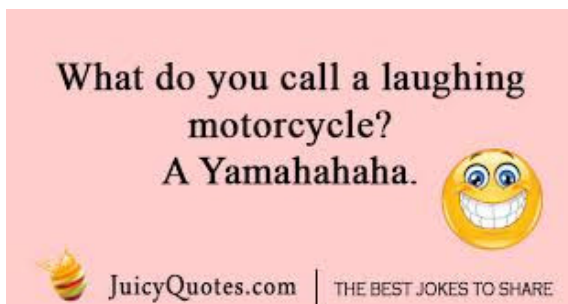
**'Keeping a Journal - A Key Part of Discernment' via Zoom, Tuesday 12 October 2021, 9.15am-11am.** *Keeping a journal is deeply transformational. This session provides the opportunity to allow the subtle movement of our hearts and souls to overflow onto the pages of our journal, whose sections accord with the natural contours of human experience. It is just like coming home. 'At the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time (T S Eliot, 'Little Gidding'). The morning is led by Paul Beirne, lecturer in Discernment, spiritual director, and director of Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$30. Book and pay via website [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or tel 9890 1101.*

**'Mindfulness & Meditation' via Zoom, Saturday 23 October 2021, 10am-2pm.** *When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. This is a day of reflection in the practice of Mindfulness & Meditation, and we invite you to come prepared to be still and journey within. This event is led by Paola Cheng, a qualified meditation teacher, spiritual director and social worker, who brings an inclusive and gentle approach to her sessions. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$40. Book and pay via website [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or tel 9890 1101.*



# Jokes of the Week

#1: "Oh Lord, hit him again!" The parish church was badly in need of repair. So the pastor called a special meeting to raise funds. At the assembly, the pastor explained the need of an emergency fund for plastering the roof and supporting pillars and for carrying out other items of repair. He invited the congregation to pledge contributions. After a brief pause, Mr. Murphy, the richest man in the parish, volunteered to give 50 dollars. Just as he sat down, a hunk of plaster fell from the ceiling on his head. He jumped up, looked terribly startled and said: "I meant to say 500 dollars." The congregation stood silent and stunned. Then a lone voice cried out from the back: "Oh Lord, hit him again!"



#2: Andrew Carnegie made millions in the steel industry. He worked hard helping the poor and underprivileged. Once a socialist came to see him in his office and soon was railing against the injustice of Carnegie having so much money. In his view, wealth was meant to be divided equally. Carnegie asked his secretary for an assessment of everything he owned and at the same time looked up the figures on world population. He did a little arithmetic on a pad and then said to his secretary. "Give this gentleman 16 cents. That's his share of my money."

# 3: A wealthy older gentleman had just recently married a lovely young lady and was beginning to wonder whether she might have married him for his money. So, he asked her, "Tell me the truth: if I lost all my money, would you still love me?" She said reassuringly, "Oh honey, don't be silly. Of course, I would still love you. And I'd miss you terribly."



### **Parish Office Hours:**

**Tuesday to Friday** 9am - 4pm  
**Office CLOSED** Weekends & Mondays  
Email: [mornington@cam.org.au](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au)  
Phone: 5975 2200

### **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 (PPC):** Jody Kerrins (Chairperson)

Email: [jody54@westnet.com.au](mailto:jody54@westnet.com.au)

**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: [timlambourne@yahoo.com.au](mailto:timlambourne@yahoo.com.au)

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

Email: [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

**Pastoral Youth Minister:** Joe Melham, Email: [Morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au](mailto:Morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au)

**Music & Wedding Co-Ordinator:** Veronica Ryan: 0418 358 213

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

**St Macartans Gift Shop:** Trish Thomas: 0425 749 379

**Marriage & Counselling:** Charmaine Holmes: 5977 2665, Email: [charhomes@aapt.net.au](mailto:charhomes@aapt.net.au)

**Marriage Prep:** See Fr Geoff

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

**Baptism Preparation:** Kathy Raccanello

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

**Catholic Mission Parish Ambassador:** Jody Kerrins [jody54@westnet.com.au](mailto:jody54@westnet.com.au)