The 32nd Sunday Ordinary time, Year B 7 Nov 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 Web: stmacartansparish.com.au Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Geoffrey McIlroy Parish Secretary: Cynthia Gooriah



PLEASE NOTE:

ALL MASSES BACK ON!

See details within.

Mass Times:

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday 9:15am

Saturday night: 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 9:15am Mass Wed & Sat.

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://

www.stmacartansparish.com.au/ Upcoming Holy Days:

- Tue 9: The Dedication of the Lateran
 Basilica
- Wed 10: St Leo the Great, Pope
- Thu 11: St Martin of Tours, Bishop
- Fri 12: St Josaphat, Bishop

Youth Mass -

2nd and 4th Sundays at 5pm And Holy Hour also on the 2nd and 4th Sundays 3:30-4:30pm

Baptism Preparation:

Michael McGrath: mcgcoach@gmail.com

Baptism Meetings:

1st Wednesday of each Month (except school holidays) - at 7pm In Parish Hall.

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS



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, Mignon Field and Aaron Eastley.

First Reading 1 Kgs 17:10-16

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The widow made a little scone from her flour meal and brought it to Elijah.

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

> "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had fore-told through Elijah.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

or

(R.) Alleluia!

 It is the Lord who keeps faith forever who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord who sets prisoners free. (R.)

 It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord who protects the stranger. (R.)

 The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading

Heb 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 5:3

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

Gospel

Mk 12:38-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This poor widow has put more in than all who contributed.

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Lk 24:35

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Living罩gospel

Hypocrisy

Throughout the gospels, what Jesus appears to abhor more than anything else is hypocrisy. His harshest condemnation of the scribes and the Pharisees is that they are hypocrites. In this passage, whilst Jesus hates the scribes' parading around and claiming honour that is not their due, what really sees him condemn them is their mistreatment of widows 'while making a show of lengthy prayers'. We cannot praise God in prayer while at the same time mistreating our neighbour. That is hypocrisy! Our actions are an extension of our prayer. We cannot celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays and fail to live it the rest of the week!

Jesus is scathing in this text in his comments about people who parade their religiosity while living at the expense of the poor. Merely making a show is not how God wants to be honoured. Even the wealthy who contribute so generously to the temple treasury are only giving of their excess, from what they do not need. Instead it is the poor widow—who is under no obligation to contribute to the temple treasury—who puts all she has at the service of God. With nothing left with which to feed herself, she has totally put her trust and confidence in the fact that God will provide all she needs.

- Talk about people who have given everything for God, who have put all they have at the service of God.
- How far are we prepared to go?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- When do you give your all? How generously do you share your wealth, your time, your attention?
- Make a generous contribution of time, money, energy or service this week.
 Seek no acknowledgement for this.
- Reflect on a time when you were the recipient of a generous gesture by another. What was revealed about the giver in this gesture? How did you respond? Reflect on occasions when we have been generous as a nation. When have we been less than generous? How did that make you feel as an individual citizen? Share your reflections together.
- Pray today's opening collect this week: Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep us from all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Every Jewish male was required to pay an annual half shekel offering towards the costs of the temple (see Matthew 17:24). Women were not obligated to make this offering, so the offering of the widow was not required but freely given.
- The Jerusalem temple was a massive structure with a large cohort of priests and attendants, and its upkeep must have been a very expensive exercise.
- The treasury was a part of the temple in Jerusalem, and its function was under the exclusive control of the Sadducees, an elite and wealthy group of families of high priestly caste.

SHARING THE TRADITION

This gospel refers to the temple treasury. Jesus is not critical of the collection of funds per se; he reserves his scorn for those who exploit the poor and those who are less than generous. The collection of funds and the support of those in need have always been a part of the tradition of the Church. The letters of Paul, the earliest of the Christian writings, often refer to collections made on behalf of some Christian communities that were struggling. In the Acts of the Apostles, the sharing of material goods so that none went without was part of the normal life of the first Christians. The giving of money to support the Church and its works is still a part of the life of every parish. Caritas Australia is the official aid and development agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. During Lent, Caritas runs Project Compassion, which collects funds to be used in other parts of the world to assist in authentic human development for people who have little. Each parish relies on contributions from the congregation for the upkeep and running of parish programs and buildings.

- Talk about the ways that people contribute financially in your parish.
- Explain the uses to which parish funds are put, both for the local community and for the wider Church.
- Explain the obligations of parishioners to make their own contributions to the work of the Church both locally and globally

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The total giving of the widow in this text acts as an introduction to the total selfgiving of Jesus on the cross, which follows shortly in Mark's Gospel. All is surrendered; nothing is held back!

ALL MASSES - BACK ON EARLY!!



Weekday; Saturday night; & Sunday Masses are back to normal schedule.

NO BOOKINGS – But only 116 allowed in, so be early!

HOWEVER!

All attending Mass (weekend & weekday) must show proof of Vaccination

Except for a special Mass each Saturday at 11:30am For **Unknown Vaccination Status people.**

> 30 people Maximum Please call Office to book in. See you there Blessings Fr Geoff



Men's Night - We're Back!!!!

The Men's Night returns, at 5.00pm on Thursday 18th November.
Food provided, all for \$2.00. Please provide your double Vaccination proof for entry.
The Meeting place will be in the Community House" The 3 Amigos.
My phone is 5976 2155 and I will be happy to meet you and answer any questions.

Slainte Kerry McInerney

Hello Parishioners

From Monday 1st November, prayer groups and the youth ministry can resume at St Macartan's if they so wish?

I am happy to report, that if your group is under 30 people - There is no need for any vaccinated/unvaccinated division, as according to the latest rules for "Religious gatherings and Ceremonies", all can meet under the category of: **Unknown Vaccination Status:**

Indoors & Outdoors cap of **30 people**. *DQ4 (see table below).

Now, if any other groups want to meet who are more than 30 people then they must ALL BE FULLY VACCINATED! Thus, all leaders and those attending be fully vaccinated (double dosed) with a designated Covid19 Marshall assigned.

Fully Vaccinated: Indoors DQ4. Outdoors DQ2. Cap of 500. (Children under 12 months old are not counted towards caps.)

*DQ4 - 4sqm density limits per area:

Church Main body + Annex = 100 Church upstairs = 10 Church entrance foyer = 6 <u>Church total = 116 people</u> Community House large meeting area = 17 people High Spirits area = 4 people Community House small Marian Chapel = 4 people Youth office = 3 people Hall = 24 people

I do want to remind all:

It is not St Macartan's creating these rules, nor do we agree with many of them, but we are the ones also fined if we don't follow them. So I ask, all those running groups on Parish property, to please be vigilant in following all appropriate rules.

So as we welcome the opening up of our places of worship and opportunities for gathering we remain mindful and respectful that some in our Parish community remain feeling cautious and anxious, and that we still cannot gather fully and united as we all would wish, especially at Mass.

Let us continue to pray that all divisions end soon. Thank you

> Blessings Fr. Geoff



CHILD SAFETY

Dear Parishioners, the prayer below often begins our Child Safety Meetings, please pray with us that we are successful & diligent in securing the safety of the children of our parish, kind regards Carmel McGrath (Child Safety Officer)

> Lord Jesus May we welcome the kingdom of God anew into our hearts and lives, embracing discipleship and openness to others.

You call us to walk with integrity in the service of others. May our service be filled with kindness, and respect for all God's people, giving special protection to children and the vulnerable.

May we seek the truth, Listen to those wounded by abuse, and choose to act with compassion and justice.

> Give us the strength, to walk humbly and faithfully, and to love one another as we are so loved by You.

> > Amen





Pope: Crises present us with the opportunity to build together Pope Francis invites listeners during the BBC "Thought for the Day" radio column on Friday to join efforts for the protection of our common home through a renewed sense of shared responsibility and solidarity based on justice.

By Benedict Mayaki, SJ

"Climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic have exposed our deep vulnerability and raised numerous doubts and concerns about our economic systems and the way we organize our societies," the Pope said in an audio/video message. However, "every crisis calls for vision, the ability to formulate plans and put them rapidly into action, to rethink the future of the world, our common home, and to reassess our common purpose."

The devastating toll of the crises

Pope Francis pointed at the impact of the many crises impacting society. He noted that "we have lost our sense of security, and are experiencing a sense of powerlessness and loss of control over our lives." More so, "we find ourselves increasingly frail and even fearful, caught up in a succession of 'crises' in the areas of health care, the environment, food supplies and the economy, to say nothing of social, humanitarian and ethical crises." All these crises, he said, "are profoundly interconnected" and they forecast a 'perfect storm' that could rupture the bonds holding society together within the greater gift of God's creation.

Confronting crises together

The Pope highlighted that moments of difficulty such as these present opportunities that we "must not waste," even though the crises present us with the need to take "radical decisions that

are not always easy." "We by retreating into isolationploitation. Or we can see in change, a genuine moment simply in a spiritual sense," cannot emerge from a crisis firmed that the most imfrom the crises is our need there will no longer be any



can confront these crises ism, protectionism and exthem a real chance for of conversion, and not he said. Stressing that we alone, the Holy Father afportant lesson we can take to "build together so that borders, barriers or political

walls for us to hide behind." In this regard, moving towards a brighter horizon can only be achieved through "a renewed sense of shared responsibility for our world, and an effective solidarity based on justice, a sense of our common destiny and a recognition of the unity of our human family in God's plan for the world." All these, he added, "represent an immense cultural change," which means giving priority to the common good that calls for "a change in perspective, a new outlook, in which the dignity of every human being, now and in the future, will guide our ways of thinking and acting."

Need for urgent change of direction sustained by faith

The Holy Father then recalled a meeting on 4 October, with religious leaders and scientists, to sign a Joint Appeal calling upon leaders to act in a more responsible and consistent manner toward a "culture of care" for our common home, and to work tirelessly to eliminate "the seeds of conflicts," including greed, indifference, ignorance, fear, injustice, insecurity and violence. During that meeting, the Pope noted that he was struck by a scientist's concern that "If things continue as they are, in fifty years' time [his] baby granddaughter will have to live in an unlivable world".

Science has been instrumental in the furthering of war and armaments; it must be involved in the encouragement of peace.

Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ 25 October 2021

Remembrance Day is held each year on 11 November. It occurs in the middle of a less well-known celebration: the International Week of Science and Peace (9-15 November, with World Science Day for Peace and Development being held on 10 November).

In its early years Remembrance Day commemorated specifically the soldiers who died in the 1914-1918 Great War amid the poppies on Flanders fields. Now it extends to soldiers killed in all wars. But it is also a day to remember more generally the suffering and death caused by war, and so to commit to making peace. That commitment also underlies the decision to associate together science and peace in the one week. Scientists have been involved in the making and conduct of war. They must also be involved in the making and encouraging of peace.

Distance from war, whether measured by space or by time, can lead to fascination with the destructive power of weapons, with military strategy and with battle as a place of honour. Service as a soldier can be romanticised and its sufferings whitewashed. As with so many young men in 1914 Rupert Brooke began his military service with a vision of young soldiers dying nobly for their nation in battle. He was then a romantic poet. His later writing, however, was harsh and un-

illusioned. What passing-bells for these who die as cattle? — Only the monstrous anger of the guns.

Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle

Can patter out their hasty orisons.



He had come to realise that in this war soldiers were not noble actors but cattle led to the slaughter. Scientists had helped to turn war into a machine that devoured people – contributing to the killing power of guns, explosives and

poison gas, and to the speed with which the fresh soldiers and munitions could be delivered to the battle front. In war things and not persons ruled.

That is the background against which we observe Remembrance Day. Its poppies are blood red, recalling the rivers of blood that is shed in war. Yet each red poppy also stands for a person who was killed in war. For a moment we pause to remember soldier on both sides of war who died, each person who grieved them and whose life was changed because of their death, and each non-combatant who was killed or died of illness and hunger caused by war. We remember, too, people who survived the war, but within whom some quality of human life and hope had died – those who returned physically impaired, mentally ill or ethically desensitised, those who spent the rest of their lives in institutions, and those who later took their own lives.

On Remembrance Day we do not celebrate armies and victories but recognise the humanity of those who died in them and mourn with those compelled to fight in them. In a more critical way, we grieve for the lack of responsibility and humanity of those who failed to avert wars, declared them, gave their lives to invent and produce more and more effective and brutal ways to destroy people, including the scientists who developed the nuclear bomb and continue to devise weap-ons of mass destruction.

We remember them not to condemn them but to recognise the tragedy of those caught up in making war and of those who benefited from it. The agreement that came into force on Armistice Day (11 November) 2018 sowed the seeds for another even more destructive war. This Remembrance Day we pray for a peace that is built on respect for persons in every nation, and particularly for the most vulnerable.

Jokes of the Week

#1: A six-year-old boy, home from his first day at Church, was asked what he thought of the Holy Mass. "It was OK," he replied, "but I think it was unfair that the pastor at the altar did all the work, and then a bunch of other people came around and took away all the money." Amen to that small lad's insight!

#2: A colleague once told how "a certain woman phoned her personal banker to arrange for the disposal of a \$1,000 bond. The voice on the phone asked for clarification, "Is the bond for conversion or redemption?" The confused woman paused and then inquired, "Am I talking to the bank or the church?"

#3: Kids! Aren't they great? A few years ago I visited some Prep classrooms. In one class the teacher introduced me as Father Geoff. I asked the kids why I was called Father. A number raised their hands and I pointed to one little guy who was really excitedly waving his hand. He promptly said, "Because you're old!" I knew I was walking in troubled waters, but I doubled down and asked why I was wearing this white collar. A sweet little girl didn't even bother raising her hand, she simply announced, "Because it prevents fleas and ticks for up to six months." Really, I don't know when to quit when I'm behind. So I asked another little girl what she was doing. She said, "I'm drawing God." I said, "Wow, that's really great, but no one has ever seen God. We don't know what God looks like." She continued drawing and without even looking up, she said, "You will in a minute."



St Macartan's Gift Shop Opening Hours

Hello my fellow Parishioners

I hope you all came through the lockdown unscathed. I can't believe that I still haven't finished chores I intended to get through before lockdown ended. Babysitting Grandkids is so much better though. You laugh heaps; you hide in places they have trouble finding you even though it takes 10 minutes or so to get back on your feet. Aren't they just the most precious gift sent from God? I love my Grandkids to bits.

Just to keep you informed, we have managed to cover the price increases for the Columbian Calendars for the past few years but this year we will be selling them for \$12, a \$2 increase. If you want one for yourself or for a gift please place your order at the Gift Shop so you don't miss out, as only 20 will be ordered.

I have also ordered Christmas cards from a new supplier, with beautiful Nativity scenes which come in packs of 8. They will be approximately \$7 packet.

Half of the stock from Germany has arrived and hopefully the other half isn't far behind. We have chosen 16 different Lanterns and I'm sure you will find something suitable for whatever the occasion. There are a few colourful ones, a little different to what we had previously.

Over the next week we will be marking down goods to make room for the new stock due before Christmas. This is a great time to pick up a bargain, so please call by, say hello and check out what's new in the Gift Shop.

If you would like to Volunteer to assist in the Gift Shop please give me a call – Trish 0425 749 379.

For one week only Saturday 30^{th} – Friday 5^{th} the Gift Shop hours will be: Sunday 8.30am – 9.00am / 9.45am – 11am and then after Mass Regards Trish and Graham

VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS WANTED FOR SATURDAY 6PM OR SUNDAY 11AM or 5PM MASSES:

Preferably an organist or pianist but any musicians would be welcome to help with either the Saturday 6pm or Sunday 11am or 5pm Masses at St Macar-



tan's. For more information please contact Veronica on 0418 358 213 or

email: veronicaryan2250@outlook.com



There's been a lot to take in lately.

Share the load with us.

coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au
 1800 512 348

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 9am - 4pm Office CLOSED Weekends & Mondays Email: <u>mornington@cam.org.au</u> 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

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: Email: <u>timlambourne@yahoo.com.au</u>

St Macartan's Social Justice Awareness Group: Contact Kerry McInerney Email: <u>kerrymcinerney111@gmail.com 59762155</u>

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, Email: Morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au

Music & Wedding Co-Ordinator: Veronica Ryan: 0418 358 213 Email: <u>veronicaryan2250@outlook.com</u>

St Macartans Gift Shop: Trish Thomas: 0425 749 379

Marriage & Counselling: Charmaine Holmes: 5977 2665, Email: <u>char-homes@aapt.net.au</u> Marriage Prep: See Fr Geoff

Baptisms:2nd & 4th Sundays after 11am Mass, Contact Office: 5975 2200 **Baptism Preparation:** Michael McGrath, email: mcgcoach@gmail.com

Memorial Wall: Contact Carmel in Parish Office ONLY on Fridays: 5975 2200 Catholic Mission Parish Ambassador: Jody Kerrins jody54@westnet.com.au