



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!

NO RESTRICTIONS!!!

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/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos>

Also view our Parish website:

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

www.stmacartansparish.com.au/

Upcoming Holy Days:

- Mon 22: St Cecilia, Martyr
- Wed 24: Sts Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest

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, Betty Corke, Sheila Wright, Wilma McCoy, Kevin Paganoni, Maria-Louisa Di Rosato, Fiona Rush, Mignon Field, Aaron Eastley and Chris Bull.

Recently deceased: William Robert Caulfield.

Anniversaries: Susanne Speirani.

First Reading

Dn 7:13-14

A reading from the prophet Daniel

His sovereignty is eternal.

I gazed into the visions of the night.
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.
He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.
On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants.
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1

(R.) The Lord is king;
he is robed in majesty.

1. The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power. **(R.)**
2. The world you made firm, not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are. **(R.)**
3. Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rv 1:5-8

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

*The ruler of the kings of the earth ... made us a line of kings,
priests to serve his God.*

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel Acclamation

Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 18:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

You say that I am a king.

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

The Creed is said.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 28:10-11

The Lord sits as King for ever.
The Lord will bless his people with peace.



Have you thought?

The Kingdom of God

When Jesus speaks about the Kingdom of God he never gives a particularly clear picture of what he means. He usually refers to the kingdom with metaphoric language ('the kingdom of God is like ...') and often the kingdom is defined by what it is not. The kingdom is also a real contradiction: it is here and now and yet it is still to come; it is almost impossible for some to enter the kingdom while others are assured a place; it is within us and in our hearts and yet is a great banquet to which all are invited.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Many of the readings from Mark's Gospel that we have encountered over past weeks focus on the misunderstanding the disciples have about the nature of the kingdom that Jesus proclaims. They remain locked into an earthly understanding of political power. In this text from John, Jesus makes very explicit that this is not the case. His kingdom is not of this world! Pilate pushes the point in order to trap him into an admission of guilt: 'So you are a king then?' Jesus' kingship, however, is not to be bound by earthly understandings. He is indeed a king, but he exercises his kingship by making known the love of God. For this purpose alone he came into the world: to bear wit-

ness to the truth that 'God so loved the world that he gave his only son' (John 3:16). It is for the world and all humanity that Christ died, so we should avoid the mistake of thinking that Christ's kingdom is in some way unreal or anchored in the clouds. While it is not of this world, it is most definitely anchored in this world. All Christians are challenged to help bring this kingdom to fulfillment here and now. 'Thy kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven.' It is in the lives and hearts of ordinary people and the societies they build that Christ's kingdom lives and awaits completion. We too must bear witness to this truth.

- What are some of the conflicts between the values of the kingdom of Jesus and the values of the society we live in?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- In what ways has Jesus become 'king' of your life?
- How are you progressing in your own search for truth?
- Today's feast brings the Church year to a close. Review the year together. What have been the important moments for you in your personal life and on your journey? Who have been the important people for you this year? Have you noticed change and movement forward?
- This week, bear witness in your home or workplace to the truth that you are discovering.
- Use today's psalm response this week:

The Lord is King; he is robed in majesty.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Pontius Pilate was the prefect or governor of the Roman province of Judea. He held this office from ad 26 to 36. He had a reputation for being insensitive to Jewish religious practices and was all too ready to use brutal force to repress any dissent against Roman rule. He was ultimately removed from office and sent back to Rome after a brutal attack on a gathered crowd in Samaria.
- Pilate's normal place of residence was in the coastal city of Caesarea. He was in Jerusalem at this time because the Passover was one of the 'pilgrimage festivals' of Judaism, when many people travelled to the city to celebrate the feast at the temple. The population of Jerusalem swelled greatly, and this was a time when the Romans feared an outbreak of rebellion. Because of this, the Roman legions travelled to Jerusalem to reinforce the troop numbers stationed in the city.
- There is some confusion over the powers that the Sanhedrin (ruling Jewish council) held. Some texts suggest they had the power to stone to death someone found guilty of blasphemy (Acts 6:12 and 7:54–58) or adultery (John 8:1–12). Why, then, was Jesus not treated in this way by the council and stoned to death? Why instead was he handed over to the Romans?
- The crime for which Jesus is tried and killed is that of sedition—any claim that he was the 'King of the Jews' was a direct threat to the emperor. Only the Roman governor could pass judgment in such a case. Crucifixion was a Roman punishment, not a Jewish one.

SHARING THE TRADITION

The feast of Christ the King is a relatively new one in the church calendar. It was established in 1925 by Pope Pius XI after the world had experienced the horrors of World War I and been shocked at the brutality and destruction of that conflict between so-called civilised and Christian nations. The role of the Church in social and cultural life was diminishing, and there was greater separation of church and state. This feast sought to confront growing secularism head on. Since Vatican II, the Church has seen itself in a new dialogue with the world, and this feast now more strongly reflects upon the nature of Christ's kingship.

- You could explore the Second Vatican Council and discuss its impact on the Church in everything from theological understanding to liturgical expression.
- Reflect on the theology of the Church as 'people of God' that was presented at Vatican II.
- In a world where very few 'kings' remain, you could discuss how Christ as king can be given meaning today

INDOOR CAPACITY RESTRICTIONS HAVE ENDED!!!!!!

YIPPEEEEE!



Yes, Daniel Andrews announced that we can go back to full capacity in our Church, for those fully vaccinated parishioners.

We haven't had full capacity since March 2020.

Also masks indoors are no longer required.

We will still need to view proof of full vaccination and we pray this distinction will also be lifted soon.

**We will still hold Mass for the Unknown Vaccination Status parishioners
Saturday 11:30am (Book in via Office), limit is 50.**

Regards

Fr Geoff

CHRISTMAS LUNCH?

We are considering putting on a Christmas lunch for those alone. Do you know anyone who will be alone on Christmas Day? Someone who has no one to go to, or no one to visit them.

Or are you going to be alone?

If you do know someone who lives in the Parish and would possibly like to enjoy a Christmas Day lunch, please let the office know. So far we only have one person alone at Christmas for lunch!

This is good in a way - but lunch won't go ahead for just one. Alternate arrangements will be made.

If you would like to volunteer to serve Christmas lunch or help in some way, please let the office know.

Phone: 59752200 or email: mornington@cam.org.au

ADVENT 2021

DECEMBER 2015

FROM PHOENIX, AZ •

BREATHING LIFE INTO A WOUNDED WORLD



Advent is Fast Approaching - 28th Nov

The time of Advent is a period of waiting. Christians wait for the most Important birth in history - Jesus Christ Our Saviour!

'Year by year, we learn what it is to keep Advent: to take time with those days and nights before Christmas. And we learn too to keep Christmas: to make a festival of stories, songs, and deeds done year after year. Together the keeping of these seasons gives witness to how God reigns in our lives and in the world. Throughout these days of Advent and Christmas, the images of the nativity are placed side by side with the gospel we have believed: God—within us, now.'

To varying degrees, our year has been one of disconnectedness, cut off from those regular and life-giving experiences with our extended families, parish communities and social groups that steady and sustain us. But through all the challenges, and despite—or even because of—our weariness and longing for release, the Spirit has perhaps been able to speak into our lives in an especially poignant way in 2021, calling us to renew our trust in God's promised future.

Let us use this Advent to prepare for a better 2022. Prepare to come together as never before, as One big happy family, called St Macartan's

Blessings to ALL this Advent season

Fr Geoff

Pope at Mass: nurture tomorrow's hope by healing today's pain

Pope Francis celebrates Mass in Saint Peter's Basilica on the Fifth World Day of the Poor. He reminds us that God's salvation is not only a future promise, but at work now in our wounded world. As Christians, we must "nurture tomorrow's hope by healing today's pain".

By Vatican News staff writer

Today's pain

The Pope pointed how most wounded and oppressed "marked by tribulation, and injustice", awaiting "never seems to arrive". of the Poor calls us to way on the "suffering of ble", the Pope said, forced into this situation inequality, made worse ciety" that ignores or abandons them.



the poor are the pressed in history violence, suffering a liberation that Today's World Day focus in a special those most vulnerable since they are often due to injustice and by a "throwaway so-

Tomorrow's hope

Arising from the suffering and fear that this situation evokes, the light of hope exists and points to a "future of salvation", the Pope pointed out, saying that "Jesus wants to open our hearts to hope" and free us from anxiety and fear. "Tomorrow's hope flowers amid today's pain", the Pope said and this hope is at work within our wounded history today, as the kingdom of God is "blossoming like the tender leaves of the tree and guiding history to its goal, to the final encounter with the Lord" who will set us definitively free.

What can we do?

In view of suffering and hope, the Pope asked what is demanded of Christians given this reality? He said it means we must "nurture tomorrow's hope by healing today's pain". Christian hope is not just a naive optimism that things will be better tomorrow, but a call to action to help make God's promise of salvation "concrete...today and every day". It means building day-by-day the "kingdom of love, justice, and fraternity that Jesus inaugurated" through concrete gestures, the Pope emphasized, never ignoring or walking by those who need help. We need to be witnesses of compassion, he stressed, compassion that comes from a heart that is moved by tenderness and the desire to draw near to others to help them in the face of widespread indifference.

We must organize hope

The Pope paid tribute to a late Italian bishop who was very close to the poor, Don Tonino Bello, who used to say: "We cannot be content to hope; we have to organize hope". Our hope must be expressed concretely with decisions, outreach, work for justice and solidarity, to alleviate the suffering of the poor, the Pope explained, stressing that hope must become reality "in our everyday lives, in our relationships, in our social and political commitments". He paid tribute to those who volunteer in helping the Church's outreach to help the poor to make concrete this hope. In conclusion, the Pope noted how beautiful and prophetic the Church is when it reaches out to the poor to share the Good News and accompany them, to show that from their pain, hope can arise. "Let us bring this outlook of hope to our world", he underscored, through our tenderness, "because there, in them, is Jesus, who awaits us."

To St. Macartan's Parishioners

From you Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

We are all going through a tough time now, with having to live with the consequences of Covid-19 (Corona Virus) being endemic in our community.

Covid-19, and more specifically, the associated DHHS restrictions have impacted everyone for 18 months and with this, comes a level of 'restrictions fatigue'. For the first time in most of our lives, government restrictions and directives have impacted on our ability to come together and practice our faith. This has been tough for everyone, especially the 'shepherd of our flock', Father Geoff.

Many of us will disagree with some or all of the various restrictions being imposed upon us, in order to keep us safe and our hospitals able to cope with increased admissions.

St Macartan's Parish, like all other Churches and businesses in the State is subject to these restrictions, and cannot ignore them, even if we don't necessarily agree with them. This is not a choice we can make, as Churches have already been fined for breaching these restrictions.

The St. Macartan's community is a family; first and foremost, we are a family of God, and brothers and sisters in Christ. Like all families, however, we don't always agree with each other, but the thing that makes us family, is that although we don't always agree with each other, we still treat each other with love and respect, as families should.

Recently some members of our church family have forgotten this and have blamed Father Geoff for his adherence to the State Government mandatory restrictions, as they have impacted the Church community in general, and us here at St. Macartan's. We remind all parishioners, that these restrictions are not of Father Geoff's making, but are imposed on us by the state government.

As we near the great feast of Christmas, many families will gather once again and enjoy each other's company like never before, especially given the year we have all just lived through. Not everyone who gathers around these tables will agree on each other's life choices, barrack for the same football team, or like the same type of music etc and that is how life is, but all are to love and respect each other, because that is what families do.

Before the restrictions, we all came together as one and after the restrictions we still want to be able to all come together as one – without any ill feelings for anyone's choices. The thing that matters most is the faith we all share and live, regardless of external restrictive, non-faith-based rules forced upon us.

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The Parish Pastoral Council implores all parishioners of St Macartan's Parish Community to respect each other's choices, and to support each other, as we all try our best to make it through this time of trial. We pray that these restrictions will end soon, and we look forward to celebrating Mass as one family once more.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to a better 2022.

Sincerely,

Your Parish Pastoral Council.

We would like to inform our Parish Family of some of the things which your Parish Pastoral Council has been doing during Covid-19:-

- Dealing with constant rule changes for Covid: Mass numbers, limits, sanitation rules etc.
- Finalising quotes for maintenance outside the Church and inside.
- Church rendering and painting.
- Reviewing how to survive financially with 68% less income
- Finding ways to keep connected in our Church family - video Masses, extra info in newsletters etc.

Looking ahead at changes within the structure of Parishes through "The Way of the Gospel".



Visitation Group meeting

Welcome back everyone! It will be good to see you after such a long absence. The meeting will be on Friday 26th November after morning Mass, in the community centre.



Dear Parishioners, as we as a community prepare for Christmas, we also prepare for a New Year. At St Macartan's, the Child Safety committee is meeting this week to plan for 2022. We are hoping to increase our numbers of members as well as support other ministries at St Macartan's. One of our main goals is to organise more opportunities for the volunteers of the parish to meet together and be updated with the many new & relevant resources that have been developed to assist parishes with Child Safety. Details about information sessions and on-line training will be advertised in the newsletter & St Macartan's website.



World Youth Day 2021: Pope Francis asks young people to ‘testify joyfully that Christ is alive’

In a message for World Youth Day 2021, released on Sept. 27, the pope invited youth to join a “spiritual pilgrimage leading to the celebration of the 2023 World Youth Day” in Lisbon, Portugal. Reflecting on the dramatic conversion of St. Paul the Apostle, the pope made a series of appeals to young people ahead of the annual celebration on Nov. 21.

He said: “In Jesus’ name, I ask you: Arise! Testify that you too were blind and encountered the light. You too have seen God’s goodness and beauty in yourself, in others, and in the communion of the Church, where all loneliness is overcome.” “Arise! Testify to the love and respect it is possible to instill in human relationships, in the lives of our families, in the dialogue between parents and children, between the young and the elderly.” “Arise! Uphold social justice, truth, and integrity, human rights. Protect the persecuted, the poor and the vulnerable, those who have no voice in society, immigrants.” He continued: “Arise! Testify to the new way of looking at things that enables you to view creation with eyes brimming with wonder, that makes you see the Earth as our common home, and gives you the courage to promote an integral ecology.” “Arise! Testify that lives of failure can be rebuilt, that persons spiritually dead can rise anew, that those in bondage can once more be free, that hearts overwhelmed by sorrow can rediscover hope.” “Arise! Testify joyfully that Christ is alive! Spread his message of love and salvation among your contemporaries, at school and in the university, at work, in the digital world, everywhere.” As well as international World Youth Day (WYD) gatherings typically held every three years, the Catholic Church also sponsors local youth day events for which the pope sends a message each year. “Whenever a young person falls, in some sense all humanity falls. Yet it is also true that when a young person rises, it is as if the whole world rises as well. Young people, what great potential you have in your hands! What great strength you have in your hearts!”



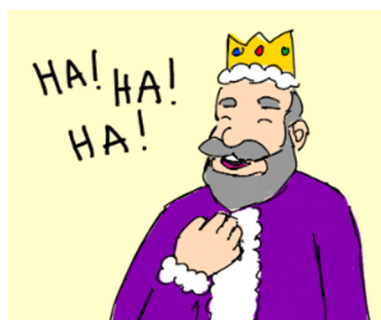
Jokes of the Week



#1: **Christ is in charge:** Susan C. Kimber, in a book called *Christian Woman*, shares a funny piece of advice she received from her little son: "Tired of struggling with my strong-willed little son, Thomas, I looked him in the eye and asked a question I felt sure would bring him in line: 'Thomas, who is in charge here?' Not missing a beat, he replied, 'Jesus is, and not you mom.' "

2: **"Right near the end!"** Once a priest was giving a homily and as he went on, he became more animated. He made a sweeping gesture – and accidentally knocked his papers from the pulpit. He scrambled to pick them up, then asked, "Now, where was I?" A voice from the congregation responded, "Right near the end!" Well, we are at the end – not of the homily, but of the liturgical year

3: **The most famous man who ever lived:** One day a kindergarten teacher nun said to the class of 5-year-olds, "I'll give \$2 to the child who can tell me who was the most famous man who ever lived." An Irish boy put his hand up and said, "It was St. Patrick." The teacher said, "Sorry Sean, that's not correct." Then a Scottish boy put his hand up and said, "It was St. Andrew." The teacher replied, "I'm sorry, Hamish, that's not right either. "Finally, a Jewish boy raised his hand and said, "It was Jesus Christ." The teacher said, "That's absolutely right, Marvin, come up here and I'll give you the \$2." As the teacher was giving Marvin his money, she said, "You know Marvin, you being Jewish, I was very surprised you said Jesus Christ." Marvin replied, "Yeah. In my heart I knew it was Moses, but business is business..."



ROSTERS

Feast of Christ the King – 20th & 21st November 2021

6.00pm:

Readers: Carmel McGrath, Carmel Coles
Eucharistic Ministers: Trisha Hird, Michael Turner

9.00am:

Readers: Kevin Morley, Spencer Meier
Eucharistic Ministers: Patricia Thomas, Sophie Krause

11.00am:

Readers: Joan Clements, Patricia Duryea
Eucharistic Ministers: Terry Roberts, Sheila Goddard

First Sunday of Advent – 27th & 28th November 2021

6.00pm:

Reader: Tricia Herd
Commentator: Brian Scantlebury
Candle: Lyn Thorpe
Eucharistic Ministers: Joyce Ward, Faye Murphy

9.00am:

Reader: Spencer Miere
Commentator: Paul Girolami
Candle: Kathleen Ronchi
Eucharistic Ministers: Sophie Krause, Marcelle Azzopardi

11.00am:

Reader: Irene Hackett
Commentator: Terry Roberts
Candle: Elvira Spaziani
Eucharistic Ministers: John Spaziani, Sandra Barrett

5pm:

Reader: Harry Coyne
Commentator: Marino Cassemento
Candle: P Coyne
Eucharistic Minister: Danielle Field

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 9am - 4pm
Office CLOSED Weekends & Mondays
Email: 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

Finance Committee: Frank Crea: 0417 104 041

Child Safety Officer: Carmel McGrath: 0400 076 067

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Volunteer Application Support Officer: Tim Lambourne:

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

Email: 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,

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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 2665,

Email: charhomes@aapt.net.au

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