

Second Sunday of Advent YrC 5 December 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 Goorah



PLEASE NOTE:

No 9am or 11:30am Saturday morning Masses on 4th December.

Mass Times:

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday
9:15am

Saturday night: 6pm.

Sunday: 9am, 11am

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

Sunday 12th Dec Last for Year

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:

PLEASE COLLECT YOUR ENVELOPES,
WHICH ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH
FOYER. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF
YOU HAVE ENVELOPE NO.: #113. You have
the wrong one!

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 7th: St Ambrose, Bishop, Saint
- Wed 8th: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Youth Mass -

2nd and 4th Sundays at 5pm

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

Sunday 12th Dec Last for Year

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 Paul Girolami.

Recently deceased: Chris Bull.



First Reading Bar 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your
splendour to every nation under heaven,
since the name God gives you for ever will be,
‘Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness’.
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons re-
assembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has
remembered them.

Though they left you on foot,
with enemies for an escort,

now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under
the glory of God.

And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of
God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 125(126). R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

2. The heathens themselves said: ‘What marvels
the Lord worked for them!’

What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Phil 1:3-6. 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Communion Antiphon

Bar 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Living the gospel

Make way!

Today's gospel is a reminder to us that Advent is a season of preparation. In this case, the preparation is all about making way for the love of God in our lives. The love of God surrounds us all the time. It's like a rapidly flowing stream and sometimes we have placed boulders in the stream that send the water flowing around us. The call to make a way for the Lord is a call to clear the rocks out of the stream; to remove the obstacles that are directing the love of God around us and allow it instead to flow directly through us.

EXPLORING THE WORD

The word of God that comes to John in the wilderness is not a word meant for him alone but is to be shared with all the people. John's proclamation of the word of God 'through the whole Jordan district' is a precursor to Jesus' instruction to his disciples 'that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations' (Luke 24:47). The salvation brought by the Lord is not a personal and private matter but one that is destined for the whole of humankind. This salvation can only be achieved, however, if one is prepared to re-align one's life—to repent of past sins and take a new path in life. John's call is a call to a new beginning.

- What new beginning are you being called to as you undertake your journey to baptism?
- What are the 'sins of the past' that you are called to repent of?
- What 'sins of the past' is all humanity being called upon to repent of in order to make a new beginning?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- The word of God came to John.' How did the word of God first come to you?
- Are there paths in your life that need to be made straight, or hills and valleys that need to be levelled, in order to make it easier for the Lord to come to you?
- Who are the prophets of the modern age who call people back to fidelity to God's plan for the world? Are there voices that are raised to warn us to honour the earth and all people? Are there voices that call us to respect creation and to share the bounty of God's gifts more equitably? How does the modern world receive the voices of the prophets of today? What hills need to be levelled and what paths made straight? Share your reflections together.
- This week, try not to get bound up in the 'Christmas cheer' that dominates all around us. Choose instead, this week, to concentrate on the waiting and the preparation for what is to come.
- Today's entrance antiphon is a lovely prayer for this week:

The Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Luke goes to great lengths to describe the geographical and political world into which Jesus is born. God enters into human history at a specific time and place. The coming of Jesus for the salvation of the world is not a vague notion but a concrete event in time.
- The prophets of the Hebrew tradition were specially chosen people who spoke the word of God to Israel. John the Baptist is sometimes referred to as the last of the great prophets.
- Scholars believe that Jesus may well have spent some time as a disciple of the Baptist before embarking on his own public ministry.
- The 'Herod' mentioned in this text is Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, who ruled at the time of Jesus' birth. After Herod the Great's death, his realm was divided between three of his sons. One son proved an inept ruler and was removed from power in Judaea by the Romans and replaced by a Roman governor.
- Xmas originated in the mid-1500s. X represents the Greek letter chi, the initial letter in the word Χριστός (Chrīstos). And what does Χριστός mean? "(Jesus) Christ." X has been an acceptable representation of the word Christ for hundreds of years.

SHARING THE TRADITION

- One of the features of the liturgy for Advent is the readings from the prophets of the Hebrew tradition. A prophet is one who speaks for God in a particular time and in a particular society. The sequence of readings for Advent in Year C features the words of Jeremiah, Baruch, Zephaniah and Micah.
- You could give some background to the prophetic tradition of Israel.
- You could give some information on the historical reality and message of the four prophets whose words are heard in Advent. What were the situations in their lifetimes that caused them to speak out?
- You could pick up on the opening discussion of modern prophets and discuss what 'word' the world is most in need of today.
- Are there any similarities between the world now and the world of the Hebrew prophets?
- How does the world today receive the message of its prophets?



WEEK 2

BE STILL

Light two candles on your Advent wreath. Or if you don't have a wreath, light a special candle. We watch and wait. To this waiting time we bring the experiences of the year past. This circle of green reminds us of the love of God: endless, but ever new. Take a moment to allow whatever is in your heart to rise, and offer your thoughts to the loving care of the Lord in this second week of Advent.

Our thoughts may turn to the year that has passed:

- For what am I thankful?
- What could I have done better?
- How have I journeyed with God and Jesus throughout the past year?

Pray

Loving God, As we keep this Advent time, awaken our hearts to goodness and hope. Help us to hear your voice. Strengthen our voices as we work towards building a world where justice reigns. Through Christ, our Lord,

Amen.

Go out

Pope Francis prays throughout December that those summoned to announce the Word of God do so with courage and creativity, and in the power of the Holy Spirit. This week, in particular, we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Even before her birth, the Holy Spirit was working intimately in God's plan for the salvation of the world. The power of the Holy Spirit calls us, too, into God's plan of salvation. Take some time this week to be the face of Christ to those you know who are busy with young families: you might like to provide a meal or other practical assistance, or just offer encouragement and a listening ear. Be the one who hears 'a voice crying out in the desert'.

Pope to Catholic Action: Serve humanity by proclaiming faith in Christ

Pope Francis sends a message to mark the 30th anniversary of the International Forum of Catholic Action, and urges its members to respond to humanity's thirst for God.

By Devin Watkins

As Catholic Action celebrated the 30th anniversary of its foundation as an international forum, the Pope sent a letter on Friday to participants in a 2-day online conference marking the organization's work to engage lay Catholics in the life of the Church and of society.

He said anniversary celebrations always encourage us to "look to the past in grateful contemplation" and to the future with the eyes of the dreamers who founded Catholic Action. Members of the organization cannot help remember Cardinal Eduardo Pironio, who played a pivotal role in its foundation. "Pironio was a man of deep roots and memory anchored in the dynamism of history as Kairos, a critical time of salvation, a time of work, trial, purification, and hope," said the Pope.

New horizons of evangelization

Pope Francis praised Catholic Action, which he said has opened new horizons in involving the laity in evangelization. "The laypeople of Catholic Action are a Church," he said. "They were 'the saints next door' of so many communities. Yet, added the Pope, history does not always move along a linear path, noting that there have been shadows, moments of protection, weariness, indifference, and fear of having been overtaken by new demands."



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So, he urged Catholic Action to overcome the temptation to remain immobile waiting for better times by recalling the organization's origin in "the very heart of the Catholic Church."

He said it shares fully in the Church's mission of evangelization and should therefore be available to respond to her needs in every place.

"With the strength of the Spirit, we need to offer an answer here and now to the cries of the world," he said. "To hear them we must go out and be a Church-on-the-move that reaches out like the Good Samaritan".

Authentic Christian spirituality

Pope Francis wrapped up his message thanking God for all the work done by Catholic Action over the past 30 years.

And he concluded with a three-fold invitation to the Forum:

- May the forum deeply feel the urgency of working for fraternity and social friendship as means of rebuilding a wounded world;
- May you sow in the hearts of all that an authentic Christian spirituality is one that lives in the desire for holiness, which is a path that starts in the beatitudes and that is realized from Matthew 25; loving and working for our brothers and sisters who suffer the most;
- May the spirit that animates all your projects and work be that of being a Church-on-the-move, which lives the sweet and comforting joy of evangelizing.



Thanksgiving to St Joseph

Mornington Peninsula-All Night Vigil

St. Thomas More Parish:

313 Canadian Bay Rd. Mt Eliza

Friday 3rd Dec 7.00pm : Mass, Adoration

Reconciliation until 10.00pm

Adoration throughout the night.

Saturday 4th Dec 7.30am—8.30am: Reconciliation

8.45am Benediction

9.00am Mass for the Unborn

*** A Mystery of the Rosary will be prayed each 2 hours.**

Phone Vicky (Parish Office) 9787-7777

if you are able to commit to a specific time to keep Jesus company: otherwise, come when you can.

NOVENA PRAYERS TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Glorious Virgin
your Son, Jesus,
to be loved—with
maculate Heart.
maculate Heart so
receive your Son
sitions by which
Your Immaculate
gentle, steadfast,
given over to the
out of the darkness
from all selfishness
assertion, and train
your Immaculate

Let me always trust
Heart as a true
mercy. In sharing
your Son, your Im-
pierced. May your
brace me in mo-
beg to make repa-
against your Im-
offer you my inten-
(request). Amen.



Mary, I long to love
the way he deserves
the love of your Im-
Unite me to your Im-
that I will be open to
with the same dispo-
you received him.
Heart is supremely
watchful—completely
will of God. Lead me
of ignorance, free me
and wilful self-
me in conformity with
Heart.

your Immaculate
source of grace and
in the Passion of
maculate Heart was
immaculate love em-
ments of suffering. I
ration for all offenses
maculate Heart as I
tions (mention your

O Most Blessed Mother, Heart of Love, Heart of Mercy, ever listening, caring, consoling, hear our prayer. As your children, we implore your intercession with Jesus, your Son. Receive with understanding and compassion the petitions we place before you today, especially ... (mention your special intention).

We are comforted in knowing your heart is ever open to those who ask for your prayer. We trust to your gentle care and intercession, those whom we love and who are sick or lonely or hurting. Help all of us, Holy Mother, to bear our burdens in this life until we may share eternal life and peace with God forever. Amen.

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St Macartan's Christmas Masses 2021 TO ALL PARISHIONERS - ADULTS & CHILDREN



5pm Friday 24th December Children's Christmas Eve Mass

Children; feel free to come dressed up as your favourite nativity identity: Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds, wise persons, sheep, cows, donkeys, stars etc

7.30pm Friday 24th December Family Christmas Eve Mass

11pm Friday 24th December Christmas Eve 'Midnight' Mass

8.30am Saturday 25th December Christmas Day Mass

10.30am Saturday 25th December Christmas Day Mass

[No Mass 6pm Saturday night]

Sunday 26th Boxing Day - 9am and 11am

No 5pm Sunday Youth Mass

ALL MASSES ARE INDOORS - NO CAPACITY LIMITS

Until Government rules change:

Above Masses are only for those **Fully Vaccinated!**
(No other Masses are being considered at this stage)

We need Volunteers for Christmas Masses

There is an urgent need for the following + Other volunteers:

Christmas Eve 24/12

5pm Mass - 5 Ushers

7.30pm Mass – 3 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 reader and 4 ushers.

11.00pm Mass – 1 reader, 1 usher

Christmas Day 25/12

8:30am Mass – 4 Eucharistic Ministers, 1 reader, 2 ushers

10.30am Mass – 4 Eucharistic Ministers, 2 ushers

Please add your name to the sheets located in both foyers this weekend,
or call Tricia 0418 139 599.



Jokes of the Week



#1: **"Oh, well, soap only works when it is applied."** A soap manufacturer and a pastor were walking together down a street in a large city. The soap manufacturer casually said, "The Gospel you preach hasn't done much good, has it? Just observe. There is still a lot of wickedness in the world, and a lot of wicked people, too!" The pastor made no reply until they passed a dirty little child making mud pies in the gutter. Seizing the opportunity, the pastor said, "I see that soap hasn't done much good in the world either; for there is much dirt still here, and many dirty people are still around." The soap man said, "Oh, well, soap only works when it is applied." And the pastor said, "Exactly! So, it is with the Gospel."

#2: **Blackmail:** It was coming up to Christmas and Sammy asked his mum if he could have a new bike. So, she told him that the best idea would be to write to Santa Claus. But Sam, having just played a vital role in the school nativity play, said he would prefer to write to the baby Jesus. So his mum told him that would be fine. Sam went to his room and wrote 'Dear Jesus, I have been a very good boy and would like to have a bike for Christmas.' But he wasn't very happy when he read it over. So he decided to try again and this time he wrote 'Dear Jesus, I'm a good boy most of the time and would like a bike for Christmas.' He read it back and wasn't happy with that one either. He tried a third version. 'Dear Jesus, I could be a good boy if I tried hard and especially if I had a new bike.' He read that one too, but he still wasn't satisfied. So, he decided to go out for a walk while he thought about a better approach. After a short time he passed a house with a small statue of the Virgin Mary in the front garden. He crept in, stuffed the statue under his coat, hurried home and hid it under the bed. Then he wrote this letter. 'Dear Jesus, If you want to see your mother again, you'd better send me a new bike.'

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary

Wednesday 8th December.

Eucharistic Holy Hour of Grace after 9.15 am

Mass

Psalm 51, Rosary and Consecration to Our Lady.

"O Come, let us adore Him"



CUPPA AFTER 9AM MASS - IS BACK!

**COME AND ENJOY A SOCIAL CUPPA AND
CHAT
(COMMUNITY HOUSE)**



PIETY STORE

The Gift Shop is open for business. It would be a long time since some of you have visited the Gift Shop due to lock down so please, take 5 minutes to drop in and have a browse at the truly beautiful gifts we have for family and friends at Christmas, for Birthdays and for whatever the occasion may be. There is no better time than Christmas to give a religious gift and I have no doubt you will find it in the St Macs Gift Shop.

The Lanterns from Germany have arrived and this time around we have a few colourful ones which are bright and cheerful. No matter which you choose they look fantastic at night. Items in stock include – Nativity sets, Crystal Angels which are lovely as a gift or great for the Christmas tree, butterflies, comfort Crosses in two sizes which are popular for any age, water fonts, Rosary beads, Rosary bracelets, just to mention a few.

The Majellan Christmas Cards have arrived and with the Calendars selling out within a week, I have managed to obtained a further 20 – once these have gone, I'm afraid that will be it. They make wonderful Christmas gift. Consider a gift from the Gift Shop this Christmas. It just may be the gift to rekindle someone's faith.

Eftpos is available so come along and finish off your Christmas shopping in the peacefulness of the Gift Shop. Most of you leave by the side door, so wander back in after Mass if you are rushed for time before. It costs nothing to browse.



MORNINGTON COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Alone on Christmas Day?

Living in Mornington, Mt Eliza,
Moorooduc, or Mt Martha?



Join us for a FREE traditional
Christmas Lunch



Christmas Day
Saturday 25 December 2021 12pm to 2pm
The Studio @ PCT
91 Wilsons Rd, Mornington

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL BY 10 DEC 21 - LIMITED NUMBERS

Proof of double COVID-19 vaccination required when booking

Book with

Mornington Community Information & Support Centre
via front.desk@mcisc.org.au or call 5975 1644

Brought to you by:



Kindly sponsored by:



Community Bank
Mount Martha



St Patrick's Cathedral & Cathedral Brass present

FESTIVE MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

WED 15 DEC, 7-8PM

Gabrieli, Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn and other Christmas favourites

Brett Kelly
Conductor

Anthony Halliday
Organist

Full program details, bookings & enquiries:

www.trybooking.com/BVJPD

Experience spiritual & sacred time & space.

St Patrick's Cathedral
1 Cathedral Pl, East Melbourne VIC 3002
Corner of Cathedral Place and Gisborne St

Children under 15 free
Tickets \$25 available at the door



ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
MELBOURNE

ROSTERS

Second Sunday of Advent – 4th & 5th December 2021

- 6.00pm:** Reader: Carmel Coles
Commentator: Iris Hallinan
Candle: Joyce Ward
Eucharistic Ministers: Kees and Mairi Duyvestyn
Jesse Tree: Lyn Thorpe and Grandson
- 9.00am:** Reader: Michael Kesik
Commentator: John Azzopardi
Candle: Christina Llopart
Eucharistic Ministers: Joseph Thoppil, Patricia Thomas
Jesse Tree: Robbie and Sam Thoppil
- 11.00am:** Reader: Bernard Butler
Commentator: Joan Clements
Candle: Sandra Barret
Eucharistic Ministers: Evelyn Atkins, Barbara Ensil
Jesse Tree: Gabby, Eloise, Milly

Third Sunday of Advent – 11th & 12th December 2021

- 6.00pm:** Reader: Carmel Coles
Commentator: Iris Hallinan
Candle: Joyce Ward
Eucharistic Ministers: Kees and Mairi Duyvestyn
Jesse Tree: Lyn Thorpe and Grandson
- 9.00am:** Reader: Michael Kesik
Commentator: John Azzopardi
Candle: Christina Llopart
Eucharistic Ministers: Joseph Thoppil, Patricia Thomas
Jesse Tree: Robbie and Sam Thoppil
- 11.00am:** Reader: Bernard Butler
Commentator: Joan Clements
Candle: Sandra Barret
Eucharistic Ministers: Evelyn Atkins, Barbara Ensil
Jesse Tree: Gabby, Eloise, Milly
- 5pm:** Reader: Joe Melham
Commentator: Pat Guest
Candle: Jonty Field
Eucharistic Ministers: Marino, Danielle Field
Sheep: Grace Guest

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

Email: Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Volunteer Application Support Officer: Tim Lambourne:

Email: timlambourne@yahoo.com.au

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,

Email: Morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au

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

Email: veronicaryan2250@outlook.com

St Macartans Gift Shop: Trish Thomas: 0425 749 379

Marriage & Counselling: Charmaine Holmes: 5977 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: mccoach@gmail.com

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

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