

Third Sunday of Advent YrC 12 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](mailto:mornington@cam.org.au) Web: [stmacartansparish.com.au](http://stmacartansparish.com.au)

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Geoffrey McIlroy  
Parish Secretary: Cynthia Gooriah



**PLEASE NOTE: Coming up:**

**No 6pm Mass Sat. 25th December**

**No 5pm Mass Sun. 26th 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 Mass for the 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:

- Mon 13th: St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr
- Tue 14th: St John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor

### 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 Mass for the Year**

### Baptism Preparation:

Michael McGrath:  
[mcgcoach@gmail.com](mailto:mcgcoach@gmail.com)

### Baptism Meetings:

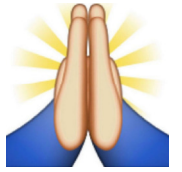
**1st Wednesday** of each Month (except  
school holidays) - at 7pm In Parish Hall.

## **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, Paul Girolami and Val Carr.

**Recently deceased:** Zvonimir Capan.

**Death Anniversaries:** Alexandra Presniakovas, Eileen Duryea, Bernadette Robertson, Graham Ellis and Laurie Drake.



### ***First Reading*** [Zep 3:14-18](#)

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

*With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.*

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,  
Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart,  
daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence;  
he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;  
you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:

Zion, have no fear,  
do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst,  
a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you,  
he will renew you by his love;  
he will dance with shouts of joy for you  
as on a day of festival.

### ***Responsorial Psalm*** [Is 12:2-6](#) [R. v.6](#)

**(R.)** Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. **(R.)**

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. **(R.)**

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

## **Second Reading**

Phil 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*The Lord is near.*

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

Lk 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*What, then, must we do?*

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

## **Communion Antiphon**

Cf. Is 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



## Have you thought?

### A change of heart

*The baptism that John preached and practised was a baptism of repentance. What he called on people to do was to recognise the areas of their lives that were unbalancing their relationship with God. There was a strong recognition that unless they were in right relationship with one another they could not be in right relationship with God. In recognising the need for change in their lives, John challenged them to also make a change of heart: to approach their lives differently. This is why they were questioning him about practical ways of living out their new commitment.*

## EXPLORING THE WORD

‘What must we do?’ This is a profound question. The answer does not lie in pious gestures or private devotions. The Baptist is very clear that to be saved, people need to respond to the ways of God by being in right relationship with their neighbour and by living justly. The justice of God is forged in right relationship, so that those who have more share with those who have nothing; so that people are treated fairly and no extortion or violence is used against them. John is inviting his hearers to form a new society, and they begin to suspect that he may be the Messiah. But he is adamant that one more powerful than himself is still to come, bringing a baptism of

the Holy Spirit and of fire. At Pentecost, this baptism becomes a reality for the early Church, forming its members into the new society who respond to God’s love by imitating the life and the love of the Son. They must now live like the wheat and not like the chaff, fit only to be burnt.

- If we were to ask today, ‘What must we do?’, how might John answer us?

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

- ‘A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people.’ Is there an expectancy growing in you as the coming of Christ draws closer?
- What must we do? Are there things that you can do in your life in order to live more ethically? John’s words offer a deep challenge to how people live.
- Make a special effort to live ethically this week. There are many opportunities provided by various church agencies at this time of year to share our wealth or good fortune with those who have little. Share yours.
- Living ethically is not always an easy thing to do. What are some of the challenges of the present age that make it difficult to live ethically? How often do we hear, ‘But everyone does it’, and what are some of the circumstances about which such a statement is made? How should a Christian respond in such circumstances? Share your reflections.
- Use this week’s responsorial psalm as this week’s prayer:

*Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear. For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. Cry out with joy and gladness: For among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Tax collectors at the time of Jesus were disliked immensely for two reasons: they collaborated with the Roman oppressors and they skimmed additional monies from the people for themselves.
- The Jewish people of this time were hopeful that a messiah would come to overthrow the tyranny of the Roman Empire and set them free.
- The word messiah in Hebrew means 'anointed one'; the word Christ has exactly the same meaning in Greek.

### **SHARING THE TRADITION**

The figure of John the Baptist holds a special place in the life of the Church as one of the first people to recognise Jesus as the awaited Messiah.

- You could look at the scriptural passages that give us what information we have on John the Baptist.
- You could discuss John's withdrawal into the desert and the tradition of withdrawal that is part of the life of the Church.
- What opportunities exist today for people to withdraw or retreat into a quiet place for prayer?
- What are the benefits of such a withdrawal?

### **SYMBOLS AND IMAGES**

The image of Jesus as a farmer who separates the wheat from the chaff is a stern one, but it serves as a reminder that the choices we make have consequences, not only in this life but in the eternal life to come. Truly living the life of a Christian is not an easy task.

### **LIVING THE WORD**

- Does your parish community offer any opportunities for people to undertake a retreat program? Is this something that could be introduced? In the lead-up to Christmas, are there ways in which the group can be encouraged to withdraw from the hustle and bustle to a quiet place for prayer and preparation?
- Use the ritual lighting of the Advent wreath candle. You could use some reflective music and spend time in quiet contemplation of the question, 'What must I do?' Pray for each other in your search. An appropriate song could be the Taizé chant 'Wait for the Lord' (GA 283). Conclude with an adaptation of the prayer of exorcism in the RCIA at §94G.





## WEEK 3

### Be Still

This week we light three candles in the Advent wreath. Or if you don't have a wreath, light a special candle. We are reminded that the ancient peoples longed for someone to come to them and give them hope for a better way of living. We are reminded of our own hopes and longings as we prepare for Christmas. Traditionally, the third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday, signalled by the entrance antiphon:

'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near' (Philippians 4:4–5). As we move into this third week of Advent, we think about what it means to be bearers of joy—a people who have the opportunity to continue St John the Baptist's work and to be bearers of the Good News. Take a moment to allow whatever is in your heart to rise and to offer your thoughts to the loving care of the Lord. • I think about my life: for what am I joyful?

### Ponder

In his encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), Pope Francis commends the practice of *lectio divina*, where we read God's word in prayer, dwelling on the aspects of a text that particularly strike us and asking that it 'enlighten and renew' us. The following questions may help with this:

- Lord, what does this text mean to me?
- What is it about my life that you want me to change in response to this text?
  - What troubles me about this text?
  - Why am I not interested in this?
  - What do I find pleasant about this text?
- What is it about this word or phrase that moves me?
  - What attracts me?
  - Why does it attract me?

### Pray

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.  
Philippians 4:4–5

## **Pope in Greece: May the Spirit be poured out in a new Pentecost**

*His Beatitude Archbishop Ieronymos II of Athens and All Greece welcomes Pope Francis to the Orthodox Archbishopric of Greece in Athens. With a spirit of brotherhood and mutual respect, both leaders express their good wishes for each other looking at ways to face the challenges and hopes of today.*

*By Vatican News staff writer*

Pope Francis and Archbishop Ieronymos II of Athens and All Greece greeted each other warmly at the Orthodox Archbishopric in Athens. The Archbishop offered an introductory address expressing "feelings of brotherhood and honour" in welcoming the Pope to the seat of the Church of Athens, while recalling their joint visit to the island of Lesbos in 2016 to raise global awareness about the plight of refugees and migrants. In his wide-ranging address, Archbishop Ieronymos recalled

day, including the grant, and refugee urgent solutions, change, as well as developments in technology displacing the roots also recalled this the Greek struggle ing regret over what opportunities" for in support of their



time, looking to the future, he renewed his great esteem and affection for Pope Francis and common efforts to move forward as brothers by looking at the lights and shadows of the past and present in a continuing dialogue of "truth and love" for the unity of Christians.

### **Sharing the joy of fraternity**

In his address, Pope Francis expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome and affection expressed by his Beatitude, and he greeted all the Orthodox faithful of Greece. He recalled their common meeting in Lesbos in 2016 where the Pope and the Primate showed their solidarity and brought attention to the plight of suffering refugees and migrants on that island. He said they are now meeting again "to share the joy of fraternity" and to view the Mediterranean as a "sea that brings peoples together". He recalled the metaphor of the age-old olive trees present here and how they have deep roots sustaining them. The Pope likened them to the common, apostolic roots of Christianity which have endured over the centuries.

### **Kindle in our hearts the desire for communion**

Pope Francis said, "We need prayer for one another in order to bring to the world God's consolation and to heal our wounded relationships." Prayer, he said, is essential to overcome the past. He prayed that the Spirit of the crucified and risen Lord might come upon us and grant us "a calm, clear-sighted, and truthful vision of things enlivened by divine mercy and capable of freeing people's minds and inspiring in everyone a renewed willingness." He prayed that the Lord may "kindle in our hearts the desire for communion, enlighten us with His wisdom and anoint us with His consolation."

pressing issues of our pandemic, the crisis which calls for response to climate fast-paced developing culture and of Christian faith. He year's bicentennial of for freedom, expressing he termed "missed the Catholic Church struggle. At the same

## 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

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### 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)

**CUPPA AFTER 9AM MASS - IS BACK!**

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



### PIETY STORE

#### St Macartan's Gift Shop Hours

**Saturday:** 9.00am – 10.00am, 5.30pm – 6.00pm, **Sunday:** 8.30am – 9.00am, 10.00am – 11.00am and after Mass, **Tuesday:** 8.30am – 10.00am

If you require anything urgently outside of these hours, contact Trish on 0425 749 379



## St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal



The Christmas Appeal for our local St Vincent de Paul Conference will take place at weekend Masses on 18 and 19 December. Conference members have been working hard all through this Covid period distributing food and vouchers to local residents in need. The Conference would be grateful for financial support. There will be a third collection at each Mass. Also please note that any pay pass donations will be given to St Vincent de Paul for this appeal. Also, envelopes will be placed at all Masses. Non-perishable food donations also would be appreciated.

The Conference would welcome any new members - if interested in joining, please contact the new Leader Barry Murphy on 0419 225 455.

Like the Conference, our two Mornington Vinnies shops have been providing wonderful service to the Community. They too are seeking new volunteers. If you would like to help in the shops - for the Mornington-Tyabb Rd shop, please contact Fiona on 59768526; or for the Main St shop, please call Jo on 59754166.



MORNINGTONPARISH.YOUTH

### ENCOUNTER

ENDURE A BUNCH OF GROSS  
CHALLENGES, TO COMPETE FOR A  
**\$20 MOVIE GIFT VOUCHER!**

### FEAR FACTOR

FRIDAY 10/12  
6:30-8:30  
ST MACS'S HALL

BRING A CHANGE  
OF CLOTHES,  
THINGS WILL GET  
MESSY!

3RD OF DEC  
10TH OF DEC  
17TH OF DEC -  
END OF YEAR  
PARTY!

#GetKeen  
#Encounteryouth

## COVID MARSHALS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS MASS

We are in need of people to volunteer to be Covid Marshals for our Christmas Masses.

Please contact the Parish office, if you are interested.



# 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](mailto:front.desk@mcisc.org.au) or call 5975 1644

Brought to you by:



Kindly sponsored by:



Community Bank  
Mount Martha







# Jokes of the Week



#1: **"He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none"** (Lk 3:11): I once heard of a Christian speaker who declared rhetorically, expecting the answer, "Yes": "If you had two houses, you would give one to the poor, wouldn't you?" "Yes," said the man to whom the question was directed, "indeed I would." "And if you had two cars," went on the speaker, "you would keep one and give the other away?" "Yes, of course," said the man. "And if you had two shirts, you would give one away?" "Hey, wait a minute," said the man, "I've got two shirts."

#2: **Usher Seats Pastor's Mother:** An elderly woman walked into the local country church. A friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring with his long Advent homilies." "Do you happen to know who I am?" asked the woman. "No," said the usher. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" the usher asked. "No," she said. "Good." Said the usher.

And no, my Mother didn't tell me this one - Fr Geoff



## **ROSTERS**

### **Third Sunday of Advent – 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

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

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent – 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

- 6.00pm:** Reader: Kees Duyvestyn  
Commentator: Brian Scantlebury  
Candle: Rosina di Petta  
Eucharistic Ministers: Michael Turner, Joyce Ward
- 9.00am:** Reader: Spencer Miere  
Commentator:  
Candle:  
Eucharistic Ministers: Marcelle Azzopardi, Mary Lewis
- 11.00am:** Reader: Trish Duryea  
Commentator:  
Candle: Bridie Sexton  
Eucharistic Ministers: Evelyn Atkins, Sandra Barrett

### **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 Mc Greal **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 Macartan's 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:** Michael McGrath, email: [mccoach@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jody54@westnet.com.au)