

**The BAPTISM of the LORD YrC 9 January 2022**

**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

*Assistant Priest:* Fr Jude Johnson

*Parish Secretary:* Cynthia Goorah



**PLEASE NOTE:**

**MASKS ARE MANDATORY INDOORS!**

**Proof of vaccination is NOT required**

**QR code scanning is still encouraged**

**Mass Times:**

**Weekdays:** Tuesday to Saturday  
9:15am

**Saturday night:** 6pm.

**Sunday:** 9am, 11am

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

**Begin again Sunday 23rd!**

**Holy Hour / Adoration**

Every Friday after 9:15 Mass & 1st Saturdays each month after 9:15am Mass

**Begin again Sunday 23rd!**

**RECONCILIATION:** After 9:15am Mass

**Video Sunday Mass**

On Line found on Parish's YouTube page: (Ctrl and enter) on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOpptks0Fw/videos>

Also view our Parish website:

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

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

**Upcoming Holy Days:**

- Sun 9th: The BAPTISM of the LORD

**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.*

**Parish Office Christmas Break:**

**Please note that the Parish Office will reopen on the 11th of January 2022.**

**PS- IF YOU HAVE ENVELOPE NO.:58,  
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE.**

## **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 Val Carr.



### ***First Reading*** [Is 40:1-5. 9-11](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.*

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God.

‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

### ***Responsorial Psalm*** [Ps 103:1-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-30. R. v.1](#)

**(R.)** Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

1. Lord God, how great you are,  
clothed in majesty and glory,  
wrapped in light as in a robe!

You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **(R.)**

2. Above the rains you build your dwelling.  
You make the clouds your chariot,  
you walk on the wings of the wind,  
you make the winds your messengers  
and flashing fire your servants. **(R.)**

3. How many are your works, O Lord!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your riches.  
There is the sea, vast and wide,  
with its moving swarms past counting,  
living things great and small. **(R.)**

4. All of these look to you  
to give them their food in due season.  
You give it, they gather it up:  
you open your hand, they have their fill. **(R.)**

5. You take back your spirit, they die,  
returning to the dust from which they came.  
You send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**

## **Second Reading**

Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Lk 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I;  
he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.  
Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

Lk 3:15-16. 21-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.*

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.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

## **Communion Antiphon**

Jn 1:32,34

Behold the One of whom John said:  
I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

# **Historical**

## **Context**

### **Baptism**

John makes clear to the people that the baptism he performs is with water but the baptism by Jesus is with the Holy Spirit. John preached a baptism of repentance. In keeping with his Jewish tradition, John called upon the people to make a public declaration of their wrong-doing and commitment to be washed clean of this sinfulness and desire to live in right relationship with God and others. The baptism to which he refers is the complete change of heart and mind that comes through the Holy Spirit and results from a person accepting the message of Jesus.

### **EXPLORING THE WORD**

A small text later in the Gospel of Luke offers us a key to today's gospel. During his public ministry, Jesus will say: 'Up to the time of John it was the Law and the Prophets; since then the Kingdom of God has been preached' (Luke 16:16). The baptism of Jesus marks the turning point. Today's gospel tells the story of crossing the threshold from the old order into the new. John very clearly states that despite some people's expectations, he is not the Messiah—the usher of the new order. John points beyond his own time to a future when God's Spirit is given at baptism, and the first of such baptisms belongs to Jesus himself. Immediately after Jesus' somewhat anonymous immersion along with 'all the people', the Spirit does indeed come to Jesus, and the affirming voice from heaven announces

Christ's sonship. God has come among us indeed.

- In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is very aware of the consequences of submitting to the baptism proclaimed by John. Filled with the Holy Spirit, he goes into the desert, where he wrestles with all that he will be forced to forego in taking up his role as God's beloved Son. His resolve is firm, and he announces his mission in the synagogue at Nazareth. You could read together the next chapters of Luke, which trace this resolution.
- What will be the consequences of baptism for you? How will your life change? What will you be sent to do?

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- This feast and the wedding at Cana miracle (next week's gospel) were originally celebrated on the same day as the feast of the Epiphany because they are also considered to be manifestations of the Christ.
- The word baptism comes from a Greek word meaning 'to plunge'.
- The first Christians were baptised by being plunged into running streams or rivers, following the practice of John. Later, large fonts were built in churches, and baptism of the faithful, usually adults, was by full immersion.
- The mainstream Christian churches—Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant and Anglican—recognise the same baptism. If a person is baptised into one of these churches, it is not repeated, even if they move to worshiping in another church.
- Jesus is clearly attracted by the preaching of the Baptist and submits to his baptism of repentance. Scholars believe that Jesus may have spent some time as a disciple of John the Baptist before embarking on his own public ministry.