

Third SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YrC 23 January 2022

PARISH BULLETIN

St Macartan's Catholic Parish



4 Drake St, Mornington VIC 3931
Parish Office: Tue to Fri 9am to 4pm: Ph: 5975 2200
Email: mornington@cam.org.au
Web: stmacartansparish.com.au
Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Geoffrey McIlroy
Assistant Priest: Fr Jude Johnson
Parish Secretary: Cynthia Gooriah



The Light of Christ

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
Wed & Sat.

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/

Upcoming Holy Days:

- Mon 24th: St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor
- Tue 25th: The Conversation of St Paul, Apostle
- Wed 26th: Sts Timothy and Titus, Bishops (AUSTRALIA DAY)
- Fri 28th: St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor

Child Safety: At St Macartan's Catholic Church, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display in the church, community centre & hall. All Parish Policies are available on the website.

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, Aaron Eastley and Val Carr.



First Reading Neh 8:2-6. 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, ‘This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep’. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, ‘Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8-10. 15. R. See Jn 6:63

(R.) Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)

2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. (R.)

3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. (R.)

4. May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Gospel Acclamation See Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:1-4. 4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,

to proclaim liberty to captives

and to the blind new sight,

to set the downtrodden free,

to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 33:6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

Scriptural Context

Framing

On either side of the quote from Isaiah in today's gospel there are very symmetrical actions. Before reading, Jesus stands, is handed the scroll and then unrolls the scroll. On completion he rolls up the scroll, hands it back and then sits down. There is a balance to every action. This framing or bracketing technique is used throughout the gospel of Luke as a cue to the audience. Whenever this framing occurs, it means that there is a very important teaching or action that occurs within the frame. On this occasion, the frame surrounds Jesus declaring his intentions for his ministry.

EXPLORING THE WORD

It is very unusual in the sequence of Sunday gospels to have two texts from completely different chapters, but such is the case this week. The opening text from Luke claims that he has a special purpose in undertaking to write his gospel. It is clear that Luke did not know Jesus personally—indeed he places himself among those to whom the story of Jesus ‘was handed down’, first by eyewitnesses and then by ministers of the word. Luke is of the second or third generation of Christians, and his purpose is to ‘write an ordered account’ to instruct Theophilus so that ‘he can learn how well founded the teaching is.’ The Lectionary then moves to this central text in Luke,

where the mission and mandate of Jesus are proclaimed. The text from Isaiah chosen by Jesus is about the coming of the Messiah or the ‘anointed one’. Two weeks ago, we read the text of the baptism of Jesus, where the Spirit had indeed been given to him and he had indeed been anointed by God as the one who carries God’s favour. Here Jesus announces how he will carry out his messianic mission of bringing hope to the hopeless. The gospel continues with Jesus carrying out this mandate. Luke includes many stories of Jesus bringing good news to the poor, of raising up those who are downtrodden, of bringing sight to the blind. His whole ministry is his living out of this very task. Indeed, ‘this text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’

- Are there ways in which you can see yourself as among the ‘poor’, the ‘blind’, the ‘downtrodden’ or the ‘captive’.
- In what ways does Jesus relieve these limitations?
- In what ways are we called to be bringers of good news to these situations?

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

In this passage, Jesus announces his mission: to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind and freedom to the downtrodden. The remainder of Luke’s Gospel portrays Jesus fulfilling this mission! How will the Spirit coming to you at baptism give you a new mission?

DID YOU KNOW?

- The name Theophilus literally means ‘friend of God’ or ‘lover of God’. Both the Gospel of Luke and Luke’s second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, are addressed to him. It is not known who he was.
- Of all the gospels, Luke’s is the most explicit and frequent in its references to the Holy Spirit.
- The Jewish Sabbath runs from sunset on Friday until sunset on Saturday.
- All Jewish men who have been ‘bar mitzvah’ (meaning ‘son of the law’) are eligible to come forward to read the sacred scrolls.
- Jesus would have been attending the very important Saturday morning synagogue prayers.

SHARING THE TRADITION

Jesus was very familiar with the Scriptures as the revealed word of God and was obviously nourished by the richness of the Scriptures. We encounter the word of God in many ways in our human experience: in our conscience, the events of our lives, the people we meet, the beauty of nature. But most explicitly, we hear God’s word to us when we read the Scriptures or hear them proclaimed in the liturgy. ‘If the Scriptures are not to remain a dead letter, Christ, the eternal Word of the living God, must, through the Holy Spirit, “open our minds to understand the Scriptures”’ (CCC, §108).

- Introduce the possibility of using the Scriptures as a means of personal prayer and meditation.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- ‘So that you may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.’ Are you convinced of the truth of what you have been hearing and learning?
- How do you bring good news to others?
- This week, offer the gift of yourself to someone who is downtrodden, or be ‘good news’ to someone who is in need.
- Have you ever acted as a witness, either in a courtroom, at a wedding, on a legal document or simply to a traffic accident? What responsibilities come with acting as a witness? How did you feel? Were you up to the task? Share your experiences.
- Repeat often and contemplate this week: *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has chosen me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.*

Pope: "I miss being able to roam the streets like I did in Buenos Aires"

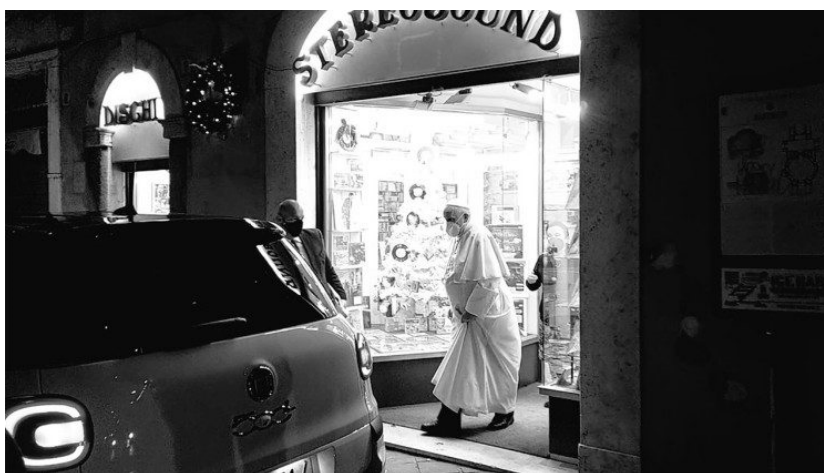
Pope Francis sends a brief letter to Rome-based journalist Javier Martínez Brocal who recently photographed the Pope leaving a record store, and encourages reporters to fulfill their journalistic vocation even if it makes others uncomfortable.

By Salvatore Cernuzio

"What I miss most in this Diocese is not being able to 'wander the streets,' as I did in Buenos Aires, walking from one parish to another." Pope Francis made this remark in a letter to Spanish journalist Javier Martínez Brocal, the director of the Rome-based news website Rome Reports. On 11 January, the reporter was passing through Rome's Pantheon area and saw the Pope leaving "Stereosound," a record store whose owners he has known since his days as the Archbishop of Buenos Aires. The black and white photo of the Pope exiting the "disc-store of the Pantheon" – as local Romans call the locale – carrying a classical music record given to him by the owner of the store, Letizia Giostra, and her daughter Tiziana, went viral on social networks within minutes.

'Bad timing'

The Pope himself and thanked Brocal post. At the same "one cannot deny 'terrible fate' (a mis- that, after taking all there was a journal- someone at the cab Pope immediately letter that this re- light-hearted joke: "We must not lose our sense of humor." He also encouraged reporters to "fulfill their vocation" as journalists, "even if it means embarrassing ('mettere in difficoltà') the Pope."



saw the photo for this "noble" time, he wrote, that it was a fortune, ed.) precautions, ist waiting for stop." The clarified in his mark was a

Brief outing

Pope Francis is no stranger to trips 'out-on-the-town', having visited an optician's store in 2015 and then an orthopedic store in 2016. He had ventured out late Tuesday afternoon to the music store in the heart of Rome to bless the recently renovated premises. He chatted for about ten minutes with the owner, an old acquaintance of his from the days when he stayed as Archbishop of Buenos Aires in the "House of the Clergy" in Via della Scrofa.

Long-held desire

Since the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis has revealed a nostalgia for being able to move freely about the city. "I miss going out into the streets; I truly long for it, the tranquility of walking down the street, I miss very much: the possibility of going out and wandering around on the street. I enjoy visiting parishes and meeting people."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A PARISH EXTRAVAGANZA!!!!



After 11am Mass on Sunday 27th March

Let us ALL come together and celebrate a NEW YEAR - 2022
By welcoming our new prep / foundation children and their parentS plus any new teachers, from our terrific Primary School.

How? - By having fun and food at a Parish run Picnic / BBQ & Parish Expo
Where? - On the Church grounds.

And we would like ALL our parishioners there.

If you are interested, please contact Cynthia on 5975 2200.

PLEASE NOTE!



THE NEW DATE WILL BE 27TH OF MARCH 2022.

St. Vincent de Paul



Dear parishioners,

if you know of somebody, ANYBODY! who is in need, advise them to
contact SVDP Call Centre on 5976 4974 and they will endeavor to assist.

THANK YOU TO CHRIS SMYTH

On behalf of everyone in the Parish, we would like to take the opportunity to extend a sincere and huge thank you to Chris Smyth for his valuable contribution to the music liturgy at St. Macartan's over many years. Chris has played the Organ with much honour and his input is greatly appreciated.

We wish you a long, relaxing retirement and many blessings in the future.

Fr. Geoff, Veronica and the Music Liturgy team.



Jokes of the Week



1) "**I've been looking for these for 3 years!**" A door-to-door salesman from a publishing house asked a lady if she owned a copy of the Bible. "I certainly do!" she replied with some pride. To his next question, did she read it regularly, she responded, "Oh, yes!" and sent her little daughter to get the Bible from the table drawer. As she showed it to the man, her spectacles fell from between the pages. Without thinking, she exclaimed, "Oh, here are my glasses! I've been looking for these for 3 years!"

2) **Three times:** Too many people come to Church three times primarily. They're baptized, they get married, and they have their funeral service at the Church. The first time they throw water on you, the second time rice, the third time dirt!

3) **A husband asked his wife,** "Why would God give the wise men a star to guide them?" She replied, "Because God knows men are too proud to ask directions."

4) **The young pastor** was teaching the 23rd psalm to the Sunday school children. He told them that they were sheep who needed guidance. Then the priest asked, "If you are the sheep then who is the shepherd?" (Obviously meaning himself). A silence of a few seconds followed. Then a young boy said, "Jesus. Jesus is the Shepherd." The young priest, obviously caught by surprise, said to the boy, "Well then, who am I?" The boy frowned thoughtfully and then said, "I guess you must be a sheep dog."

