

Seventh SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YrC 20 February 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



PLEASE NOTE:

MASKS ARE MANDATORY INDOORS!

Proof of vaccination is NOT Mandatory

QR code scanning is MANDATORY!

Mass Times:

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday
9:15am

Saturday night: 6pm.

Sunday: 9am, 11am

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

FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2022

MASS FOR YEAR 4 STUDENTS

Holy Hour / Adoration

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

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://www.stmacartansparish.com.au/>

Upcoming Holy Days:

- Tue 22nd: The Chair of St Peter, Apostle
- Wed 23rd: St Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr

Alter Servers Registration Form:

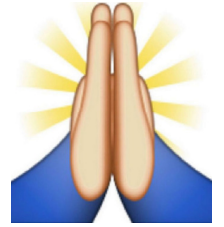
Please return completed Registration Forms to the Parish office at your earliest convenience. "Alter Servers: Come and See Evening" will be held on 5th of March 2022 at 4.30pm. The parish will contact you in this regard.

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Pray for the sick and their Carers: Dean Pratt, Tony Formosa, Betty Corke, Sheila Wright, Wilma McCoy, Kevin Paganoni, Fiona Rush, Aaron Eastley, Bruce Reekie and Val Carr.

Recently deceased: Martina Malloy and Anne Marie McNair.

Death Anniversaries: Michael Speirani and Laurie Robinson.



First Reading 1 Sm 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:45-49

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

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Communion Antiphon Ps 9:2-3

I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

Historical **Context**

In the midst of oppression

What a powerful message Jesus delivered to people who were subjugated and oppressed by an invading army. It would have been easy, and somehow 'natural', for the people of Palestine to hate the Roman occupiers and to seek revenge upon them. How confronting then for Jesus to say, 'love your enemies'! He tells the people that the way to live God's way in this situation was to be compassionate towards the oppressors; that when they rob you of your cloak to present them with your shirt as well. To do otherwise is to become like the oppressors themselves. Meeting hatred with hatred never ended hatred.

EXPLORING THE WORD

In last week's gospel, the disciples learnt that to be a faithful follower of Jesus, they must be committed to a new order. This week's text tells them how they must live in that new order; in a sense, it provides the practical details. What Jesus is suggesting should not be confused with passivity or simply inaction or resignation in the face of persecution and injustice. Quite the contrary! What Jesus is suggesting is radical action. It demands that we act towards others without being asked, that believers offer friendship and pardon constantly, without asking or hoping for anything in return. In Jesus we find God's self-revelation, God's actions in and for the world, his plan for sal-

vation and its fulfilment. Followers of Jesus must act in these ways precisely because they are the ways of God.

- Turn the other cheek; love your enemies; do good to those who hurt you! Why should we? How can we? How challenging do you find this directive?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- What is the most challenging thing for you in this text?
- In what ways have you experienced the compassion of God?
- Respond in a practical way to one of the commands of Jesus in this gospel—for example, you could pray for those who treat you badly, show compassion to someone or forgive someone who has wronged you.
- Describe an experience of being hurt, criticised, misjudged or wronged in some way. How did you feel and how did your feelings affect your response to the situation?
- Repeat this line from the Lord's Prayer often this week and act on it: Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

DID YOU KNOW?

This gospel contains the most challenging of all the Christian commandments and probably the most difficult to keep: love your enemies and do good to those who hurt you.

SHARING THE TRADITION

This text—along with the fifth commandment, ‘Thou shalt not kill’—offers clear guidance to the Church in relation to acts of violence and war. And yet, shamefully, we can all point to some terrible events in history where the Church seems to have disregarded such directives.

- You could make special mention of some of the public apologies made by the Church over recent years for past wrongs—for example, that of Pope John Paul II for the Crusades and the Inquisition during the Jubilee Year in 2000, or, more recently, apologies for situations of injustice or abuse within the Church itself, or for cooperating with the removal of Indigenous children from their families.

It is important that we recognise that sometimes the Church—as a divine institution, but one that is also limited by human frailty in its actions and historical circumstances—must seek to redress any situations of injustice or hurt in order to move forward in a way more in tune with God’s plan for the world.

- You could explore some of the ways the Church is attempting to redress past wrongs (for example, by promoting religious dialogue with Islam and Judaism, or by accepting responsibility for clerical abuse) and thus provide a better witness to the demands of the Gospel.
- Be sure to bring your discussion of this teaching back down to the personal level of how a Christian is to live in their daily life.

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

This text follows immediately on from the Beatitudes of last week’s gospel. It continues the theme of the radical reversal called for by the Gospel. What the world might consider simply human nature or a natural response is not the way of Jesus’ disciples, who follow a different world order. They must act and respond in a certain way because that is the way of God!

Pope urges a prayerful preparation for 2025 Jubilee

Pope Francis sends a letter to Archbishop Rino Fisichella, President of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation, as the Church begins preparations for the 2025 Jubilee year. By Francesca Merlo

Preparations are beginning within the Church for the upcoming Jubilee year, due to be held in 2025. In a letter addressed to President of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation, Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pope Francis noted that "the Jubilee has always been an event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church". He recalled that ever since the year 1300, which marked the first Holy Year, "God's holy and faithful people has experienced this celebration as a special gift of grace, characterized by the forgiveness of sins and in particular by the indulgence, which is a full expression of the mercy of God".

The first twenty-five years: Pope Francis then recalled "the Great Jubilee of the year 2000", describing it as having ushered the Church into history". In that regard, he continued, Saint John and greatly looked forward that all Christians, putting behind their historical divisions, could celebrate to-anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ. "Now, as the first twenty-five years of close, we are called to enter into a season of preparation that can enable the Christian people to experience the Holy Year in all its pastoral richness", stressed the Pope.



For the vulnerable: In light of the recent Covid-19 pandemic, which left no country unscathed, Pope Francis writes that he has chosen the motto "Pilgrims of Hope", for the Jubilee. He explained that this will indeed be the case if we are capable of "recovering a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity". With this in mind, continued the Pope, "I think in particular of the many refugees forced to abandon their native lands". May the voices of the poor be heard throughout this time of preparation for the Jubilee, said the Pope, explaining that it is "meant to restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone".

Aspects reflected in society: The Pope then stressed the importance that the spiritual dimension of the Jubilee, "which calls for conversion", also embrace the fundamental aspects of our society, "as part of a coherent whole". He expressed his hope that special consideration also be given to the care for our common home, as "growing numbers of men and women, including many young people and children, have come to realize that care for creation is an essential expression of our faith in God and our obedience to his will".

Bringing his discourse to an end, the Pope expressed his desire that in this time of preparation, "we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great "symphony" of prayer. Prayer, above all else, concluded the Pope, "to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him".

Continuing to Keep Our Parish Secure: Now and in The Future

Dear Parishioners,

Last year we encouraged all parishioners to participate in thanksgiving contributions by using direct debit, thank you to many who have taken up this option. Our Parish contributions since Covid began has dropped considerably.

This is leaving the Parish in a financially vulnerable position.

Contribution Envelopes - Those who have not yet collected theirs can pick them up from the Church foyer.

Direct Debit - Is the preferred payment method (Call Office for details)

Direct Deposit - **BSB: 083-347 Account No.: 547373281**

Could I please encourage everyone to use either of these facilities above to ensure that our planned giving contribution is maintained through these testing times. For those who are still contributing, I am deeply grateful. It means the work of the parish can continue in these difficult days.

**Thank you for your commitment to the parish. It is deeply appreciated.
Blessings Fr Geoff**

JOB VACANCY: Pastoral Youth Worker, Parish of St Macartan's

Our Catholic worshipping communities across the Peninsular are integral to us living our faith. As such we need to be connected to every generation and one that needs immediate attention and connectivity, is the youth and young adults of our Parish between the ages of 13 – 25-year-olds. The purpose of the Pastoral Youth Worker is to encourage youth to gather in a safe Christian environment, in formal and informal ways. Exploring social and spiritual relationships, encouraging friendships, Parish, and community connectiveness, and potentially growing new youth leaders. This is a full time position - 20+ hours per week [20hrs Mornington and 5hrs+ at another Parish TBC]. Weekend work and some evening work is essential.

Required Skills:

- Experience in Youth Work/Youth Ministry
- The ability to work cooperatively with the group.
- A capacity to facilitate ministry initiatives using the skills of Parishioners.
- A capacity to work effectively with volunteers across various Parish ministries and other Parishes.
- Experience in Parish Ministry. Working closely with the Parish Priest on a common vision for youth ministry.
- Effective interpersonal, group facilitation, and network skills.

For detailed information, please go to:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Or contact St Macartan's Catholic Church: email: mornington@cam.org.au



World Day of Prayer 2022

England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Date and time: Friday 4th March 2022 (2pm—4pm)

Location: St. Macartan's Church, Mornington

Contact Person: Helene America

We will have a guest speaker, a Welsh Reverend.

There will be afternoon refreshments provided in the Community Hall.

We are seeking Volunteers from all churches and encourage people to attend.

We also encourage Parishioners to bring along a plate of food.

Please; let's all support this & attend this wonderful day of prayer - Fr Geoff

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.



SUNDAY 27TH OF MARCH 2022

After 11am Mass

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.



Volunteers needed to join the Visitation Team

With the number of nursing homes and aged care facilities
increasing in our area, **more hands are needed.**

We would like to extend an invitation to Volunteers to join our group.

There will be coaching and training provided to put you at ease.

Please call Father Jude on 5975 2200.

**VISITATION TEM WILL HAVE A MEETING ON 22ND OF FEBRUARY 2022 AT
10AM IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

CHILD SAFETY



Dear Parishioners, continuing on from the last few weeks of the newsletter, the Code of Conduct includes a very graphic description of different forms of sexual abuse and misconduct such as pornography, flirting, grooming, inappropriate text messaging. Sexual abuse occurs when a person uses power, force or authority to involve or expose a child or young person to any form of sexual activity. Any form of sexual activity with or in the presence of, children and young people participating in Archdiocesan parish, agency or entity activities is prohibited.

At St Macartan's our code of conduct declaration is read and signed and witnessed by our volunteers who have declared that they will safeguard the health and wellbeing of children and young people at all times. The declaration is available on our website.

Carmel McGrath (Child Safety Officer)

Altar Servers Ministry

Altar Servers: "Come and See Evening" will be held on

5th of March 2022 at 4:30pm

The parish will contact you in this regard.



Our Catholic Faith #1



Godparents for a Catholic Baptism

In order that a child be baptized, it is necessary that the parents consent, or at least one of them, or someone legally standing in their place, and that there is reasonable hope that the child will be brought up in the Catholic Faith.

What are the requirements to be a godparent?

A godparent is to be a confirmed, Catholic Christian who is at least 16 years of age, and who faithfully practices and believes in the Catholic faith as a participating member of a parish community.

How many godparents should there be?

Church law only requires you to have one godparent; however, it has been tradition to have two.

Can the same godparents have responsibility for more than one child in the same family?

Yes, as long as they take seriously their responsibility and intention to help the children grow in faith.

What gender should the godparent be?

If you choose only one godparent, you are free to choose a male or a female. However, if you wish to have two godparents, there must be one male and one female.

Can a non-Catholic serve as a godparent?

A baptized person who belongs to another Christian community may be admitted only as a “Christian witness” (not a godparent) provided that there is at least one Roman Catholic godparent who fulfills the above criteria. A non-baptized person cannot be a witness (Code of Canon Law, cc. 872-874; Catechism of the Catholic Church 1255). During the baptism, a non-Catholic witness may perform all the parts of the ceremony that a godparent does. His or her name will be entered into the Sacrament Record Book and on the certificate as an “official witness”, together with the name of the godparent.

What is the difference between a godparent and a witness?

Canon Law describes a witness as “A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial (church) community.” A godparent is a confirmed, practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church.

Can someone serve as godparent by proxy (stand-in) if the godparent is unable to participate in the baptism ceremony?

If a godparent cannot attend the baptism ceremony, a Catholic proxy can stand in the place of the missing godparent. The name of that person will be entered as “proxy” in the Sacramental Record Book, along with the name of the missing godparent.



Jokes of the Week



#1: **"Forgive Your Enemies"** The preacher's Sunday sermon was, "Forgive Your Enemies." He asked, "How many have forgiven their enemies?" About half held up their hands. He then repeated the question. This time about eighty percent held up their hands. He then repeated his question a third time. The entire congregation held up their hands except one elderly lady. "Mrs. Jones," the preacher asked, "aren't you willing to forgive your enemies?" "I don't have any" she replied. "That is very unusual", the preacher said. "How old are you?" "Ninety-three." "Mrs. Jones, please come to the front and tell the congregation how a person cannot have an enemy in the world." The little sweetheart of a lady tottered down the aisle and said: "It's easy; I just outlived all those rascals!"



#2: **The preacher and the doctor:** There's a story told of a husband and wife both of whom were doctors – one a Doctor of Theology and the other a Doctor of Medicine. When their doorbell was rung and the maid answered, the inquirer would often ask for "the doctor". The maid's interesting reply was: "Do you want the one who preaches or the one who practices?"

#3: **Irish prayer:** There is an old Irish prayer that goes like this, "May God bless those who love us. And those who do not love us, may He turn their hearts. And if He does not turn their hearts, may He turn their ankles so we may know them by their limping."

Rosters for Special Ministers and Commentators - Mass Co-ordinators

6.00pm - Carmel Coles: 5975 3080

9.00am - Helen Britton : 0437 279 029

11.00am - Patricia Duryea: 0418 139 599

5.00pm - Marino Casamento: 0408 394 792

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th & 20th February 2022

6.00pm Readers : Fay Murphy, Carmel Coles

Eucharistic Mins: Tricia Hird, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers: Spencer Miere, John Azzopardi

Eucharistic Mins: John and Mary Lewis

11.00am Readers : Amaka Chiezey, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Mins: Evelyn Atkins, Sheila Goddard

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time– 26th & 27th February 2022

6.00pm Readers: Michael Turner, Iris Hallinan

Eucharistic Mins: Alis Fisher, Mairi Duyvestyn

9.00am Readers: Michael Kesik, Michael Kerr

Eucharistic Mins: Marcelle Azzopardi, Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Terry Roberts, Bernard Butler

Eucharistic Mins: Sandra Barrett, Barbara Ensil

5.00pm Readers: Jacinta Jolly, Marino Casamento

Eucharistic Mins: Richard Jolly

First Sunday of Lent – 5th & 6th March 2022

6.00pm Readers: Carmel Coles, Iris Hallinan

Eucharistic Mins: Michael Turner

9.00am Readers: Robert Thoppil, Emma Welsh

Eucharistic Mins: Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Irene Hackett, Bernard Butler

Eucharistic Mins: Bridie Sexton

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday 9am - 4pm

Office CLOSED on Weekends & Mondays

Email: mornington@cam.org.au Phone: 5975 2200

Schools:

St Macartan's Primary School: Ph: 5979 9200

Principal: Colleen McGreal **Deputy:** Kathleen Ronchi

Padua College: Ph: 5976 0100

Principal: Anthony Banks

Vice Principal: Mission, Identity & Community: Matthew Williams

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:

Email: Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Volunteer Application Support Officer: Tim Lambourne:

Email: timlambourne@yahoo.com.au

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

Email: Morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au

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

Email: veronicaryan2250@outlook.com

St Macartan's Gift Shop: Trish Thomas: 0425 749 379

St Vincent de Paul: Barry Murphy: 0419 225 455.

Marriage & Counselling: Charmaine Holmes: 5977 2665,

Email: charhomes@aapt.net.au

Marriage Preparation: Fr Geoff, Email: Geoffrey.mcilroy@cam.org.au

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays after 11am Mass, Contact Office: 5975 2200

Baptism Preparation: Michael McGrath, Email: mcgcoach@gmail.com

Memorial Wall: Contact Parish Office: **5975 2200**

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