FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YrC 27 March 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 NOT mandatory indoors!

(you may wear them if you want?)

Proof of vaccination is **NOT** required.

QR code scanning is **NOT** required.

Mass Times:

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday 9:15am

Saturday night: 6pm

Sunday: 9am, 11am

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

(Holy hour 3:30-4:30 before 5pm Mass)

Holy Hour / Adoration

Every Friday after 9:15 Mass & 1st Saturdays 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/

See an article on Fr Geoff: https:// melbournecatholic.org/news/faith-is-averb-fr-geoff-mcilroy

Coming up this week:

- Project Compassion began on 2 March 2022 (see details within)
- Lenten Prayer Services (see details within)
- Stations of the Cross (see details within)

Next School Grade Mass (Yr 2):

Friday 13th May 9:15am

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

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

Death Anniversaries: Walter Sylvester

Recently Deceased: Peter Lowe. Funeral: 30th of April at 11.30am at St Macartan's Parish.

First Reading

Jos 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

 I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips;
 in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)

2. Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name.I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)

3. Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress. (R.)
I will save him in distress and give him glory. (R.) the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)



Second Reading

2 Cor 5:17-21

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

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Lk 15:1-3. 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

Gospel Lk 15:1-3. 11-32 cont...

While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Creed is said.

Communion Antiphon Lk 15: 32

You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.





The parable of the lost son is a fascinating study of Jewish culture and purity laws. The son could not have distanced himself more from Jewish custom. Firstly, he demanded his inheritance, effectively treating his father as dead. Secondly, he travels to a pagan land and then in despair finds himself feeding pigs – animals whose meat was forbidden to Jews. He knows that his actions have alienated him from his family and culture and yet when he returns, his father gives him a fine robe and a ring to wear – signs of a father claiming a son as his own.

EXPLORING THE WORD

The religious leaders at the time of Jesus felt that there was no place for sinners in God's kingdom. This parable shows that there is always hope and a promise of forgiveness for those who repent and turn again to God, and that God never tires of seeking the lost. The father allows his youngest son the freedom to choose his way and make his own mistakes, but he keeps the door of welcome open. Through his journey, this son comes to realise that his fulfillment lies with his father and returns. At this point, the elder son changes places with the younger and becomes the one who is alienated and outside the feast. The reaction of the father is consistent: he

goes outside to meet his elder son, now the lost one, to tell him, 'All I have is yours.' The reward is for both the righteous and the repentant sinner.

- Do you have a sense of God seeking you out, even in your anger or confusion, and saying to you, 'All I have is yours'?
- In what ways is the elder son 'lost', even though he has lived a model life?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- Which of the characters in this story do you identify with the most: the younger son? the father? the older son? How might you react in such circumstances?
- Recall a moment in your life when you experienced something of either the father's joy at reconciliation, the younger son's change of heart or the elder son's jealousy and resentment. Describe this experience for others.
- Reach out to someone with an invitation, a gesture or a word of forgiveness.
- This line from the gospel is particularly apt during Lent, the time of repentance. Use it often this week: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Forgive me.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The son going to 'a distant country' shows that he has turned his back not only on his father but also on his faith. He has left his true heritage behind. His repentance and return becomes all the more poignant.
- Accepting work with pigs shows just how low the son had sunk because pigs are unclean animals to the Jews and touching them rendered the son unclean as well.
- By asking for his inheritance, the son was as good as saying to his father, 'I wish you were dead.' This makes the father's forgiveness all the more astounding.

SHARING THE TRADITION

The unhappiness of both the sons in this parable is ultimately traceable to their distancing themselves from their father. The Church names this distancing from God as sin.

Sin is an offence against reason, truth and right conscience; it is a failure in genuine love for God and neighbour ... It wounds the nature of man and injures human solidarity. (CCC, §1849)

- Explore various understandings of sin, especially as the choice to turn away from God. Sin is a personal act ... Sin gives rise to social situations and institutions that are contrary to divine goodness. (CCC, §§1868, 1869).
- Discuss these two forms of sin: personal, and communal or social. In what ways does personal sin give rise to social sin? How are they connected?
- Discuss some examples of social sin.
- Discuss the opportunities for forgiveness and reconciliation that is available to us after our baptism

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

God's abundance is again portrayed in the image of the great feast—the kingdom of heaven is open both to the righteous and to the sinner who repents. God's boundless forgiveness and loving welcome of the penitent are at the core of this parable.



Pope's Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to Our Lady

The Holy See Press Office releases the official text of the Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which Pope Francis will pray on Friday, 25 March.



Pope Francis—united to all the Bishops and Catholic faithful around the world—will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Friday, the feast of the Annunciation.

The Act of Consecration will be prayed during the "24 Hours for the Lord" Lenten penitential service in St. Peter's Basilica, which begins at 5 PM Rome time.

The Pope will pray the Act of Consecration around 6:30 PM, and has asked all Bishops and priests to join him spiritually in this prayer, which will be broadcast across our Vatican News channels - radio, website, YouTube, and Facebook - with English-language commentary.

All Parishes in Melbourne will do the same this weekend.

For full transcript

https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2022-03/pope-francis-prayer-act-consecration-russiaukaine-mary.html?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=NewsletterVN-EN

Also - see the Rabbit Hole of Russian Consecration

https://melbournecatholic.org/news/the-rabbit-hole-of-russian-consecration

LENTEN REFLECTION

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pause and call to mind God's presence within and among us, today and always. You who are over us, you who are one of us, you who are: give us a pure heart that we may see you, a humble heart that we may hear you; a heart of love that we may serve you; a heart of faith that we may abide in you. Amen.

Spiritual Direction with Mother Hilda Scott OSB 2 8

About the Gospel of the PRODIGAL SON

Here is the story of someone who chooses his own path of destruction. Who knows if he really understands what he is doing? Who knows whether or not he is in touch with his real motives? Who knows what has brought him to take the step of selfimposed exile? I would venture to suggest that every one of us at some stage in our lives have made something of a similar choice, and perhaps have been, and are, as "clueless" as the son of whom Jesus speaks. Out of all that could be said in this story, let me share just a little with you. Perhaps you will find yourself somewhere in here. Don't bother looking for the someone else in here. It is you God is seeking. It is you God came to save. The father in this story paid a great price for his son's decision—handing him his inheritance. The son showed gross disrespect—treating his father as though he was already dead, compounding the insult by squandering the money as though it did not matter. In the time of Jesus, any lad who did this was cut off from the village and disowned. How many of us, though, have done the same thing in one way or another-maybe we refused to have them at the Christmas table? How many of us have treated people as though they were already dead? How many of us have paid a huge price for the ingratitude of those we love? The story gets worse because it was equally incomprehensible that any decent, self -respecting, upright father, committed to the Law of God, would ever agree to such a request. This made the father an object of ridicule. He, too, has lost the respect of his family and friends. He is as much an outcast as his younger son. How people must have sniggered and scoffed each day as they caught sight of this deluded father crying and scanning the horizon for his "low-life" son. There we have such an accurate picture of God. Like Jesus, the Father is prepared to be an outcast for you. He is prepared to be laughed at for loving someone from whom he can gain absolutely nothing except the joy of being able to love you. That's all God wants from you. This is the mistake of the older—good living— son. He thinks he has earned his father's love. He thinks his father owes him, and so many of us think the same thing. We are disappointed in God when things don't go the way we figure they should, given that we prayed and tried so hard. We think love is an equation, and

2022 PARISH LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS

The 2022 Lenten program begins on **Tuesday 8th March at 7.15m and each following Tuesday at 7:15pm in the Community House**. We will be following the Archdioceses 7 week program. We will be sharing booklets each week that contains gospel readings, gospel reflections and personal stories. Everybody is welcome to join us on this Lenten journey. If you require any further information, please contact Jacinta Jolly – 0400 791 971 Many thanks - Jacinta

Also

Every Thursday after morning Mass, from 10am-11am in the Community House. Fr Geoff or Fr Jude, will be holding a Lenten prayer group, gathering.

All welcome.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 2022

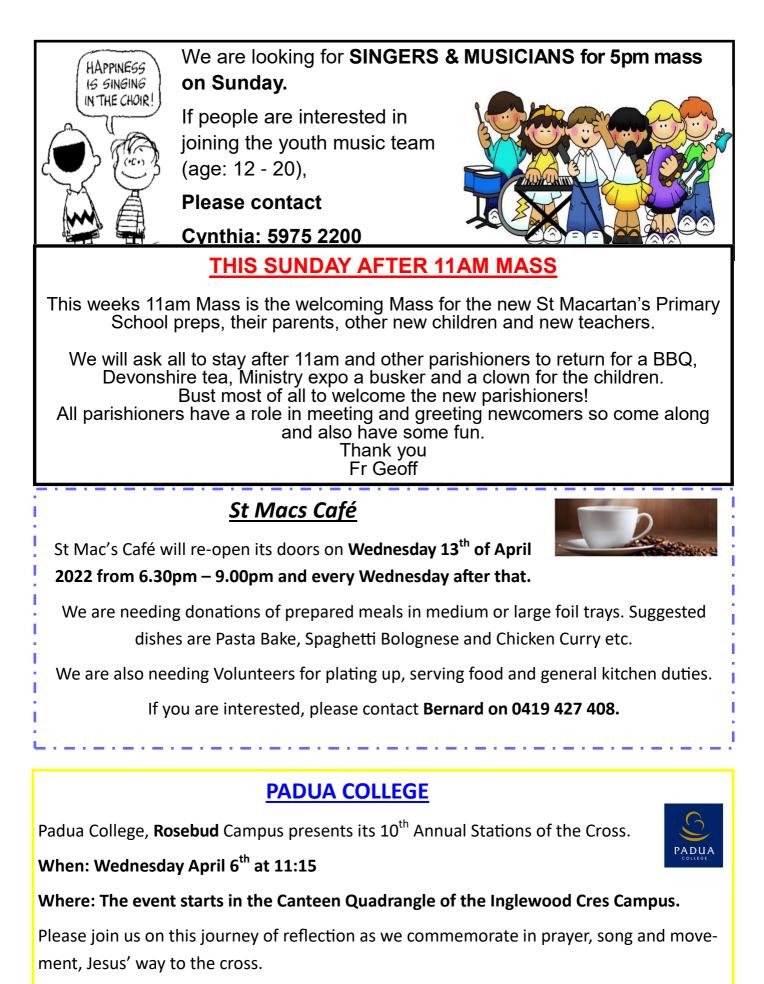


Each Friday of Lent at 7pm - 7:45pm in St Macartan's Church



SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT de PAUL — FLOOD APPEAL

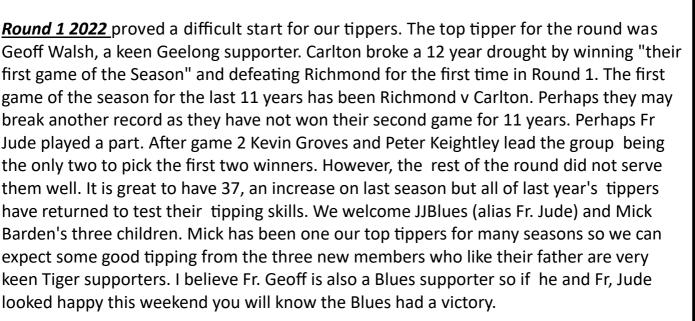
"The floods in Queensland and New South Wales are having a devastating effect on the people living in these regions in Australia. For those wishing to support the long term recovery work to be undertaken by the St Vincent de Paul Society in Queensland and New South Wales financial donations can be made either directly through either state through: www.vinnies.org.au-Flood appeal—St Vincent de Paul Society—Good works.



All enquires to Mr. Peter O'Halloran: <u>pohalloran@padua.vic.edu.au</u> <u>PLEASE NOTE: All visitors must show proof of vaccination before entering the event</u> <u>please</u>

Parish Footy Tipping 2022





HISTORY Supporters especially Sydney/Hawthorn will be waiting anxiously to see if Lance Franklin reaches 1,000 goals. If he does he will be one of 5. who kicked 1,000. goals. Ken Farmer kicked 1417 in the South Australian League and Angus Robertson kicked 1211 in the Western Australian League. He scored a number in the VFL. Talking of specialist goal kickers, Tony Ongarello who played at Fitzroy had a very high reputation for his accurate goal kicking prior to joining Fitzroy. However the coaches at Fitzroy did think his kicking technique was in correct so insisted on changing it. The result he kicked 13 points the following week!!! A similar story to how they tried to change Bradman's unusual technique. Thank goodness they failed. A question often asked is why was the place kick forbidden especially when you see it used so well in Rugby.





Congratulations To:

Quinn Mahon, Arabella Macallister and Grace Stone.

EASTER 2022

- Holy Thursday: April 14th at 7pm. With adoration until 10pm. (No 9:15am Mass Thursday)
- Stations of the Cross Friday: April 15th at 10am (No 9:15am Mass Friday)
- Good Friday: April 15th at 3pm Passion of the Lord Service
- Easter Vigil: April 16th 8pm Saturday (No 9:15am Mass Saturday)
- Easter Sunday: April 17th 9am and 11am

(No 5pm Mass Sunday)

Volunteer AV Operators needed for Masses

Training available. Please contact parish office 59752200 or email mornington@cam.org.au

ALSO

Opportunity for some to earn extra money - \$150 per service With the state of the art camera system in our Church, we want to be able to offer people livestreaming of funerals and weddings but need people who are available during the day with only a few days notice. You don't need to be overly technical but willing to learn and be taught! Please contact Fr Geoff Geoffrey.mcilroy@cam.org.au or call office: 59752200





1: **Sad at prodigal's return**: The Sunday School teacher was explaining the story of the Prodigal Son to his class, clearly emphasizing the resentment the older brother expressed at the return of his brother. When he finished telling the story, he asked the class, "Now who was really sad that the prodigal son had come home?" After a few minutes of silence, one little boy raised his hand and confidently stated, "The fatted calf."



3: Letter from Prodigal Son? Dear folks, I feel miserable because I have to keep writing for money. I feel ashamed and unhappy to have to ask for another hundred, but every cell in my body rebels. I beg on bended knee that you forgive me. Your son, Marvin. P.S. I felt so terrible I ran after the mailman who picked this up in the box at the corner. I wanted to take this letter and burn it. I prayed that I could get it back. But it was too late. A few days later Marvin received a letter from his father. It said, "Your prayers were answered. Your letter never came!"

4: **Reconciliation with a hook**: An elderly man on the beach found a magic lamp. As he picked it up and started cleaning it, a genie appeared and said: "Because you have freed me I will grant you a wish." The man responded. "I had a fight with my only and older brother thirty years ago. I want to be reconciled with him so that he may forgive me and start loving me." The genie said, "I am glad that you did not ask for money or riches. Your wish is granted. Are you sick and about to die?" the genie enquired. "No way!" the man shouted. "But my unmarried, older brother is about to die and he's worth about \$60 mil-



Rosters for Special Ministers and Commentators - Mass Co-ordinators <u>6.00pm - Carmel Coles: 5975 3080</u> <u>9.00am - Helen Britton : 0437 279 029</u> <u>11.00am - Patricia Duryea: 0418 139 599</u> 5.00pm - Marino Casamento: 0408 394 792

Fourth Sunday of Lent – 26th & 27th March 2022

6.00pm Readers: Fay Murphy, Iris Hallinan Eucharistic Ministers: Michael Turner, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers: John Azzopardi, Michael Kerr Eucharistic Ministers: Patricia Thomas

11.00am Readers : Amaka Chiezey, Michael Harrison Eucharistic Ministers: John Spaziani

5.00pm Readers : Danielle & Mia Field Eucharistic Ministers: Marino Casamento

Fifth Sunday of Lent – 2nd & 3rd APRIL 2022

6.00pm Readers: Kees Duyvestyn, Brian Scantlebury Eucharistic Ministers: Judy Holloway

9.00amReaders Robert Thoppil, Emma Welsh Eucharistic Ministers: Marcel Azzopardi

11.00amReaders Irene Hackett, Gabriella Failla Eucharistic Ministers: Terry Roberts, Barbara Ensil, Joseph Thoppil

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 Deputy: Andrea Kershaw

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: <u>gpw611@bigpond.com</u>

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