



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



Stay Awake!

Matthew 24:37—44



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass Times:

- Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday 9:15am
- Saturday night: 6pm
- Sunday: 9am, 11am
- Anointing/Healing Mass: 9:15am [1st Friday of each Month]

YOUTH MASS 2nd & 4th Sunday each Month 5pm.

HOLY HOUR / ADORATION:

- Every Friday after 9:15 Mass
- 1st Saturdays each month after 9:15am Mass
- 3:30pm 2nd & 4th Sundays

RECONCILIATION:

- After 9:15am Mass Wed & Saturday

YOUTH GROUPS: QUINN'S PLACE:
Year 7+ Friday's 6pm-10pm Community House / Hall / Church. **NOW BACK!**

ENCOUNTER Youth Group: Primary school age 3pm-4:45pm before Youth Mass 2nd & 4th Sundays of each Month.

Video Sunday Mass

NEW SETTINGS FOR VIDEO MASS

Watch Mass Live: Every Sunday 9AM

Link:

<https://vimeo.com/event/2637037>

Or go to website to copy link:

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

ALSO: Recorded/watch later Mass at our regular YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos>

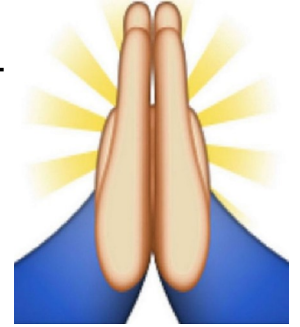
Upcoming Holy Days:

- Wed 30th: St Andrew, Apostle
- Sat 3rd: St Francis Xavier, Priest

THERE IS FREE VEGETABLES AND LEGUMES AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH HALL ON TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS AT THE COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM.

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Pray for the sick and their Carers: Tony Formosa, Betty Corke, Kevin Paganoni, Fiona Rush, Aaron Eastley, Bruce Reekie, Val Carr, Denis Sullivan, Evan Senn, Athan Loucas, Adeline Lyn Tilden, Raymond Cope, Angela Turner, Laurence Turner, Roy Cahill, Lauren Evans, Sarah-Jane Sharp, Cinzia Coboche, Geoffrey Lane, Patricia Morecroft, Terry Said and Frances Spencer.



Recently Deceased: Richard Holloway.

First Reading

Is 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths;

since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.’

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:

‘Let us go to God’s house.’

And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)

2. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel’s law it is, there to praise the Lord’s name.

There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. (R.)

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

‘Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls,

in your palaces, peace!’ (R.)

4. For love of my brethren and friends

I say: ‘Peace upon you!’

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Creed is said.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Get Ready!

Jesus draws a parallel between the people in Noah's time and the people of his own time. What it reflects is a complacency that periodically overtook the Jewish people. When the people bound themselves to God in covenant their lives gradually became better. Inevitably, their lives improved to such a state that they forgot God was responsible for their blessings. They ignored their relationship with God and became complacent about their good fortune. Ultimately, their comfort was brought to an end and they recognised once again their need for God. Jesus calls the people to get ready because the pattern is repeating itself.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Matthew's Gospel is written for a mostly Jewish audience who had converted to Christianity. Because of this Jewish background, Matthew often uses images and incidents from the Hebrew Scriptures or Old Testament, with which his community were very familiar. For Matthew, Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecies of old, and the Messiah who has long been awaited. In this text, Jesus twice uses the title 'Son of Man' to describe himself. It is an ambiguous term because it can simply mean a human being but is also used in the Hebrew Scriptures to refer to the one who will be judge and saviour of all.

- Explore how the term 'Son of Man' is an apt one for Jesus to use of himself.
- This text points to the early church's belief that the end times—the second and final coming of Christ—were imminent and that believers should be ready at all times for this unexpected event.

- Explain how this expectation arose and was later modified in the early church. How can we live in expectation today? What does that mean for followers of Christ?

DID YOU KNOW?

Advent is a four-week season of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. The word advent means 'coming'. Advent takes up this theme in looking forward to the coming of Christ at Christmas, and especially in looking towards the future coming of Christ at the end times.

- The early church believed that the second coming of Christ—the Parousia—was imminent. It could happen at any moment.
- The first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical year.
- This is Year A of the liturgical calendar, during which the Lectionary readings come predominantly from the Gospel of Matthew.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- How do you cope when the unexpected occurs in your life?
- In what ways are you 'alert to life'?
- Exchange some memories of unexpected events in your life that took you completely by surprise. How did you cope? What did you do? You could contrast this by sharing stories of an occasion when you spent a great deal of time and energy in preparing for something that you knew was coming. How did it feel when the long-awaited event finally arrived? Was the preparation useful?
- Be alert and watchful for the needs of others this week, and be ready to respond to those needs. Rejoice in the unexpected.

St Macartan's Parish Christmas Masses



***Come early and enjoy Christmas Carols half an hour
before each Christmas Mass***

Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve

5pm Children's Mass

7.30pm Christmas Eve Mass

11pm Christmas Eve Mass

Sunday 25th December Christmas Day

8.00am Christmas Dawn Mass

10.00am Christmas Day Mass

NO 5pm Mass

Monday 26th December Boxing Day

No Boxing Day Mass

Pastoral letter from Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Below is a Pastoral Letter from Most Reverend Comensoli regarding the lifting of the general dispensation from our Sunday and Holy Day obligations as of the first Sunday in Advent – 27 November 2022.

15 November 2022

Welcome Home!

My dear friends in Christ Jesus,

Over recent years, our freedom to be physically present in the Lord and with each other has been severely curtailed. We, God's pilgrim people, have had to withhold from assembling as Christ's tangible Body, and have been reduced to relying on virtual and mediated ways of gathering. Thanks be to God for the technological means that have sustained us!

We found a way to hear God's Word and to pray together, but we have not been free to physically gather together in the Lord. We are rightfully grateful for the many ways in which we reached out in Christian faith and service over the past few years -- online rosary, care check-ups, prayer circles, support drop-offs, zoom and phone ministry, to name a few. Yet, it has been difficult to experience in person the words of Jesus, "When two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them." (Mt 18.20) Gathering virtually is not the fullness of the presence we bring of ourselves to God and to each other.

At the heart of our Catholic faith, we believe in the Word who became flesh, Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus offered his body on the Cross, so that we might have life in him. And we believe that Christ's Body and Blood is now given to us sacramentally in the Holy Eucharist. Jesus, who bound himself to us on the Cross, left for us his sacramental presence, to bind us together in Him. Perhaps we lost contact with this bodily reality over the time of the pandemic. In desperate times, what was needed to be done was done. We learnt many things, particularly about loss, but also gratitude for what we so easily take for granted. Now that we are able to come back together as the Body of Christ, we should do so with joy, thankfulness and renewed energy.

From the earliest days of the Covenant, God called his People to assemble with Him. "Keep holy the Sabbath" is God's command to take up this happy invitation. (Exodus 20.8) The Lord's Day - for Christians, Sunday - is precious to us, borne out of our love for Christ, who first loved us.

Dispensation from our Sunday obligation to physically gather for the Eucharist during the pandemic was always meant to be a temporary exemption for the sake of the common good, without dispensing us from the ongoing sanctifying of our day in some form of prayer and charity in our homes and families. The need for this dispensation has now passed.

Therefore, as from the Ist Sunday of Advent, 27 November 2022, the general dispensation from our Sunday and Holy Day obligations will be lifted. As always, the ordinary individual exemptions will remain in place (e.g., for reasons of ill health, family care of the vulnerable, etc.).

Continued >>>

>>>> pastoral letter continued:

Similarly, there is no longer a general need for televising or streaming local Masses, now that we can fully gather without restrictions. I note that some online and telecast options will continue to be offered where needed -e.g., the I I am Sunday Mass from the Cathedral on Community TV C3 I (Channel 44) and the Archdiocesan YouTube channel, as well as daily Mass via YouTube at any time.

Our communities of grace look forward to welcoming you this Advent. As the anticipation of Jesus' nativity grows, might we also extend our arms in invitation and welcome to others. Many family, friends and neighbours still experience uncertainty at this time. Being a people who can warmly provide a place of refreshment, hope and light is a gift. In all the messiness of parish life, here we can know that the door of grace is opened for us, the medicine of healing is there for us, and the hand of help is outstretched towards us.

We will continue to update the Liturgical Guidelines on the Archdiocesan website (<https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19-guidelines>), which answers many of the practicalities that might aid with our safe return and acceptable sacramental practices.

May I offer one final word of encouragement: be open to seeking the Lord's mercy and healing in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. When we return to the assembly of God's people, let our return be a reconciled one. (Mt 5.23-24) I am sure our priests will willingly open the doors of mercy at convenient times, so that we might find ourselves back at the Table of the Lord knowing that a banquet of mercy and forgiveness awaits us. (Cf. Lk 15.24)

May the Lord who gathers us into his Eucharistic Body continue to deepen our desire to be with him and each other in joy and hope. As the lyrics go for a popular song with our young people, "We are one Body, one body in Christ, and we do not stand alone."

Welcome back and welcome home this Advent and Christmas!

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Archbishop of Melbourne

How does this affect us at St Macartan's?

We will still be live-streaming and recording our 9am Sunday Mass, as it reaches our parishioners in many of the 13 nursing homes within our Parish and is a great comfort for them to see their church Mass (see front of weekly bulletin for links). I pray many who are not in nursing homes and are physically able to return to Mass - do so please. As we are a congregation, a family of worshippers and we miss absent family members.

We have always enjoyed the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharistic bread, the Body of Christ but we will be reintroducing the 2nd species of the wine, the precious blood. This 2nd species is not obligatory and not all churches are reintroducing it. If we have enough Special Eucharistic Ministers available we will begin this weekend at all Sunday & 6pm Sat. Masses - except the Youth Mass.

Blessings

Fr Geoff

The Mornington Community Information & Support Centre



The Meeting Room Café has temporarily moved to our Parish Hall, due to the recent floods.

The café will be open to all.



Café opening hours are:

Monday to Thursday: 10am—2pm

(PARKING - Church carpark, off Cook St)

MEN'S NIGHT

'The Men's Night last Thursday was a big success. We want to thank not only the men for bringing all sorts of exotic eats, but also thank their wives for supporting them, in ensuring the food was tastefully presented and as well as encouraging them to come along..'

The three Amigos



"Food Donations" for St Vincent de Paul

Rising costs of living are affecting us all, especially the poor and disadvantaged, and food donations to our St Vincent de Paul Conference are not keeping up with our community needs. Any donations of non-perishable food, inside their expiry date would be most welcome. Please leave donations in the bin located in the main foyer of the Church or contact Barry Murphy on 0419 225 455."



PLEASE NOTE:

Fr Geoff is taking some leave from the 28th November until 10th December.

Please direct all inquires for him, via Fr Jude or the Parish office.

Fr Jude: jude.johnson@cam.org.au. Parish office 5975 2200.

Parish Office email: mornington@cam.org.au



Jokes of the Week



1) **Where are the rotten ones for the pigs?** There was once a lady who complained about everything and everybody. Finally, her pastor found something that she couldn't complain about. The lady's crop of potatoes was the finest for miles around. He said to her, "For once you must be pleased. Everyone is saying how splendid your potatoes are this year." The lady glared at him and said, "They are not so bad, but where are the rotten ones for the pigs?"

2) **The turkey with a high fever!** When I think of "Turkey dinner," I am reminded of the story of the little boy who saw his mother putting a thermometer in the turkey from the oven. He said, "If it is that sick, I don't want any!"

3) **"Christopher hit me!":** It was Christmas Day. Breakfast was over and the kids were playing in a room full of toys. Their parents lingered over a second cup of coffee. In a short while, the parents heard the sound of a brief scuffle. Then Mary, their three-year-old, burst into the kitchen in tears. "Mummy! Daddy! Christopher hit me!" she sobbed. Before either of them could think of a reply, the calm voice of their nine-year-old daughter came from the play room, "It's Christmas Day -- we must be thankful. Thank God, he didn't bite you!!"

4) **"I can chew my food":** It was Christmas season in the nursing home. The small resident population had been gathered around their humble Christmas table, and the director asked each in turn to express one thing for which he or she was thankful. Thanks were expressed for a home in which to stay, families, etc. One little old lady, when her turn came, said, "I thank the Lord for two perfectly good teeth left in my mouth, one in my upper jaw and one in my lower jaw. They match so well that I can chew my food."



FRIENDS OF OUR PARISH

I have always appreciated good customer service and good value for money. Therefore, whenever I find someone who supports our Parish in these ways, they become friends and I truly believe we should show our support to them too.

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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

1st Sunday of Advent – 26th & 27th November 2022

6.00pm Readers: Carmel McGrath, Faye Murphy

Eucharistic Ministers: Kees and Mairi Duyvestyn

9.00am Readers: Kathleen Ronchi, Michael Kerr

Eucharistic Ministers: John and Mary Lewis

11.00am Readers: Joan Clements, Michael Harrison

Eucharistic Ministers: Rosina di Petta, Evelyn Atkins

2nd Sunday of Advent – 3rd & 4th December 2022

6.00pm Readers: Brian Scantlebury, Iris Hallinan

Eucharistic Ministers: Faye Murphy, Trisha Hird

9.00am Readers: Paul Girolami, Kath Ronchi

Eucharistic Ministers: Marcel Azzopardi, Frank Crea

11.00am Readers: Terry Roberts, Irene Hackett

Eucharistic Ministers: Sandra Barrett, John Spaziani

3rd Sunday of Advent – 10th & 11th December 2022

6.00pm Readers: Kees Duyvestyn, Faye Murphy

Eucharistic Ministers: Carmel McGrath, Mairi Duyvestyn

9.00am Readers: Spencer Meier, Kathleen Ronchi

Eucharistic Ministers: Tricia Thomas, Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Joan Clements, Bernard Butler

Eucharistic Ministers: Sheila Goddard, Bridie Sexton

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Contact Details:

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): Jody Kerrins (Chairperson)

Email: jody54@westnet.com.au

Finance Committee: Frank Crea: 0417 104 041

Safeguarding Officer: Carmel McGrath: Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Volunteer Application Support Officer: Tim Lambourne:

Email: timlambourne@yahoo.com.au

AV & Livestreaming Technician: Didier Le Miere: 0400 801 891

Email: Didier.lemiere31@gmail.com

St Mac's High Spirits: Teacher is Michael Kerr: contact the office 5975 2200

St Mac's Café: Coordinator is Michael Ensil - Mob: 0423 375 650

Parish Caretaker: John Spaziani: 0419 598 911

Email: Mornington@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: 0413 394 085

Email: charholmes59@gmail.com

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**

Spiritual Director/Pastoral Counsellor/Psychotherapist: Angelo Campagna

Ph: 0411 305 478, Website: www.angelocampagna.com.au

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

Youth Worker: Kristina Turner, Email: Kristina.b2906@bigpond.com

Schools:

St Macartan's Primary School: Ph: 5979 9200

Principal: Colleen McGreal

Deputy: Andrea Kershaw **Deputy:** Meegan Blackney

Padua College: Ph: 5976 0100

Principal: Acting Principal Kelly McGurn

Vice Principal: Mission, Identity & Community: Matthew Williams