



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



SPREAD JESUS

*Repent, for the kingdom of
heaven is at hand.*

MATTHEW 3:2

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/2662911>

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 7th: St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor
- Thu 8th: The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

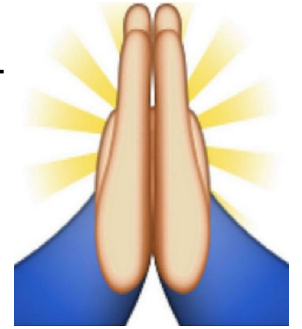
THERE IS FREE VEGETABLES AND LEGUMES AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH HALL ON TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS AT THE COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM.

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, Dennis 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, Frances Spencer and Trish Robinson.

Death Anniversary: Peter and Leo Falzon.

Recently Deceased: Dennis Corke and James (Jim) Coyle.



First Reading

Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)

He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**

2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**

3. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Creed is said.

Communion Antiphon

Bar 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Living Gospel

Prepare Ye!

John the Baptist's call to "Prepare the way of the Lord" is a summary of the purpose of the season of Advent. Every year, as we celebrate the Nativity, we celebrate once again the presence of God in our world. God became incarnate in the world through Jesus but also always was and continues to be incarnate in the world through each person. If we are to accept this reality and live it out, we need to remind ourselves this Advent to prepare the way for the Lord to be present in and through us every day of our lives.

EXPLORING THE WORD

During Advent in Year A, the first reading always comes from the prophet Isaiah. It is useful to pay particular attention to his voice, noticing the development of the vision and images he puts before us relating to the meaning of Jesus for the Church and the world. In last week's reading, Isaiah sees what is to come: the nations assembling, surrendering to the Lord, laying down the weapons of war, beating them into the useful tools of farming and peaceful life. Today, Isaiah describes the qualities of the Spirit of the Lord and the just judgments this brings, resulting in a world of no conflict. In next week's text, Isaiah describes the glorious and triumphant coming of the Lord and the healing of all that is broken. In the final week of Advent, Isaiah speaks of the maiden who will conceive and give birth to one who is 'God-is-with-us'.

- Explore together these readings from Isaiah and the idyllic, joyous and triumphant world they depict.
- In what ways are these readings a reflection of the kingdom of heaven that the Baptist says is near at hand?
- What insights does Isaiah offer to the Church for our understanding of the mission and ministry of Jesus?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- In what ways are you preparing a way for the Lord to come into your life at Christmas and at baptism?
- What 'good fruit' have you produced so far in your life?
- Recall some occasions when you were very conscious that you had produced 'good fruit' or done something really well. Have there also been occasions when you failed in such a task or were found wanting, when you knew you could have done better? Share your reflections.
- Withdraw a little this week from the hectic celebrations of Christmas cheer and concentrate instead on waiting and prayerfully preparing for what is to come. Give thought to the real meaning of Christmas and contemplate what the 'advent' of Christ meant to the world.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Luke's Gospel suggests that John the Baptist and Jesus were cousins, but there is no hint of this in Matthew.
- John the Baptist was not alone in his criticism and rejection of the soft religious life in the cities of Palestine. There were others, too, who withdrew from what they saw as the corruption of the temple cult and retreated to the desert to live a life of prayer and asceticism. The best known of these groups were the Essenes of the Dead Sea region. It is likely that John was in some way associated with them.
- The Essenes established a community at Qumran on the shores of the Dead Sea. It was this community that left the wonderful legacy of the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in the 1940s. These scrolls have proven invaluable to scholars in throwing light on the religious practices of the day.
- Advent is a time in which we too are invited to withdraw a little in prayer and contemplation.

SHARING THE TRADITION

A prophet is one who speaks for God in a particular time and to a particular society. A prophet is not one who sees into the future but, rather, looks critically at the present reality and reads the 'signs of the times'.

- Discuss what this notion means.
- Isaiah was one of the great prophets of the biblical tradition. Give some historical background to the book of Isaiah and the message it presented to the people of the time.
- Introduce some of the other major prophets of Israel and discuss their role in calling the people back their obligations under the covenant.
- Discuss who the 'modern prophets' may be today and how their message is received?

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The Baptist's words are a call to a new beginning, a realignment of the road we are taking. We are reminded that the kingdom of God is close at hand and that to be a part of the kingdom, we must produce good fruit or be judged unworthy.

Cathedral concert: 'A Christmas Celebration'

A family concert of traditional and modern Christmas favourites, featuring Brass, organ and choir in the beautiful and inspiring space of St Patrick's Cathedral.

Performance will include audience participation, a children's segment and 'special guest' appearance.

Tickets: \$25 at door or [via trybooking](#). Children 15 years and under, admitted free.

Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

For any queries, email music@cam.org.au.

Faithful with disabilities' participation in Synod

As part of the synodal path towards the Synod on Synodality, the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life and the General Secretariat of the Synod have invited several dozen people with disabilities to discuss the contributions the faithful with disabilities can bring to the church in their communities.

In a series of special listening sessions from 20 - 22 September, a team of representatives met at the Vatican to complete the drafting of the text delivered to the General Secretariat of the Synod and Pope Francis to ensure the voice of the faithful with disabilities reaches the synod. About 30 persons with disabilities from five continents participated in this session, writing their responses to the synod questions, "What is the Spirit asking of the Church? What paths are opening up for the Church and for the faithful with disabilities?"

The session was convened in response to Pope Francis' invitation in the Encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*: *"Let me repeat: we need to have 'the courage to give a voice to those who are discriminated against due to their disability, because sadly, in some countries even today, people find it hard to acknowledge them as persons of equal dignity' (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, n. 98)"*

Cardinal Kevin Farrell, Prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, Family, said that "in order to be truly synodal, the Church must listen to everyone's voice, no one excluded. I would like to thank the General Secretariat of the Synod which, from the beginning, has supported our initiative: it is thanks to this collaboration that the contribution of the faithful with disabilities will be able to reach the synod fathers."

Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary General of the Synod, states: "The synodal conversion of the Church also passes through the conversion of the Roman Curia in a synodal key. The experience shared with the Dicastery for Laity, Family, and Life is a joyful example of this and opens up new horizons and possibilities for collaboration to show that the Church truly is a home for all!"

The Working Document for the Continental Stage of the Synod underlines the key issues that have emerged in this synodal process, stating that "numerous reports point to the lack of appropriate structures and ways of accompanying persons with disabilities, and call for new ways of welcoming their contribution and promoting their participation."

Furthermore, emphasis has been placed on providing a place for the faithful with disabilities to be included, as, "in spite of its own teachings, the Church is in danger of imitating the way society casts them aside." The first video will be published on 6 December entitled "Co-responsibility," with the fourth and last video entitled "A wonderful process" published on 26 January.

Note: Fr Justin Glyn SJ (Adjunct Lecturer at Catholic Theological College, Melbourne) who is legally blind since birth was one of the members of the small team to help finalise the submissions in Rome. Read Fr Justin 'story and his experience of being part of the Submission Team at <https://melbournecatholic.org/>

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

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

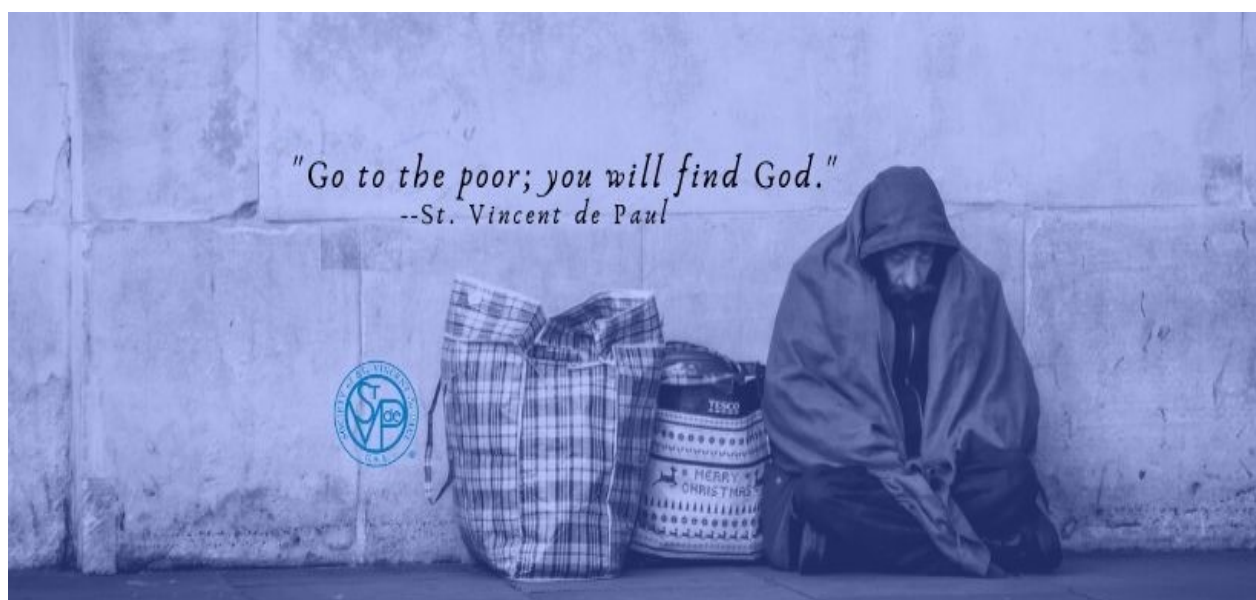
(PARKING - Church carpark, off Cook St)

"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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS



MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023. Email: somml@bigpond.com (preferred for contact). Tel: 9326 1895

St. Mac's Gift Shop



Good Day to you all

A big thank you to all who supported our clearance sale allowing us to purchase extra Christmas stock with a selection of beautiful gifts that may assist you with your Christmas shopping or help you to find that meaningful gift for friends and family.

We currently have a great selection on show, with the most popular items being, the large Nativity, the white or sunburnt ceramic Nativity, the inspirational books and the beautiful water lantern with the eye catching Nativity scene inside. We sold four of these at the weekend and all orders have been placed and due for delivery Monday.

If you are thinking of purchasing any of the above products or other items from the Gift Shops great range, please do it sooner rather than later so you don't miss out. Once the Christmas stock we have is sold, unfortunately we will not be replacing it. All suppliers close in a couple of weeks and do not reopen until mid-January, 2023 so if you have any events coming up early in the new year, again, look now because after the Christmas rush we are not sure what stock will be available.

Columban Calendars and Christmas cards are selling like hot cakes. We have the last delivery of cards due Monday and again no further orders will be placed. We have sold 6 boxes and 60 packets of Christmas cards.

The Gift Shop hours starting 10th December through to the 1st January are as follows:

Saturdays 8.30am – 10.00am

5.00pm – 7.00pm

Sundays 8.30am – 12.30pm (Closing for 9am and 11am Masses)

Tuesdays 8.30am – 10.00am

Christmas Morning - 7.30am – 11.00am

I'm not sure if the Gift Shop will be open on Christmas Eve, so please in case we are closed, now is a good time to start your shopping.

Again, thank you for your support, without you the Gift Shop wouldn't exist



Jokes of the Week



- 1) What kind of motorbike does Santa ride?
A holly Davidson.



- 2) What happened to the man who stole an advent calendar?
He got 25 days.

- 3) Every year, I'm amazed that advent calendars continue to sell out.
I thought their days were numbered.

- 4) A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and asked his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car" The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it. After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

The father responded, "Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"

- 5) It was coming up to Christmas and Sammy asked his mum if he could have a new bike. So, she told him that the best idea would be to write to Santa Claus. But Sam, having just played a vital role in the school nativity play, said he would prefer to write to the baby Jesus. So his mum told him that would be fine.

Sam went to his room and wrote 'Dear Jesus, I have been a very good boy and would like to have a bike for Christmas.' But he wasn't very happy when he read it over. So he decided to try again and this time he wrote 'Dear Jesus, I'm a good boy most of the time and would like a bike for Christmas.' He read it back and wasn't happy with that one either. He tried a third version. 'Dear Jesus, I could be a good boy if I tried hard and especially if I had a new bike.' He read that one too, but he still wasn't satisfied.

So, he decided to go out for a walk while he thought about a better approach. After a short time he passed a house with a small statue of the Virgin Mary in the front garden. He crept in, stuffed the statue under his coat, hurried home and hid it under the bed. Then he wrote this letter. 'Dear Jesus, If you want to see your mother again, you'd better send me a new bike.'

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

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: Marcelle 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

4th Sunday of Advent – 17th & 18th December 2022

6.00pm Readers: Iris Hallinan, Carmel McGrath

Eucharistic Ministers: Fay Murphy, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers: John Azzopardi, Don Zinno

Eucharistic Ministers: Marcelle Azzopardi, Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Michael Harrison, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Ministers: Sandra Barrett, John Spaziani

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

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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