

4th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YrA 29 January 2023

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



Gospel

*How happy are the
poor in spirit; theirs
is the kingdom of
heaven.*

Matthew 5:1-12

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. **Returns Fri 27th**

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/2818688>

Or go to website to copy link:

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

ALSO: at our regular YouTube link:

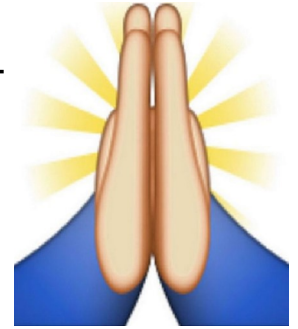
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos>

Upcoming Holy days:

- Tue 31st: St John Bosco, Priest
- Thu 2nd: The Presentation of the Lord

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, Poala Solvy, Geoffrey Lane, Patricia Morecroft, Terry Said and Robert Herman.



Recently Deceased: Hugh Murphy.

First Reading

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord
all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.
Seek integrity,
seek humility:
you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.
In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.
They will do no wrong,
will tell no lies;
and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.
But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. ***(R.)***
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. ***(R.)***
3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. ***(R.)***

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:26-31

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

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 30:17-18

Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Covenant

The structure of the Beatitudes can be seen as yet another attempt by God to re-establish a covenant between Godself and the people. Throughout Jewish history, God called the people back into relationship and re-established God's covenant with them. Like all the previous versions of the covenant, the Beatitudes contain both a series of demands and a series of promises. It is a two-way deal. The first part of each Beatitude is a statement of what the people are called to do and the second part is God's promise of how they will be rewarded for their right action.

EXPLORING THE WORD

The rendering of the Greek term used in this text as 'happy' is rather weak. A better term is 'blessed'. At the heart of the Beatitudes is Jesus' instruction to his followers to cultivate certain qualities in their lives. To be gentle, to mourn, to thirst for what is right, to be merciful, to be pure of heart and to be peacemakers are signs of the presence of the kingdom of God in our lives. To have such virtues is to be blessed. Jesus teaches that those who suffer some human lack or pain are blessed, not because poverty, pain or sorrow are good in themselves, but because they reveal to us our need for God. Those who are prosperous, comfortable or content find this much more difficult to realise and accept. The final

portion of this text speaks to the experience of the early church, which suffered persecution for the sake of faith in Jesus Christ. Christians today are also called to stand against arrogant secularism, which proclaims that humans do not need God. Even today, people suffer for their faith, but they too are assured that their reward will be great in heaven!

- Recall a time of suffering and sorrow in your life. What was God saying to you at that time? How did such an experience influence the person you are today?
- Describe someone you know who embodies one of the Beatitudes.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

- Who do you know who is 'poor in spirit', 'gentle', a 'peacemaker', 'merciful', 'pure in heart'? How are these qualities manifested?
- Pray for those people this week.
- This gospel presents a surprising teaching on the source of happiness. Recall a time when you experienced complete happiness and joy. What was the source of that happiness? Compare this with what the media and advertising present as sources of happiness in today's society.
- Live the Beatitudes as consciously as possible this week.
- Read and reflect on the Beatitudes this week. Can you write one for yourself?

DID YOU KNOW?

- This collection of sayings is known as the 'Beatitudes', which means 'blessings'.
- This text is also known as the 'Sermon on the Mount'. Luke also has a version of this text, but his account is set on a plain by the Sea of Galilee (Luke 6:20–26). Compare the two versions.
- Just as Moses received the Law on Mount Sinai, Matthew situates Jesus on a mountain as he gives the new law.
- There are a number of instances in his gospel where Matthew parallels Jesus with Moses. Again, this may be to appeal to the largely Jewish audience of his own community.

SHARING THE TRADITION

Some of the revered figures of the Church have embodied the virtues celebrated in the Beatitudes. This is a good opportunity to introduce the lives and work of some saints or other figures as models of these virtues—for example:

- Mother Theresa of Calcutta as 'poor in spirit'
- St Francis of Assisi and St Clare as 'gentle'
- Mary, the mother of Jesus, as one who 'mourned'
- St Oscar Romero as one who 'hungered and thirsted for justice'
- St Therese of Lisieux as 'pure in heart'.

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The 'poor' are those who are not smug and self-satisfied. Those who 'mourn' are those who grieve at the effects of sin in the world. The 'meek' are the lowly and powerless in any situation. Those who 'hunger for righteousness' are those who long for justice and peace. The 'pure of heart' are those who seek God alone. The 'peacemakers' are those who work to restore broken relationships. Those who are 'persecuted' are those who are ridiculed for their faith. Taken all together, the Beatitudes describe what a Christian should be like.

Pope at Audience: Church called to seek out those who have gone astray

Pope Francis continues his cycle of catechesis on apostolic zeal, and invites everyone to imitate the Good Shepherd and see the lost member of the flock not as an enemy but as an opportunity to bear witness to the joy of the Lord.

By Francesca Merlo

Word of God

The Pope noted that the Christmas Gospel defines Jesus as the “Word of God”, and said this fact highlights an essential aspect of Jesus, namely, that He is always “outgoing”. The Word exists to be communicated and transmitted,

and “Christ not only makes His life a Word.”
ed that we see, the intimacy that Jesus especially through His

“He makes all of His important choices after Through prayer, Jesus His service is always people. In fact, speaking Jesus says that He did not come “to be served, but to serve and give His own life.”



the Pope continued, has words of life, but Pope Francis then noted through the Gospel, had with the Father, moments of prayer.

decisions and im- having prayed. reveals His mission.” directed toward other ing about His mission,

The Good Shepherd

Pope Francis then noted that Jesus is referred to as “the Good Shepherd”. The Gospels also offer us a useful image to represent what this mission truly means. “To be a shepherd,” the Pope noted, “was not just a job, but it required time and a lot of dedication. It was a true and proper way of life: twenty-four hours a day, living with the flock.” Jesus gave His life for us and “by staying with Jesus, we discover that His pastoral heart always beats for the person who is confused, lost, far away.” The Pope then stressed that “if we want to train our apostolic zeal, we must always think of the lost sheep.” In the passage that introduces the lost sheep, “we discover that God does not remain contemplating the sheep pen, nor does He threaten them so they won’t leave, but rather if one leaves and is lost, He does not abandon that sheep, but goes in search of it.” *“He leaves the ninety-nine sheep who are safe and ventures out for the lost one, thus doing something both risky and unreasonable, but consonant with His pastoral heart, which misses the one who left – not out of anger or resentment – but from pure longing for us. This is God’s zeal.”*

An opportunity to bear witness

Bringing his catechesis to a close, the Pope asked, “Do we feel similar emotions?” He noted that those who, in our lives, may have left the flock, might be seen as enemies. The Pope invited us to view our enmity with others as an opportunity “to witness to them the joy of a Father who loves them and has never forgotten them.” “There is a good word for them and we have the honour and the burden of being the ones to bear it to them. Because the Word, Jesus, asks this of us,” stressed the Pope. Finally, he asked that in prayer, “We ask the grace of a pastoral heart, because without this love that suffers and takes risks, we risk pasturing only ourselves.”

St Macs Café

St Mac's Café from 6pm – 9.00pm every Wednesday.



Do you have a favourite meal? How about sharing it with others - mmmm



The Café requires more meals each week.

How about joining one of the teams- you won't be asked to cook everything yourself, but take part as one of the team members cooking approximately once per month?

You cook from home and deliver it to the Café (Community House - next to the church)

Other volunteers and sponsors are also welcome.

If you are interested, please contact Michaela 0434957758 or Fr Geoff 59752200

We are called to serve, not to be served.

NEW PARISHIONERS

The St Macartan's community would like to welcome all new parishioners. Please fill in a new parishioner form (available in both foyers) and place in box provided; or give it to one of our Priests and we will arrange to meet with you.

We also have a new parishioner welcome morning tea in the Community House.

Call the office for any details - 59752200

Return dates 2023

- Parish Office Tuesday 10th Jan
- The Prayer Cenical: Tuesday 17th Jan
- St Macs Café: Wednesday 18th Jan
- Encounter Junior Youth Group: Sunday 22nd Jan
- Quinn's Place senior youth group: **Friday 27th Jan**
- Legion of Mary: **Monday 30th Jan**
- Baptism Information sessions **Wednesday 1st Feb**
- Gatherings prayer group: Thursday 9th Feb
- Minister Unto God: Tuesday 14th Feb
- Men's Night: Thursday 16th Feb
- The Meeting Room community café will contact us in the new year if they intent to use our Hall.
- Monday night rosary at 8pm will continue throughout the holidays.



Jokes of the Week



1) Beatitude in Heaven: Fr. Charlie was teaching his Sunday school class. He asked the class, “If I were to sell my house and my car, have a big garage sale and give all my money to the Church, would that get me into Heaven?” “NO!” the children all answered. “If I were to do all my priestly duties well, and practice the Beatitudes in my life, would that get me into Heaven?” the Pastor asked. Again, the answer was, “NO!” “Well, then, if I were to be kind to animals, give candy to all the children, and love and serve my parish, would that get me into Heaven?” Again, the answer was, “NO!” “Well”, he continued, “then how can I get into Heaven?” Five-year-old little Johnny shouted out, “First you have to die.”

2) Beatitude in marriage: In his book, *On This Day*, Carl D. Windsor includes this anecdote: Even the most devoted couple will experience a “stormy” bout once in a while. A grandmother, celebrating her golden wedding anniversary, once told the secret of her long and happy marriage. “On my wedding day, I decided to make a list of ten of my husband’s faults which, for the sake of our marriage, I would overlook,” she said. A guest asked the woman what some of the faults she had chosen to overlook were. The grandmother replied, “To tell you the truth, my dear, I never did get around to listing them. But whenever my husband did something that made me hopping mad, I would say to myself, ‘Lucky for him that’s one of the ten!’” — *Today, the words of the Beatitudes invite us to consider anew our dependence on God, to acknowledge Him as the Supreme Authority in our lives, and to recognize in Him the Source of our identity and happiness.*

4) A famous preacher once told his congregation, “Every blade of grass is a sermon.” — A few days later, a parishioner saw him mowing his lawn. ‘That’s right, Father,’ the man said, ‘cut your sermons short.’



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

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time – 28th & 29th January 2023

6.00pm Readers: Brian Scantlebury, Carmel McGrath

Eucharistic Ministers: Joyce Ward, Judy Holloway

9.00am Readers: John Azzopardi, Kathleen Ronchi

Eucharistic Ministers: Marcelle Azzopardi, Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Irene Hackett, Michael Harrison

Eucharistic Ministers: Sandra Barrett, Sheila Goddard

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 4th & 5th February 2023

6.00pm Readers: Brian Scantlebury, Fay Murphy

Eucharistic Ministers: Joyce Ward, Michael Turner

9.00am Readers: Michael Kerr, Don Ziino

Eucharistic Ministers: Patricia Thomas, Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Joan Clements, Michael Harrison

Eucharistic Ministers: Bridie Sexton, John Spaziani

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 11th & 12th February 2023

6.00pm Readers: Keys Duyvestyn, Carmel McGrath

Eucharistic Ministers: Mairi Duyvestyn, Alis Fisher

9.00am Readers: Spencer Meier, Helen Britton

Eucharistic Ministers: Marcelle Azzopardi, Christina Llopart

11.00am Readers: Terry Roberts, Gabriella Fialla

Eucharistic Ministers: Evelyn Atkins, Sheila Goddard

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Shep Hyken

”

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- Matt Watkinson

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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: Contact Parish Office: 5975 2200

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: Coordinators are Fr Geoff & Fr Jude: 5975 2200

Parish Caretaker: John Spaziani: 0419 598 911

Email: Mornington@cam.org.au

Weddings contact the Office or Fr Geoff & Fr Jude: 5975 2200

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