

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YrA 19 March 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



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 Sun. 9AM

<https://vimeo.com/event/3164980>

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:

- Mon 20th: ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
- Sat 25th: The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD

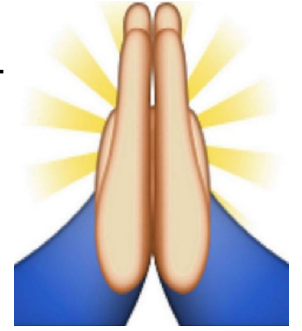
"THE WAY OF THE CROSS" FRIDAY AT 7PM —STATION PRAYERS

Lenten reflection after 9:15am Mass every Thursday - From the 2nd

Monday night 7pm in the church Lectio Divina with Fr Joe O'shea

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, Adeline Lyn Tilden, Raymond Cope, Angela Turner, Laurence Turner, Roy Cahill, Lauren Evans, Sarah-Jane Sharp, Poala Solvy, Geoffrey Lane, Terry Said and Joan Watts.



Death Anniversary: Margaret Vino.

Recently Deceased: Felicity Jane Harper.

First Reading 1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22 R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. (R.)

3. You have prepared a banquet for me, in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. (R.)

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth.

Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Jn 9:1-41

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.'

'As long as the day lasts
I must carry out the work of the one who sent me;
the night will soon be here when no one can work.

As long as I am in the world
I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'I

Cont... Gospel

'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.'

They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.'

The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said:

'It is for judgement that I have come into this world,
so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty,
but since you say, "We see",
your guilt remains.'

Communion Antiphon

When the Gospel of the Man Born Blind is read:

Cf. Jn 9:11,38

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.

LIVING the GOSPEL

Lenten Light

The story of the man born blind is a perfect choice for the Lenten season. During this season we are invited once again to open our eyes to Jesus; to step out of darkness and into the light; to look towards the future with hope and not despair. When we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at the Easter vigil, we celebrate the coming of the Light of the World into our lives. This annual call to turn away from darkness and walk in the light is a powerful and poetic call to focus our lives on the way of Jesus.

Gospel Reflection

Today's gospel reading is the second in a series of three quite lengthy readings from the gospel of John that are a feature of the Lenten season in Year A of the liturgical cycle. The three readings address three significant themes and images: water; light; and new life. Although today's passage is about the healing of a blind man, the event takes place as part of a longer section of the gospel dealing with the image of light and specifically the image of Jesus as Light of the World.

The question asked by the disciples at the opening of this event is an interesting one. They ask, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' In Jewish culture at the time, any physical affliction was deemed to be punishment from God for sinful behaviour. As the man had been born blind, the suspicion falls

on his parents as having committed such a terrible offence against God that their son is born blind. Jesus immediately rejects this interpretation of the man's affliction. Physical and mental illnesses or disabilities are in no way punishment from God. Although the man's physical sight is restored by Jesus simply enough, his journey from darkness into light is a more complicated affair. He faces disbelief, ridicule and even abuse from the Jewish authorities as they try to discredit Jesus and diminish the impact of the miracle. In fact, their treatment of the man is what drives him along the road from recipient of an act of mercy to a confirmed believer. Furthermore, the Jewish authorities, despite their physical capacity for sight, are shown to be the ones who are truly blind and trapped in darkness because they deny the light that is before their very eyes.

Historical Context – Light of the World

The events of today's gospel passage occur within an extended passage of the gospel of John in which Jesus attends Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles (Jn 7:1 following). A feature of the feast was the illumination of the Temple. Pilgrims would cover the Temple with lights and torches so that it shone out over the entire city. It was during this feast that Jesus declared himself to be the Light of the World and, a few verses later, healed the blind man and brought light into his world.

Pope Francis: I dream of a more pastoral, more open Church

In an interview with the Argentinean daily "La Nación," the Pope says the Church is following the path laid out by the Second Vatican Council so that it can become ever more a home for all. He also discusses the ongoing Synod, as well as the Holy See's work for peace in Ukraine. By Vatican News

There is one thing that has made the Pope particularly happy in recent years: "Everything that concerns the pastoral line of forgiveness and understanding people. Giving everyone a place in the Church." That is what Pope Francis told Elisabetta Piqué, a journalist for the Argentine daily La Nación, in a new interview given at Casa Santa Marta for the 10th anniversary of his election on 13 March.

A church with open doors - His dream is to open doors.

"Open doors, that's what I really walk paths." And the Church he years is a Church that is "more pastoral, more open" along the lines traced out by the Second Vatican Council. "We must travel this path. This is difficult." The interviewer Pope Francis is concerned especially that this attitude has troubled the elder brother in



son: "It always happens," said the Pope. "A keyword of Jesus is 'all.' For me, this is the key to pastoral openness. Everybody inside the house. There's a bit of commotion, but everyone inside the house." Of course, he emphasized, there is resistance and opposition to change. Jesus, too, "faced a lot of opposition." But it is necessary to act in the "freedom of the Holy Spirit" and to seek God's will. Pope Francis spoke of the formation of future priests and indicated the need for a review of seminaries.

The reforms: On the question regarding reforms, Pope Francis noted that "the dicasteries have been reorganized and the College of Cardinals itself is now freer." On the economic front, he paid tribute to Cardinal Pell, who helped him set the economic reform in motion. "I am very grateful to him," the Pope said. Now, he added, "the Secretariat for the Economy is helping me a lot in this regard. Before there was Father Guerrero, who in three and a half years systematized things, and now there is a layman, Maximino Caballero."

The dangers of gender ideology: Pope Francis then stated that he is not writing a new encyclical. In response to a question about whether he has been asked to write a document on the subject of gender, the Pope replied in the negative. On this topic, he reiterated that he "always makes a distinction between pastoral work with people of different sexual orientation" on the one hand, "and gender ideology. They are two different things," he said. "Gender ideology, at this time, is one of the most dangerous ideological colonisations. It goes beyond the sexual sphere. Why is it dangerous? Because it dilutes differences, and the richness of men and women and of all humanity is the tension of differences. It is growing through the tension of differences. The gender question dilutes differences and makes the world equal, all level, all the same. And this goes against the human vocation."

Knowing how to wait: Finally, responding to a question about errors made during these ten years of his pontificate, the Pope pointed to the cause of each error: impatience. "Sometimes the blood rises to my head. Then you lose patience, and when you lose peace, you slip and make mistakes. You have to know how to wait."

want. To open doors and envisions for the coming pastoral, more just, more the Second Vatican Council. Now, the concreteness of underlined the fact that for the "lost sheep" and some Catholics, as happened the parable of the prodigal



Way of the Cross

Scripture Way of the Cross I based on the Gospel of Matthew

BEGINING 10TH OF MARCH AT 7PM FOR 4 WEEKS

Easter Mass Times 2023

- **PALM SUNDAY:**
Sat Night April 1st **6pm**, Sunday April 2nd **9am & 11am** (no 5pm)
(11am Mass procession with children & donkey & after Mass a puppet show, with refreshments and light lunch for adults)
- **HOLY THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:**
Thurs April 6th at **7pm** (No 9:15am Mass Thursday)
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**
Fri April 7th at **10am** (No 9:15am Mass Friday also)
 - Divine Mercy after the stations
- **GOOD FRIDAY PASSION OF THE LORD:**
Fri April 7th at **3pm** (No 9:15am Mass Thursday)
Note: No Quinn's Friday night Youth Club
- **EASTER VIGIL:**
Saturday April 8th **8pm** Saturday (No 9:15am Mass Saturday)
- **EASTER SUNDAY:**
Sunday April 9th at **9am and 11am** (No 5pm Mass Sunday)



Parish Footy Tipping Competition



The AFL footy season has started!

Do you have the tipping expertise to dethrone our 2022 champion, *goatcats* alias Geoff Walsh? St. Macartan's AFL footy tipping competition is ready for you. It has started this week for 2023. James Barrett and Spencer Meier are looking after it.

Cost will be \$30 for the season, including the Finals Competition. You can pay Spencer or leave at our Parish Office for him. New members can still enroll at ESPN Footy Tips, password "drake". Existing members can resume tipping. The more tippers, the better the prizes will be. Any queries or help [james: iflob@bigpond.net.au](mailto:james:iflob@bigpond.net.au) or 0418 491781 , [spencer: sanddmeier@bigpond.com](mailto:spencer:sanddmeier@bigpond.com) 0448 602 288). Good luck. Enjoy.

DID YOU KNOW---Australian Rules Football started around 1856 when T. W. Wills and H. C. A. Harrison set up clubs to play an Australian version of football. This was a cross between Rugby and Soccer and was made up by Wills who wanted a sport to keep his cricket team fit during winter! The most famous early game was in August 1858 between teams from Scotch College and Melbourne Grammar. There were 40 players on each team! Today a statue at the MCG commemorates this.

Bake for a Good Cause



Prison Fellowship Australia is organizing Easter Biscuit Bake 2023. The challenge is to bake 79,000 homemade biscuits to share God's love with every inmate in Victoria this Easter.

Biscuits must be: Homemade; crisp, not moist or crumbly; nut-free (No peanut butter, almond meal, etc.); in sealed, disposable containers; clearly labelled with ingredients, labelled with the number of biscuits in each container.

So, flip through your cookbook, grab your apron and turn on the oven.

Deliver to St. Macartan's Catholic Church on 26th March (Sunday) or 27th March (Monday) between 9:00am to 10:30am.

For any clarification, please contact Fr Jude: 5975 2200 or jude.johnson@cam.org.au.

New Parishioners Morning Tea

Thank you to 'New and Existing' Parishioners

I would like to thank Five New Parishioners who attended the 'New Parishioners Morning Tea' on 11th March 2023. It was a huge success as they not only experienced hospitality and friendship but also met with priests, ministry leaders and some of the parishioners. We also like to thank our amazing existing parishioners who have provided delicious 'cakes & snacks' and helped in many ways.

Fr Jude

CHILD SAFETY

Dear Parishioners,

Thanks to Fr Jude, Tim Lambourne & Jacinta Jolly for the time they spent last week running a training module on Child Safety.

Thanks also to the volunteers who attended the training.

It is greatly appreciated the effort & dedication of the many volunteers at St Macartan's.

So far over 50 volunteers have completed the child safety module.

Some volunteers were hesitant about the need for training but after attending the session and discussing issues of concern, there has been a very positive response & appreciation of the opportunity to participate and become more aware of child safety, not only in our parish but within our families & the wider community.

Another group training session will be available after Easter.

Note: For the individual who wants to complete Safeguarding Essentials online, go to

<https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s>

To login, each volunteer or clergy member will need:

- Working with Children Check ID
- Email address

To register, volunteers will need to select 'St. Macartan's Parish' from the dropdown menu as your Primary Organisation of Service.

Kind Regards

Carmel McGrath
Safeguarding Officer



Fiat: A Weekend of Prayer (Friday 24 March to Sunday 26 March)

Our Lenten journey to Easter – these forty days and nights – is a time for us to walk with our Lord and his disciples. This lent, the parishes, communities, and movements of the Archdiocese are invited to join in a weekend of communal prayer coinciding with the feast of the Annunciation. Commencing at 6 pm on Friday, 24 March and culminating at 6pm on Sunday, 26 March, this 48-hours of prayer promises to be a moment of grace for the local Church, as we together meditate on Mary's fiat, her total 'yes'.

Archbishop Peter Commensoli has encouraged the parish communities and individuals to engage in an hour of prayer during this 'Weekend of Prayer' by means of *lectio divina*, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the recitation of the rosary, the liturgy of the Hours, etc.

We, St. Macartan's Parish Community, will take up Archbishop Peter's invitation to join **Fiat: A weekend of Prayer** by 'Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament' on Sunday 26 March from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, and 5pm Mass led by **Encounter** Junior Youth Group. All Parishioners are invited.

Please visit <https://melbournecatholic.org/> to read Archbishop Peter's letter on Fiat: A Weekend of Prayer.



Jokes of the Week



#1: The blind farmer was often taken for a walk in the fields by a kind neighbour. However kindly the neighbour might have been, he was undoubtedly a coward. When a bull charged towards them one day, he abandoned the blind man. The bull, puzzled by a lack of fear, nudged the blind farmer in the back. He turned very quickly, caught the bull by the horns and threw it to the ground with a bump that left it breathless. "Aidan," shouted the neighbour, "I never knew you were so strong." "It's the strength of Faith," said the blind man. "If I could have got that fella off the handlebars of his bicycle, I'd have thrashed him properly."

#2: A blind man is walking down the street with his guide dog one day. They come to a busy intersection and the dog, ignoring the high volume of traffic zooming by on the street, leads the blind man right out into the thick of the traffic. This is followed by the screech of tires as panicked drivers try desperately not to run the pair down. Horns blaring around them, the blind man and the dog finally reach the safety of the sidewalk on the other side of the street, and the blind man pulls a cookie out of his coat pocket, which he offers to the dog. A passer by, having observed the near fatal incident, can't control his amazement and says to the blind man, "Why on earth are you rewarding your dog with a cookie? He nearly got you killed!" The blind man turns partially in his direction and replies, "To find out where his head is, so I can kick his rear end!"



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Cao Gangchuan

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

Forth Sunday of Lent – 18th & 19th March 2023

6.00pm Readers: Fay Murphy, Carmel McGrath

Eucharistic Ministers: Tricia Hird, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers: Kathleen Ronchi, Spencer Meier

Eucharistic Ministers: Patricia Thomas, Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Gabriella Fialla, Joan Clements

Eucharistic Ministers: Rosina Di Petta, John Spaziani

Fifth Sunday of Lent – 25th & 26th March 2023

6.00pm Readers: Iris Hallinan, Carmel McGrath

Eucharistic Ministers: Fay Murphy, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers: Don Ziino, Michael Kesik

Eucharistic Ministers: Marcelle Azzopardi, Joseph Thoppil

11.00am Readers: Michael Harrison, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Ministers: Sandra Barrett, John Spaziani

Palm Sunday – 1st & 2nd April 2023

6.00pm Readers: Brian Scantlebury, Kees Duyvestyn

Eucharistic Ministers: Mairi Duyvestyn, Alis Fisher

9.00am Readers: Kathleen Ronchi, Spencer Meier

Eucharistic Ministers: John and Mary Lewis

11.00am Readers: Irene Hackett, Terry Roberts

Eucharistic Ministers: Sheila Goddard, Bridie Sexton

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Contact Details:

New Parishioner Welcome Morning Tea: 2nd Saturday of the month. Contact Parish Office: 5975 2200

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: Every Saturday at 11am (Except the 1st Saturday of the month):

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