

TWENTIETH Sunday in Ordinary Time YrA 20 August 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
Parish Secretary: Cynthia Gooriah



Matthew 15:21-28

...“Woman, you have great faith!...”



Mass Times:

- Weekdays: Tues 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.

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

Video Sunday Mass:

Watch Mass Live: Every Sun. 9AM

<http://vimeo.com/event/3636795>

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 21st: St Pius X, Pope
- Tue 22nd: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wed 23rd: Rose of Lima
- Thu: St Bartholomew, Apostle

NO MASS

9:15am Tues 22nd August

Fr Geoff away at a conference

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, Evan Senn, Adeline Lyn Tilden, Angela Turner, Laurence Turner, Roy Cahill, Poala Solvy, Geoffrey Lane, Terry Said, Kathleen Rose, Barbara Seymour, Barbara Hent, Collen Steele, Gai Beveridge, Barbara Hunt, Dr Ron Fitzgerald, James Tokarczyk, James O'Meara, Sarah-Jane Sharp, Pat Guest, Rhonda Vernon and Sinead Ryan.



Death Anniversaries: Lucian Kesik.

Recently Deceased: Sean O'Sullivan.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1.6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

Communion Antiphon

Psalms 129:7

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

Historical Context

When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, the 'Promised Land' they sought was the land of Canaan (approximately the area of modern Israel, TransJordan, Syria and Lebanon). Here they were commanded to utterly destroy the Canaanites and to subdue the land. (Exodus 23:23-24) The Israelites never successfully removed all the Canaanites from the Palestine region. By the time of Jesus, the Israelites had established themselves in the region between Judea in the south and Galilee in the north, while the original inhabitants of the area had been 'squeezed out' – predominantly to the north. The Canaanites were dispossessed of their land by the Israelites and it is easy to see why there was tension between them.

Gospel Reflection

This week's gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus' response to those in need. Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He was physically removing himself from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is very abrupt with her. He tells her simply that his ministry is to the house of Israel – the Jews – and is not for her. But the woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. Jesus is even more abrupt and tells her that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs. Through this use of metaphor, Jesus refers to the children of Israel (the Jews) and to the gentiles and pagans – sometimes referred

to as 'dogs' to reflect their lowly status in the eyes of the Jewish tradition. Still the woman persists and turns Jesus' metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table. The woman's persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and through that faith heals the woman's daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to the woman's request. It is as though she needed to demonstrate that she was really serious and that she did in fact believe that Jesus could make a difference in her life and the life of her daughter. This is an important story in Matthew's gospel. This gospel was written predominantly for Jewish Christians but this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God is open to anyone who believes.

From the perspective of ... A disciple

As we passed through a little village near Sidon this Canaanite woman suddenly started calling on the master to help her daughter. We all expected the master to help her out as usual but he really put her in her place! He told her that his ministry was not for pagans like her. That should have stopped her, but she kept on and on, even turning the master's words back on him! She was so rude. We were about to push her out of the way so that the master could move on when he suddenly told her that her faith was great and that her daughter was better. Great faith? A Canaanite? He never ceases to surprise us!

Scriptural Context

This passage sits in the middle of a group of three stories that make up Chapter 15 of Matthew's Gospel. The first story deals with Jesus challenging traditional views of cleanliness and uncleanness – one of the great separators between Jews and Gentiles. The story of this week's gospel follows with its account of the Canaanite woman's great faith being recognised.

Pope at Audience: WYD in Portugal was 'an encounter with Christ'

Following his traditional July break, Pope Francis resumes his weekly General Audiences, and reflects on his recently-concluded Apostolic Journey to Portugal for World Youth Day in Lisbon, praising it as a moment to meet Christ, discover faith, and experience God's love.

By Deborah Castellano Lubov

World Youth Day is an occasion to encounter Christ, grow in faith, and experience God's tender love for all His children. This was how Pope Francis assessed his recent Apostolic Journey to Lisbon, Portugal, for the occasion of the 37th Holy Father's comments at his weekly General Audience, marking the first July break, which took Paul VI Hall, to provide the intense Roman sun. Pope reflected on his fruits it provided.



World Youth Day. The came on Wednesday, Audience, in the Vati- since his traditional place in the Vatican's some comfort amid At the Audience, the Visit and the great "World Youth Day in demic, was felt by all

Lisbon, after the pan- to be a gift of God." God, the Pope recalled, set in motion the young people's hearts and steps, to go and find Jesus.

God is Father and loves all His children

World Youth Day, he stressed, is an encounter with the living Christ through the Church, "an encounter that makes one grow in faith and where many discover God's call," often "to marriage, to consecrated life, to the priesthood. "For each and every person," he said, "it is the joy of discovering that they are called, by grace, to be part of the people of God, a different people ... sent to proclaim to all peoples the joyful Gospel of Christ: that God is Father and loves all His children." In a special way, he recalled the Blessed Virgin's Mary's presence during these days, and throughout history. He especially recalled his time praying to her in Fatima, and her effectiveness whenever we speak to her. "Mary is everyone's mother; she never makes us wait," he said. The Pope said he prayed at the site of the Apparition, along with young people who are ill, "that God will heal the world of the diseases of the soul," citing specifically "pride, lies, enmity, and violence." "We renewed the consecration of ourselves, of Europe, of the world to the Heart of Mary, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. I prayed for peace because there are so many wars from all parts of the world, so many."

Present to encounter Christ

The Pope praised the great numbers, faith, and enthusiasm of the young people, recalling, in a special way, that the young people of Ukraine brought with them a very sorrowful account, an experience quite different than other pilgrims. The Holy Father suggested that they, like many of the young people, were present at the World Youth Day "to meet Christ." He decried that wars continue, and in Ukraine, the fighting continues. "World Youth Day showed us another world is possible," he insisted, one without fear, isolationism, and weapons. In conclusion, the Holy Father prayed that the Blessed Virgin Mary may bless the young people of the world, and the Portuguese people, before leading everyone in the Vatican's Paul VI Hall in praying a Hail Mary. He also thanked all those involved in the Journey's organization and thanked young people who even traveled to Rome and were present at the General Audience.

On 31 August to 4 September, Pope Francis will travel to Mongolia, making him the first-ever Pope to travel there. Later on in the month, the Pope will spend two days in Marseille, France, for an encounter about migration in the Mediterranean.

EARLY LEARNING / CHILD-CARE CENTRE

Hello Parishioners,

The Parish Pastoral Council in conjunction with the Finance committee have for many months now been asked to review the potential of having an Early learning centre built on Parish land, adjacent to St Macartan's Primary School.

For quite a few years now, I have been looking at ways to improve the numbers of preps at the school, as well as utilize some vacant land. I have researched, through the Archdiocese, some successful Early learning centres being built at other Parishes and through many months of discussion with the Archdiocese, I am now in a position to say, the proposal has passed stage one of a three stage approval process and that tenders have gone out for suitable companies to quote on this proposal.

What it will mean for the Parish and school is:

We can be better be connected to more parents who may then choose to send their child to our school, maintaining the numbers we need to keep all year streams open.

Also, the Parish will earn a rental income from the Early Learning Centre Management. This will be in the form of land rental for possibly 50 years and will generate a passive income for the Parish, allowing us to then use this rental income for new works and improvements on our own Parish site.

This is a long-term strategy to ensure the financial viability of Parish with a separate income stream to give us flexibility with new projects.

As we get closer to stages two and three I will keep you all posted but this is a positive move forward for our Parish and for the future.

Blessings

Fr Geoff

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Thank you all who assisted and supported Fr Jude in his farewell(s).
He was completely exhausted by Sunday evening.

Jet-lag four Masses and too much cake will do that.

Fr Jude has now arrived in Geelong and has started his new Ministry there.

We at St Macartan's will be welcoming a new Assistant Priest shortly.
More on this when it becomes available.

Regards

Fr Geoff

From Fr Jude

To Fr Geoff and Parishioners,

I would like to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for the incredible farewell you all gave me as I prepared to move to my new parish, St Mary of the Angels, Geelong. Your well wishes, kind words, and the thoughtful gifts were truly overwhelming and touched my heart in so many ways.

While the farewell was bittersweet, knowing that I will be leaving such amazing individuals like you behind, I also feel a sense of excitement for the new chapter that awaits me. Your support and encouragement have given me the confidence to embrace this new journey with open arms.

I will always cherish the memories we created together during my time here. The laughter, the tears, the prayers—we shared it all. You have made a profound impact on my life and ministry, and I will carry your love and friendship in my heart wherever I go.

Once again, massive thanks to Fr Geoff, Cynthia and Jody. Special thanks also to Colleen McGreal & St Macartan's School Community and Kelly McGurn & Padua College Community for your welcome and support. My sincere thanks also go to the staff and residents of all the aged care facilities. To all the parishioners, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your love, support and prayers. You all have made my time here truly special, and I will be forever grateful. All of you have taught me a lot and shaped me the person and priest who I am today. I am blessed to be an assistant priest of St. Macartan's and I am forever grateful to all of you.

Now here's a little joke to bring a smile to your faces: Maybe this is goodbye for now, but I have a feeling we'll still "**ketchup**" someday.

May God continue to bless you abundantly, and may we meet again soon.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Fr Jude.

I would like to thank Fr Geoff, and my wonderful Events Team, who went above and beyond, in ensuring that the parish gave Fr Jude a sendoff to remember on Saturday 12 August 2023.

A special thanks to Ann Anderson for bringing an electric balloon inflator (*yes there is such a thing*) which made blowing up all the balloons such fun and saved a heart attack or three.

Also, a special thanks to Trish and Graham Thomas for their tiring work in ensuring that no plate was left unwashed, dried, and put away.

And most of all I would like to thank all the parishioners who came along to wish Fr Jude farewell, and those who provided food, even those who could not make it on the night, so that we had a banquet to remember.

Jody Kerrins,

Events Co-Ordinator.



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Gratitude for Your Support! We extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous backing of this year's Appeal for the Propagation of the Faith. Through your help, Church workers in 1047 mission dioceses have been able to share the Good News within their local communities. Thank you for contributing to the amount of \$1,295.00 which was raised by St Macartan's community for Catholic Mission. Your support this year will enable Sr. Carolina to continue to provide life-saving treatment and access to resources on health and well-being. Your gift also supports mission programs around the world that reach out and give life to those in most need.

PARISH BUS

We have six volunteer bus drivers so far.

That's terrific!

This coming week I will be having a reverse camera fitted to the bus, when this has been done I will be contacting the volunteers and getting them to come and have a drive of the bus and run through some idiosyncrasies and discuss parishioner pick-up points etc.

Regards

Fr Geoff



Parish Footy Tipping Competition



Smart tipping from Geoff Walsh and Mr Franks saw them achieve 8/9 as our top tippers last week. Lincoln retains her competition lead. She is still 5 ahead of Peter Keightley and Michael Barden with another one back to Pauline Peters and Geoff Walsh. There are only 3 rounds of the home and away season left. Can anybody catch our leaders? Remember that the Finals competition will start at the end of Round 23.

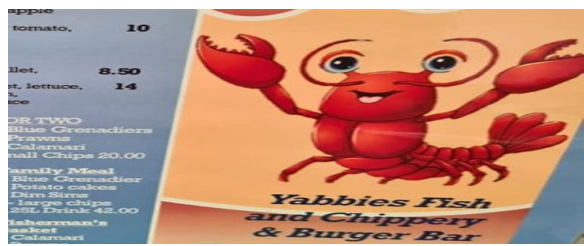
DO YOU KNOW--- Who was the leading Full Forward who retired last week? Who is the only other player apart from him to have booted 300 goals for two Clubs and who are the 3 other indigenous players to have played 350 AFL/VFL games with him?

Any competition queries or help contact [James: jflob@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jflob@bigpond.net.au) / 0418 491781,
[Spencer: sanddmeier@bigpond.com](mailto:sanddmeier@bigpond.com) / 0448 602 288.

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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A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
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APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS.

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: 0410 596 637

20th Sunday of Ordinary Time – 19th & 20th August 2023

6.00pm Readers: Fay Murphy, Carmel McGrath

Eucharistic Ministers: Alis Fisher, Carmel Coles

9.00am Readers: Helen Britton, John Azzopardi

Eucharistic Ministers: Marcelle Azzopardi, Delina Frank

11.00am Readers: Michael Harrison, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Ministers: Rosina Di Petta, Barbara Ensil

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time – 26th & 27th August 2023

6.00pm Readers: Brian Scantlebury, Marlene Tesmann

Eucharistic Ministers: Tricia Hird, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers: Kathleen Ronchi, Michael Kerr

Eucharistic Ministers: John and Mary Lewis

11.00am Readers: Joan Clements, Irene Hackett

Eucharistic Ministers: Sandra Barrett, Sheila Goddard

22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time - 2nd & 3rd September 2023

6.00pm Readers: Iris Hallinan, Kees Duyvestyn,

Eucharistic Ministers: Michael Turner, Fay Murphy

9.00am Readers: Michael Kerr, Don Ziino

Eucharistic Ministers: Richard Jolly, Rosemarie D'Silva

11.00am Readers: Michael Harrison, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Ministers: Sue Fletcher, Rosina Di Petta

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: ???????? Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Volunteer Application Support Officer: Contact Parish Office: 5975 2200

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 5975 2200

Parish Caretaker: John Spaziani: 0419 598 911

Email: Mornington@cam.org.au

Weddings contact the Office or Fr Geoff : 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: Fr Geoff: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month.

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: Kelly McGurn

Vice Principal: Mission, Identity & Community: Matthew Williams