

ST MARTIN OF TOURS – PARISH OF MACLEOD

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

'A faith community where Christian Service thrives and shared ministry is developed'

St Martin's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all Children, young people and adults at risk.

ADVENT THEME: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.

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?

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr Michael O'Connell

Parish Priest

Sr. Maria Bui

Pastoral Associate

Maria.Bui@cam.org.au

ADMINISTRATION

Candice Cheung

Parish Secretary

macleod@cam.org.au

Elizabeth Jernejcic

Parish Accounts Manager

Elizabeth.Jernejcic@cam.org.au

SCHOOL

St Martin of Tours School

Angela Lacey

School Principal

Principal@smrosanna.catholic.edu.au PH 8458 7500

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Marianne Love (Chair)

PH 9401 6338

Child Safeguarding Committee

Robert Broadbent

Julie Lane

Marie D'Souza

PH 9401 6338

Community to the sick

PH 9401 6338

St Vincent De Paul

1800 305 330

LOVE



Second Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Love

The second candle - referred to as the Bethlehem Candle - is usually purple or violet. It reminds us of the Holy Family's experience in Bethlehem. Its colour is also strongly associated with royalty and highlights the concept of Christ as the "King of Kings." Significantly, Jesus is also connected back to the House of King David.

PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM - AN UPDATE ON OUR RECENT PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM

The Parish has finalised our recent Parish Renewal Program, and I wanted to share with you some of the exciting outcomes.

The Program invited all parishioners to reflect on the importance of our great Parish in our lives:

- The Parish that we want, and aim to be, and
- The important role that every parishioner has in making it happen

I am pleased to advise the Program has been very successful and a great initiative for the Parish.

Financial Support - Parish Income has received a significant and timely boost. Current parishioners responded to the call to "review and renew" their existing pledges of support, and we welcomed 30 new contributors to the Stewardship Program. We began the Program with a weekly income of approx. \$3,300 per week, with a challenge to increase to a minimum of \$4,100. I am pleased to advise, that through your wonderful generosity and support, we met that challenge, and we now have pledged income of nearly \$4,200 per week. We also asked parishioners to consider a direct method of contribution – by Credit/Debit Card or Direct Deduction for your Bank account. As a result, we now have 75% contributing by these methods.

Thank you!

Groups & Ministries Response -We also encouraged parishioners to engage in the life of the Parish, through active involvement in our Parish Groups & Ministries – adding your talents, energy and commitment to help live the mission of the Parish. As a result of your response our Groups & Ministries have been revitalised. **Thank you!**

Groups & Ministry Follow-up - We are in the process of collating and following up on all Groups & Ministry responses, ensuring that we adhere to the requirements of the Diocese, particularly regarding our commitment to Safeguarding. Please be assured that your response has been received and is being actioned, and the appropriate Group or Ministry co-ordinator will be in touch.

I thank everyone for your support of the Parish Renewal Program. It shows once again that we have a wonderful Parish community, committed to living the Gospel in word and action.

Shalom, Fr Michael

Our Parish acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation who are Traditional Owners of the land on which the parish resides, and we pay our respects to elders past and present.

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY FOR LAST WEEK:

Stewardship	\$ 847	Presbytery	\$ 266	Loose	\$491
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CREDIT CARD & DIRECT DEBIT FOR MONTH:

Stewardship	\$ 8701	Presbytery	\$ 836
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SVDP Poor Box – Donations for the month of November \$70. Thank you all.**RECENTLY DECEASED: Mgr. Frank Marriott****ANNIVERSARIES - THOSE WE REMEMBER FONDLY AT THIS TIME**

Michael Sproules, George and Inacin Pereira, Francis and Alzira D'Souza, Oreste Di Medio, Teresa Angelone, Joseph Gauci, Peter Mc Aliece, Barry Scully, Nellie Cruise, Deidre Garro, Teresita Thorn, Catherine Dowling, Veronica Anning, Reginald Robinson, Doreen Flanagan, Margaret Mc Intyre, Enzo Bergamo, Rita Soote

LORD THAT I MAY BE WELL AGAIN - PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Fr Brian Carey, Sr Maureen Sheehan MSC, Louis Sarkady, Judy West, Ahmed Abdulwahid (9yo), Jerome & Salvina Pace, Milka Mikac, Monsignor Pete Jeffrey, Megan Whittle, Fr Prakash Cutunha, Patrick Kennealy, Anita Muscat, Maureen Kavanaugh, Joshua Mullins, Bob Mc Aliece, Marlena Calo, Denise Eagan, Irene & William Burgess, Audrey Tunks (1yr old), Marie Lloyd, Bishop Terry Curtin, Pippa Vecchio, Baby Felix Diep, Joe Basile, Monica Ragheb, Liliana Bariola, Nancy Gheno, Jess Cabitac, Augusto DaSilva, Henry DaSilva, John Capaletti, Lauren, Phillip Minnelli, Patricia Valente, Pat Walsh, Julie & Joe Morris

The Promise – Advent & Christmas Reflections 2025

Available in the Main Foyer – \$6 (Cash only; please place payment in the box)



Embark on a spiritual journey of hope this Advent and Christmas. Let these reflections deepen your recognition of God's promise fulfilled in Christ and inspire joyful anticipation of His Presence throughout the season.



ST MARTIN'S END OF YEAR YOUTH MASS will be held on **Sunday 14th December @ 10am**. There will be some light refreshments held in the Community Centre after Mass. All Secondary Students, Tertiary Students and Young Workers are welcome to join in.

Parish Safeguarding Review

The Safeguarding Committee is pleased to report that our **Self Assessment for 2025** has been submitted to the Diocese Safeguarding Unit this week. This process requires us to evaluate ourselves against 48 measures of safeguarding practices and procedures. By identifying our strengths and areas for improvement we critically reflect on how we can best protect, and engage with, children, young people and vulnerable adults in our parish life. We look forward to feedback and suggestions from the Safeguarding Unit in due course. Anyone interested in this important work would be welcome to contact our Committee. For contact details see page 1 of the newsletter or phone the parish office 9401 6338.

****Lost and Found****

A set of car keys, a women's Calvin Klein black and cream jacket were found in the church a few weeks ago. Additionally, a blue kid's headphone was found a few months ago.

These items can be collected from the Sacristy or office, or you may contact the Parish Office, Fr. Michael, or Sister Maria for assistance.

Online Donation**Available now****SCAN HERE**

**Make a Difference
With Every Donation**

**Pastoral
Home Visits**

**Sr Maria is available
for home visits
on Tuesdays,**

Wednesdays & Thursdays

For an appointment call
9401 6338
or email Sr Maria at
Maria.Bui@cam.org.au

**GENERAL MUSIC
REHEARSAL****Advent Music Focus**

All choir and music ministers are invited to attend our rehearsal this **Monday, 8 December, from 7:30pm to 8:40pm** in the Church.

Thank you for your commitment as we prepare for the Advent season.



2nd Sunday Of Advent**6th & 7th December (Year A)****SATURDAY VIGIL 5.30PM****SACRISTAN:** C. VALENTE**COMMENTATOR:** E. WOODLOCK**READERS:** A. ROSARIO, M. RYAN**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

* R. WEBSTER, F. ESPOSITO, C. ANDERSON

WELCOMERS: M. ZACCARI, J. OWEN**MUSIC:** M. O'LEARY / M. PUSPA**SUNDAY 8.00AM****SACRISTAN:** F. CARNOVALE**COMMENTATOR:** T. VITEZ**READERS:** M. FERNANDEZ**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

* F. CARNOVALE, M. D'SOUZA

SUNDAY 10.00AM FAMILY**SACRISTAN:** M. LOVE**COMMENTATOR:** P. FUMEI**READERS:** S. REGO, J. LEWIS**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

* A-M POWER, C. HARTE, J. HARTE

WELCOMERS: G. SCHWABE, P. BASILE**MUSIC:** JUSTIN**RELIGIOUS GIFT SHOP:** C. HARTE /

C. STARMANS

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: LESA MILLER**ALTAR FLOWERS:** P. BASILE**COUNTING TEAM:** 2, 8/12**DATES THIS WEEK**

Friday	5 December	9:15am	Mass
Saturday	6 December	8.30am	Mass
		10:00am	Reconciliation
		5:30pm	Vigil Mass for 2nd Sunday of Advent
Sunday	7 December	8:00am	Mass for 2nd Sunday of Advent
		10:00am	Mass then Cuppa in Gecco
Monday	8 December	9:15am	Grade 6 Graduation Mass
Tuesday	9 December	9:15am	Mass
Wednesday	10 December	9:15am	LOTW
Thursday	11 December	9:15am	Mass
Friday	12 December	9:15am	Mass
Saturday	13 December	8.30am	Mass
		10:00am	Reconciliation
		5:30pm	Vigil Mass for 3th Sunday of Advent
Sunday	14 December	8:00 am	Mass for 3th Sunday of Advent
		10:00 am	End of Year Youth Mass
		11:30 am	Baptism
Monday	15 December	9:15am	Mass

READINGS**First Reading:****Responsorial Psalm:****Second Reading:****Gospel Reading:****THIS WEEK**

Is 11:1-10

Ps 71:1-2,7-8, 12-13

Rom 15:4-9

Mt 3:1-12

NEXT WEEK

Is 35:1-6,10

Ps 145:6-10

James 5:7-10

Mt 11:2-11

3rd Sunday Of Advent**13th & 14th December (Year A)****SATURDAY VIGIL 5.30PM****SACRISTAN:** R. DE SOYSA**COMMENTATOR:** M. FITZPATRICK**READERS:** SR A. PRIESTLEY, J. O'CONNELL**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

* J. LANE, B. ANDERSON, C. VALENTE

WELCOMERS: T. MC IVER, M. CASTILLO**MUSIC:** M. O'LEARY / M. PUSPA**SUNDAY 8.00AM****SACRISTAN:** F. CARNOVALE**COMMENTATOR:** T. JACKSON**READERS:** M. D'SOUZA**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

* F. CARNOVALE, F. ESPOSITO

SUNDAY 10.00AM FAMILY**SACRISTAN:** F. GROBBELAAR**COMMENTATOR:** J. LUNARDI**READERS:** G. NICHOLLS, J. NEWELL**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

* M. FLEMING, M. LOVE, P. BASILE

WELCOMERS: L. BAKKER, P. FUMEI**MUSIC:** ROB DI G**RELIGIOUS GIFT SHOP:** C. HARTE /

C. STARMANS

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: J. GROBBELAAR**ALTAR FLOWERS:** M. REARDON**COUNTING TEAM:** 3, 15/12**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE MASS**

The St Martin of Tours Liturgy Team is looking for children and parents to assist in the **Children's Christmas Eve Mass (5pm)**. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring the Christmas story to life!

We need: ✨ children to play nativity characters (including a live baby under 12 months, with parent) ✨ a few parents to help with rehearsals, costumes, and guiding children during the play

If you can help, please contact **Sr Maria** at maria.bui@cam.org.au, or Ann Wang (School mum) annw15410@gmail.com

Children's Christmas Eve Mass.

St Martin's of Tours Liturgy team invites children and parents to bring the Christmas story to life at 5pm.



Volunteers needed in nativity characters, costume help and parents including a baby under 12 months with the play.

Parents needed for rehearsals, costume help, and ushering during the play.

INVITATION – Advent Online Talks

Join us for a four-week series of virtual Advent reflections led by scholars from Yarra Theological Union. Each session will explore the Sunday readings and enrich your Advent journey.

Speakers: Dr Mary Reaburn NDS, Dr Chris Monaghan CP, and Dr Paul Creevey FMS.

Tuesdays: 9 & 16 Dec 2025, 7–8pm (AEDT) via Zoom.

Free for general participants. Registration essential.

Accreditation available for teachers (4 hours total) – fee \$22.

Click [REGISTER HERE](#) (free) or [FOR ACCREDITATION](#) or

<https://www.trybooking.com/DHMRf>



menALIVE – St Martin of Tours Parish, Rosanna
"God is glorified when men are fully alive" – St Irenaeus

Hello Good Men and Brothers in Jesus Christ,
 You are welcome to join our Scripture-based sessions, using **SOAP** (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer), followed by socialising over coffee. Sessions are held **fortnightly**, for about an hour.

ReCONNECT Sessions:

 **Fridays, 7:00am–8:15am** (first and third week of each month)

 **Stephenie's Acai.Café.Bar, 115 Lower Plenty Road, Rosanna** (Excludes Public Holidays)

Next session:

Friday, 19th December at 7:00am

Come along, share, reflect, and enjoy fellowship with other men of faith!



GOOD SAM'S FOUNDATION – ADVENT VIDEO SERIES

This Advent, the Good Sams Foundation invites us to join in prayer and reflection through a special series of weekly videos.

Each Sunday in December, a candle will be lit and a short prayer shared, focusing on one of the four themes of Advent:

•Week 2: 7 December – Repentance

•Week 3: 14 December – Joy

•Week 4: 21 December – Love

Videos will be available each week at:

<https://goodsamsfoundation.org.au/advent/>

All are welcome to watch and to share this invitation with family, friends, and colleagues.

— Sonya Mears, Executive Director, Good Sams Foundation

Caritas Australia: Be a light in the darkness for families facing adversity this Christmas.

This Christmas, we are inviting Australians to "be a light in the darkness" for families who are living through the trauma of war, displacement, and poverty. The intensity of the conflict in Ukraine has increased and more people are experiencing displacement and poverty.

But with your support, we can bring hope to these families. Our partner, Caritas Ukraine are on the ground working hard to prepare food kits, emergency shelter kits and psychosocial assistance to families facing adversity. Donate today at

<https://www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/be-the-light-in-darkness/>

Hairdressing for Women and Men:

Phone: Yuni on 0433 614 399 Pensioner Rates.
 Can attend home.

WISER WOMEN'S GROUP

The next catch-up will be on **Thursday, 11th December at 10:30am** in the Community Centre, with **morning tea included**. All ladies are welcome to join!

The theme for this gathering will be **Christmas Break Up!** 

This group aims to support each other, share stories, encourage one another, keep **HOPE** alive in our hearts, and of course, enjoy some fun and laughter.

For more details, contact **Leonie** via the office or **Sr. Maria** at maria.bui@cam.org.au

Apology to First Peoples - Treaty For Victoria

On Tuesday 9 December, the Victorian Government will deliver an Apology to First Peoples. The Apology will take place at **11am on 9 December** during a special sitting of Parliament. If you would like to watch this historic Apology via livestream, please register below to receive the link and a reminder to tune in.

[Apology to First Peoples by the Victorian Government – Livestream Tickets, Tue, Dec 9, 2025 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

You are also invited to:

Victoria's Treaty: It's Here Ceremony, Celebration and Launch

When: Friday 12 December 10am

Where: Federation Square

Celebrate the official beginning of Treaty and 60,000 year Culture, song and Community



Palms International Volunteering

Develop community self-reliance and create lasting change!

Discover Palms International Volunteering online in these two special sessions where you'll hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities in our Southeast Asian region.

Join our TIMOR-LESTE ENCOUNTER Information session for those who would like a short taste and tour of Palms placements to Timor-Leste from 14-27 May 2026.

Date: Monday 8 December 2025

Time: 7.30pm-8.30pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)



Venue: ONLINE-Scan the QR code or register at palms.org.au/events_02
9560 5333

Hear With Me Audiology Care (All Ages)

Dr Gerard William -hearwithme.com.au or contact:
03 9002 4237