

ST MARTIN OF TOURS – PARISH OF MACLEOD

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

'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 -The gospel reading for the Midnight Mass is Luke's brief but profound description of the birth of Jesus. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Luke give any information on this remarkable event, and both represent the unfolding of christological understandings over time. It is likely that Luke uses the device of the census to explain why Mary and Joseph are in Bethlehem, the predicted birthplace of the Messiah, when it is common knowledge that Jesus came from Nazareth. At the centre of Luke's story is the proclamation of the birth to the shepherds in the fields and their reaction to it. (In Matthew, the proclamation comes to the Gentile magi or wise men.) At the time, shepherds were regarded as among the lowest of the population. They did not have a good reputation and were not to be trusted! But it is to these, not the high and mighty of the land, that God chooses to announce the birth of the saviour. In the continuation of the text, the shepherds are shown as accepting the proclamation and going 'with haste' to Bethlehem to 'see the thing that has taken place.' They are not checking the veracity of the angel's story but believe it implicitly. Their response is immediate. They return to their fields 'glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard, as it had been told them.' Their response to the coming of the Messiah is wholehearted! *How strong is your belief in all that has been told to you? *In what ways do you glorify and praise God?

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr Michael O'Connell

Parish Priest

Sr. Maria Bui

Pastoral Associate

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ADMINISTRATION

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SCHOOL

St Martin of Tours School

Angela Lacey

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PASTORAL COUNCIL

Marianne Love (Chair)

PH 9401 6338

Child Safeguarding Committee

Robert Broadbent

Julie Lane

Marie D'Souza

PH 9401 6338

Communion to the sick

PH 9401 6338

St Vincent De Paul

1800 305 330

Message From Father Michael and Sister Maria

The Lord Jesus shone the light of God through all his words and actions – revealing God is with us. And after his resurrection, through the outpouring of his spirit, he enable all who associate with him to continue his work of shining the light of God to their families, colleagues, fellow workers, neighbours ...and indeed to all whom they encounter. So may you shine the light of God in our world today by anchors of kindness, love, mercy and Care that build unity and community. For in this way your Christmas and New Year will be truly filled with joy and peace.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE (Wednesday 24TH DECEMBER)

CHILDREN'S VIGIL MASS 4:30pm Carols/ 5:00pm Children's Mass

FAMILY VIGIL MASS 7:30pm Carols/8:00pm Family Mass

MASS DURING NIGHT 10.00pm Carols/10:30pm Night Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY (Thursday 25TH DECEMBER) 10am Mass only

Baptisms January 2026

Sunday 11 January we welcome into our faith community through baptism,

- ♦ Aurelia Nikoloski ♦
- ♦ Tahlia Henderson ♦
- ♦ Roman Henderson ♦
- ♦ Sophie Mondon ♦



Sunday 24 January we welcome into our faith community through baptism,

- ♦ Tahlia Leigh ♦

May God surround them in his love.

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.

Online Parish Donation

Available now

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**Make a Difference to the
Parish
With Every Donation**

**DATES THIS WEEK**

Wednesday	24 December	4:30am	Carols
		5:00pm	Children Vigil Mass
		7:30am	Carols
		8:00pm	Family Vigil Mass
		10:00pm	Carols
		10:30pm	Mass During Night
Thursday	25 December	10:00am	Mass
Friday	26 December	9:15am	Mass
Saturday	27 December	8.30am	Mass
		10:00am	Reconciliation
		5:30pm	Vigil Mass for The Holly Family
			Of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Sunday	28 December	8:00am	Mass for The Holly Family
			Of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
		10:00am	Mass
Monday	29 December	9:15am	Mass
Tuesday	30 December	9:15am	Mass
Wednesday	31 December	5:00pm	End of Year Thanksgiving Mass
Thursday	1 January	10:00am	New Year Mass – Mary Mother of God
Friday	2 January	9:15am	Mass

Christmas Roster

	Children's Vigil Wed 24/12	Family Vigil Wed 24/12	Night Mass Wed 24/12	Christmas Day - Thu
	4:30pm Carols / 5pm Mass	7:30pm Carols / 8pm Mass	10:00pm Carols /10:30pm Mass	10am Mass
Sacristan	J. Jacob	M. Love	C. Valente	F. Grobbelaar
Welcomers	1. S. Kerr 2. L. Angel	A. Aguiar	P. Basile	D. Grasso J. Grobbelaar
Commentator		R. Broadbent	J. Lunardi	J. Lunardi
Altar Servers	1. O. Don Paul 2. A. Ciacchi 3. G. Dao			
Lectors	1. 2.	M. Di Fabio G. Nicholls		E. Woodlock J. O'Connell
Ministers of the Eucharist	1. P. Ryan 2. 3. 4. 5.	M. Anderson B. Anderson J. Scanlon F. Esposito I Frijo	P. Basile C. Valente	M. Grasso P. Basile
Screen operator		C. Assouad	T. Motta	C. Assouad

NOTE THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER FOR 2025. THE NEXT ONE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN THE FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2026