

4th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME YrB 28th Jan 2024

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 An Hoang Le
Parish Secretary: Cherrie Azzopardi



Mass Times:

- Weekdays: Tues to Saturday 9:15am
- Saturday night: 6 pm
- 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

<https://vimeo.com/event/4036689>

Or go to website to copy link:

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/mornington>

ALSO: at our regular YouTube link:

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

Upcoming Holy Days:

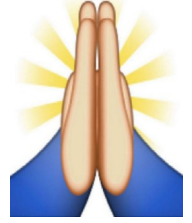
- Wed 31st Jan: St John Bosco, Priest
- Fri 2nd Feb: THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

RETURNING IN 2024

- Holy Hour 3:30-4:30pm Sunday 28th
- 5pm Youth Mass - Sunday 28th
- Encounter junior Youth group 3-5pm - Sunday 28th
- Quinns Place senior Youth group Friday 2nd February.
- RCIA - Thur 1st Feb, 7pm in Hall.
- High Spirits (Confirmation) Tue 6th Feb 5pm in Community House

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, Poala Solvy, Kathleen Rose, Barbara Seymour, Barbara Hent, Gai Beveridge, Barbara Hunt, Dr Ron Fitzgerald, James Tokarczyk, Sarah-Jane Sharp, Pat Guest, Rhonda Vernon, Sinead Ryan, Sean O'Leary, John Spaziani and Kevin Morley



Death Anniversaries: Dan Sweeney, Hugh Finton Murphy.

Recent deaths: Terry Said, Ruth Da Costa
Jose Lopes (Funeral here 11:30am Tues 30th Jan)

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9

(R.) If today, you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**
2. Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

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

*The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord,
that she might be holy.*

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Communion Antiphon

.Cf Psalm 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.

Scriptural Context

The Messianic Secret

A feature of the Gospel of Mark is an element of secrecy and confusion that surrounds Jesus' identity. He silences demons who would announce his identity and warns those he heals to be quiet about what has occurred. There is a real lack of understanding displayed by the disciples about who Jesus is. At one point, Jesus asks the disciples, "who do you think I am?" They identify him as the Messiah but immediately demonstrate that they don't really understand what that means. The theme that runs through the gospel is a developing understanding of what it means that Jesus is the Messiah.

Gospel Reflection

Although this week's gospel is a relatively short passage, there's a lot going on within it. Firstly, we are presented with Jesus going to the synagogue in Capernaum and teaching there. This immediately indicates that Jesus must have been quite well educated – he was obviously able to read from the Torah in Hebrew and then teach about it with an impressive level of authority. In fact at the end of the passage, the people seem more impressed with his teaching than with the act of casting out the unclean spirit! Secondly, in the interaction with the unclean spirit, it knows Jesus and identifies him as the 'Holy One of God'. Jesus sharply tells the spirit to 'Be quiet!' Jesus almost appears to want to silence the spirit before it says any more about who he really is. This is a feature of

the gospel of Mark in which the identity of Jesus as the Messiah is kept under wraps but breaks out in unlikely places – known as the Messianic secret. Whenever an exorcism miracle occurs in the gospels the emphasis is on the reaction to the miracle much more than the action itself. Here, the casting out of the unclean spirit appears to confirm for the people the authority that they sensed in the teaching of Jesus. Liberating the possessed man from the unclean spirit is an illustration of the way in which the people themselves were liberated by Jesus' teaching. It is the message, the teaching, of Jesus that frees people. It is in this way that his understanding of Messiah is revealed. Jesus wants people to come to that knowledge through understanding his message, rather than being impressed by miraculous actions.

Historical Context – He said what?

In an age when most people were illiterate, Jesus appears to have been quite well educated. Some suggest that he may have spoken three or four different languages. He obviously spoke everyday Aramaic, as it was spoken in that region. Jesus also appears to have been taught Hebrew, the language of religious texts and religious practice. Greek, the language of trade in marketplaces, was a language that Jesus probably used when helping Joseph sell his carpentry products at stalls and markets. Finally, Jesus probably picked up a reasonable amount of Latin, the language of the Roman occupiers – he was able to hold a conversation with Pontius Pilate

Gospel Focus – Exorcisms

This week's gospel features an exorcism by Jesus – driving an unclean spirit out of a possessed man. Some people read these acts of exorcism as being literally true. Others are keen to demonstrate that these 'possessions' described in the gospels are able to be explained by various manifestations of mental illness. The thrashing fits described in the gospels have been likened to epileptic seizures, and episodes of paranoia and schizophrenia might explain the first century understanding of possession. Rather than trying to justify or explain away these events, we must seek to understand the gospel writer's purpose in including such episodes.

Pope announces Year of Prayer leading up to Jubilee

At the Angelus, Pope Francis announces a “Year of Prayer” ahead of the upcoming Jubilee, and invites the faithful to pray for Christian unity and for peace throughout the world. The Holy Father also calls for the release of a group of people, including several nuns, who were kidnapped last week in Haiti.

By Christopher Wells

Pope Francis has inaugurated a Year of Prayer ahead of the 2025 Jubilee, calling on the faithful “to intensify prayer to prepare us to live well this event of grace and to experience the power of God’s hope.” In remarks after the Angelus on Sunday, the Holy Father explained that the Year of Prayer is dedicated “to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world.” He added that the Dicastery for Evangelization will be preparing materials to assist in celebrating the Year.



Prayer for Christian unity, peace in the world

The Pope invited Christians to pray especially for Christian unity, and “to not tire of invoking the Lord for peace in Ukraine, in Israel and Palestine, and in so many other parts of the world,” including Ecuador.

Once again he emphasized that those who suffer most from the lack of peace are the weakest among us. “I think of the little ones,” Pope Francis said, “the many children who are injured and killed, those who are deprived of affection, deprived of their dreams and their future.”

“Let us all be aware of our responsibility to pray and to build peace for them!”

Kidnappings in Haiti

Focusing on the Caribbean nation of Haiti, Pope Francis said, “I have learned with sorrow the news of the kidnapping, in Haiti, of a group of people, including six religious sisters.”

The abduction took place in the Haitian capital Port-au-Prince on Friday, when armed men stopped a minibus and took the passengers hostage. In his remarks on Sunday, the Pope appealed “earnestly” for the release of all the hostages, while praying for “social harmony” in the country. “I call on everyone to stop the violence,” he said, “which causes so much suffering to that dear population.”



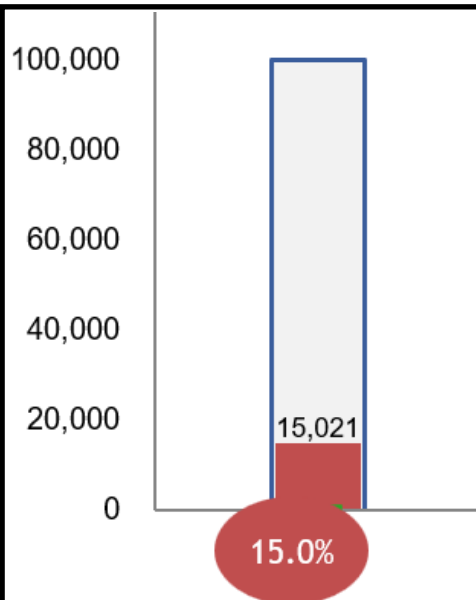
Armed gunmen kidnap six nuns in Haiti



Jokes of the Week



- 1) **Authority to forgive sins:** A dirty, drunken wino who was passing a Catholic Church one day, noticed a sign on the door that said: "Confessions Being Heard." Since he had not been to confession for a long time, he staggered into the church, knelt down in the confessional and began to confess his sins. Unfortunately, his breath was so foul that the priest who was hearing confessions couldn't stand it and decided to cut things short. "Look," he said to the wino. "Have you murdered anybody lately?" "Nope," the wino replied. "O.K. then," the priest told him. "I am going to say the prayer of absolution." Slightly puzzled, the wino staggered out of the confessional and as he was walking down the steps of the church steps, saw a fellow wino who was going into the Church. "You going to confession?" The first wino asked. "Yep," said the second wino. "Don't waste your time," the first wino said. "He ain't hearing nothing today except murder cases."
- 
- 2) You may have heard about the preacher who asked one elderly lady how it was with her soul. "Oh," she replied, "the old devil has been giving me a rough time." Immediately her husband protested. "Now hold on," he said, "she's not too easy to live with herself."
- 3) The new nurse asked the psychiatric doctor, "Is that man really sick?" "He surely is," answered the doctor gravely. "I don't know of a more serious set of complications. For forty years he has suffered agonies from imaginitis, scarecoma, apprehendicitis, and general fearosis of living!"



ROOF RESTORATION FUND RAISING

**Currently you have donated
\$15,021 (15%)**

Thank you

Dear parishioners,

The roof is scheduled to get repaired early in February so we still have time to raise the funds we desperately need.

We expect it to cost \$100,000.
Your generosity is needed!

See our website video: <https://youtu.be/G4UgPciSOk0>

So this fundraising starting today, will continue until we raise all the money. The sooner we raise it, the sooner we stop asking! There are several ways to donate!

1. Via a specific 'roof fundraising' Tap & Pay machine in the main foyer.
2. Via our website and give - under donations.
3. Send a cheque to the church.

I thank all of you for your patience and I know your generous support in this matter.

Blessings - Fr Geoff

Return dates 2024

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • St Macs Café: | Wednesday 24th Jan |
| • Encounter Junior Youth Group: | Sunday 28th Jan |
| • 3:30pm Holy Hour & 5pm Youth Mass | Sunday 28th Jan |
| • Quinn's Place senior youth group: | Friday 2nd Feb |
| • Baptism Information sessions | Wednesday 24th Jan |
| • Minister Unto God: | Tuesday 6th Feb |
| • Men's Night: | Thursday 15th Feb |
| • High Spirits | Tuesday 6th Feb |
| • The Prayer Cenacle: | Tuesday 16th Jan |

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 - Danielle Field: 0410 596 637

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time—27/28 January 2024

6.00pm Readers Carmel McGrath, Marlene Tesmann

Eucharistic Mins Tricia hird, Michael turner

9.00am Readers Spencer Meier, George Atkin

Eucharistic Mins Trish Thomas, Christina Llopart

11.00am Readers Terry Roberts, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Mins Bridie Sexton, Sandra Barrett

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time—3/4 February 2024

6.00pm Readers Louise Renshaw, Brian Scantlebury

Eucharistic Mins Mairi Duyvestyn, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers Kathleen Ronchi, Don Zilino

Eucharistic Mins Frank Crea, Michael Kerr

11.00am Readers Irene Hackett, Joan Clements

Eucharistic Mins Barb Ensil, Rosina di Petta

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time—10/11 February 2024

6.00pm Readers Fay Murphy, Iris Hallinan

Eucharistic Mins Tricia Hird, Michael Turner

9.00am Readers Paul Girolami, Michael Kerr

Eucharistic Mins John & Mary Lewis, Patricia Thomas

11.00am Readers Gabrialla Fialla, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Mins Sue Fletcher, Shiela Goddard

SPECIAL EVENT! - New prep Mass 2024

Yes, each year our Parish welcomes the new Prep children from our Primary school, their prep buddies, family and friends as well as New teachers this year, to a combined celebration Mass on:

Sunday 4th February at 11am Mass

So, regulars please take note the Church will be packed!
Following the Mass celebration we will have a sausage sizzle, drinks and nibbles and special treats for the children to enjoy while they are watching an amazing Magician!

So let us all take it upon ourselves to show the new visitors how hospitable we are at St Macartan's and hopefully encourage them to join our family.

Thank you

Fr Geoff

I'm back!

Some I hear may be glad - others maybe somewhat sad? (I hope not). But **Kia Ora**, greetings from my trip around New Zealand. What a terrific 14 nights on board the Grand Princess. My Mother and I (separate cabins) had never been on a cruise before and I have come back a big fan of cruises and will now plan another in two or three years - once I save my pennies.

I did miss you all and I truly mean that. This has been the longest break I've had in the 8 years I've been a Priest and am glad to be back. But it wouldn't have happened without people to fill in and carry on the work. I want to thank the wonderful, fantastic and talented team of

Fr An Le and Cherrie Azzopardi

Who by all evidence and feedback, did a marvelous job and I think have graduated from L Plates to P. I feel blessed to have a great community here. Thank you

Fr Geoff



PS: Believe it or not, I was appointed "Chief" of the Grand Princess cruise ship! Yes, as we came into Tauranga, a Māori village, before we could enter, a Chief from our "Grand Princess Cruise Ship Tribe" had to face the Chief of the village and request permission to enter. So, with some 100 cruise ship passengers behind me, I walked to an open field where an angry, giant Māori man came running out, spear in hand and yelling and poking his tongue out.

I stood my ground and clasped my crucifix thinking - my God, don't desert me now. But I stood there without flinching and he stopped and laid down a small palm frond in front of me and I slowly walked over and picked it up and said Kia Ora - Greetings from the Grand Princess Tribe.



We come in friendship. I am a man of the Paipera (bible), we respect your culture and my tribe has "tumanako" (hope) that we can be friends and part of my pepiha (ancestry history) is my tribe is from many countries and cultures and we bring peace - Na Me He (Thank you).

The big bad Chief smiled and welcomed me with a handshake and we were let into the village. From that moment on I was nicknamed chief by the passengers.

WAIATA/SONG

E toru nga mea:	There are three things
Nga mea nunui:	That are most important
E ki ano:	It is stated
Te Paipera:	in the Bible
Whakapono:	Faith
Tumanako:	Hope
Ko te mea nui:	Most important of all
Ko te aroha:	Is Love

Come & join Parishioner Graham Michel's
Mrs Sippy traditional jazz band
for a fun afternoon of jazz & dancing
Sunday 28th January from 1.30 - 4.30 p.m.
 at the Mornington Civic Bowls Club, Dunns Road Mornington
 Admission \$15 p.p. B.Y.O. nibbles coffee, tea & drinks available at the bar.



2024 Victorian School Term Dates



<https://www.vic.gov.au/school-term-dates-and-holidays-victoria>

2024	Start date	Finish date
Term 1	29 January (students start 30 January in government schools)	28 March
Term 2	15 April	28 June
Term 3	15 July	20 September
Term 4	7 October	20 December

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Contact Details:

- **AV & Livestreaming Technician:** Didier Le Miere: 0400 801 891
Email: Didier.lemiere31@gmail.com
- **Baptisms:** Every Saturday at 11am (Except the 1st Saturday of the month):
Contact Office: 5975 2200
- **Baptism Preparation:** Fr Geoff & Fr An: Wednesdays of each month 5:30pm
- Bookings are necessary. 5975 2200.
- **Catholic Mission Parish Ambassador:** Jody Kerrins
jody54@westnet.com.au
- **Finance Committee:** Frank Crea: 0417 104 041
- **Marriage & Counselling:** Charmaine Holmes: 0413 394 085
Email: charholmes59@gmail.com
- **Marriage Preparation:** Fr Geoff, Email: Geoffrey.mcilroy@cam.org.au
- **Memorial Wall:** Contact Parish Office: 5975 2200
- **Men's Night:** Contact Kerry McInerney 5976 2155
- **Parish Pastoral Council (PPC):** Jody Kerrins (Chairperson)
Email: jody54@westnet.com.au
- **Safeguarding Officer:** Tim Lambourne Mornington.ChildSafety@cam.org.au
- **Spiritual Director/Pastoral Counsellor/Psychotherapist:** Angelo
Campagna Ph: 0411 305 478, Website: www.angelocampagna.com.au
- **St Mac's High Spirits:** Teacher is Michael Kerr: Contact office: 5975 2200
- **St Mac's Café: Coordinators are** Fr Geoff 5975 2200
- **St Macartan's Gift Shop:** Trish Thomas: 0425 749 379
- **St Vincent de Paul:** Barry Murphy: 0419 225 455
- **Volunteer Application Support Officer:** Contact Parish Office: 5975 2200
- **Visitation Group:** Fr An email: An.le@cam.org.au 59752200
- **Weddings contact the Office or Fr Geoff : 5975 2200**
- **Youth Worker (Quinn's Place):** Kristina Turner,
Email: Kristina.b2906@bigpond.com
- **Youth Worker (Encounter):** Kate McInnes, Email: morningtonparish.youth@cam.org.au

Schools:

- **St Macartan's Primary School:** Ph: 5979 9200
- **Principal:** Colleen McGreal
- **Deputy:** Andrea Kershaw
- **Padua College:** Ph: 5976 0100
- **Principal:** Kelly McGurn
- **Vice Principal:** Mission, Identity & Community: Matthew Williams

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.



74 Main Street, Mornington, Victoria 3931
Fr Geoff rates it as: Yum, Yum, & Yummy!
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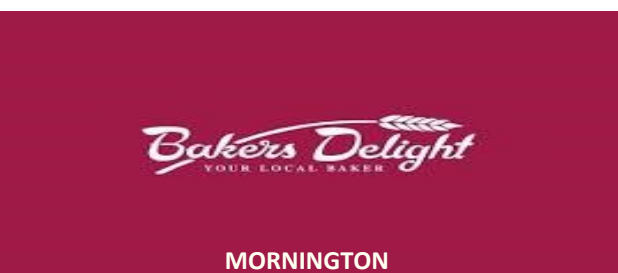
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