

1st Sunday Advent YrB 3rd Dec 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: TBA



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

<https://vimeo.com/event/3914823>

Or go to website to copy link:

[https://www.melbcatholic.org/
mornington](https://www.melbcatholic.org/mornington)

ALSO: at our regular YouTube link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOppts0Fw/videos)

Upcoming Holy days:

- Thur 7th: **St Ambrose, Bishop**
- Fri 8th: **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Also, new 2023-2024 Thanksgiving
Envelopes in Foyer. Anyone who
took No. 007 PLEASE RETURN**

**THEM. Also the person with number
082 please contact the office.**

2023

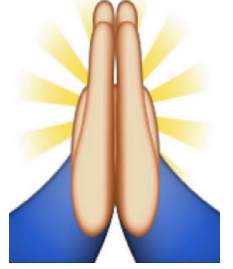
LAST St Mac's Café: Wed 20th Dec

LAST Encounter: Sun 10th Dec

LAST Quinns place: Fri 15th Dec

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, Terry Said, Kathleen Rose, Barbara Seymour, Barbara Hent, Gai Beveridge, Barbara Hunt, Dr Ron Fitzgerald, James Tokarczyk, Sarah-Jane Sharp, Pat Guest, Rhonda Vernon, Sinead Ryan and Sean O'Leary.



Death Anniversary:

Recently Deceased:

First Reading

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.

Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,
no eye has seen

any god but you act like this for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**

2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



Have you thought?

Beginning Advent

The season of Advent begins this week and continues through the four Sundays of Advent and ends at Christmas Eve. The first week of Advent focuses on the return of the Lord and the following weeks focus more specifically on the anticipation of the birth of Jesus. Rather than simply commemorating an historical event, Advent is a time of preparing our hearts to 'receive' Jesus into the world each year. Advent is traditionally marked by the colour of violet – the same colour as used in Lent. In recent years, some parishes have moved to a more blue/mauve colour for Advent to try to distinguish it from the season of Lent.

Gospel Reflection

Stay awake! With these words, Jesus cautions his disciples to be constantly vigilant and to be alert to the return of the Lord. It is a very fitting way to begin the season of Advent. Advent has traditionally been observed as a time of preparation and waiting. It culminates in the Christmas season and so the waiting and preparation is related to the celebration of the coming of Christ into the world. Perhaps the time of preparation this Advent is also a call to stay awake and stay alert in faith. One of the great challenges to faith today is the complacency that has taken hold of many in our society. When life is comfortable, the perceived need for faith appears to diminish. Many young people in our society cannot see the value of religious belief or religious practice. In a world of instant communica-

tion and instant 'satisfaction', the reflective and slow work of faith can seem too much effort for some people. The gospel call to stay awake in preparation for the coming of the Lord is a call to continue the work of bringing about the Kingdom of God. Over the last three weeks, the gospel passages from Matthew 25 were reminders about continuing to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom. This week, with the beginning of Advent, it is the gospel of Mark that also reminds us that we cannot take the Kingdom for granted and must remain vigilant in working to realise the Kingdom. This vigilance needs to be applied to nurturing our own faith life as well as making a difference in the lives of those around us and the needy in society. Rather than 'Stay awake!' maybe some of us need to be told, 'Wake up!' It is never too late to pay closer attention to faith and perhaps this Advent is an ideal time to do that.

Living the Gospel – Stay Awake!

By the time the Church begins to celebrate Advent as a period of preparation towards Christmas, the stores have been filling with Christmas paraphernalia for weeks. It starts out small with a few decorations and wrapping paper and eventually takes over every retail outlet. In the midst of this excess of Christmas consumerism, it is often difficult to draw attention to the season of Advent and the need to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas. It is important to stay awake, as we are cautioned in this week's gospel. Awake to what is happening around us in the world and awake to what is happening within us.

Gospel Focus – The Doorkeeper

The role of the gatekeeper, or the doorkeeper, is to maintain a watching brief – to be alert to dangers or distractions and to ensure that everyone who is important to the process is invited to participate. Today's gospel reminds us that as believers we are to be the doorkeepers, or gatekeepers, of the Kingdom, watching for dangers and welcoming in all those who wish to enter.

Pope's participation in COP28 Summit cancelled at doctors' request

The Director of the Holy See Press Office says Pope Francis' physicians have asked him not to undertake his scheduled journey to Dubai to participate in the COP28 Summit, and he has accepted their advice "with great regret."

By Vatican News



A statement released on Tuesday evening by the Director of the Holy See Press Office said, "Even though the Holy Father's general health situation has improved in relation to the flu and respiratory tract inflammation he has been suffering from, his doctors have asked the Pope not to undertake his scheduled visit to Dubai in the coming days, on the occasion of the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change."

Matteo Bruni said that upon the advice of the doctors, Pope Francis "with great regret" has cancelled his visit to Dubai. The visit was scheduled from 1 to 3 December, and on Saturday he was to address the COP28 Assembly, and on Sunday participate in the inauguration of the COP's Faith Pavilion. Bruni added that "following through with the Pope's and the Holy See's wish to be part of the discussions taking place in the coming days, the modalities by which this can happen will be defined as soon as possible."

Changes in Pope's schedule

In order to facilitate the Pope's recovery, some important engagements scheduled for these days have been postponed; others of an institutional nature have been maintained. Pope Francis, however, has already shown a marked improvement since Monday, with no fever or particular respiratory problems.

"The Pope's condition is good and stabler," the Director of the Holy See Press Office said, but his doctors say it is preferable that he continues to rest and not have to face the strain that every journey entails.



ADVENT REFLECTIONS

with Fr Joe O'Shea

Father Joe returns leading the faithful through Lectio Divina and into a reflection of the Gospels in Advent.

Come and enjoy this prayerful and insightful 45minutes with this Holy Priest.

St Macartan's Church - 6pm Monday evenings. It's free, tell your friends!



Our God wants to be with us and bless us wherever we are. While it is easy to get wrapped up in the many tasks of this season, I invite you to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and to experience and celebrate the coming of God's ultimate gift to us – our Lord and Saviour – Jesus. Sign up below to receive the Advent 2023 Daily Devotional video emails starting on 3rd December.

[Advent 2023 - Sign Up - Bruce Downes Catholic Ministries](#)

BE AWARE OF CALUMNY!

The making of false and defamatory statements about someone in order to damage their reputation.

It is a sin.



Jokes of the Week



#1) Blackmail: It was coming up to Christmas and Sammy asked his mum if he could have a new bike. So, she told him that the best idea would be to write to Santa Claus. But Sam, having just played a vital role in the school nativity play, said he would prefer to write to the baby Jesus. So his mum told him that would be fine. Sam went to his room and wrote 'Dear Jesus, I have been a very good boy and would like to have a bike for Christmas.' But he wasn't very happy when he read it over. So he decided to try again and this time he wrote 'Dear Jesus, I'm a good boy most of the time and would like a bike for Christmas.' He read it back and wasn't happy with that one either. He tried a third version. 'Dear Jesus, I could be a good boy if I tried hard and especially if I had a new bike.' He read that one too, but he still wasn't satisfied. So, he decided to go out for a walk while he thought about a better approach. After a short time he passed a house with a small statue of the Virgin Mary in the front garden. He crept in, stuffed the statue under his coat, hurried home and hid it under the bed. Then he wrote this letter. 'Dear Jesus, If you want to see your mother again, you'd better send me a new bike.'



"That's called an advent calendar — it tells you just how many more days you have to be good!"

#2) OAP Divorce: An elderly man in Oklahoma calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day son, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are getting a divorce; 45 years of marriage... and that much misery is enough!" "Dad, what are you talking about?" the son yells. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the old dad explained. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Hong Kong and tell her!". Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls her elderly father immediately, and screams at him, "You are not getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, you hear me?" she yelled as she hung up the phone. The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay", he says, "it's all set. They're both coming for Christmas and paying their own air-fare."

NOTE:

4th Sunday Advent Masses - As per usual Saturday night and Sunday morning:
Saturday 23rd - 6pm and Sunday 24th - 9am and 11am (No 5pm Youth Mass)

St Macartan's Parish Christmas Masses



***Come early and enjoy Christmas Carols half an hour
before each Christmas Mass***

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

5pm Children's Mass (Children encourage to dress up)

7.30pm Christmas Eve Mass

11pm Christmas Eve Mass

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

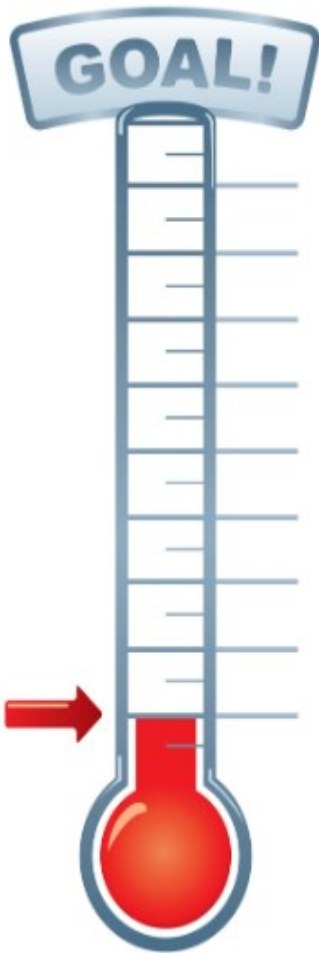
8.00am Christmas Dawn Mass

10.00am Christmas Day Mass

NO 5pm Youth Mass

Tuesday 26th December Boxing Day

No Boxing Day Mass



ROOF RESTORATION

FUND RAISING

Dear parishioners,

You may be wondering why after so long; the Church roof is still leaking and has not been fixed? It may appear like we are ignoring a serious problem and just putting out more and more buckets to catch the water? Well that is true in a way – we do have more buckets collecting water, but we have not been ignoring the problem.

Over the years, maintenance has been conducted on all church buildings in our Parish; such as plumbing, lighting, painting, minor repairs etc. at an already significant cost to the Parish but maintenance costs are expected. However; some large maintenance issues have been deferred because of costs and need to be planned for.

The roof at St Macartan's Church has been repaired several times. However, new leaks open and then the repaired ones eventually begin to leak again. Why? Because the current roof is past its 'best before' date and increases in large rain events >30mm, are becoming more & more regular and were not expected in the design of this roof. See our website video: <https://youtu.be/G4UgPcjSOk0>

The Parish has spent a lot of money in repairs and we have had three roof plumbers give us advice on more permanent solutions. All are extremely expensive, none of which fit within our normal maintenance budget. But we are going to deal with it, and hopefully have it fixed within the next three months. However, we need to raise funds - our bank balance will get us started with the roof restoration but we will need it replaced and topped up. We expect it to cost \$100,000.

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

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

Rosters for Special Ministers and Commentators

1st Sunday of Advent – 2/3 December 2023

6.00pm Readers Fay Murphy, Iris Hallinan

Eucharistic Mins Mairi & Kees Duyvestyn

9.00am Readers Michael Kerr, Don Ziino

Eucharistic Mins Joseph Thoppil, Richard Jolly

11.00am Readers Irene Hackett, Gabriella Fialla

Eucharistic Mins Sue Fletcher, Sandra Barrett

2nd Sunday of Advent – 9/10 December 2023

6.00pm Readers Louise Renshaw, Marlene Tesmann

Eucharistic Mins Michael Turner, Alis Fisher

9.00am Readers John Azzopardi, Spencer Meier

Eucharistic Mins Richard Jolly, Clive Tucker

11.00am Readers Michael Harrison, Terry Roberts

Eucharistic Mins Barb Ensil, Rosina di Petta

3rd Sunday of Advent – 16/17 December 2023

6.00pm Readers Carmel McGrath, Kees Duyvestyn,

Eucharistic Mins Mairi Duyvestyn, Joyce Ward

9.00am Readers Kathleen Ronchi, Paul Girolami

Eucharistic Mins Pat Girolami, Richard Jolly

11.00am Readers Joan Clements, Patricia Duryea

Eucharistic Mins Bridie Sexton, Shiela Goddard

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: 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
- **Parish Pastoral Council (PPC):** Jody Kerrins (Chairperson)
Email: jody54@westnet.com.au
- **Safeguarding Officer:** ????????? 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 Geoff email: Geoffrey.mcilroy@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 **Deputy:** Meegan Blackney
- **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!
info@maingrill.com.au | 03 5932 4903

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6/244 Main St.,
Mornington, Vic., 3931

Ph: 5975 9266
Fax: 5973 4317
morningtonlock@lockmart.com.au



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