

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time YrA 22nd October 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
Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr Jude Ezeme
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/3805309>

Or go to website to copy link:

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

ALSO: at our regular YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8lyzEMe20DLyOpptks0Fw/videos>

Upcoming Holy days:

- Fri 27th: Dedication of the Cathedral
- Sat 28th: Ss Simon & Jude Apostles

St Mac's School Church Mass:

Finished for year

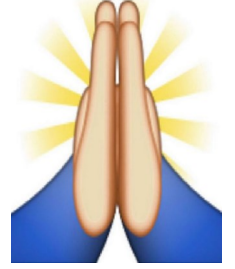
School Mass at Padua:

Wed 29th Nov 10:15am

TODAY: Leaving Collection
World Mission Day

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, 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: Ferdinando Litteri,

Frances Patricia McLean - Funeral at St Macartan's Tue 24th Oct 11:30am

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1.4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no
more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.

Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**

2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **(R.)**

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **(R.)**

4. Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

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

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 32:18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Historical Context

What's in a face?

The question of coinage was a problematic one for first century Jews. The tradition – grounded in the commandments given to Moses on Mt Sinai – forbade the use of 'graven' or carved images. The people of Israel took this prohibition very seriously and did not portray the human face in artwork of any kind. Roman coins were minted with the face of the emperor on them and it was compulsory that taxes be paid with Roman coin. This helps to explain the role of the Temple money-changers who converted the Roman coin into Temple coin that could be used for religious purposes.

Gospel Reflection

The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent 'safe' answer: is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority – leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome.

Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He

asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn't appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees' disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees' disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to God.

Scriptural context – Jesus and the Pharisees

The gospel of Matthew tends to treat the Pharisees rather harshly. In fact they had more in common with Jesus' style of teaching than other religious groups of the time and some have suggested that Jesus may even have been quite closely associated with the Pharisees. The role of the Pharisees was to interpret the Torah – the Law – for everyday people. They were teachers and preachers who often had a group of disciples who were their followers. The community in which the gospel of Matthew was written regarded the Pharisees harshly because they saw Jesus – not the Pharisees – as the rightful interpreter of the Law.

Cry from Gaza: 'It looks like it's the end for people living here'

"Please help us stop this madness, people are killed every second, there's no water, no electricity. We are hardly breathing", "Ask them to finish us quickly". These are some of the messages sent out to the world from Gaza, read to Vatican News by Cristina Milano, UNRWA staff member in Jordan.

By Sr. Nina Benedikta Krapić, VMZ and Linda Bordon

"We no longer know who is alive and who is killed in Gaza. It's taking them too long. Ask them, please, to finish us all."

This is just part of one heart-breaking message being sent to the world from the besieged Gaza Strip where Israeli forces have intensified bombardments after diplomatic efforts to arrange a ceasefire to allow foreign passport holders to leave and aid to be brought in failed.

Residents of Gaza said overnight strikes on Sunday were the heaviest yet as the conflict between Israel and Hamas fighters entered its 10th day.

Thanks to UNRWA (United Works Agency for the Near Amman headquarters who manitarian situation in the share some of the words of prayers as Gaza residents

Cristina Milano, HR Policy out these messages re-hours:



Nations Relief and East) members at their updated us on the hu-enclave, we are able to despair and pleas for struggle to survive.

Advisor at UNRWA read ceived in the past

Please help stop this madness

"Title: Goodbye. Your prayers, please. Dear colleagues, with great thanks for the huge support and prayers that you and all colleagues gave us through the last week. But with regret, I must say things are getting worse. Electricity and water are now completely stopped with the stop of fuel for private generators. With this severe boom, I have to leave home to nearby. Unfortunately, an announcement they distribute by strike planes says they are planning more mass destruction to the northern governate, which is the closest to them, having about 1 million residents, and where I live. Things are not clear (...), I might be leaving at any moment tonight but I don't know where to go. I depend entirely on God to guide us. I've just managed to charge some minutes from a neighbour's solar system. So please make an email out of my reply. Sorry colleagues, I need to put your name to handle work-related issues and a few messages. I appreciate your prayers and support, and to all of you know, inside and outside, to do humanitarian civil cause, and please help us stop this madness. Very best. Goodbye to all of you."

Ask them to finish us quickly

"We no longer know who is alive and who is killed in Gaza. It's taking them too long. Ask them, please, to finish us all.."

The world has left us alone

"The world has left us alone. People are killed every second. Our homes destroyed. No water, no electricity. And all basic human needs are not here. We are just breathing hardly."

It looks like the end for those living here

"The smell of explosives is filling the air, inside and outside the houses. Looks like it's the end for the people living in here."

OCT 31ST = ALL HALLOWS EVE

Commonly celebrated as an evening of ghosts and ghouls, scary looking costumes and trick or treating but what are we celebrating? All things Dark?

As Christians we have a choice, we can either celebrate this night as a night of darkness or stand with Jesus as the light of the world, and celebrate October 31st as All Hallows Eve, as a night of light.

VERSES TO CONTEMPLATE

John 1: 1-9, 3:19-21 John 12: 27-36, 12: 44-46

1 John 1:5-7 Matthew 5: 14-16 1 Peter 2: 9-10

1 Thessalonians 5: 3 -5 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6, 6:14-18

*I am
the Light
of the World
John 8:12*



WEBSITES FOR FURTHER IDEAS AND RESEARCH

<http://www.nightoflight.org/>

<https://www.effortlessfoodie.com/easy-soul-cakes/>

<https://www.littlewaychapel.com/blog/tag/all+hallows%27+eve>

<https://www.catholicicing.com/how-to-celebrate-all-saints-day-at-home/>

Fun Idea 1 # Carve the shape of a cross in a pumpkin instead!

Fun Idea 2 # Bake some all soul cakes, you can find the recipe online.

OCTOBER 31st

PLACE A LAMP OR LIGHT IN YOUR WINDOW IF YOU STAND
FOR CHRIST AND HE IS THE LIGHT OF YOUR WORLD.

All hallows eve can be part of a special three-day holy celebration in which we can contemplate, pray, attend mass and create new and meaningful catholic traditions in our parishes and families. We can honour God by Worshipping Jesus as the light of the World, by recognising his light in the lives of the Saints who reflected him to all of those around them, and by acknowledging and praying for all souls who have died in the faith, that they may receive his mercy, be reunited into his loving arms and live eternally in his light. There are some great resources online with lots of ideas for families and kids, as well as further information about these days.

OCTOBER 31st All Hallows Eve

NOVEMBER 1st All Saints Day

NOVEMBER 2nd All Souls Day



Jokes of the Week



1) No dues to God: A prosperous farmer was miserly in what he gave to his Church. So, his pastor went to visit him with the hope of getting him to increase his donation. The pastor pointed out to him that the Lord had given him a fertile piece of land and had blessed him with sunshine and rain so that his crops would grow. The priest added, "You know, this farm and everything you have is really on loan to you from God. You should be more grateful." The farmer replied, "I don't mean to complain, Father, but you should have seen what a mess this place was when God was running it by Himself!"

2) Journey to God with a parcel of Caesar: There once was a wealthy man who was determined to take his wealth with him when he died. He prayed and prayed until he convinced the Lord to let him bring his wealth inside the Pearly Gates. There was one condition: He could only bring one suitcase of his wealth with him. Therefore, the rich man filled his suitcase with gold bullion. Then one day, he died. St. Peter greeted him at the gate and told him he could come in, but his suitcase would have to be left behind. "But I have an agreement with God," said the man, "to bring one suitcase into heaven." "That's very unusual," replied St. Peter. "Let me look inside that suitcase." The man opened the suitcase to reveal the shining gold bullion. St. Peter was amazed. He asked, "Why in the world did you bring more paving stones to heaven when we have already finished Heaven's flooring with pure gold and beautiful diamonds?"



3) Remember the movie, "Oh, God!" with George Burns? In that movie, the idea was mentioned that the reason God gave Adam and Eve no clothes to wear was because God knew that once they had clothes, they would want pockets. Once they had pockets, they would want money.

4) "Will the Reverend also have a martini?" A pious pastor who had been a teetotaler all his life, was invited to dinner by a new parishioner. "Would you gentlemen care for a drink?" the waiter asked. "I'll have a Martini," said the parishioner. "Will the Reverend also have a martini?" the waiter asked. "I'd sooner break all Ten Commandments," said the pastor. "I didn't know we had a choice," said the parishioner. — In today's Gospel Lesson, the Pharisees ask Jesus a question involving choice.

Bequests

Leaving a gift in your Will is a lasting testament to your values; ensuring that your dedication to improving the lives of others can continue for future generations.

We understand that providing for loved ones comes first, but even a small percentage of your estate left to the Parish can make a huge difference for our community, especially for those who are struggling with life's challenges also it will assist in the future growth of the Parish.

If you intend to leave a gift to the Parish in your Will, we'd love to know so that we can express our appreciation and gratitude. We would also like to have a bequest plaque created and displayed for you, inside the Church. Any information you provide will always be treated with the utmost respect for your privacy.

The Parish would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all benefactors - your generosity will enable the Parish to help future generations and give all people in our community the opportunity to enjoy 'life to the full'.

Blessings

Fr Geoff

DONATION

THANK YOU!

I personally want to thank the O'Donohue family who have made a very sizeable - and generous donation, to the Church roof fund appeal and also some for us to give to Charity.

Their donation is in honour of the late John O'Donohue.

This family are a terrific loving family and a real credit to John.

Thank you for your special support in this way.

Blessings be upon you.

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

29th Sunday of Ordinary Time – 21/22 October 2023

6.00pm Readers Marlene Tessmann, Brian Scantlebury

Eucharistic Mins Mairi Duyvestyn, Michael Turner

9.00am Readers Kathleen Ronchi, Spencer Meier

Eucharistic Mins John and Mary Lewis

11.00am Readers Michael Harrison, Trish Duryea

Eucharistic Mins Sandra Barrett, Rosina di Petta

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time – 28/29 October 2023

6.00pm Readers Fay Murphy, Iris Hallinan

Eucharistic Mins Alis Fisher, Michael Turner

9.00am Readers Paul Girolami, Don Ziino

Eucharistic Mins Trish Thomas, Marcelle Azzopardi

11.00am Readers Irene Hackett, Joan Clements

Eucharistic Mins Bridie Sexton, John Spaziani

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time – 4/5 November 2023

6.00pm Readers Kees Duyvestyn, Marlene Tesmann

Eucharistic Mins Michael Turner, Mairi Duyvestyn

9.00am Readers Spencer Meier, Helen Britton

Eucharistic Mins Frank Crea, Christina Llopart

11.00am Readers Michael Harrison, Gabrialla Fialla

Eucharistic Mins Evelyn Atkins, 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: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month.

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

Parish Caretaker: John Spaziani: 0419 598 911

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 the 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 Jude Ezeme email: jezeme.stmarc@gmail.com 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.

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