Parish Office: 9401 6338

If you need the ministry of Fr Michael or Sr Maria please ring the Parish Office. This includes viaticum and all the opportunities for healing through the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation.

Macleod Parish Mass can be found on our website www.smot.org.au or on our Facebook page.

Ingrid Leverett
Parish Secretary
Macleod@cam.org.au

Elizabeth Jernejcic
Parish Accounts Mgr.
Elizabeth.Jernejcic@cam.org.au

SCHOOL
Jacqueline Marshall
St Martin of Tours School
School Principal
Tel. 8458 7500

PARISH GROUPS
Parish Pastoral Council
David Grasso (Chair)
ph 9401 6338
Communion to the Sick
Ph 9401 6338
St Vincent de Paul
Frances Esling (President)
Tel. 9895 5800

For weddings, funerals and baptisms please contact the Parish Office on 9401 6338 for guidelines as to what is currently allowed.

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm (closed for lunch 1-2pm)
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: Please email or contact parish office prior to noon on Wednesdays.

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A
20TH & 21ST JUNE 2020

HOMILY “Do not be afraid”….Jesus says these words 3 times in today’s instructions to would be disciples. And the words, ‘Do not be afraid’ are found 300+ times in the Bible. They are clearly important words for us to keep hearing and especially so in this Covid time. Joseph Cardijn, the priest who helped found the Young Christian Workers( YCW) and Young Christian Students (YCS) movements, once said that “Every young person is worth more than all the gold in the world”. Cardijn’s famous line picks up something of the immense value of each of our lives to God - which is expressed also in today’s Gospel. Thus Black Lives matter, Brown Lives matter, Yellow Lives matter, White Lives matter...and not only humans matter, for our God is lovingly aware of the littlest bird, the sparrow and indeed of all creation.

“Do not be afraid” therefore –for we and all of creation are deeply loved by our God. At every Eucharist, we who seek to become disciples are aware of our Risen Lord strongly present whenever we gather together. Hence we highly value the Eucharist and for this reason it’s been hard for many to fast from attending Mass during this time of Covid 19. However, as Matthew’s Gospel will proclaim in its final words-the Lord Jesus is always with us till the end of time.

“Do not be afraid” therefore, for God’s love/care for us and our world is everlasting. Jesus believed this in his heart and living from this truth he resonated his Father’s presence to all whom he encountered. And this is exactly what our mission as his disciples is to be about-resonating Jesus the Lord to others.

Twentieth century mystic and monk Thomas Merton once wrote about this, saying that those who seek to be disciples of the Lord Jesus are to become like a seashell. When you look at a seashell in a home it may not seem much, but of course it possesses a secret. And just like the seashell, when people approach us and come to know us–they too must “hear the sound of waves breaking on the shores of heaven” For the sound that those who come to know us will hear is the sound of the God whom we seek and in whom our lives are immersed.

Yes, truly like a seashell which is immersed in the sea, our lives are immersed in God and therefore echo and carry the reality of the one in whom we are absorbed. I find Merton’s analogy helpful to come to understand why Jesus’ disciples are not afraid and in fact always resonate something of the mystery of their Lord’s presence to those around them. This weekend’s message about how all human beings and creation are so precious to God...as well as the call of disciples to resonate this Good News to others-is beautifully embodied by the work of St Vincent de Paul conferences in our parishes. Our parish St Vincent de Paul Conference are launching their Winter Appeal for you this weekend and I warmly commend it to you.

We deeply respect the Aboriginal Community of Wurundjeri upon whose land our Parish resides.
ST. MARTIN’S NEWS!!

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 - The Plenary writing groups have now completed parish submissions. These discernment papers are now available online to read. Please follow the link https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/.

RECENTLY DECEASED Sr Kate Kaedy, Peter Petrilli (Clara’s son), Salvatore Caleo, Barbara Mantino “Aunty”

ANNIVERSARIES - THOSE WE REMEMBER FONDLY AT THIS TIME:
Angelina David Lazatin (Philippines) - 1 year anniversary, Patricia Goodger, Leo Gregor, Irene Murray, Jean Pell, Agnes Williams, Antonio Bariola, Mafalda Daru, Marie O'Donoghue, Gino Salce, Radmilo Jakovljevic, Irene Meade, Gerardus Reynen, Linda Ray, Luigi Ferrigno, Antonina Callea, Maria Schinella, Maria Erbrederis, Ruby Robinson, Anton Koren, Bob Casamento, Thomas Lardner, Edward Hogan, Dorothy Carrol, William Halferty (Francis Lagan’s great uncle).

LORD THAT I MAY BE WELL AGAIN - PRAY FOR THE SICK– Patricia Valente, Robyn Atherton, Silvana Gennai, Danilo Mikac, Anne-Marie Silfo, Michael Nicholls, Elizabeth Martin, Tony Ryan, Sr Margaret McHugh, Michael Burgess, Bob McAliece, Annette Lewis, Richard McAliece

RESOURCES FOR HOME PRAYER Pray As You Go
Is a daily prayer session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time. A new prayer session is produced every day of the working week and one session for the weekend. It is not a ‘Thought for the Day’, a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer. Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection. Our aim is to help you to: become more aware of God’s presence in your life, listen to and reflect on God’s word and grow in your relationship with God. The style of prayer is based on Ignatian Spirituality. It is produced by Jesuit Media Initiatives, with material written by a number of Jesuits, both in Britain and further afield, and other experts in the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola. It is available free to download from the App Store and is also available on Google Play. Just search ‘Pray as you Go’.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS
I want to tell you that I’ve been amazed at your continual commitment to supporting your Parish over the last 3 months. You can see in the graph how we are going in our Stewardship giving. My heart is very grateful for your response and care of your Parish Community.
Fr Michael O’Connell

Apologies to those parishioners who received their Stewardship envelopes in the mail with the yellow or red sticker on it stating that the cost of postage was insufficient. I am aware of the error and am sorry for the inconvenience caused.
Elizabeth Jernejic, Accounts Manager

THIS WEEK’S READINGS: Jer 20:10-13; Ps: 68:8-10.14.17.33-35 Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: (13th Sunday OT) 2 Kg 4:8-11, 14-16, Ps 88:2-3. 16-19, Rom 6:3-4, 8-11, Mt 10:37-42

BAPTISM TEAM
Volunteers are invited to join the Baptism Team in 2020. Those interested in joining us in this important role are requested to contact the Parish Office on 9401 6338. Training will be provided. We are hoping to recommence baptisms shortly.

PASTORAL HOME VISITS
Spiritual Direction, Counselling, Family Relationships
Sr. Maria Bui, our Pastoral Associate, is available for home visits on a Wednesday and Thursday between 10.30 am & 5.30 pm. For an appointment please call 9401 6338 or email: maria.bui@cam.org.au.

ST MARTIN OF TOURS CATECHIST PROGRAM FOR THE SACRAMENTS 2020
The cut-off date for registration for First Eucharist is Monday 22 June. All parents must register their children for the Catechist Program via the Parish Office. There are leaflets with more details at the front door of the Parish Office, in the Church foyer and also on the Parish website. For further details please contact Sr. Maria Bui on 9401 6338 or email maria.bui@cam.org.au.

RCIA & RCIC ENQUIRY FOR 2020
RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and RCIC - Rite of Christian Initiation of Children.
We warmly welcome anyone interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith for yourself or for your children/grandchildren. Please see Fr. Michael or Sr Maria for further information. Alternatively, contact the parish office on 9401 6338 for an appointment.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS
Giving Summary - 01 July 2019 to 07 June 2020

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To view our Safeguarding Children & Young People Code of Conduct, go to www.smof.org.au
BIBLE REFLECTION GROUP
The weekly bible reflection continues. We read, and each get a chance to talk about our reaction to the coming week’s bible reading. I enjoy having a chance to consider the text, in the company of the people who care about living this sort of life. You are welcome to join. We will meet again online in Zoom, from 7:30-8:30pm this Tuesday night 23 June.
To join, click on this zoom link: https://latrobe.zoom.us/j/92296803601
If you have any questions, or want help setting up your Zoom, contact Dennis Wollersheim on dewoller@gmail.com or 0414529454.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL 2020
The society will be holding its Annual Winter Appeal over the last two weeks of June 2020. St Martin’s parishioners have been most generous in past years. For this the Macleod Conference is most thankful as it has been able to assist many needy people (approx. 500 adults and 450 children) with such things as food, school requirements, rent etc.
The coronavirus has badly effected the fund raising efforts of the Society’s cash collections as there have currently been no (or limited) Masses and the virus has necessitated the closure of many of the Vinnies Opp Shops (both the Mall, West Heidelberg and Briar Hill have been closed since March). We can no longer use the envelope collection at Mass as was the case in the past. With the 2020 Appeal we are therefore making the change to digital collection processes as shown below.
The need for your generosity will be great as we currently have a number of Government assistance packages in place but there is nothing agreed after September 2020. Estimates of future unemployment are very high and the society will therefore require more funds than in the past to assist the people in need.
The Society has therefore set up 3 methods that donors can use to make a donation:
1. By phone to 13 18 12 using a credit card. Donors can allocate donations to a specific Conference ie Macleod by giving the name of the conference over the phone. Receipts will be issued by the Fundraising Team.
2. By using vinnies.org.au Donors can allocate donations to a specific Conference eg Macleod by entering the name of the conference in the “comments” field. Receipts will be automatically emailed to the donor.
3. Cheques can be forwarded to the Parish Office but ensure that the name and address of the donor is included.

WINTER APPEAL AT SMOT PRIMARY SCHOOL
Each year St Martin’s students support the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal which runs throughout the month of June. Yesterday, I spoke to one of our parishioners who is a member of our local St Vincent de Paul conference and she made mention that this year’s pandemic has had a big impact on families and more are in need of support from the St Vincent de Paul organisation.
St Vincent de Paul are in need of winter clothing which includes scarves, warm jackets, blankets, beanies, jumpers, gloves, socks, slippers and cans of non perishable foods. A tent will be placed just outside the Church on the lawn area. Please place your generous donations into the tent and the school captains will gather these items each day to pack into boxes for collection.
Again, thank you to everyone supporting Vinnies this Winter at Macleod/Rosanna!!

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS WINTER EDITION 2020
Due to Covid 19 the latest edition of Australian Catholics is being sent to you in digital format. Please find the link below to many great articles. Just copy and paste the link into your browser.
This edition is titled, ‘The cry of the Earth, The cry of the poor. Caring for our fragile world in unprecedented times.’

World Refugee Day this Saturday. The theme is Welcoming the Stranger. Welcome is about generosity, opening our arms and our houses to friends and strangers, feeding the hungry and avoiding the temptation to shut the door.
Help us support those impacted by COVID-19

To donate, go to vinnies.org.au or call 13 18 12

Your donation will help keep those hardest hit safe, fed and supported through the pandemic.