

St Martin of Tours - Parish of Macleod

'A faith community where Christian service thrives and shared ministry is developed'



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PARISH WEBSITE: www.smot.org.au FACEBOOK @Smot Parish

St Martin's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

PARISH TEAM

Fr Michael O'Connell
Parish Priest

Sr. Maria Bui
Pastoral Associate
Maria.Bui@cam.org.au

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 Essling (President)
Tel. 9895 5800

We deeply respect the Aboriginal Community of Wurundjeri upon whose land our Parish resides

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR A 19TH & 20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

HOMILY NOTES

A wise old monk was asked what he and his community did all day. He replied, "We go on and fall down and get up; and go on and fall down and get up....". The first reading today reminds us of the wise old monks answer-for our life is about constantly needing to turn to God because of the reality of our human weakness. And God's grace is always operative as we live out that pattern of falling (failing) and getting up and going on again. Today's gospel also relates to our need for ongoing conversion and it portrays the image of our Landowner God being ready to receive us whenever we are open/turning to him. As Sr Verna writes in her commentary, the parable of Jesus ends with a reversal of expectations: "The last will be first and the first will be last". This is because Jesus is teaching us about the world of God's Kingdom - a world in which the generosity of our Landowner God reaches out to the last called as equally as the first. And Jesus enfolded this world of God's Kingdom through the way he showed God's care for the least...the poor, sick, disabled, and thus these, along with tax collectors, 'sinners' and prostitutes, all realized they had equal access if they answered the call into the vineyard -which is a symbol of Gods holy people. Because this parable is only found in the Gospel of Matthew, it was very relevant for his community into which the 'latecomer' Gentiles were entering, with resulting tensions between them and the Jewish Christians with their well established traditions. The call to conversion for many in Matthew's faith community was to accept the Gentiles as equals. In a similar way today, the older 'Christian' countries of the 1st world must welcome the new Christians of the developing countries and start to perceive that the future of our Church may rest with them. Francis, the first Pope from Latin America, is a help towards the universal Church valuing the contribution of newer thriving faith communities, many of which are situated in the southern hemisphere. Today we are gathered for the Eucharist which reminds us of the equality and solidarity of all God's laboring disciples who receive the same food of word/sacrament. It's important to remind you who can't access the bread of life, that Jesus is just as fully present in his word to nourish you. Finally, a point about workers -who are a big focus of our gospel. Covid 19 is good at revealing aspects of our lives we may not have seen before. An article in last weekend's paper by Julia Perrin opened up the reality of workers in the Aged Care Sector of our economy. The CEO of Meaningful Aging Australia, Ilsa Hampton, described the distress of care workers who confront the deterioration of staff/resident ratio's. In one situation, some new care workers from migrant backgrounds on their very first shift cried and cried when they saw how little they were able to relate to each older person. These same workers are also undervalued in their work. Let's all hope that the Royal Commission can bring about some changes to these and other weaknesses that have been identified. But one thing we do know is that as persons, and as communities, we will, with God's grace, continue to go on, fall down and get up!

PRAYER FOR COURAGE AND COMPASSION

Compassionate God,
Your unconditional love for all
inspires our hearts and empowers our actions
for those who are most vulnerable.
May we boldly and humbly serve one another
and be steadfast in our work for justice for all people.
Keep our hearts open to the joys and the hopes of our world,
and our ears ready to hear your call
to truth, justice and reconciliation.
Let us continue to draw inspiration and strength
from those, like St Mary MacKillop,
on whose shoulders we stand.
We gather in Jesus' name
to be nourished and to move forward together
in hope and joy. Amen

This prayer was the 2020 National Catholic Social Services Conference prayer held in February 2020 in Melbourne. The Conference was convened by Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia.

MACLEOD NEWS!!!!

The Parish Office is NOW CLOSED DUE to stage 4 restrictions. Staff are working from home. For all enquiries please either phone the parish office on 9401 6338 or email macleod@cam.org.au and we will return your call/emails.

MASSES AT SMOT THIS WEEK

Weekend Mass can be found on our website www.smot.org.au or on our facebook page @SmotParish

Weekday Masses livestreamed Tuesday (22 Sept) & Thursday (24 Sept) this week at 9.15am on our facebook page and **Friday via Zoom** (25 Sept)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86821580873?pwd=OHQ5Y21pNUtlWkFTRUd6SFVVaDIZUT09>

Or use the id and password below if you use Zoom this way

Meeting ID: 868 2158 0873

Passcode: 415472

Or please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system (up to Nov 6, 2020).

Weekly: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZldeitpjsiHdfjNrgULvwdBV25Jf29OFMD/ics?](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZldeitpjsiHdfjNrgULvwdBV25Jf29OFMD/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGupjkrH9yVuB6ERpwAGojod-xiGJHggqdbliH3BBV_dBTyFNQQZ5h5QoH)

[icsToken=98tyKuGupjkrH9yVuB6ERpwAGojod-xiGJHggqdbliH3BBV_dBTyFNQQZ5h5QoH](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZldeitpjsiHdfjNrgULvwdBV25Jf29OFMD/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGupjkrH9yVuB6ERpwAGojod-xiGJHggqdbliH3BBV_dBTyFNQQZ5h5QoH)

THIS WEEK'S READINGS: (25th Sunday in OT) Is 55:6-9; Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. Phil 1:20-24, 27; Mt 20:1-16

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: (26th Sunday in OT) Ezek 18:25-28; Ps 24:4-9; Phil 2:1-11; Mt 21:28-32

RECENTLY DECEASED John Fahey, Vaso (in Greece)

ANNIVERSARIES - THOSE WE REMEMBER FONDLY AT THIS TIME:

Blanche Egan, Desmond Sampson, Marcello Strangherlin, Rena Pinkowski, Filip Tomazic, Leo Rogan, Sam Alexander (40yrs), Steven Rowley, Giuseppe Pagnocolo, Concetta Pagnocolo, Bob Natoli, Kevin Spence, Veruschka Shashitharan, Judith Trask, Elizabeth Wayman (Watson), Ivo Sartori, Lucia Baggio, Kenneth Cunningham, Edmund Bourke, Sheila McCarthy, Kevin Smyth, Kevin Gould OAM, Emma Salce, Greta Fitzgibbon, Silvia Robles, Fr. Antonius Ho.

LORD THAT I MAY BE WELL AGAIN - PRAY FOR THE SICK-

Mary and Michael Murray, Des Reardon, Ines Favrin, Sr. Mary Fankhauser, Freddie Assouad, Cheryl Parker, Patricia Valente, Robyn Atherton, Philomena & Leo Boek, Fr Kevin Mogg, Danilo Mikac, Anne-Maree Silfo, Michael Nicholls, Elizabeth Martin, Tony Ryan, Sr Margaret McHugh, Michael Burgess, Bob McAliece, Annette Lewis, Richard Mc Aliece, Katrina Jackman, Brian Flynn, Maria George, Maureen Miller, Brigid Harding, Joan McKeegan, Terry Walsh

SMOT CELEBRATIONS

***Happy Birthday wishes to Leo Boek who celebrated his 90th birthday during the week. May God continue to bless him and his family with peace, love joy and happiness. Congratulations Leo!!!**

***Congratulations to Julie and Ramsey Samuel who have recently celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. May God keep blessing you both and may the love you have for each other keep growing with time.**

ST MARTINS MENTAL HEALTH CHECK INS

Hi St Martin's Community, this is Chris one of the youth leaders.

During this lockdown period, many of us are at risk of the negative effects that social isolation can have on our mental wellbeing. This can be especially true for the members of our community as weekly masses have been halted. That's why from the 23rd of August to the 19th of September, 2 other Nursing student volunteers and I will be offering mental health check-up calls to those who feel they need it, or to those who think a family member or friend may need it. In these weekly calls we will offer guidance, advice, and support regarding your quarantine experience, staying safe, and possible referrals and recommendations to services you may find useful. Most of all we are here just to listen to anything you want to say. These calls are confidential and if you would like can simply be for you to socialise. If you think you, a friend or a family member may benefit from this service, email christopherwebb4321@gmail.com and send me the name and number of the person and we will follow up with a phone call. Stay Safe everybody and God Bless.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary invites you to join in our weekly Wednesday meetings held at 11am via Zoom. The meeting includes the Rosary and Tesserat Prayers. Please sms / text or contact Philomena on 0403910446 to receive an email invitation link to join. Please advise if you are able to join only via phone; I will make arrangements for the same. All are welcome!

ARE YOU NEEDING ASSISTANCE WITH FOOD?

If you, or someone you know, is struggling with availability of or obtaining enough food we have a contact who may be able to assist with this. Please contact the parish office on 9401 6338 and we can put you in touch.

To view our Safeguarding Children & Young People Code of Conduct, go to www.smot.org.au

THE SONG OF THE SEED

Life unfolds

A petal at a time,
Slowly.

The beauty of the process is crippled,
when I try to hurry growth.
Life has its inner rhythm,
which must be respected.
It cannot be rushed or hurried.

Like daylight stepping out of darkness,
like morning creeping out of night,
life unfolds slowly a petal at a time,
like a flower opening to the sun,
slowly.

God's call unfolds
A Word at a time,
slowly.

A disciple is not made in a hurry.
Slowly I become like the One
to whom I am listening.

Life unfolds, a petal at a time
like you and I, becoming followers of Jesus,
disciplined into a new way of living
deeply and slowly.

Be patient with life's unfolding petals.
If you hurry the bud, it withers.
If you hurry life, it limps.

Each unfolding is a teaching
a movement of grace filled with silent pauses,
breathtaking beauty
tears and heartaches.

Life unfolds
a petal at a time
deeply and slowly.
May it come to pass!

By Macrina Wiederkehr



FIRST SPIRITUAL EXERCISES

First Spiritual Exercises are designed in a similar way to the way that St Ignatius helped people to pray before he developed the Spiritual Exercises as we have had them since. These are named Field Hospital exercises in reference to the way that Pope Francis sees the Church as a Field Hospital for a broken world. This prayer is offered to you as another way to pray, a way you may not have tried before. You can pray these prayers individually or in a group with some sharing. Many more prayers are available.

If you would like to join in a group then please let me know so that it can be arranged.

My email address is, anne.priestley@mercy.org.au

For those of you who wish to subscribe, go to-

<https://www.fsecloud.life/field-hospital-sign-up/>

A TIME TO REST.....

"In his wisdom, God set aside the Sabbath day so that the land and its inhabitants could rest and be renewed. Today, however, our lifestyles push the planet beyond its limits. The constant demand for growth and the endless cycle of production and consumption are exhausting the natural world. Forests are leached, top soil is eroded, fields fail, deserts advance, seas turn sour and storms intensify: creation groans!

During the Jubilee, the People of God were invited to rest from their usual work, to allow the earth to regenerate and the earth to repair itself, thanks to the decline in habitual consumption. Today we need to find equitable and sustainable ways of living that can give back the Earth the rest it requires, ways that satisfy everyone with a sufficiency, without destroying the ecosystems that sustain us.

The current pandemic has somehow led us to rediscover simpler and more sustainable lifestyles. The crisis, in a sense, has given us the opportunity to develop new ways of living. Already we can see how the earth can recover if we allow it to rest: the air becomes cleaner, the waters clearer, the animals have returned to many places from where they had previously disappeared. The pandemic has brought us to a crossroads. We must use this decisive moment to put an end to superfluous and destructive goals and activities, and to cultivate values, connections and activities that are life giving. We need to examine our habits of energy use, consumption, transport and nutrition. We need to remove non-essential and harmful aspects from our economies, and nurture life giving ways to trade, produce and transport goods".

(an extract from Pope Francis' message for the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION from 1 Sept)

Full message can be found at <http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2020/documents/papa->

SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY

On 20th September 2020, we mark Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we are invited to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude, those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 45 [member organisations](#), the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. We also give thanks for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond. We call to mind the 2020/21 Social Justice Statement brought out recently by the Australian Catholic bishops, [To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today](#), and so draw your attention to a recent event hosted by CSSV, [Counselling and Therapeutic Support in a Time of COVID](#), which provided an opportunity to become more familiar with mental health services, and how to practically reach out for or point to assistance. Parishioners will find the resources in this article helpful.

THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS & ROTARY RAFFLE

The Frankston North Rotary has received a 2nd extension to sell tickets to April 7, 2021.

If anyone dare to take a chance on wining a cruise, tickets are available from Patrick Kennealy 9459 1950.

RESOURCES TO ACCESS DURING LOCKDOWN

MASSES AVAILABLE TO WATCH ON LINE...

SMOT Weekend Mass can be found on our website www.smot.org.au or on our facebook page @SmotParish
SMOT Weekday Mass livestreamed Tuesday & Thursday at 9.15am on our facebook page & Friday via Zoom (for any anniversaries or special intentions please advise the parish office by phone).

St Patrick's Cathedral The 11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral is televised free to air on C31 (often listed as Channel 44 on digital TVs). Watch here: <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Mass for you at home Mass for You at Home is broadcast on Eleven and Network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel every day.

Watch here: <http://www.mfyah.com/video.html> or <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

RESOURCES FOR HOME PRAYER.....

Richard Rohr, OFM - Action & Contemplation: Daily meditation

<https://cac.org/2020-daily-meditations/>

Joan Chittister, Benedictine Sister of Erie

<http://www.joanchittister.org/node/9231> or

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



BIBLE REFLECTION GROUP

We will meet again online in Zoom, from 7:30-8:30pm this Tuesday night **22 September**

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.

SEASON OF CREATION 2020 - free program

Pope John Paul II in 1990 named environmental care as integral to the Catholic faith and named St Francis of Assisi as the patron of ecological conversion. Pope Benedict XVI reinforced this Catholic vocation delivering homilies and speeches asking world leaders to take action. Pope Francis, in his 2015 Encyclical Laudato Si' detailed the call to See, Judge, Act on care for our common home.

Every year, Christians of all denominations join in prayer and action for our common home and celebrate the Season of Creation starting on 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation and ending on 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. See www.columban.org.au for the program.

CATHOLIC CARE SERVICES DURING COVID19

Whether it be losing your job, facing a financial crisis, experiencing depression, anxiety, relationship issues or social isolation, there is help available. It is important to look after your health and wellbeing during these difficult times. Whether you are feeling stressed, overwhelmed, anxious or sad, talking to a counsellor or seeking emergency relief can help. We are offering FREE counselling via phone and video conference during the COVID crisis. You do not need a referral or a mental health care plan to access this service.

Call 9287 5555. Or visit www.ccam.org.au

SOCIAL JUSTICE INFORMATION

Looking for additional reading or podcasts during extended stage 4 lockdown?.....

Visit socialjustice.catholic.org.au and click on the resources tab to open a variety of topics and mediums to engage with. Select from book recommendations, discussion guides, podcasts and reflections.

UPCOMING DATES

Sunday 27 September NATIONAL DAY FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Sunday 4 October ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Sunday 11 October LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Sunday 18 October WORLD MISSION DAY

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Currently offering many Zoom workshops as part of their "Engaging Your Catholic Faith" series. All Covid friendly. Check out www.ctc.edu.au for timetable and closing dates. Most sessions are between 90 mins to 2 hours and cost \$20 each. All sessions run by CTC lecturers.