

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](https://www.facebook.com/SmotParish)

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

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

OFFICE HOURS: Mon— Friday 9.00 am — 5.00 pm (closed for lunch 1.00 pm — 2.00 pm)

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

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER —YEAR A 25TH & 26TH APRIL 2020

Homily from Fr Michael

The Risen Lord Jesus gives HOPE to his disciples in every age of history - as Pope Francis reflected on Easterday. Let's look at the word HOPE.

As writer on prayer and spirituality, Cynthia Bourgeault puts it the hope that the Lord Jesus brings us is an 'abiding state of being'. The hope the Lord Jesus brings is "an abiding state of being". We can forget that the Lord Jesus invites us to stay connected to him and become like the disciples in our first reading and Gospel today - a vessel, a chalice into which his divine presence can pour.

So the hope that the Risen Jesus gives, dwells deeply within us and indeed keeps flowing to us. As Cynthia Bourgeault writes: the journey to the wellspring of hope is really a journey toward the centre, toward the innermost ground of our being where we meet and are met by God.

This is the hope that Jesus the Lord continues to give his disciples and it transforms them, as our Easter scriptures proclaim. For the Lord Jesus wants us, as Cynthia Bourgeault puts it, to become vessels, chalices of this hope for others and our world.

How can you and I do this?

Basically, we don't need to do much...for the hope, the life of the Lord Jesus is within us. And thus when we join others in conversation, (as Jesus did with the 2 men on the road to Emmaus) we too can naturally become bearers of hope, bearers of the divine energy that Jesus continues to pour out in us.

An example is always helpful.

Pope Francis is one who shows us the way.

In our gospel, the Lord Jesus was open to the burning issues within the 2 men as they walked home to Emmaus and then he gave them hope. Pope Francis does the same, as he, without fear, continually enters into conversation about some of the big burning issues of our time— climate change, overseas aid, consumerism, the need to change our lifestyles. Francis our Pope also reminds the people of our world about the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals – which the common good demands in our time. The Sustainable Development Goals include all the major issues of hunger, poverty, extreme inequality, aid and development, population growth, climate change, human rights, health care, education, water, the ocean..... Our world needs voices to speak up on all these issues which are so important to Jesus who identifies most of all with the neediest. And the need to speak up is even greater when so many governments are doing poorly on these matters.

So like the Lord Jesus let's listen to others/listen to many conversations -aware that we can be bearers of hope because we are connected deeply to the Lord and all have got some understanding of how he identifies with the poorest/neediest in our world.

Pope Francis is not just being heard by Catholics - No, people all over the world are listening. So when we are in a conversation and its appropriate let us also be open to the Lord using us as the vessel, the chalice from which his divine energy can pour.

In the wake of the COVID 19 crisis the doors to the Church and Community Centre at Macleod are now closed until further notice. The Parish Office is still operating for now but we request that you call the office prior to visiting. We strongly encourage you to stay at home and keep well. Continue active participation in the life of the Church, through activities such as time in personal and family prayer, reflecting on the Scriptures, making a spiritual communion, or participating in a Mass online. For Mass other than at St Martin's please see <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> or <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>, <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

ANZAC DAY REFLECTION - SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2020

While Anzac Day is a secular, cultural invention there is something essentially deeply human and sacred about what takes place on this day. There is something holy and almost sacramental in the ritual that has developed and is expressed on this day. The ritual points us to and gives us permission to reflect on the true meaning of human sacrifice. It allows us to tap into something intrinsically human, the remembering of our own that have died. For the many people who participate on Anzac Day it is perhaps the most sacred or reflective day of their year, a time when they are taken from the ordinary and filled with the power of a past event whose memory is made present on that day. A day that is different. It could be said that the Anzac Day ritual is like an anamnesis, more than just remembering, but a remembering that makes present the events and lives of those who have sacrificed much in war. We don't just remember their sacrifice but we acknowledge what that sacrifice has achieved. It has gained for us a freedom, a way of life that is the envy of so many throughout the world. We are reminded that their sacrifice on those distant shores had a purpose and an unseen victory. It is a commemoration.

On Anzac Day we remember and we also give thanks. It is almost Eucharistic. It is certainly sacramental. Something touches us on a human level that leads us to a different space, a different way of thinking, a different way of remembering. For those gathered with faith, and in particular a Christian faith, this can be a holy moment, a time and space when God is present. It is a time and moment and way of being that is not unfamiliar to us. A time and moment that can easily lead us to reflect on that other sacrifice, that other death for a purpose; the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. It is therefore somewhat fitting that Anzac Day always falls within the Easter Season. A time when we reflect on the great power and mystery of the cross, a power and mystery which leads us to share in the joy and life giving power of the resurrection. The death that gives life.

It is deeply Christian that we remember those we have known and loved and who have died. When someone we love dies we honour their life and death with dignity. This dignity is expressed in the way we speak about them, the way we farewell them with funeral rituals, but perhaps above all in the way we remember them. We can never forget those that we love. Anzac Day is Australia's way of never forgetting its own. There is long Catholic tradition of bringing our deceased loved ones to the altar in prayer. This is especially expressed within the celebration of the Eucharist our ritual of anamnesis, the action par excellence of memorial and thanksgiving.

In the remembering we gather to pray that peace and in particular the peace found through Christ may be lived in our country, in our communities, in our homes and in our hearts.

By our communion with this Sacrament, O Lord,
Grant we pray, fortitude in the cause of right,
And may our remembrance of those who have died in war
Make us ardent defenders of your peace.



FROM THE RSL VICTORIAN BRANCH ANZAC Day 2020 will not look like the ANZAC Day that so many of us are used to participating in. There will be a Dawn Service, wreaths will be laid, the last post will be played, a minute of silence in memory of the fallen will be observed, but the service community and the public will be asked to stay at home. This does not mean that ANZAC Day is cancelled. It just means that ANZAC Day will be different. In 2020, on April 25,



while you can't go to the Shrine of Remembrance or a local Dawn Service, the RSL is asking that instead you #STANDTO. As the Last Post is played during the ANZAC Day Dawn Service walk outside, stand in your yard, driveway, or on your balcony and observe a minute of silence in respect of our veterans. Make sure that you snap a quick picture and share it on their Facebook page using the hashtag #STANDTO.

<https://www.facebook.com/rslvic/> **LEST WE FORGET**

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Carmelo Giuliano (Tony Giuliano's father), Domenic D'Agostino, Constable Joshua Prestney (grandson of Ray)

ANNIVERSARIES - THOSE WE REMEMBER FONDLY AT THIS TIME:

Domenica Bertoli, Edward Zammit, Luigi Tancredi, Nanette, Allannah & Madelene Mikac, Giuseppa Amato, Jean Williamson, Karl Mikulik, Kathleen Pigdeon, Mary Heywood, Adrian O'Connell, Francesco Barca, Desmond Herlihy (Snr), Peter Williams, Leslie Cauchi, Lenard Wright, Enrichetta Stancati, Mary O'Connor, David Sherrott, Violet Williams

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

Robyn Atherton (wife of Jamie), Anne-Maree Silfo, Michael Nicholls, Elizabeth Martin, Tony Ryan, Sr Margaret McHugh, Katrina Jackman,

If you would like children's liturgy resources to use at home during this time drop us an email at macleod@cam.org.au and we can forward them to you. Currently we have resources available up to Pentecost.