

Catholic Parish of Bacchus Marsh

St Bernard's Bacchus Marsh / Our Lady Help of Christians, Korobeit

61 Lerderderg Street, Bacchus Marsh 3340

309 Myrningion-Korobeit Road, Korobeit 3341

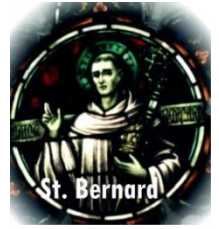


St B

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Parish Priest: Fr Fabian Smith
Assistant Priests: Fr Patrick Bradford & Fr John Paul Mount
Parish Office Staff: Dolores Turcsan & Naim Chdid
Parish Office Hours: Tues–Thu 9:00am–1:00pm, Fri 10:00am–2:00pm



Second Sunday of Advent – Year B 10th December 2017

PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD. Engulfed by many chores in the lead-up to Christmas, we can fail to hear a voice that cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord. Let us resolve to include some time to pray, to reflect on the Gospel stories of Jesus' birth, and to seek reconciliation with God and others, in our Christmas preparations.

MASS & DEVOTION TIMES THIS WEEK

St Bernard's

1 hour Adoration before every **weekday** Mass

Monday	no Mass
Tuesday	5:30pm Mass 6:15pm Advent Reflection on Obedience
Wednesday	9:30am
Thursday	9:30am
Friday	9:30am
Saturday	5:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday	8:30am & 10:00am

RECONCILIATION – 1ST RITE

Saturday 4:15pm

Our Lady Help of Christians

Saturday 6:30pm Mass

ROSARY is held every **Monday** at **7:30pm** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 1 hour.

Rosary is also held on the **first Friday** of the month following morning Mass.

Next First Friday: 5th January 2018

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held on the **first Friday** of the month from **10:00am to 7:00pm**. All are welcome to come along and spend some time with the Lord.

Next Adoration: 5th January 2018

CHILDREN'S LITURGY is held every **Sunday** during **10:00am Mass**.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON CF. ISAIAH 30:19, 30

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING ISAIAH 40:1-5, 9-11

Prepare the way for the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALMS 84:9-14. R. v. 8

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.
I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING 2 PETER 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION LUKE 3:4, 6

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL MARK 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON BARUCH 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

St Bernard's (continued)

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' MASS is held on the **second Friday** of the month (except January) in the Parish Centre at **11:00am**.

Next Seniors' Mass: 12th February 2018
Everybody is welcome, not just the seniors.

PROVIDENCE MASS

The Village, 5-7 Griffith Street, Maddingley Mass will be held on the **first Friday** of the month at **11:00am**.

Next Mass: 5th January 2018

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

is held on the **fourth Sunday** of the month in the Parish Centre at **11:15am**.

Next Program: 28th January 2018

Registration forms can be downloaded from our website:

www.pol.cam.org.au/bacchusmarsh.

Bring completed Registration Form with a copy of Birth Certificate to the program.

Please note: Both parents are required to attend the program.

MORNING TEA is held on the **first Sunday** of the month (except January) in the Parish Centre **after 10:00am Mass**.

Next Morning Tea: 5th January 2018

Host: Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Centre Bookings

Tel: 5367 3427 Mon-Fri 9:00am to 6:00pm

Hall Managers: Marie & Terry Casey

Hopetoun Catholic Cemetery

Bacchus Marsh Road, Bacchus Marsh

Catholic Museum

88 Main Street West

Convent Lane, Bacchus Marsh

St Vincent de Paul Society

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330

The new Vinnies store is now open and we are calling for more volunteers. If you would like more information, please ring **0417 525 617**.

KSC Meeting

this **Monday 11th December 2017**
at **8:00pm** in the Parish Centre.

MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION

A special collection will be taken up this weekend.

Currently, the major beneficiaries are the people in **Vietnam, Myanmar, Uganda and Ethiopia**. Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Please give generously.

MINISTRIES 9th & 10th December 2017

Mass Times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10:00am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Volunteer	Gerard Harrington / Jenny Hooper	Marj Tung
Min/s Eucharist	Stuart Robertson	Mira Foxford	Carole Ryder
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Piety	9th December 10th December	Sean Giani Marj Tung	
Counters #6	Gerard Shelly, Jill Geurts, Kate Maurer, Michael Larkin, Ron Geurts		

ADVENT REFLECTION in the Parish Centre at 6:15pm

This year's Advent Reflections will be on Poverty, Chastity and Obedience.

Tuesday 12th December – "Obedience" talk by Fr Patrick

Tuesday 19th December – "Chastity" talk by Fr Fabian

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE 2017

St Bernard's, Bacchus Marsh

Christmas Vigil – **Sunday 24th December 2017**

7:00pm Vigil Family Mass (preceded with Carols at 6:30pm)

10:30pm Mass (preceded with Carols at 10:00pm)

Christmas Day – **Monday 25th December 2017**

8:30am and **10:00am** Mass

Our Lady Help of Christians, Korobeit

Christmas Vigil – **Sunday 24th December 2017**

8:00pm Vigil Mass (preceded with Carols at 7:30pm)

Reconciliation First Rite (Confession)

St Bernard's, Bacchus Marsh

Friday 22nd December 2017

6:30pm – 7:30pm (4 priests available)

MINISTRIES 16th & 17th December 2017

Mass Times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10:00am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Sandra Ibrahim	Peter Lafranchi / Margaret Love	James Waters
Min/s Eucharist	Colin Remedios	Colm Carragher	Jennifer Taylor
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Piety	16th December 17th December	Jan & Colm Carragher Mandy Harrington	
Counters #7	Denis Everard, Bernard Coburn, Mary Flanagan, Patrick Flanagan		
Church Grounds December	Front Garden: Volunteer Back/Side Garden: Volunteer Parish Centre/Carpark/Pines: Ron Geurts Back Paddock: Colm Carragher		
Church Flowers Fri 15 th December	Frances McDaid	POF December	Dolores Turcsan

RECENTLY DECEASED

ANNIVERSARIES

Annie Abraham, Otylia Adamcyneck, Ronald Bowyer, Emanuel (Bill) Cassar, Kathleen Dillon, Rebecca Duncan, John Glide, Duncan McConnell, Sheila Rice, Olga Rodrigues, Verna White.

Prayers for the Sick & Frail

(please let us know when your loved one is no longer required on this list)

John Anderson, Noah Barlow, Dudley Baddeley, Michael Barrett, Steven Braszel, Kevin Bridges, John Canty, Fred Capuano, Gary Ching, Ted Cooling, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, Teresa Darlington-Canty, Judy Delahey, Jack DeLuca, Ian Dominquez, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, Justin Fernandez, Pasquale Gagliarbi, Mario Galea, Cynthia Goodyear, Gwen Green, Andree Greenwood, Onnie Greenwood, Joe Gristi, Raymund Hare, Brian Harrison, Adam Hillier, Elle Hillman, Kiahni Holamotutama, Alicia Holborn, Matthew Jansen, David Kasprzak, Loretta Kervin, Michael Larkin, Marie Maloney, Patricia Marechal, Debbie Marshall, Jordanis Maryo, Pauline McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Marcus Meno, Tess Mercieca, Paul Mullin, Arthur Pape, Michael Paterson, Georgia Peacock, Arabella Periera, Bev Pickett, Mitchell Prendergast, Peter Roberts, Julie Scott, Ken Shaw, Marian Smith, Frank & Elizabeth Stehmann, Mitchell Tung, John Van Orsouw, Angela Vicum, Louis Vogels, Barry Walsh, Mary & Michael Walsh, Carol Wells, Cath Wheelahan, Jayne Wilkins, Nils Wyren, Patricia Yazbek, Betty Young, Hannah Young, Jessica Yue.

SUMMER SCHOOL MELBOURNE

With speakers including Fr Rob Galea, Dr Brendan Triffett, Fr Max Vodola, Leeanne Grima, Sr Katherine Stone & Fr Dan Serratore, this is a Summer School not to be missed! **Register before 12th December 2017** for early bird rates. Register as a group of 4 to save \$100 (3 participants must be new to Summer School).

More info: melbourne@summerschool.org.au, 0467 092 091 or <http://summerschool.org.au>

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM airs this **Sunday 10th December 2017**.

For a reflection on the second Sunday of Advent on the Gospel of Mark, go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

Majellan Christmas Cards

Now in stock in the Piety Stall
\$7.50 pack of 10

2018 Columban Calendars

Now available from the Piety Stall – **\$9.00** each

Melbourne Catholic, December 2017

Now available from the Piety Stall – **\$4.00** each

If you wish to receive the weekly Bulletin electronically, please leave your email address on the clipboard in the foyer of the church.

NICENO-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *[bow during the next two lines:]* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

MOORABOOL LIGHT ORCHESTRA

presents

"Sounds of the Season" – Christmas Concert

Sunday 17 December 2017 at 2:00pm

Bacchus Marsh Public Hall

40+ Musicians: Barry Wilkins OAM (Musical Director)

Special Guests: Carolyn Bennett (Soprano)

Geelong Handbell Choir

General Admission: **\$25**

Tickets available from Barbara Snibson, Bacchus Marsh Florist & Nursery

YEAR FOR YOUTH AND VOCATIONS

In Australia we have just begun the "Year for Youth and Vocational Discernment", called by the Bishops of Australia. This began with a huge gathering of youth in Sydney in early December for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival.

This coming year will be the tenth anniversary of World Youth Day in Sydney. Let us pray for our young people in our families and our parish by saying one "Hail Mary" to help them in their discernment of their call from the Lord.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2018

Dear Parents, we would like to bring to your attention changes to our enrolment process for 2018 for children who attend either government or other private schools.

Preparation and active participation in these Sacraments is very important for the development of the spiritual journey of your child. Therefore, for the benefit of your child, it is crucial for you to make it a priority to enrol your child in the Parish Sacramental Program.

If you haven't already done so, please arrange a meeting time as soon as possible with **Naim Chdid**, our new **Sacramental Coordinator**, through the Parish Office to enrol your child. All information and dates will be given to you at the Sacramental Enrolment Meeting.

2018 is the Year of Youth: Introducing the virtues I

The virtues give us a blueprint for being the person God means us to be. The term virtue (in Latin *virtus*) signifies power, strength, and ability.

Thus the virtues are habits that give us the power to act in a truly human way, with strength sufficient to do what is right. Without virtues, we will neither be godly nor real persons. Virtues are the building blocks of character, and without them our moral lives will eventually collapse under the pressures of the world.

Virtues are essential to living well and, even more, to living the Christian life well. St Peter exhorted the early Christians of the vital role of the virtues, saying: “Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue” (2 Peter 1:5). A few verses later he admonishes us that practicing the virtues will keep us from being ineffective or unfruitful in following Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:8). Our lives will only be as effective, meaningful, and fruitful as we are virtuous.

Our society assumes that “values” are the key to morality. Values-based moral education programs exemplify the modern conviction that morality is nothing other than the art of making good choices, which are guided entirely by one’s values. However, the bottom line is that values do not make men and women moral. That may sound radical, but let us look at some common-sense examples.

I can value sailing, but that does not make me a sailor. Likewise, many men can value fidelity to marriage, but that does not make them faithful. Having good values is a fine thing, but the battle of morality is not so much about knowing what is right as it is doing what is right. The difference between wanting to do good and actually doing it is tremendous.

For example, I can value flying, spend countless hours as a passenger, and be the most avid aviation fan around. But that does not enable me to fly a plane. In order to fly, one must have the skills of a pilot. Many people want to fly, but few have the ability. If our moral life is to get off the ground, we must acquire the skills necessary to fly.

Many men want to be good husbands and fathers, but if this wanting is not supplemented by the virtues—the skills for successful moral living—then a successful landing will be unlikely. To guide the ship of our moral life to port, we must be men and women who are seasoned in the virtues, and so possess the habits that will enable us to live the values we profess. Values alone will not suffice.

When we speak about the virtues, we often divide them into two types. There are the four cardinal virtues, and the three theological virtues. The cardinal virtues get this name from the Latin term for hinge, *cardo*. They get this name because the entire moral life hinges on these four. That is to say, that there are other moral virtues (humility, piety, chastity and others), but the practice of these depends (hinges) on the cultivation and practice of the four cardinal virtues. The four cardinal virtues are prudence, justice, fortitude (that is, courage), and temperance. The three theological virtues are faith, hope, and love. For this article, let’s take a detailed look at just one of these, the virtue of courage.

St Thomas Aquinas wrote that courage is the form of all the virtues, for to practice any virtue consistently takes the firmness of character that comes with courage. For example, to be honest requires courage, especially when telling the truth is difficult.

Of all the virtues, courage is the one that is often particularly associated with men. Men are to be tough and strong, and therefore courageous. Too often, however, this association gives us a narrow picture of courage, a picture that sees courage as simply for fighting. Undoubtedly, soldiers need courage, but courage is bigger than the battlefield. Courage is required in ways that we seldom even realise. For example, do you realise that to be generous with our money and material goods takes courage?

The things that require the virtue of courage can range from taking care of someone with a serious illness, taking a plane trip, or simply studying. Indeed, the virtue of courage is so basic that we need it to exercise all of the other virtues.

What is courage? Courage is the strength of will that enables us to conquer fear. It often happens that we know what we ought to do, but are afraid to do it because of the consequences we may suffer as a result. Fear makes our will disinclined to follow our reason because of some difficulty. Courage ensures that we will have the firmness of mind and will to overcome our fear and do what is right and good regardless of the difficulties. Thus, St Thomas Aquinas says that fortitude of soul must be that which binds the will firmly to the good of reason in face of the greatest evils.

Scripture gives us many examples of how men allow fear to dictate their actions. Note how fear dictated each person’s actions in the following Scripture passages:

- Genesis 3:10 (Adam hid himself from God’s presence out of fear.)
- Numbers 13:1-14:10 (Ten of the twelve spies bring an evil report of the Promised Land out of fear that God will not be with them in the battle to take the land.)
- 1 Samuel 17:19-24 (Men of Israel flee from battle against Goliath and the Philistines out of fear that they will perish in battle against them.)
- Mathew 14:3-12 (Herod doesn’t kill John the Baptist initially out of fear of the people, and later has him beheaded out of fear of going against his rash oath in front of his guests.)
- John 19:38 (Joseph of Arimathea was a secret disciple out of fear of the Jews.)

From *“The Virtuous Life Is Worth Living”*, by Tim Gray