

Catholic Parish of Bacchus Marsh

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

61 Lerderderg Street, Bacchus Marsh 3340

309 Myrning-Korobeit Road, Korobeit

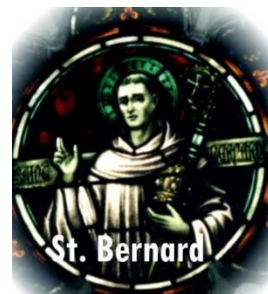


St B

Tel: 5367 2069 Fax: 5367 4863
Email: bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au
Website: <http://pol.org.au/bacchusmarsh>

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Fabian Smith
ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr John Paul Mount & Fr Patrick Bradford

PARISH OFFICE STAFF: Dolores Turcsan & Naim Chdid
Parish Office Hours: Tues-Fri 10:00am—3:00pm



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

10th September 2017

I SHALL BE THERE WITH THEM. EVERY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES DIFFICULTIES IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER.

MISUNDERSTANDINGS OCCUR, DIVISIONS ARISE. TODAY'S GOSPEL REMINDS US THAT CHRIST IS PRESENT IN OUR COMMUNITIES EVEN WHEN THEY ARE BROKEN, WHEN ONLY TWO OR THREE MEET IN HIS NAME. HEALING OCCURS WHEN WE SEEK TO EMBODY IN OUR COMMUNITIES THE QUALITIES OF CHRIST, ESPECIALLY FORGIVENESS AND MUTUAL LOVE.

St Bernard's Mass Times

WEEKEND

Saturday 5:00pm (**Vigil**)
Sunday 8:30am & 10:00am

Reconciliation 1st Rite:

Saturday 4:15pm

WEEKDAY

Monday no Mass
Tuesday 5:30pm
Wednesday 9:30am
Thursday 9:30am
Friday 9:30am
every weekday before Mass, 1 hour Adoration

Our Lady Help of Christians

Korobeit

Saturday 6:30pm

ROSARY is held **each Monday evening at 7.30pm** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 1 hour.

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

Next Rosary: 6th October

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: 6th October

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

Parishioners are requested to attend a very important meeting at the Parish Centre on Tuesday 12th September at 7:00pm regarding future parish office & presbytery refurbishment.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

FIRST READING EZEKIEL 33: 7-9

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING ROMANS 13: 8-10

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL MATTHEW 18: 15-20

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

St Bernard's Church *continued*

MORNING TEA is held on the **first Sunday** of each month (except January) in the Parish Centre.

Next Morning Tea: 1st October

Hosts: Baptismal Prep Team

SENIOR PARISHIONERS MASS is held on the **third Friday** of the month in the Parish Centre at **10:30am**.

Next Seniors Mass: 15th September

Everybody is welcome not just the seniors.

PROVIDENCE

9 Griffith Street, off Grant Street

Mass will be held on the **second Friday** of each month at **11:00am**.

Next Mass: Anointing Mass on **13th October**. There will be Cuppa after Mass; bring a plate to share if you are attending.

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

24 September at 11:15am in the Parish Centre. Registration forms can be downloaded from our website:

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

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

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

Coordinators: Caitlyn & Steve

Parish Centre Bookings

T: 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 St West

Convent Lane, Bacchus Marsh

St Vincent de Paul Society

Shed Hours: Mon Thurs Fri 9:00am-11:45am

Sat 9:00am-12.00noon

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330

Shed Enquiries: 0407 463 847

Next meeting of **The Knights of the Southern Cross** will be held this **Monday 11th September at 8:00pm** in the Parish Centre.

Opposition to Euthanasia Bill
For those parishioners that were unable to write letters last weekend, a table has been set up in the gathering space following today's Masses. Paper, suggested wording and the address are provided.

MINISTRIES 2nd & 3rd September 2017

Mass times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Trish Davine	Mira Foxford	Diane Craig Mira Foxford
Min/s Eucharist	Colin Remedios	Brendan Harrison	Jennifer Taylor
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Piety	9 th September Jan Farmelo 10 th September Carmel Shea		
Counters #3	Cheryl Rogers, Lyn Shea, Graeme Hooper, Michelle Love, Sean Giani, Margaret Love		

A new roster for the existing Counters Teams and for the new parishioners who volunteered for counting is available at the back of the church. Please pick up your roster.

Vinnies Winter Appeal

A big thank you to the St Bernard's students.

Not only did they donate clothes, shoes, food, toys and bedding, they also collected \$349.95.

MOORABOOL LIGHT ORCHESTRA presents a "SPRING FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC" selected inspirational program of sacred music and well-loved hymns on **Sunday 17th September 2017 at 2:00pm** at **St Bernard's Catholic Parish Church, Bacchus Marsh**.

Special Guest Artists: Reuben Morgan (Tenor), Sofia Laursen Habel (Soprano), Leigh Askew (Organ), plus the 40 Member MLO and Barry Wilkins OAM (Musical Director).

GENERAL ADMISSION – \$15 (Tickets at the door from 1:00pm).

MINISTRIES 16th & 17th September 2017

Mass times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Vikki Benson	Gerard Harrington /Jenny Hooper	Jennifer Taylor /Carmel Shea
Min/s Eucharist	Mary Beaton	Carole Ryder	Stuart Robertson
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Piety	16 th September Margot Short 17 th September Kay Lafranchi		
Counters #4	Gerard Harrington, Chris Eggleston, Brendan Harrison, Dianne Shelly		
Church Grounds September	Front Garden: Pat O'Leary Back/Side Garden: Chris Eggleston Parish Centre/Carpark/Pines: Pat O'Leary Back Paddock: Colm Carragher		
Church Flowers	Jan Carragher	POF for September	Sr Mary Fermio

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr Peter Taffe, Rosa Pollino.

Funeral rites for Rosa Pollino will be celebrated on Tuesday 12th September, beginning with Rosary at 11:00am, then Mass and burial to follow.

ANNIVERSARIES

Joan Kervin, Ashley Hine, Robert Taylor, Denis Leahy, Ada Rivette, Charli Zuccaro, Margaret Wright, Justin Pringle, Fr Andrew Camilleri PP, Sr Margaret Dwyer RSC, Peter Murphy, John Lynch, Vera Dally, Gordon Walsh, Bill Bates, Hannah Maureen McGrady, Jim White, Mia & Phoebe Hunt, Meera Baksh, Gerard Vandenburg, and Emerson O'Donnell Boyle.

Prayers for the Sick & Frail:

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

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

Dolores Turcsan is the new Parish Secretary at St Bernard's. She has lived in Melton South for over 25 years and is a parishioner at St Anthony's, where is involved in many ministries. Please give her a warm welcome!

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.

LADIES OF ST BERNARD'S SOIREE

The Ladies of St Bernard's will gather on **Sunday 22nd October at 2:00pm** onward for a relaxing afternoon to meet and mingle at the **Bacchus Marsh Lawn Tennis Club** in Tavener Street.

Bring a plate to share. Drinks at bar prices, lucky door prizes, raffles & light-hearted fun.

On **Sunday 24th September 2017**, the Church will celebrate **Social Justice Sunday**.

In keeping with tradition, the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC) will be releasing a Social Justice Statement.

In 2016, the Statement was titled "**A PLACE AT THE TABLE – Social Justice in an Ageing Society**".

The 2017-18 Statement is titled "**EVERYONE'S BUSINESS – Developing an Inclusive and Sustainable Economy**".

The Official Launch of the ACBC's Statement in the Melbourne Archdiocese will take place:

Monday 18th September 2017 from 3:00pm

MacKillop Room, St Francis' Pastoral Centre, cnr Elizabeth and Lonsdale Streets, Melbourne

You are invited to attend the launch, but due to limited numbers, an RSVP is essential *please*.

Please RSVP to justice@cam.org.au or phone 9926 5727

The Fifth Spiritual Work of Mercy

Forgive Offences

We can say without doubt that forgiveness was one of the central themes of Jesus' life and teaching. He himself practised it all through the three years of his public ministry. His greatest expression of forgiveness occurred when he prayed upon the Cross for those who were putting him to death: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

The measure by which we forgive

Jesus tells us that he will deal with us in the same way and according to the same measure with which we deal with one another. We can sum it up by saying: What we give to others is what we ourselves will receive from the Lord. Jesus emphasises this point about the measure of mercy: "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back" (Luke 6:37-38).

We all carry the burden of our sins, the wrongs we do to offend God and to hurt one another. Therefore we always stand in need of God's mercy. We would be spiritually blind if we never acknowledged ourselves as sinners in need of forgiveness from God as well as from those whom we have offended. On the other hand, if we want God's forgiveness, we know we must be ready to forgive.

This is what Jesus taught us to ask of our Heavenly Father in the prayer we call the Lord's Prayer: "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". Sometimes we may recite these words mechanically, without any thought to what we are saying. But if we ever stopped to realise what we are truly asking of God, we would recognise how much we really need to forgive in order to be forgiven.

A spiritual writer once said the most dangerous thing we could ever do is pray, because God may just take us at our word. He gave the example that if we were to ask God to change us, he may not leave us until he has broken every bone in our bodies to put us back together the way we should be! When it comes to asking for forgiveness, we had better first make sure that we have been forgiving others whatever injuries they have done to us. If we haven't been willing to forgive others, then asking God for forgiveness would not be exactly the prayer we would want to offer: he may just take us at our word!

Our Lord stresses that it is important that we forgive our erring brothers and sisters from our hearts. If our prayer is to be heard, we must pray with a heart that is not closed or hardened by a lack of mercy. Otherwise, we will experience the heart of God closed to us when we offer our prayers and petitions to him. Jesus teaches us: "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." (Matthew 5:23-24).

Forgive even your enemies

Probably the most challenging form of mercy to practice is our Lord's command to forgive even our enemies. He taught this in the Sermon on the Mount. He began by quoting the Old Testament norm of moral behavior: "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." What Jesus would teach us would be far different: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." (Matthew 5:44-48)

Our enemies include all who have done harm to us. We must forgive them because we wish to be forgiven.

What our Lord meant by 'enemy', however, is not strictly someone who is out to kill us or someone we love. What Jesus meant by 'enemy' also includes someone difficult to love, or towards whom we feel a certain repugnance, or whom we may even judge as unworthy of our love or kindness. In other words, an enemy can simply be a stranger whom we may never see again, someone who will not be able to do us good in return for anything good we may do for him. But we must still reach out with kindness and compassion if that brother or sister is in need, no matter who they are.

Jesus' teaching tells us that our love must be a love that costs us something to give. He contrasts this with the love that even pagans are capable of. For example, to love people who are friendly or kind to us does not require much effort. It comes naturally. To love someone who has hurt us is another story. But don't we want God to love us even after we have offended him by our sins? If we share only with those who would share with us, we are not doing any more than thieves would do.

It is no surprise then that St Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, is quoted as saying: "If you don't have an enemy, you had better go out and find one because you need an enemy to teach you how to love." This is because loving an enemy requires that we open our hearts more fully in order to forgive. Loving an enemy separates a convenient love from a sacrificial, total, and self-forgetting love.

Living in the past

Some people brood over past hurts. In this way they keep those old hurts fresh and alive in their hearts. When they speak about injuries that occurred 25 years ago, they make it sound as if they happened 25 minutes ago! These people need to stop living in the past. How can they do that? First of all, make an effort to resolve past injuries by forgiving from the heart. Let these things go.

How many families have brothers and sisters, or parents and children, who have remained divided for years and years because of things that happened when they were young. Walls of silence were built up because they couldn't let go of the past!

Another thing to avoid is replaying the 'old tapes' in our minds, reviewing over and over the hurts that others have done to us. That is a formula for bitterness and unhappiness. We all need to make our peace with the past, and forgiveness is an important part of that process. Once we have made peace, accepting what has happened or forgiving those who have actually injured us, then we can let go of the past, live in the present and hope for the future with joy and happiness. We don't want to grow old being bitter over negative experiences in the past.