



# St Anthony's Parish



# St Bernard's Parish

67-74 EXFORD ROAD, MELTON SOUTH, 3338.

P.O BOX 2152 MELTON SOUTH 3338

TEL: 9747 9692 FAX: 9746 0422

61 LERDERBERG STREET, BACCHUS MARSH 3340

TEL: 5367 2069 FAX: 5367 4863

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, KOROBET

309 MYRNIONG-KOROBET ROAD 3341

**24th Sunday In Ordinary Time**

**Year B**

**16th September 2018**

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Fabian Smith

**ASSISTANT PRIESTS:** Fr Patrick Bradford & Fr Joseph Panackal IV Dei

### ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

**Parish Secretary:** Lesley Morffew

**Admin Assistant:** Judy Johnson

**Parish Office Hours:**

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9.00am—4.00pm

**Email:** meltonsouth@cam.org.au

**Website:** stanthonysmeltonsouth.wordpress.com

**St Anthony's School Principal:** Damien Schuster

Wilson Road, Melton South 3338

**Phone:** 9743 1401

**Email:** principal@sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au

**Website:** www.sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au

**Catholic Regional College - Melton (Years 7-12)**

**Principal:** Mr Mark Sheehan **Phone:** 8099 6000

**Website:** www.crcmelton.com.au

### ST BERNARD'S PARISH

**Parish Secretary:** Dolores Turcsan

**Admin Assistant:** Judy Johnson

**Sacramental Coordinator/ Bookkeeper:**

Naim Chdid Fri 10.00am—3.00pm

**Parish Office Hours:** Tue –Thurs 9.00am-1.00pm

**Email:** bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au

**Website:** http://pol.org.au/bacchusmarsh/Home.aspx

**St Bernard's School Principal:** Emilio Scalzo

Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

**Phone:** (03) 5366 5800

**Email:** principal@sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

**Website:** www.sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

### **ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Sue Alexander	0400 171 843
Naim Chdid	0437 004 790
Lillian Christian	0400 441 257
Stephen Fernandes	0439 743 533
Amy Honrade	03 9747 0078
Natalie Howard	0410 478 046
Rose Ma'ae	0431 386 473
Marthese Mercieca	0421 378 691

EX-OFFICIO:

Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Patrick Bradford, Fr Joseph Panackal and Damien Schuster Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

### **ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Cathy Belcher	0431 082 886
Shane Cook	0419 999 052
Peter Farren	0418 594 501
David Loxley	0459 974 960
Maira Ross	0400 675 056
Emillio Scalzo	5366 5800
James Walters	0403 974 960

EX-OFFICIO:

Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Patrick Bradford, Fr Joseph Panackal and Emilio Scalzo

### **CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS**

Coordinator: Godwin Barton (0425 734 449)

Officers: Aloysious Dacunha, Karina Dunne & Lorraine Tellis

Please contact Judy Johnson for any Parish news you would like published in the Newsletter

Articles must be received by midday Tuesdays. Email: judyparishnews@gmail.com

For appointments with Father Fabian please call Judy on 0414 007 009

For urgent matters only please call Fr Fabian on 0403 435 471

## MASS AND DEVOTIONS

**ST ANTHONY'S** **MELTON SOUTH**

**MASS TIMES :**

<b>Monday :</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Tuesday morning:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Tuesday evening:</b>	6.30pm	FFS
<b>Wednesday:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Thursday:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Youth Mass:</b>	7.30pm	FJP
<b>Friday:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Saturday Vigil :</b>	5.30pm	FFS
<b>Sunday :</b>	8.30am	FJP
	10.30am	FJP

**INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION**

**Saturday:** 4.45pm and before and after weekday Mass

**ROSARY:**

Prayed at 9.00am before every weekday Mass.

**ADORATION:**

30 minutes before and 30 minutes after every weekday Mass.

**During School Term Mass on Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri at CRC Melton Chapel: 8.00am**



**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS** **KOROBET**

**MASS TIMES :**

<b>Saturday:</b>	6.30pm Mass	FJP
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**ST BERNARD'S** **BACCHUS MARSH**

**MASS TIMES :**  
**All weekday Masses ( except Thursday) will be held in the Chapel**

<b>Monday :</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Tuesday :</b>	5.30pm	FJP
<b>Wednesday :</b>	9.30am	FFS
<b>Thursday :</b>	9.30am	FFS
<b>Friday :</b>	9.30am	FFS
<b>Senior's Mass (Parish Centre)</b>	10.30am	FFS
<b>Saturday :</b>	5:00pm	FJP
<b>Sunday :</b>	8:30am	FFS
	10:00am	FFS

**INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION**

**Saturday:** 4.30pm and before and after weekday Mass

**ROSARY:**

Prayed every Monday at 7.30pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for one hour.

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

Next Date : **5th October**

**ADORATION:**

1 hour before every weekday Mass.

**SENIOR PARISHIONER'S MASS**

Is held on the third Friday of the month in the Parish Centre at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome not just the seniors. Next Senior's Mass: **21st September**

**PROVIDENCE MASS**

Is held on the second Friday of the month at 11.00am The Village 5-7 Griffin St, Maddingley.

Next Mass: **12th October**



## NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

**ST PADRE PIO'S RELICS COMING TO MELBOURNE**

**Monday 1 October**

**St Mary Church 97 Railway Street North Altona**

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Saint Padre Pio's death, some of his relics, accompanied by Fr Gian Maria Di Giorgio from San Giovanni Rotondo Italy, are traveling to Melbourne this month. The visit is part of a nation-wide tour of Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne. The relics will be venerated between 7.00pm and 9.00pm and before and after the 7.30pm Mass organized by the Padre Pio Prayer Group.

**Enquiries: (03) 9819 3775**

## PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

### THE SPIRIT OF TWO HEARTS YOUTH GROUP

**Youth and Family BBQ and Fun Night!** Introducing **The Spirit of the Two Hearts Youth Group** *Sharing the Spirit of God through Faith, Friendship and Fun* **When:** Sunday, 16th Sept 2018 @ 3:30pm **Where:** Two Hearts Centre 274 La Cote Road, Greendale, Vic 3341 **Cost:** Free - snacks, BBQ and sweets galore provided! **RSVP:** Monday, 10th September 2018 **Contact:** Sister Clare **Mobile:** 0415 806 217 or **Email:** [twoheartscentre@bigpond.com](mailto:twoheartscentre@bigpond.com)  
Coordinated by The Missionaries of Love and Peace.

### PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION

On the weekend of the 1st and 2nd September we had a special collection for the Priests Retirement Foundation. We collected \$610.00 at St Anthony's Parish and \$525.70 at St Bernard's Parish. Thank you for your generosity.

### BINGO

We have 3 sessions each Tuesday evening with a cost of \$3.00 a book.  
Eyes down at 7.00pm. Finish time is 9.45pm. Come and have a great social evening, have some fun and maybe get lucky too. Coffee and tea provided and there are canteen services available. Remember you have to be in it to win it!  
Held at St Anthony's Padua Hall.



## NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

### ST ANTHONY'S

#### YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP

We are starting a young women's group (aged 16 and above) every first and third Sundays. Our first meeting will be a meet and greet over CAKES and tea at 5pm on the third Sunday of September (16th of September). Come and join us for a fellowship with like-minded sisters in Christ! Please put your name and number on the clip board at the back of the Church.

#### PRIME TIMERS

Prime Timers next outing will be to Houdini's Cafe, 52-56 Old Calder Hwy, Diggers Rest, 12 o'clock Tuesday 25th September. Lunch prices vary from approx. \$16 to \$30. Please confirm attendance by Friday 21st September.  
If you need a lift be at St Anthony's Church car park at 11.15am.

#### THE WORD AMONG US

The Word Among Us is now available from the Sacristy for those who subscribe to it.

#### ST ANTHONY OF PADUA CRAFT GROUP

A group has been established in the Parish which meets on the second Saturday of each month between 10am-2pm. Anyone interested in joining the group please contact Natalie Howard 0410 478 046.



### ST BERNARD'S

#### THE UNITED NATIONS DAY OF PEACE

The United Nations Day of Peace gathering in Bacchus Marsh will be held on Sunday 23rd September. There will be a half hour Peace Vigil by the Peace Pole in Eddie Toole Park, Main Street at 7.45am.  
All Welcome! Please Join us!  
Further information: Sr Ellie Taffe 0407049374

#### HOLY LAND OLIVE WOOD CHRISTMAS DISPLAY

This weekend at St Bernard's, a beautiful display of Holy Land olive wood carvings will be available for purchase. They make an excellent choice for Christmas gifts. Don't miss out. Very reasonable prices.

#### MOORABOOL LIGHT ORCHESTRA

The next orchestral Concert by the Moorabool Light Orchestra, based at Bacchus Marsh, will be its Spring celebration to take place on **Sunday afternoon 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 at 2pm** in the Bacchus Marsh Public Hall. 40+ members of the MLO plus special guest artists will present a delightful Pleasant Sunday Afternoon of "Masters of Classical Music – Great Symphony Classics and Favourite Overtures".

**Tickets: \$25** Adults General Admission, Children under 16 **Free**, and are available at the door on the day of performance from 1pm.

Pre-sales from Bacchus Marsh Florist & Nursery, 185 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh.

#### COLUMBAN CALENDARS 2019

Now available from the Piety Stall—\$9.00 each.



# WORSHIP NEWS

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

## ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

**NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER:** 22nd & 23rd September

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

5.30pm: Marian Muller  
8.30am: Villy Julita  
10.30am: Rose Ma'ae

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.30pm : Lorraine Tellis (P) & Anne Peramuna  
8.30am : Dolores Turcsan (P), Ineke Allen & Geoff Sutton

10.30am: Rita Harinos (P) & Elaine Lacey

If you are unavailable for these dates please contact the emergency minister on the roster. Thank you.

### ALTAR SERVERS

5.30pm: Andre Oqueli & Kieran Grech  
8.30am: Volunteers Please  
10.30am: Josh Djie-Spiteri & Nick Taunuu

If you are unavailable please contact Ben Kratochvil 0423 076 305

### MASS COORDINATORS

5.30pm: Carmen Vella & Stephen Fernandes  
8.30am: Indika Silva & Lina Calleja  
10.30am: Godwin Barton & Josephine German

## ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

**NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER:** 22nd & 23rd September

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

5.00pm: Vikki Benson  
8.30am: Gerard Harrington & Jenny Hooper  
10.00am: Jennifer Taylor & Carmel Shea

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Michelle Salvatore  
8.30am: Peter Lafranchi  
10.00am: James Waters

### ALTAR SERVERS

5.00pm:  
8.30am: Roster Pending  
10.00am:

## ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

### We pray for the recently deceased:

Zygmunt Kruc, Peggy Tumbi & John Montgomery

### We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Sam Bonello, Christopher Burge, Edith Carag, David Consiglio, Joe DeBrincat, Cyril D'Silva, Shirley Mahoney, Rita Pereira & Augustine Rodrigues

**Please pray for the Sick:** Jean Barnett, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Veronica Michael, Wanda Novak, John Osborne, Howard Parr, Irene Rahilly, Catherine Roberts, Peter Roberts, Pat Roberts, Charlie Spiteri, Clint Abela Wadge, Michael Wright & John Xuereb and all those who have requested our prayers.

(PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST)

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK

May you be wrapped up in God's love,  
Found deep in his everlasting wings;  
Carried and kept safe and cherished.  
May the healing power of Christ be  
with you.  
Amen



## ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

### We pray for the recently deceased:

Angelina Baiti

### We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Molly Bishop, Fr Andrew Camilleri PP, Fr Thomas Carra PE, Leon Clemson, Michael Dillon, Sr Margaret Dwyer RSC, Janet Edmondston, Gregory Hynes, Ivor Lafontaine, Matthew Leddin, Dr Kevin Rowley, Les Scott.

### Please pray for the Sick:

Noah Barlow, Dudley Baddeley, Michael Barrett, Peter Bennett, Steven Braszel, Kevin Bridges, John Canty, Fred Capuano, Gary Ching, Ted Cooling, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, Judy Delahey, Jack DeLuca, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, Justin Fernandez, Pasquale Gagliardi, Mario Galea, Cynthia Goodyear, Gwen Green, Joe Gristi, Brian Harrison, Adam Hillier, Elle Hillman, Kiahni Holamotutama, Alicia Holborn, Matthew Jansen, David Kasprzak, Loretta Kervin, Marie Maloney, Patricia Marechal, Debbie Marshall, Jordanis Maryo, Pauline McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Marcus Meno, 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, Susan Trist, Mitchell Tung, John Van Orsouw, Angela Vicum, Louis Vogels, Barry Walsh, Mary Walsh, Carol Wells, Cath Wheelahan, Jayne Wilkins, Nils Wyren, Patricia Yazbek, Betty Young, Hannah Young.

(PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST)

## SERVICE / COMMUNITY

### ST ANTHONY'S

**VOLUNTEERS WEEKEND:** 22nd & 23rd September

#### **PIETY STALLS VOLUNTEERS**

**5.30pm:** Anne Peramuna

**8.30am:** Judy Johnson

**10.30am:** Kim Barton

#### **CUPPA ROSTER**

Next Cuppa Weekend: **22nd & 23rd September**

**5.30pm:** Judy Van Hoos & Gladys Clarke

**8.30am:** Geoff Sutton & Skye James

**10.30am:** Mangala Rowell & Doris Bonello



#### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

Doris Bonello &

Josephine German



#### **CLEANING ROSTER: Thursday**

Lorelle Porter

Volunteers would be appreciated as well.

#### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330

The Melton South Conference meet every 3rd Tuesday morning in the Holy Family Room 10.00am.

New members most welcome.

Non perishable items within the use by date can be left in the 'drop box' at the back of the Church. Thank you.

#### **COMBINED CHURCHES CARING MELTON INC**

CCCM's aim is to supply free food to help people in our local community in need and walk alongside them to reduce dependency through friendship and education.

Address: 100 Coburn Road Melton South 9747 6811

Hours: Mon– Thurs: 10.00am—3.00pm

Friday : 10.00am—12.15pm

School Holidays : 10.00am—12.30pm

### FUNDRAISING & SOCIAL COMMITTEE DATES

**19th Oct:** Parish & School Fete

**11th Nov:** Family Day

**31st December:** New Year's Eve Dance  
Aspendale Gardens  
Fundraiser for New Chapel

### ST BERNARD'S

**VOLUNTEERS WEEKEND :** 22nd & 23rd September

#### **PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS**

**Saturday:** Jan Colm

**Sunday:** Mandy Harrington

#### **MORNING TEA**

Is held on the the first Sunday of the month in the Parish Centre after 10.00am Mass.

Next Morning Tea: **7th October**

Host: St Vincent de Paul Society



#### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

Deborah Hosking



#### **COUNTING TEAM # 7**

Denis Everard

Bernard Coburn

Mary Flanagan

Patrick Flanagan

#### **PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS- (September)**

Front Garden: Volunteer Please

Back/Side Garden: Volunteer Please

Parish Centre: Volunteer Please

Carpark/Pines: Volunteer Please

Back Paddock: Colm Carragher

#### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330

The Vinnies Store is located at 8 Grant Street, Bacchus Marsh. We are calling for more volunteers. If you would like more information please ring 5310 6322.

#### **THE NEIGHBOURS PLACE**

Emergency Foodbank and Hospitality centre

Address: 77 Main Street Bacchus Marsh

Open: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9.30am-3.00pm

Email: neighbourspl@iinet.net.au

Our committee consists of two representatives from each of the participating churches who normally are nominated and appointed at our Annual General Meeting which was held in May.

Currently we only have one representative from the Catholic church and we are calling for a volunteer from St Bernard's Parish to take up this position on The Neighbour's Place Committee of Management. We only meet once a month and it provides two-way communication of information, ideas and opinions on our outreach work.

Contact: Fr Fabian 5367 2069

#### **PARISH CENTRE BOOKING**

Tel: 5367 3427

Mon—Fri 9.00am to 6.00pm

Hall Managers: Marie & Terry Casey



# FAITH FORMATION

## ST ANTHONY'S

### BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

Held on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Church 6.30pm-7.45pm.

Next preparation : **Thursday 27th Sept**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the month: **Sunday 7th & 21st October.**

See details on Parish Homepage as listed on front page and download forms. Forms are also available from the Parish Office or from the Sacristy after Mass from Father.

Both parents are required to attend these meetings. We kindly request adults only and a copy of the birth certificate.

Contact Fr Fabian, Fr Patrick, Fr Joseph or the Parish Office for queries.

**BAPTISM TEAM: Karina Dunne & Judy Johnson**

ADULT PREPARATION for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation are through the R.C.I.A Program. Please see Fr Fabian, Fr Patrick or Fr Joseph

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Is held during Saturday evening Vigil Mass and Sunday 10.30am Mass.

DIVINE MERCY: 1st Sunday of the month at 3pm .

### FATIMA STATUE

These families are praying together for the mission of the Parish:

Group 1: **Julius & Dulce Caan Can 0433 086 768**

Group 2: **Angelo & Rita Harinos 0434 368 221**



## ST BERNARD'S

### BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

Held on the fourth Sunday of the month in the Parish Centre at 11:15am.

Next program: **Sunday 23rd September**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the month: **Sunday 7th & 21st October**

Registration forms can be downloaded from our website [www.pol.cam.org.au/bacchusmarsh](http://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.

Contact Fr Fabian, Fr Patrick, Fr Joseph or the Parish Office for queries.

**COORDINATORS : Justin & Katie**

ADULT PREPARATION for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation are through the R.C.I.A Program. Please see Fr Fabian, Fr Patrick or Fr Joseph.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Is held every Sunday during 10.00am Mass in the meeting room in the Parish Centre.



### PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil;

may God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls.



Amen.

### 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 line]

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

# WEEKLY PRAYERS & READINGS

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,  
that your prophets be found true.  
Hear the prayers of your servant,  
and of your people Israel.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I gave my body to those who struck me.*

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand.  
Does anyone start proceedings against me?  
Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who dare condemn me?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 114

**Comm:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.

**All:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.

I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him.

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord my God, deliver me!

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me!

He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

**All:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James

*Faith without good works is dead.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.*

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

## NEXT WEEKS READINGS

**First Reading:** Wis 2:12, 17-20;

**Second Reading:** James 3:16-4:3;

**Gospel:** Mk 9:30-37

# 2018 the Year of Youth:

## World Youth Day Cracow, Poland, July 2016 II

The 31st World Youth Day was held in the Polish city of Cracow. As well as celebrating the closing Mass for the pilgrims, Pope Francis also celebrated Mass near the Shrine of Czestochowa on Thursday July 28, 2016, to celebrate 1050 years of Christianity in Poland. This is the second half of his homily on that occasion.

Finally, *God is real*. Today's readings make it clear that everything about God's way of acting is real and concrete. Divine wisdom "is like a master worker" and "plays" (cf. Proverbs 8:30). The Word becomes flesh, is born of a mother, is born under the law (cf. Galatians 4:4), has friends and goes to a party. The eternal is communicated by spending time with people and in concrete situations.

Your own history, shaped by the Gospel, the Cross and fidelity to the Church, has seen the contagious power of a genuine faith, passed down from family to family, from fathers to sons and above all from mothers and grandmothers, whom we need so much to thank. In particular, you have been able to touch with your hand the real and provident tenderness of the Mother of all, whom I have come here as a pilgrim to venerate and whom we have acclaimed in the Psalm as the "great pride of our nation" (Judith 15:9).

It is to Mary, then, that we, who have gathered here, now look. In her, we find complete conformity to the Lord. Throughout history, interwoven with the divine thread, is also a "Marian thread". If there is any human glory, any merit of our own in the fullness of time, it is she. Mary is that space, preserved free from sin, where God chose to mirror himself. She is the stairway God took to descend and draw near to us. She is the clearest sign of the fullness of time.

In the life of Mary we admire that *littleness* that God loves, for he "looked upon the humility of his servant", and "lifted up the lowly" (Luke 1:48, 52). He was so pleased with her that he let his flesh be woven from hers, so that the Virgin became the *Mother of God*, as an ancient hymn, sung for centuries, proclaims. To you who uninterruptedly

The theme of WYD Cracow was the text: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy" (Matthew 5:7).

come to her, converging upon this, the spiritual capital of the country, may she continue to point the way. May she help you to weave in your own lives the humble and simple thread of the Gospel.

At Cana, as here in Jasna Góra Monastery, Mary offers us her *nearness* and helps us to discover what we need to live life to the full. Now as then, she does this with a mother's love, by her presence and counsel, teaching us to avoid hasty decisions and grumbling in our communities. As the Mother of a family, she wants to keep us *together*. Through unity, the journey of your people has surmounted any number of harsh experiences.

May the Mother, who stood steadfast at the foot of the Cross and persevered in prayer with the disciples in awaiting the Holy Spirit, obtain for you the desire to leave behind all past wrongs and wounds, and to build fellowship with all, without ever yielding to the temptation to withdraw or to domineer.

At Cana, Our Lady showed great *realism*. She is a Mother who takes people's problems to heart and acts. She recognises moments of difficulty and handles them discreetly, efficiently and decisively. She is neither imperious nor intrusive, but a Mother and a handmaid. Let us ask for the grace to imitate her sensitivity and her creativity in serving those in need, and to know how beautiful it is to spend our lives in the service of others, without favourites or distinctions. May Mary, Cause of our Joy, who brings peace amid the profusion of sin and the turmoil of history, obtain for us the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and enable us to be good and faithful servants

Through her intercession, may the fullness of time come about also for us. The transition from before to after Christ means little if it remains a date in the annals of history. May each one of us be able to make an interior passage, a Passover of the heart, towards the divine "style" incarnated by Mary. May we do everything in *littleness*, and accompany others at close hand, with a simple and open heart.



Our Lady of Czestochowa