

# Catholic Parish of Bacchus Marsh

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

61 Lerderderg Street, Bacchus Marsh 3340

309 Myrniong-Korobeit Road, Korobeit 3341

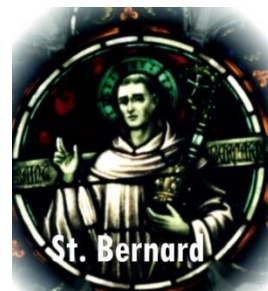


**St B**

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Email: [bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au](mailto: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 9:00am – 1:00pm



## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

### 17th September 2017

**HOW OFTEN MUST I FORGIVE?** THERE IS MUCH TRUTH IN THE PROVERB, "TO ERR IS HUMAN, TO FORGIVE DIVINE". WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES. WE ALL DO OR SAY THINGS WE LATER REGRET. AND YET, WHEN OTHERS WRONG US, WE CAN FIND IT BEYOND OUR HUMAN STRENGTH TO FORGIVE. AS WE CELEBRATE THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST'S LOVE TODAY, LET US ASK JESUS TO HEAL OUR DIVISIONS AND FILL OUR HEARTS WITH HIS SPIRIT OF FORGIVENESS.

### 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: 6<sup>th</sup> 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: 6<sup>th</sup> October**

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

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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

### FIRST READING SIRACH 27:30 - 28:7

*Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

It is He who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

His wrath will come to an end; He will not be angry forever. He does not treat us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so strong is His love for those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our sins.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

### SECOND READING ROMANS 14:7-9

*Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!** I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. **Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL MATTHEW 18:21-35

*I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.*

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

**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: 1<sup>st</sup> 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: 15<sup>th</sup> 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: 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**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](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.**

Coordinators: Caitlyn & Steve

**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

**Shed Enquiries:** 0407 463 847

**Shed Hours:** Mon Thu Fri 9:00am-11:45am  
Sat 9:00am-12.00noon

**MOORABOOL LIGHT ORCHESTRA** presents a **"SPRING FESTIVAL OF SACRED MUSIC"** selected inspirational program of sacred music and well-loved hymns on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

<b>Mass times</b>	<b>5pm Sat Vigil</b>	<b>8:30am Sun</b>	<b>10:00am Sun</b>
<b>Min/s of the Word</b>	Vikki Benson	Gerard Harrington /Jenny Hooper	Jennifer Taylor /Carmel Shea
<b>Min/s Eucharist</b>	Colin Remedios	Brendan Harrison	Jennifer Taylor
<b>Gifts Procession</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Piety</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> September</b> <b>17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Margot Short Kay Lafranchi	
<b>Counters #4</b>	Gerard Harrington, Chris Eggleston, Brendan Harrison, Dianne Shelly		

**Catholic Social Services Sunday**  
**17<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

This information Sunday, promoted by Catholic Social Services Victoria, provides an opportunity for parish communities to reflect on our own response to the Gospel call to compassionate service to those who are poor, marginalised or excluded of our society. It is also a time for the wider church community to give thanks for the social service work being carried out by Church agencies and parishes on behalf of the Church as a whole.

Pope Francis' calls us to reach out in compassion and service with both words and actions:

*"Parishes must be in contact with homes, with people's lives, with the life of society. They have to be houses where the door is always open so as to go forth toward others. And it is important that this going-forth follows a clear proposal of faith. The doors must be opened so that Jesus can go out with all of the joy of his message. Let us pray for our parishes, that they not be simple offices, but that animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen".*

**MINISTRIES 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

<b>Mass times</b>	<b>5pm Sat Vigil</b>	<b>8:30am Sun</b>	<b>10:00am Sun</b>
<b>Min/s of the Word</b>	Volunteer	Peter Lafranchi /Margaret Love	Carole Ryder /Mira Foxford
<b>Min/s Eucharist</b>	Vikki Benson	Colm Carragher	James Waters
<b>Gifts Procession</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Piety</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> September</b> <b>24<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Trish Davine Carole Ryder	
<b>Counters #5</b>	Pat O'Leary, Jo Cowan, Peter Lafranchi, Frank Pomeroy, Stuart Robertson		
<b>Church Grounds September</b>	<b>Front Garden:</b> Pat O'Leary <b>Back/Side Garden:</b> Chris Eggleston <b>Parish Centre/Carpark/Pines:</b> Pat O'Leary <b>Back Paddock:</b> Colm Carragher		
<b>Church Flowers</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Frances McDaid	<b>POF</b> September	Sr Mary Fermio

## **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Fr Thomas Carra PE  
Gregory Hynes

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

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

### **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.

### **LADIES OF ST BERNARD'S SOIREE**

The Ladies of St Bernard's will gather on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## **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.

On **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> 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:

on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 from 3:00pm at 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 RSVP to [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au) or phone 9926 5727

# The Fifth & Sixth Spiritual Works 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).

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.

### Forgive even your enemies

Probably the most challenging form of mercy to practise 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.

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.

## Comfort the Sorrowful

At the Last Supper, Jesus talked about both joy and sorrow to his disciples. He assured them, however, that ultimately joy will endure, joy will win out. But what is remarkable in our Lord's statement about suffering is his assertion that our very sorrow will become the 'raw materials', so to speak, from which our joy will come. He illustrated this with a wonderful example: "When a woman is in labour, she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she is delivered of the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a child is born into the world" (John 16:21-22).

### Causes, effects, and remedies

Not all sorrow can be comforted in the same way. Some forms of sorrow are bad because they result from a distorted self-centred love. These are healed by removing the negative roots that give rise to such sorrow. For example, there is 'worldly sorrow', which is the sorrow that results from material losses, whether money, popularity, possessions or social status. For a Christian, the remedy is to remember that our real treasures are not those we accumulate here on earth but those that await us in the Kingdom of Heaven. When the desire and the hope for 'heavenly treasure' begins, 'worldly sorrow' will end. Another negative form of sorrow is despair, which is sorrow without hope. This is the sorrow of Judas when he realised he had betrayed the Lord with a kiss. It led him to take his own life because he believed the Lord could never forgive him. The antidote to despair is God's mercy, which is greater than any evil we could ever do.

### Beneficial sorrow

One beneficial sorrow is sorrow for one's sins. This can lead us to confess our sins and seek God's forgiveness. This was the sorrow of St Peter, who after denying the Lord three times went out and wept bitterly (Luke 22:62). It is said his sorrow was renewed every time he heard a rooster crow. This kind of sorrow often brings peace of mind and heart and the beginning of a new life. Another form of sorrow that brings many blessings is the sorrow for the sins of others. It is one thing to offer prayers and tears for our own sins. But it can be even more fruitful when we sorrow for the conversion of sinners.

A third beneficial sorrow is the sorrow of compassion, which leads us to comfort others in their suffering. This was the compassion that Jesus spontaneously showed the widow of Nain who had lost her only son (Luke 7:12-15). We see his compassion again in the raising of his friend Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-44.).

### Ways to comfort the sorrowful

The person experiencing sorrow may be a relative, a parishioner, a neighbour, or someone in a nursing home or hospice care. Sometimes we can bring comfort just by offering a listening ear and a compassionate heart. People in their sorrow often need to talk, and that requires someone to be there to listen. If we hear someone is sick, a greeting card or a little note offering assurance of our prayers can be a comfort. Providing a person with an inspiring book to read or a helpful recording can bring peace of mind and heart. Going to visit someone who is sick, calling a distant friend, sending a sympathy card at the time of the loss of a loved one are all forms of comfort. Even going shopping for someone who is distraught or preparing a meal to bring to the home of such a person is a great help.