

Catholic Parish of Bacchus Marsh

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

61 Lerderderg Street, Bacchus Marsh 3340

309 Myrningong-Korobeit Road, Korobeit 3341

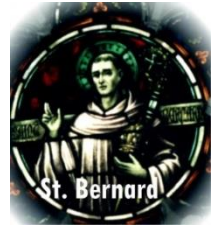


St B

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 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



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A 19th November 2017

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT! We all have our unique gifts and talents. When we use them well, we enrich our community. We bring joy to ourselves and to others. Let us encourage each other to develop our gifts. Then, together, we will hear our Master say: “Well done, good and faithful servants. Come and join in my happiness forever.”

MASS & DEVOTION TIMES THIS WEEK

St Bernard's

1 hour Adoration before every **weekday** Mass

Monday	no Mass
Tuesday	5:30pm
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: 1st December

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: 1st December

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON JEREMIAH 29:11, 12, 14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you.

FIRST READING PROVERBS 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALMS 127:1-5. R. v. 1

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-6

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the nights.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION JOHN 15:4, 5

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:1-14-30

Because you have been faithful over a few things; enter into the joy of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON MARK 11:23-24

Amen, I say to you: Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.

St Bernard's (continued)

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' MASS is held on the **second Friday** of the month in the Parish Centre at **11:30am**.

Next Seniors' Mass: 8th December

Everybody is welcome, not just the seniors.

PROVIDENCE AGED CARE

9 Griffith Street, off Grant Street

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

Next Mass: 1st December

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

26th November 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 a copy of Birth Certificate to the program.

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

Coordinators: Steve & Geraldine

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

Next Morning Tea: 3rd December

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 **Saint Vincent de Paul Op Shop (The Shed)** is now closed. Most of the items are being relocated to the new Vinnies store in Grant Street, Bacchus Marsh. The new Vinnies store will open on **Thursday 23rd November 2017** and we are calling for more volunteers for the new store. If you would like more information, please ring **0417 525 617**.

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' MASS

The **Seniors' last Mass** for 2017 will be celebrated on **Friday 8th December 2017** at **11:30am** in the **Parish Centre**. This will be our **Christmas Mass** and will be followed by the usual **Christmas Luncheon**. Parishioners are warmly invited to join the Seniors in celebration of the Eucharist, and to stay on for lunch after Mass.

Luncheon bookings, needed for catering purposes, may be made by contacting either Elizabeth Lummis 5310 6320 or Mary Flanagan 5367 3309. **Cost \$20.00.**

MINISTRIES 18th & 19th November 2017

Mass Times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10:00am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Trish Davine	Marj Tung	Cathy Belcher
Min/s Eucharist	Mary Beaton	Peter Lafranchi	Mira Foxford
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Piety	18th November 19th November	Jan Farmelo Carmel Shea	
Counters #3	Cheryl Rogers, Lyn Shea, Graham Hooper, Michael Love, Sean Giani, Margaret Love		

CATHOLIC MUSEUM

Open **Sunday 19th November 2017** between **12noon and 3:00pm**

Strawberry & Cherry Weekend

enter via Convent Lane, 88 Main Street West, Bacchus Marsh opposite the Fire Station

JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATES

Final gathering for the year will be on **Wednesday 22nd November 2017** at **11:30am**. Venue is the **Woodend Neighbourhood Centre** in Forest Street (off High Street). Light lunch will be provided and Sharon Simpson will talk about her book which relates the story of Jack, her son, cured of MS and Hodgkin's Lymphoma by St Mary MacKillop about 18 years ago. Anyone needing transport, contact Sr Mary on 5367 2078.

ST BERNARD'S SUMMERTIME TWILIGHT FETE

St Bernard's School

Friday 1st December 2017, 3:30pm – 8:00pm

Raffle tickets are on sale in the church foyer after weekend Masses, or during the week in the Parish Office - **\$2.00 each**. Books of 10 tickets are also available. Please support your parish by taking a few raffle books to buy/sell to family, friends and work colleagues.

Volunteers needed to set up before the event and on the day, please. Also, **"home made" donations** for the **cake stall** would be greatly appreciated (*please collect and complete Cake Stall information sheet in church foyer*). For more details, contact **Natalie** on **0418 340 217**.

MINISTRIES 25th & 26th November 2017

Mass Times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10:00am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Vikki Benson	Jan Carragher / Allan Comrie	Diane Corro
Min/s Eucharist	Stuart Robertson	Colm Carragher	James Waters
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Piety	25th November 26th November	Margot Short Kay Lafranchi	
Counters #4	Gerard Harrington, Chris Eggleston Brendan Harrison, Dianne Shelly		
Church Grounds November	Front Garden: Stuart Robertson Back/Side Garden: Hugh Miller Parish Centre/Carpark/Pines: Michael Wale Back Paddock: Henry Gasior		
Church Flowers Fri 24 th November	Bernadette Kearney	POF November	Dolores Turcsan

RECENTLY DECEASED

John Marum

ANNIVERSARIES

Shagula Abraham, Margaret Bennet, Arturo De Bortoli, Anthony Giani, Mary Glasheen, Lorna Hives.

Prayers for the Sick & Frail

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

John Anderson, Noah Barlow, 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, 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 Youn-g, Hannah Young, Jessica Yue.

KSC Racing Game Results

At week 21 of the 26 week game:

- 1st Carmel Welsh – 86 points
- 2nd Terry Casey – 74 points
- 3rd Nardia Farrell – 68 points

Good luck in the last 5 weeks!

Summer School

Did you know when you register in a group of 4 (with at least 3 new participants), you can receive a group discount of \$100? Register now at <http://summerschool.org.au> or contact Berna for more information on 0467 092 091 or melbourne@summerschool.org.au

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, November 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.

HOLY SOULS

Offering Envelopes for the month of November are available in the church foyer. Please collect and complete details of your relatives' and friends' names and return with an offering and place on the collection plate. These names will then be entered in our **Parish Remembrance Book** which will be on display for the month of November.

HOLY SPIRIT PILGRIMAGE

Holy Land & Holy Places in **Italy** (17 days) for \$5,555 from **3rd September 2018**; and 7 days Optional Extension to **Egypt & Jordan**.

Spiritual Directors: Fr Emmanuel-tv Dimobi and Fr Jude CSSp.

Contact for itinerary/info: fremmanueltv@hotmail.com, 0417 999 553, (08) 9341 3079, (08) 9341 3131;
or: jude.agorchuksw@cam.org.au, 0400 759 391, (03) 9789 9672

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.

Please arrange a meeting time with **Naim Chdid**, our new **Sacramental Coordinator**, through the Parish Office during the month of November 2017 to enrol your child. All information and dates will be given to you at the Sacramental Enrolment Meeting.

Friday 24th November between 10:00am – 3:00pm

Hell is the State of Those who Reject God

In three controversial Wednesday Audiences, Pope John Paul II pointed out that the essential characteristic of heaven, hell or purgatory is that they are states of being of a spirit (angel/demon) or human soul, rather than places, as commonly perceived and represented in human language. This language of place is, according to the Pope, inadequate to describe the realities involved, since it is tied to the temporal order in which this world and we exist. In this he is applying the philosophical categories used by the Church in her theology and saying what St. Thomas Aquinas said long before him.

"Incorporeal things are not in *place* after a manner known and familiar to us, in which way we say that bodies are properly in place; but they are in place after a manner befitting spiritual substances, a manner that cannot be fully manifest to us." [St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, Supplement, Q69, a1, reply 1]

At the General Audience of Wednesday, 28 July 1999, the late John Paul II reflected on hell as the definitive rejection of God. In his catechesis, the late Pope said that care should be taken to interpret correctly the images of hell in Sacred Scripture, and explained that "hell is the ultimate consequence of sin itself... Rather than a place, hell indicates the state of those who freely and definitively separate themselves from God, the source of all life and joy".

1. God is the infinitely good and merciful Father. But man, called to respond to him freely, can unfortunately choose to reject his love and forgiveness once and for all, thus separating himself for ever from joyful communion with him. It is precisely this tragic situation that Christian doctrine explains when it speaks of eternal damnation or hell. It is not a punishment imposed externally by God but a development of premises already set by people in this life. The very dimension of unhappiness which this obscure condition brings can in a certain way be sensed in the light of some of the terrible experiences we have suffered which, as is commonly said, make life "hell". In a theological sense however, hell is something else: it is the ultimate consequence of sin itself, which turns against the person who committed it. It is the state of those who definitively reject the Father's mercy, even at the last moment of their life.

Hell is a state of eternal damnation

2. To describe this reality Sacred Scripture uses a symbolical language which will gradually be explained. In the Old Testament the condition of the dead had not yet been fully disclosed by Revelation. Moreover it was thought that the dead were amassed in Sheol, a land of darkness (cf. Ez. 28:8; 31:14; Jb. 10:21f.; 38:17; Ps 30:10; 88:7, 13), a pit from which one cannot re-ascend (cf. Jb. 7:9), a place in which it is impossible to praise God (cf. Is 38:18; Ps 6:6).

The New Testament sheds new light on the condition of the dead, proclaiming above all that Christ by his Resurrection conquered death and extended his liberating power to the kingdom of the dead. Redemption nevertheless remains an offer of salvation which it is up to people to accept freely. This is why they will all be judged "by what they [have done]" (Rv 20:13). By using images, the New Testament presents the place destined for evildoers as a fiery furnace, where people will "weep and gnash their teeth" (Mt 13:42; cf. 25:30, 41), or like Gehenna with its "unquenchable fire" (Mk 9:43). All this is narrated in the parable of the rich man, which explains that hell is a place of eternal suffering, with no possibility of return, nor of the alleviation of pain (cf. Lk. 16:19-31).

The Book of Revelation also figuratively portrays in a "pool of fire" those who exclude themselves from the book of life, thus meeting with a "second death" (Rv. 20:13f.). Whoever continues to be closed to the Gospel is therefore preparing for 'eternal destruction and exclusion from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might" (2 Thes 1:9).

3. The images of hell that Sacred Scripture presents to us must be correctly interpreted. They show the complete frustration and emptiness of life without God. Rather than a place, hell indicates the state of those who freely and definitively separate themselves from God, the source of all life and joy. This is how the Catechism of the Catholic Church summarizes the truths of faith on this subject: "To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God's merciful love means remaining separated from him for ever by our own free choice. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God and the blessed is called 'hell'" (n. 1033).

"Eternal damnation", therefore, is not attributed to God's initiative because in his merciful love he can only desire the salvation of the beings he created. In reality, it is the creature who closes himself to his love. Damnation consists precisely in definitive separation from God, freely chosen by the human person and confirmed with death that seals his choice for ever. God's judgement ratifies this state.

We are saved from going to hell by Jesus who conquered Satan

4. Christian faith teaches that in taking the risk of saying "yes" or "no", which marks the human creature's freedom, some have already said no. They are the spiritual creatures that rebelled against God's love and are called demons (cf. *Fourth Lateran Council*, DS 800-801). What happened to them is a warning to us: it is a continuous call to avoid the tragedy which leads to sin and to conform our life to that of Jesus who lived his life with a "yes" to God.

Eternal damnation remains a real possibility, but we are not granted, without special divine revelation, the knowledge of whether or which human beings are effectively involved in it. The thought of hell — and even less the improper use of biblical images — must not create anxiety or despair, but is a necessary and healthy reminder of freedom within the proclamation that the risen Jesus has conquered Satan, giving us the Spirit of God who makes us cry "Abba, Father!" (Rm. 8:15; Gal. 4:6).

This prospect, rich in hope, prevails in Christian proclamation. It is effectively reflected in the liturgical tradition of the Church, as the words of the *Roman Canon* attest: "Father, accept this offering from your whole family ... save us from final damnation, and count us among those you have chosen".