



61 LERDERDERG STREET, BACCHUS MARSH 3340

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, KOROBEIT

309 MYRNIONG-KOROBEIT ROAD 3341

FAX: 5367 4863

TEL: 5367 2069

67-74 Exford road, Melton South, 3338. P.O Box 2152 Melton South 3338 Tel: 9747 9692 Fax: 9746 0422

29th Sunday In Ordinary Time

Year B

21st October 2018

PARISH PRIEST:	Fr Fabian Smith
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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 19a 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

Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Patrick Bradford, Fr Joseph Panackal

and Damien Schuster Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

Sue Alexander Naim Chdid Lillian Christian Stephen Fernandes Amy Honrade Natalie Howard Rose Ma'ae Marthese Mercieca

EX-OFFICIO:

0400 171 843

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Cathy Belcher Shane Cook Peter Farren David Loxley Moira Ross Emillio Scalzo James Waters

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 SOU	TH	ST BERNARD'S	BACCHUS MA	RSH	
MASS TIMES : 22/10/18-2	MASS TIMES : 22/10/18-28/10/18			MASS TIMES : 22/10/18- 28/10/18		
Monday :	No Mass		All weekday Masses (excep Chapel		in the	
Tuesday morning:	9.15am	FJP	Monday :	No Mass		
Tuesday evening:	6.30pm	FJP	Tuesday :	5.30pm	FPB	
Wednesday:	9.15am	FFS	Wednesday :	9.30am	FPB	
Thursday:	9.15am	FJP	Thursday :	9.30am	FFS	
Friday:	9.15am	FJP	Friday :	9.30am	FFS	
Saturday Vigil :	5.30pm	FFS	Saturday Vigil : Sunday [;]	5:00pm 8:30am	FJP FPB	
Sunday :	8.30am 10.30am	FFS FFS		10:00am	FJP	
INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIA Saturday: 4.45pm and be ROSARY: Prayed at 9.00am before e ADORATION: 30 minutes before and 30 weekday Mass. During School Term Mas at CRC Melton Chapel:	efore and after week every weekday Mass minutes after every	5. +	INDIVIDUAL RECONCIL Saturday: 4.30pm and b ROSARY: Prayed every Monday at 7 Blessed Sacrament for one Rosary is also held on the f following morning mass. Next Date : <u>2nd Novembe</u> ADORATION: 1 hour before every weekd PROVIDENCE MASS Is held on the second Frida The Village 5-7 Griffin St, M Next Mass: <u>9th Novemb</u> SENIOR PARISHIONER'S	Defore and after week .30pm with Exposition of hour. first Friday of the month er ay Mass. ay of the month at 11.00 <i>f</i> addingley. er	f the	
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOROBEIT			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: <u>16th November</u>			
MASS TIMES : Saturday: 6.3	0pm Mass	FJP	Sellior S Mass: 10th NOVE	<u>iibei</u>		

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

2018 LOURDES DAY MASS

You are cordially invited to the 2018 Lourdes Day Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral at 10.30am on Saturday 1st December. This is an occasion to come together in prayer with those who are sick, infirm or elderly and their carers. As many are unlikely to ever visit Lourdes in a sense, it's like Lourdes coming to them. Archbishop Comensoli will be celebrating this Mass.

VILLA MARIA CATHOLIC HOMES

Aged Care | Affordable Housing | Retirement Living | Home Care | Disability and Specialist Education A Catholic, not-for-profit organisation providing services to more than 7000 people across Victoria. We observe the teachings and practices of the Catholic Church by celebrating the life of individuals and their communities as expressed in their physical, social and spiritual wellbeing. For more information please phone 1800 036 377 or visit www.vmch.com.au

PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 21ST OCTOBER

This weekend we will be having a special collection to support World Mission Sunday. Catholic Mission is the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. Compelled by the message, life and love of Jesus Christ, Catholic Mission forms Australians for mission and raises funds for mission– in Australia and around the world.

MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S RETREAT- SAVE THE DATE

St Anthony's and St Bernard's Parishes will be holding a retreat for men, women and children on the 14th-16th December. Times and venues will be confirmed. The retreat will finish with a family Mass at St Anthony's at 10.30am on Sunday the 16th December. Participants will be invited to bring a plate and enjoy Christmas carols in the Padua Hall after Mass.

CHRISTMAS BBQ AND NATIVITY PLAY

Organised by the Spirit of the Two Hearts Youth Group **Sunday 9th December 2018** St. Joseph's Hall at the Two Hearts Centre 274 La Cote Road, Greendale, Vic 3341. 12:30pm BBQ Lunch 1:30pm Nativity Play and Christmas Carols followed by Dessert . Cost: Free RSVP: Monday 3rd December Contact: Sister Clare Mobile: <u>0415 806 217</u> or

Email: twoheartscentre@bigpond.com Coordinated by the Missionaries of Love and Peace of the Most Blessed Trinity

<u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!</u> We are in need of some children to act in the Nativity Play, and children, teens and young adults to sing carols or play instruments. We will be arranging a few practice days over the next couple of months. If you or anyone you know would like to join in the fun of acting, singing or playing a instrument please call/text Sister Clare on 0415 806 217 or email <u>twoheartscentre@bigpond.com</u> by Monday 29th October 2018.

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE—ROSTER

The roster for hosting our Lady of Fatima Statue will be compiled in the 1st week of December. Any new families who wish to go on the roster please put your name, address and phone number on the list at the back of the Church.

QUADRANT AWARENESS

A member from our Service and Community Quadrant will be speaking at all Masses this weekend.

PRIME TIMERS

Our next outing will be Wednesday 31st October 2018. Mass at St Ambrose Church, Woodend at 12.30pm followed with lunch at Victoria Hotel about 1.15pm. Leave St Anthony's car park about 11am. Contact Ineke 0400 120 401.

MARRIAGE BLESSINGS—NEXT WEEKEND 27th/28 Oct

If you have recently celebrated a Wedding Anniversary or your Anniversary is coming up and you would like to have a special blessing, you will be invited to stand and receive the blessing. It will also be our cuppa weekend, so please stay and have a cuppa and a chat.

HOLY SOULS MASS 2ND NOVEMBER

We will be praying for all who are inscribed in our Memorial Book. If you wish to request another November Intention there are envelopes on the table in front of the Memorial Chapel. Once filled out place them in the wooden box next to the envelopes. Also we have our Remembrance book at the rear of the Church for you to put your loved ones names in, this will be processed in during all Masses in the month of November.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2019

(for students who attend non-Catholic schools)

Preparation and active participation in the Sacraments is very important for the development of the spiritual journey of your child. To enrol your child in the program , please attend one of the 5.30pm Saturday evening Masses, during the first 3 Saturdays of November and speak to the Sacramental Coordinator after Mass. All information and dates will be given to you at the Sacramental Enrolment .

ST BERNARD'S

ROSTERS

New rosters are now available for Readers , Extraordinary Ministers, Flowers and the Counting Teams. Please collect them from the sacristy or the parish office. Thank you.

SING AUSTRALIA BALLARAT

Come and enjoy this entertaining and joyous choir. Wednesday 24th October 2018 St Bernard's Church Hall at 2pm. Light afternoon tea supplied. Tickets - \$10.00 Concession – \$5.00 children and carers Tickets available from Anglican Church Bacchus Marsh 10am-12pm, and from The Neighbours Place 9.30am-2.30pm Mon, Wed, Fri, or at the door on the day. For further information please call Carolyn on 0419 553 993 or The Neighbours Place 5367 6222.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2019

(for students who attend non-Catholic schools) Preparation and active participation in the Sacraments is very important for the development of the spiritual journey of your child. To enrol your child in the program, please arrange a meeting time with Naim Chdid, our Sacramental Coordinator, through the Parish Office (5367 2069). The enrolment

meetings will be held on Fridays in November . He will be available each Friday 10.00am –5.00pm and 12noon— 6.30pm alternatively. All information and dates will be given to you at the Sacramental Enrolment Meeting.

WORSHIP NEWS

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

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES		
NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 27th & 28th October		
MINISTERS OF THE WORD: 5.00pm: Trish Davine 8.30am: Peter Lafranchi & Margaret Love 10.00am: Diane Corro & James Waters		
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS5.00pm:Vikki Benson8.30am:Colm Carragher10.00am:Jennifer TaylorPRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ROSTEROctober:Sr Ellie Taffe		
ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE		
SPIRITS OF THE TWO HEARTS YOUTH GROUP Experience faith, friendship and fun.		
Age group: 11years+ When: Every 4th Thursday of the month 7.00pm-9.00pm Where: Two Hearts Centre,		
 274 La Cote Road, Greendale Contact: Sister Clare 0415 806 217 or Email : twoheartscen- tre@bigpond.com 'Coordinated by the Missionaries of Love and Peace of the Most Blessed Trinity of the Pilgrimage of the Two Hearts' We pray for the death anniversary at this time of: Denny Bayliss, Connie Gleeson, Patricia Mary Knight, John Rovetto.& Maria Rupa 		
Please pray for the Sick: Noah Barlow, Dudley Baddeley, Michael Barrett, Peter Bennett, Margaret Bolger, 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 Gagliarbi, 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, Nancy (Girlie) Massey, Pauline McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Marcus Meno, Paul Mullin ,Kevin O'Gorman, 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)		

Amen

SERVICE / COMMUNITY

ST ANTHONY'S

VOLUNTEERS WEEKEND: 27th & 28th October

PIETY STALLS VOLUNTEERS

5.30pm: Anne Peramuna 8.30am: Judy Johnson 10.30am: Kim Barton

CUPPA ROSTER

Next Cuppa Weekend: 27th & 28th October 5.30pm: Mary Drew & Michelle Dachuna 8.30am: Chris Fitzgerald & Regina Traczynski 10.30am: Angelo & Rita Harinos



CHURCH FLOWERS

Ana Tannu & Roperta Mavaega



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, training provided. 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

ST BERNARD'S

VOLUNTEERS WEEKEND : 27th & 28th October

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: Mandy Harrington Sunday: Jan & Colm

MORNING TEA

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

Next Morning Tea: 4th November

Host: Parents & Friends

CHURCH FLOWERS

Deborah Hosking

COUNTING TEAM #2

John Tuna Lucille Wheelahan Jennifer Taylor



Front Garden: Back/Side Garden: Parish Centre: Carpark/Pines: Back Paddock:

Colm Carragher John Tuna Volunteer Please Volunteer Please Ron Geurts

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Welfare Number is 1800 305 330.

The Bacchus Marsh Conference meets once a month in the Parish Centre. New members are welcome and training is available. The contact number is 5310 6322. The Vinnies Store is located at 8 Grant Street, Bacchus Marsh. The store is open 7 days a week. If you are able to volunteer and would like some more information, please contact the Store Manager on 8199 4205. Presently, the store is looking for homewares and toys. However, all donations are gratefully accepted.

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

SOUL FOOD

Soul Food provides a free community meal each Wednesday (excluding school holidays), in the Uniting Church Hall, Gisborne Rd. Bacchus Marsh. Meals are served up at 12noon. All are welcome and this is a free event. No need to book, just come along.

Contact: Jenny Kearney 0408 104 155

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 25th Oct**



Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: **Sunday 4th & 18th November.** 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 .

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

<u>DIVINE MERCY:</u> 1st Sunday of the month at 3pm .

FATIMA STATUE

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

 Group 1: Joe & Jacqueline Spiteri
 0402 512 841

 Group 2: Alfreda Parnis-Cassar
 0416 250 490



ST BERNARD'S

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

Next program: **Sunday 28th October** Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd



Sunday of the month: **Sunday 4th & 18th November** 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.

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

COORDINATORS : Kate & Danny

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.

<u>**CHILDREN'S LITURGY</u>** Is held every Sunday during 10.00am Mass in the meeting room in the Parish Centre.</u>

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

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs and have long life.

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.

If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over he shall see the light and be content. By his sufferings shall my servant justify many, taking their faults on himself.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 32

<u>Comm</u>: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

<u>All:</u> Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

<u>All:</u> Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews Let us be confident in approaching the throne of grace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!

<u>GOSPEL</u>

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine..

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS- 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading:	
Second Reading:	
Gospel:	

Jer 31:7-9; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52



2018 the Year of Youth: Models of holiness II: St Nunzio Sulprizio

Continued from last Sunday

Nunzio was indeed a strong and fearless soul. Born in 1817 and orphaned at age six, he was sent to live with his grandmother, a faith-filled woman who cared for him until she died when he was nine.

Then began a life wracked with intense suffering at the hands of a pitiless, cruel uncle. His uncle took him to work in his blacksmith shop, brutally beating him for no reason, withholding food and sending him on hazardous errands, even delivering orders up a mountainside in the cold and ice.

Seriously ill with a gangrenous foot, Nunzio was forced to work. Yet the young man had the attitude of a saint. The young teen's friend was Jesus Crucified, with whom Nunzio offered his sufferings "in reparation for the sins of the world" and "for doing God's will". Sunday Mass was his weekly respite. Joy only came from being with Jesus in the tabernacle and praying the Rosary.

"Jesus endured so much for us, and by his merits, eternal life awaits us," he said. "Jesus suffered a lot for me. Why should I not suffer for him?"

He would pray often: "Mother Mary, let me do the will of God."

Constant pains from his infections brought him to the hospital, where his father's uncle learned of Nunzio's plight and brought him to a faith-filled colonel who was inexhaustibly charitable to the poor. Colonel Felice Wochinger saw that Nunzio was given constant medical attention in Naples.

Nunzio made his first Holy Communion in the hospital and met St Gaetano Errico, founder of the Missionaries of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, who told Nunzio he could enter the order when he was old enough.

Following treatment, Nunzio's health improved, but not for long. He then suffered from bone cancer, from which he lost a leg and which ultimately proved fatal. In the face of eternity, 19year-old Nunzio told the colonel: "Be cheerful. From heaven I will always be helping you."

The disease disappeared from his body when he died; his body was engulfed by the smell of roses. Because of his life experiences, he is considered a patron of abused children and labourers.

Devotion to Nunzio extends to the United States.

In Pittsburgh, the late Delfina Del Russo Cesarespada learned of Blessed Nunzio the same year as his beatification. She credited Nunzio's intercession for saving her life during an operation to remove a four-kilogram tumour. Her son Peter recounts the story of how his mother had a devotion to Nunzio and prayed for his intercession before the operation.

Nunzio appeared to his mother in a dream, told her she was going to die, but that he would intercede and she would come back to life because "she was going to have to work for him".

Early in 1963, she did indeed die during the operation, pronounced dead by doctors after her heart stopped beating. They were astonished when, 45 minutes later, she resuscitated. When the parish priest, then Pittsburgh's Auxiliary Bishop Anthony Bosco learned of it from her, the bishop sent the medical testimony to Rome. This was the miracle that was used for Nunzio's beatification in December 1963.

"After that, my mother established a devotion to Nunzio," said Peter Cesarespada.

People would gather for a weekly Rosary, and in 1969, his mother turned the first floor of their house into a private chapel and shrine for Blessed Nunzio. People donated statues, crosses and items like canes when they "received miracles and they started walking again", recounted Peter.

Pilgrims came to make novenas and for the annual Mass honouring Nunzio.

The shrine is a tribute to the holy teen, who said as he lay dying, while holding a crucifix and looking at a statue of the Blessed Mother, "How beautiful she is!"



LAST WEEK, POPE FRANCIS CANONISED NUNZIO. So now we can call him st nunzio. We can also ask his intercession in our prayers: st nunzio, pray for us.