

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

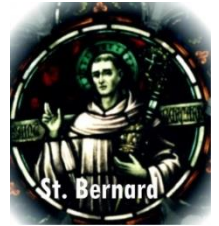


St B

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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



Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year B 24th December 2017

A DWELLING PLACE FOR GOD. King David wanted to build a fine temple in which God would dwell among the people. But God did not choose a building made of stones and mortar for a dwelling place, but the womb of the Virgin Mary. God continues to dwell among us in Mary's son, Jesus Christ, whose body is the Church. Let us pray for a deepening of faith this Christmas that we, like Mary, may continue to give Christ to the world.

MASS & DEVOTION TIMES THIS WEEK

St Bernard's

1 hour Adoration before every **weekday** Mass
(except January)

Sunday 24 th	7:00pm Vigil Family Mass 10:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass
Monday 25 th	8:30am Christmas Day 10:00am Christmas Day
Tuesday 26 th	no Mass
Wednesday 27 th	9:30am
Thursday 28 th	9:30am
Friday 29 th	9:30am
Saturday 30 th	5:00pm Vigil
Sunday 31 st	8:30am 10:00am

Our Lady Help of Christians

Sunday 24 th	8:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass
Saturday 30 th	6:30pm Mass

RECONCILIATION – 1ST RITE

Saturday 30 th	4:15pm <i>St Bernard's</i>
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ROSARY is held every **Monday** at **7:30pm** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for one hour, **except over the Christmas/New Year break**. It will resume on **15th January 2018**.

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

Next First Friday: 5th January 2018

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held on the **first Friday** of the month (except January) from **10:00am to 7:00pm**. All are welcome to come along and spend some time with the Lord.

Next Adoration: 2nd February 2018

CHILDREN'S LITURGY is held every **Sunday** during **10:00am Mass** (except January). Children's Liturgy will resume in **February 2018**.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON CF. ISAIAH 45:8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING 2 SAMUEL 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALMS 88:2-5, 27, 29. R. CF. V. 2

R. Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing forever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts forever.

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your dynasty forever and set up your throne through all ages."

He will say to me: "You are my father, my God, the rock who saves me". I will keep my love for him always; for him my covenant shall endure.

R. Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING ROMANS 16:25-27

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION LUKE 1:38

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL LUKE 1:26-38

You will conceive and bear a son.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON ISAIAH 7:14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

St Bernard's (continued)

SENIOR PARISHIONERS' MASS is

held on the **third Friday** of the month (except **January**) in the Parish Centre at **11:00am**. Everybody is welcome, not just the seniors.

Next Seniors' Mass: 16th February 2018

PROVIDENCE MASS

The Village, 5-7 Griffith Street, Maddingley

Mass is held on the **second Friday** of the month (except **January**) at **11:00am**.

Next Mass: 9th February 2018

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

is held on the **fourth Sunday** of the month in the Parish Centre at **11:15am**.

Next Program: 28th January 2018

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.

MORNING TEA is held on the **first Sunday**

of the month (except **January**) in the Parish Centre **after 10:00am Mass**.

Next Morning Tea: 4th February 2018

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 new Vinnies store is now open and we are calling for more volunteers. If you would like more information, please ring **0417 525 617**.

**St Vincent De Paul
CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

The Society would like to thank all those people who donated items for the Christmas hampers. The gifts were very generous and well chosen. Many families will be grateful for your support.

Happy Christmas!

**KSC Racing Game
Final Results**

1st Carmel Welsh – 95 points

2nd Nardia Farrell – 88 points

3rd Hugh Miller – 86 points

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to all who played the game.

Results are in the Gather Space in the Church foyer.

MINISTRIES 23rd & 24th December 2017

Mass Times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10:00am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Trish Davine	Moira Ross	Carole Ryder / Mira Foxford
Min/s Eucharist	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	(as noted in the roster)		
Piety	23rd December 24th December	Jan Farmelo Carmel Shea	
Counters #8	Colm Carragher, Maggie Carragher Jill Braithwaite, Marj Tung		

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE 2017

St Bernard's, Bacchus Marsh

Christmas Vigil – **Sunday 24th December 2017**

7:00pm Vigil Family Mass (preceded with Carols at 6:30pm)

10:30pm Mass (preceded with Carols at 10:00pm)

Christmas Day – **Monday 25th December 2017**

8:30am and **10:00am** Mass

Our Lady Help of Christians, Korobeit

Christmas Vigil – **Sunday 24th December 2017**

8:00pm Vigil Mass (preceded with Carols at 7:30pm)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Readers, Eucharist Ministers and Altar Servers for:

Christmas Eve 7:00pm Vigil Family Mass and **10:30pm** Mass, and **Christmas Day** Masses at **8:30am** and **10:00am**.

Please put your name on the clipboard in the church foyer.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES

are available in the church, at all entrances and in the foyer.

They may be placed on the collection plates at any time and are a significant way of supporting the priests in your parish.

MINISTRIES 30th & 31st December 2017

Mass Times	5pm Sat Vigil	8:30am Sun	10:00am Sun
Min/s of the Word	Vikki Benson	Carole Ryder / Marj Tung	Cathy Belcher / T Taylor
Min/s Eucharist	M Salvatore	Roy Ryder	Volunteer
Gifts Procession	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Servers	(as noted in the roster)		
Piety	30th December 31st December	Margot Short Kay Lafranchi	
Counters #9	Roy & Carole Ryder Henry & Chris Gasior		
Church Grounds December	Front Garden: Volunteer Back/Side Garden: Volunteer Parish Centre/Carpark/Pines: Ron Geurts Back Paddock: Colm Carragher		
Church Flowers		POF December	Dolores Turcsan

RECENTLY DECEASED

Teresa Darlington-Canty.

ANNIVERSARIES

Eddie Mullane, Vanessa Owen, Robert Taggart.

Prayers for the Sick & Frail

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

John Anderson, Noah Barlow, Dudley Baddeley, Michael Barrett, Steven Braszel, Kevin Bridges, John Canty, Fred Capuano, Gary Ching, Ted Cooling, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, 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, Raymund Hare, 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 Young, Hannah Young, Jessica Yue.

"THE JOURNEY"

CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM

airs this **Sunday 24th December 2017.**

This week, on the Christmas Eve edition, Bishop Peter Ingham shares his Christmas message with us, Sr Hilda shares her Wisdom and wishes us Happy Christmas from the Nuns at Jamberoo Abbey, and during this very busy yet very Holy time, Marilyn Rodrigues, The Peaceful Parent, reminds us to pray, hope and don't worry.

God Bless and Merry Christmas.

Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

SUMMER SCHOOL MELBOURNE

7th-14th January 2018

Speakers include Fr Rob Galea, Dr Brendan Triffett, Fr Max Vodola, Leeanne Grima, Sr Katherine Stone & Fr Dan Serratore.

Registrations close 26th December 2017.

Go to <http://summerschool.org.au>, or contact Berna 0467 092 091, or melbourne@summerschool.org.au, for more info.

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, December 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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS of the 2017 St Bernard's Parish Fete Raffle

1st Prize	Ticket 2702 – Roy Ryder
2nd Prize	Ticket 2729 – Jenny Hooper
3rd Prize	Ticket 0453 – Luc O'Connor
4th Prize	Ticket 1472 – Adrian Reivers
5th Prize	Ticket 2579 – Deb Johnson
6th Prize	Ticket 2300 – Renee Hawkins
7th Prize	Ticket 0855 – Caroline Kelvin

The raffle was drawn under supervision on Friday 1st December 2017 at St Bernard's Parish Primary School, at the conclusion of our Twilight Fete. All winners will be notified and results were published in the Moorabool News on Tuesday 5th December 2017.

The St Bernard's Parish Fete Committee would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets in the raffle.

Also a big **THANK YOU** to St Bernard's Fete Committee for all the hard work, and to the parishioners for their support and assistance. **WELL DONE!**

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.

If you haven't already done so, please arrange a meeting time as soon as possible with **Naim Chdid**, our new **Sacramental Coordinator**, through the Parish Office to enrol your child. All information and dates will be given to you at the Sacramental Enrolment Meeting.

2018 is the Year of Youth: The Theological Virtues I

Faith, hope, and charity are, quite simply, the three greatest things in the world. We cannot overemphasise their importance. Together they make up the one thing necessary. Nothing is more important than faith, hope, and charity because they make the difference between heaven and hell, eternal life and eternal death.

They are called the three theological virtues because they have God (*theos*) as their object. They are the glue that attaches us to God. They are the three-doored entrance to heaven. It is not that God refuses entrance at heaven's gate to anyone; these are heaven's gate. Anyone who has no faith in God, no hope in God, and no love of God cannot go to heaven because heaven would be hell to him. He could not endure or enjoy the presence of God after death any more than he did before death.

Faith, hope, and charity are the three legs of a single tripod that supports the whole Christian life. Each leg depends on the others. Faith without the works of love is dead, and false not real faith at all. Love not motivated by faith is mere feeling (often masked by the code word compassion), dependent on the whims of human change. Hope without faith is mere wishful thinking. Hope is not the same as optimism; some of the great hoppers are pessimists by temperament, such as Evelyn Waugh. Hope's opposite is despair, which is a deadly sin, not pessimism, which is a psychological trait.

Love without hope is desperation, like an open boat of castaways able only to huddle close for warmth before death, the end of everything. Hope without love is isolating and selfish; it is the self-righteousness of every tyrant and architect of a brave new world. Faith without hope is simply impossible, for the God we believe has given us an astonishing bag of promises.

This tripod is the foundation of the moral virtues. The other virtues all depend on these three because these are the key to the very life of God within our souls, and all other virtues are characteristics of that life. Honesty, justice, patience, chastity, self-control, even love of neighbour, all come from the prior presence of God in us, which in turn comes only through faith, hope, and charity. We do not practice the virtues in order to get to heaven; we practice the virtues because heaven has already gotten to us. Love of God, for instance, will always send us to love of neighbour, while love of neighbour will not always send us to love of God, for God always sends you to your neighbour, but your neighbour does not always send you to God.

It is appropriate for us to turn back to these basics of the Christian life now because the society we live in does not understand them. We live in a post-Christian world, and many of us are not sufficiently aware of that fact. Our modern world is in fact a clear countersign to these three virtues.

Doubt, despair, and selfishness are the pillars of modern life, not faith, hope, and charity. Our world sees faith as naivete, hope as wishful thinking, and charity as weakness. We see around us a growing materialism, which is unbelief in practice; a rising suicide rate and depression, which is despair in practice; and a rising respectability for the "me-first" philosophy for which charity is an unintelligible alternative, a radical foolishness.

There are three absolutely necessary questions that everyone must answer: What can I know?, What should I do?, and What may I hope? The three theological virtues are God's answer to these three human questions. We can know God and all that is necessary for our salvation by faith in what God has revealed to us; we can know our moral obligation as charity to God and neighbour; and we can know what to hope in by what God has promised us.

These three virtues are also called the supernatural virtues to distinguish them from the natural virtues, the virtues that do not require the saving presence of God's own life in the soul for their existence (though they do require that for their perfection). The four cardinal, or hinge, virtues in the natural order are prudence (practical wisdom), fortitude (courage), temperance (moderation), and justice (fairness and harmony within and without).

Without the supernatural virtues, the natural virtues cannot flourish. For instance, without charity, which goes beyond justice, it is very hard even to be just, for we cannot fulfil the just requirements of the natural law of fairness to our neighbours except by the power of love. Love is the fulfilment of the law, as St Paul says, not because love substitutes for the law, as if we did not need to do works of justice once we had charity, but because love fulfils the law, for when we love someone we want them to receive perfect justice.

Similarly, no one can be truly wise without faith, for faith sees higher and farther and deeper than reason or experience can. It sees through a glass, darkly, but it sees truly. And no one can practice temperance or self-control without God's grace, for we are all addicted to sin and self-indulgence, and it is very difficult to break an addiction just by trying harder without help from without.

Without God's grace, which comes only through faith, hope, and charity, no one can be very good. Without love, justice turns to cruelty. Without hope, courage turns to blind despair and rage. Without faith, this-worldly wisdom becomes foolishness in God's eyes.

From "Fundamentals of the Faith", by Peter Kreeft (Ignatius Press)