



# 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

**3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Year C**

**27TH JANUARY 2019**

**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  
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**

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
Moira Ross	0400 675 056
Emillio Scalzo	5366 5800
James Waters	0403 822 795

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 : 28/01/19-3/02/19**

<b>Monday :</b>	No Mass	
<b>Tuesday morning:</b>	No Mass	
<b>Tuesday evening:</b>	6.30pm	FJP
<b>Wednesday:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Thursday:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Friday:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>1st Friday Devotion</b>	7.30pm	FPB
	Midnight	FJP
<b>1st Saturday Devotion</b>	9.15am	FPB
<b>Saturday Vigil :</b>	5.30pm	FPB
<b>Sunday :</b>	8.30am	FPB
	10.30am	FPB

**INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION**

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

**ROSARY:**  
Prayed at 9.00am before every weekday Mass.



**ADORATION:**  
No Adoration and Devotions in the month of January.

**CRC MELTON CHAPEL: 8.00am**  
Commencing Thursday 7th February.

**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 : 28/01/19-3/02/19**

All weekday Masses ( except Thursday) will be held in the Chapel

<b>Monday :</b>	No Mass	
<b>Tuesday</b>	5.30pm	FPB
<b>Wednesday :</b>	9.30am	FPB
<b>Thursday :</b>	9.30am	FPB
<b>Friday :</b>	9.30am	FPB
<b>Saturday Vigil :</b>	5:00pm	FJP
<b>Sunday :</b>	8:30am	FJP
	10.00am	FJP

**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 : **Friday 1st February**



**ADORATION:**  
30 minutes before every weekday Mass.

**PROVIDENCE MASS**

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

Next Mass: **Friday 8th February**

**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: **Friday 15th February 2019**

## NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, REFLECTION AND ACTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**Thursday 7 February, 6.30-8.30pm**

**St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne**

On the Feast of St Josephine Bakhita of Sudan, the Church marks the International Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action against Human Trafficking. Last year, the Victoria-Tasmania Catholic Anti-Slavery Working Group was created with ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) and the dioceses of Victoria and Tasmania. Its goal is to finally end the scourge of modern-day slavery in our communities. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, the South Sudanese Catholic Community and the broader community will mark this important day with Holy Hour at 6.30pm followed by the Vigil Mass of St Josephine Bakhita at 7.30pm.

**Enquiries:** [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au)

## PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

### **RCIA 2019**

If you want to learn more about the Catholic Faith, want to become a Catholic, or you didn't receive all your Sacraments as a child and you want to receive them.

Classes for Adult Faith Formation are being held: February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.  
At St Bernard's Parish Centre Bacchus Marsh 5pm till 6pm.

For further information, can you please contact the Parish Office on 5367 2069.

### **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. 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**

#### **ST ANTHONY'S PRIME TIMERS**

Our first meeting for 2019 will be our Annual General Meeting, 29th January 2019 at 11.30 am. Held at the Lifestyle Village. Please BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided. If a lift is needed call Ineke on [0400120401](tel:0400120401) or email [ineke49@yahoo.com](mailto:ineke49@yahoo.com)

#### **ST ANTHONY'S THANKSGIVING MEMBERS WHO PAY BY CREDIT CARD**

If your credit card details ( expiry date etc. ) have changed in the last 8 weeks can you please contact the Parish Office at your earliest convenience.

Phone 9747 9692 Email: [meltonsouth@cam.org.au](mailto:meltonsouth@cam.org.au).  
Thank you.

#### **SERVICE AND COMMUNITY QUADRANT**

Volunteers are required for the following groups:  
Piety Stall & Social Committee.

Contact:

Natalie Howard	0410478046,
Amy Honrade	0457042695
Lillian Christian	0400441257

### **ST BERNARD'S**

#### **The Memorare of St. Bernard**

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, and sought thy intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother, to thee I come, before thee I stand sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate! despise not my petitions, but, in thy mercy, hear and answer me.  
Amen.

# WORSHIP NEWS

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

## ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

**NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER:** 2nd & 3rd February

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

5.30pm: Marian Muller  
8.30am: Ineke Allen  
10.30am: Karina Dunne

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.30pm : Dolores Turcsan (P) & Gavin Pereira  
8.30am : Anthea Scerri (P), Sue Alexander  
& Lillian Christian  
10.30am: Elaine Lacey (P) & Rita Harinos

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

### MASS COORDINATORS

5.30pm: Godwin Barton & Carmen Vella  
8.30am: Natalie Howard & Ron Howard  
10.30am: Godwin Barton & Josephine German

### ALTAR SERVERS

5.30pm: Kieran Grech & Mason Azzopardi  
8.30am: Nixon, Thytus & Aaron Ben  
10.30am: Nick Taunuu & Ethan Porter

If you are unavailable please contact Ben Kratochvil 0423 076 305

## ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

**NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER:** 2nd & 3rd February

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

5.00pm: Maureen Zahara  
8.30am: Jan Carragher  
10.00am: Carmel Shea & Jennifer Taylor

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Stuart Robertson  
8.30am: Carole Ryder  
10.00am: James Waters

### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ROSTER

February: Mary Flanagan

### ALTAR SERVERS

5.00pm:  
8.30am: To Be Advised  
10.00am:

## ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Anton Belacic, Mary Winifred Cochrane,  
Ellen Dodemaide, Krystyna Kwiatek, Eunice McRoberts,  
Rosa Portelli, Tulo Tuala & Andrew Waleryszlek

**Please pray for the Sick:** Jean Barnett, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Veronica Michael, Wanda Novak, John Osborne, 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

### 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 :** [twoheartscentre@bigpond.com](mailto:twoheartscentre@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 recently deceased :

Pat Sherry

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

Mary Blood, Janet Bourke, Barry Dean, Gary Dodd, Jeanette Hurley, Joe Marshall, Salvatore (Sam) Provenzano, & Joan Welsh.

### 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 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, 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, Ken Shaw, Marian Smith, Frank & Elizabeth Stehmann, Susan Trist, Hayden Tung, 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:** 2nd & 3rd February

#### **PIETY STALLS VOLUNTEERS**

**5.30pm:** Judy Van Hoos  
**8.30am:** Pat Chiles  
**10.30am:** John Scerri

#### **CUPPA ROSTER**

Cuppa Weekend: **23rd & 24th February**

**5.30pm:**  
**8.30am:** Roster Pending  
**10.30am:**



#### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

Rosabella Tuala



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

Lorelle Porter

Volunteers would be appreciated as well.

#### **SERVICE AND COMMUNITY QUADRANT**

Volunteers are required for the following groups:

Piety Stall & Social Committee.

Contact:

Natalie Howard	0410478046,
Amy Honrade	0457042695
Lillian Christian	0400441257

#### **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 :** 2nd & 3rd February

#### **PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS**

**Saturday:** Sean Gianì  
**Sunday:** Marj Tung

#### **MORNING TEA**

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

Next Morning Tea: **3rd February 2019**

Host: Parish Pastoral Council



#### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

Frances McDaid



#### **COUNTING TEAM # 5**

Pat O'Leary  
Jo Cowan  
Peter Lafranchi  
Frank Pomeroy  
Stuart Robertson

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

Front Garden: Stephen Millington

Back/Side Garden: Volunteer Please

Parish Centre: Volunteer Please

Carpark/Pines: Sean Gianì

Back Paddock: Henry Gasior

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

Welfare Number is 1800 305 330.

Many thanks to the Parishioners who donated items for our Christmas hampers. Our conference provided 34 hampers to members of the Bacchus Marsh community with items received from: St Bernard's Parish, St Bernard's Primary School, Grades 2C & 2G Bacchus Marsh Primary School and Patrons and staff of Little Lucky Cafe.

#### **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 28th Feb**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the month: **3rd & 17th March**

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: **Brian Baker** 0408 974 322

Group 2: **George & Doris Bonello** 0431 459 668

Group 3: **Angela Saliba** 0431 095 885



### ST BERNARD'S

#### BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

Next program: **Sunday 27th Jan**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the month: **Sunday 3rd & 17th Feb**

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 : Peter & Rosemary**

**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

O sing a new song to the Lord;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
In his presence are majesty and splendour,  
strength and honour in his holy place.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

*They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.*

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 18

**Comm:** Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

**All:** Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock!

**All:** Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
*Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor  
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.*

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,

to proclaim liberty to captives

and to the blind new sight,

to set the down trodden free,

to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down.

And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Look toward the Lord and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS- 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading:** Jer 1:4-5, 17-19;

**Second Reading:** 1 Cor 12:31-13:13;

**Gospel:** Lk 4:21-30



# The Catholic family: Raising children in a secular world IX

I am a convert to the Catholic Church, so I did not have the benefit of Catholic teaching in my early years. My mother, however, attended a Protestant church and I was drawn to faith through a variety of Protestant groups and activities.

Protestants place strong emphasis on communicating the faith to young people and maintain programs and activities for all ages, such as Bible study, prayer groups, music ministries, teaching responsibilities, evangelism, service to the needy.

The following are some suggestions for how to teach the faith to children. These are used by Protestants, but are adaptable to any group.

## I. Sunday Catechesis

**A.** Classes organised for every age group, from infant through adult.

**B.** Classes are held every Sunday for 1½ hours including vacations and holidays. The messages of Christmas and Easter are emphasised. Leisure time should focus on Christ and His Church.

**C.** Pageants, plays and programs are presented for the entire congregation on special occasions such as Christmas and Easter. Contributions may include songs (especially “action songs” for young children, recitations (memorised Bible verses), poetry and pantomime.

**D.** Evangelism. Children challenged to bring friends in “contests” for those who bring the most friends. Prizes include badges and stars, and guests are officially welcomed and given some remembrance of their visit.

**E.** The need for foreign missions is taught. Missionaries visit and discuss their work. They ask for prayers from the children.

**F.** Children use texts or workbooks at home so that parents might learn with their children.

**G.** Protestants place great emphasis on Scripture (since it is their sole authority). Every child who can read is encouraged to own a Bible and bring it to church each week; Bibles are awarded for various achievements; Memorisation and recitation of Scripture is emphasised, even at a young age. Games and exercises are often used to stimulate familiarity and interest in Scripture.

**H.** Music is a major part of classes. This includes songs of worship, praise, Christian life and experience and personal testimony. Choirs are organised for each age group. Composition is encouraged.

**I.** Tithing is encouraged, even for those who do not have much money.

**J.** Craft and creative work is taught, ranging from cut-outs and colouring for young children to written papers by older children.

**K.** Birthdays are celebrated with songs and gifts.

## II. Parish groups apart from Sunday School

**A.** Sunday evening youth groups for teens and adults include Bible studies, evangelism, guest speakers, social functions and group tours.

**B.** Weekday clubs for various age groups which are similar to Boy and Girl scouts, but with emphasis on learning and sharing the faith. These groups meet after school in homes or the church hall and are led by parents or special youth ministers. They play games, do crafts, gain merit badges, get practical skills, play sports and go on field trips.

**C.** Musical groups and choirs are organised for different age groups. There are sometimes choir competitions between churches.

**D.** Vacation schools are run, usually for two weeks during summer. Evangelisation is emphasised.

**E.** Confirmation classes held for children aged 10–15. Catechism is used and must be memorised and recited to teachers. The priest runs questioning sessions before a group of parents and there is a final exam.

**F.** Midweek prayer groups held weekly for adults. Priest usually leads the group in Bible study.

**G.** Youth worship service; may take place at the same time as adult service, but in a separate place.

**H.** Youth ministers volunteer as sponsors for youth group.

## III. Independent: Interchurch youth activities

**A.** Campus ministries for high school and university meet for fellowship to study Scripture and to pray and establish friendships.

**B.** Coffee houses run by Christians where books and food are sold.

**C.** Correspondence courses, usually centred on the Scriptures.

**D.** Youth rallies with music, a speaker, testimonies and bonfire socials.

**E.** Young adult ministries provided by churches near universities.

**F.** Seminary open days; evening classes for part-time students.

**G.** Tracts, booklets, pamphlets, books placed in strategic campus locations.

**H.** Youth magazines directed to specific age groups.

**I.** Summer camps.

The effectiveness of any of these ministries is related to the apostolic zeal and love reflected by the leader. The content of Catholic teaching can be introduced into any of these forms.

**Our Lady, Queen of Catechists, pray for us!**