



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 OF LENT

YEAR C

24th MARCH 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 9.00am-4.00pm Tue 1.00pm-5.00pm

Wed—Thurs 9.00am-5.00pm Friday 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
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 : 25th March - 31st March		
Monday:	7.30pm	FFS
Tuesday morning:	9.15am	Fr Peter
Tuesday evening:	6.30pm	FJP
Week 2 Novena to St. Anthony		
The Annunciation of the Lord		
Wednesday:	9.15am	FJP
Thursday:	9.15am	FJP
Friday:	9.15am	FJP
Stations of the Cross	2..00pm	
Adoration and Confession	6.00pm	
Stations of the Cross	7.00pm	
Saturday Vigil:	5.30pm	Bishop Mark & FFS
Sunday:	8.30am	Bishop Mark & FJP
	10.30am	Bishop Mark & FJP
Sunday evening:	5.00pm	
Lenten Talks on prayer by Father Fabian. All welcome.		
INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION		
Saturday: 4.45pm and before and after weekday Mass.		
Friday April 12th: 6 - 8.30pm. 3 priests available		
ROSARY:		
Prayed at 9.00am before every weekday Mass.		
ADORATION:		
30 min. before and 30 min. after every weekday Mass.		
CRC MELTON CHAPEL: 8.00am		
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday		

ST BERNARD'S	BACCHUS MARSH	
MASS TIMES : 25th March - 31st March		
All weekday Masses (except Thursday) will be held in the Chapel		
Monday :	No Mass	
Tuesday	5.30pm	FPB
Wednesday :	9.30am	FPB
Thursday :	9.30am	FFS
Friday :	9.30am	FPB
Saturday Vigil :	5:00pm	FPB
Sunday :	8:30am	FPB
	10.00am	FPB
INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION		
Saturday: 4.30pm and before and after weekday Mass.		
Tuesday 9th April: 5 - 6.30pm. 3 priests available		
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 5th April		
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 12th April		
SENIOR PARISHIONER'S MASS		
The next seniors monthly Mass is due for 19th April which is Good Friday. As there can be no mass on Good Friday the April Mass has been cancelled. A warm invitation is extended to all parishioners to come along and join with the seniors in celebration of the Eucharist on Friday May 17th.		



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS	KOROBET	
MASS TIMES :		
Saturday:	6.30pm Mass	FJP

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

PROJECT COMPASSION

Third Sunday of Lent
24th March 2019



Peter is thrilled to now have clean water on tap at his boarding school. Long walks to unsafe water sources were tiring for Peter, who is living with a disability. With more free time and fewer illnesses caused by dirty water, Peter can fulfil his hope of focusing on his studies, providing him with brighter future

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help young people with disabilities gain access to clean water in the Solomon Islands, providing hope for a brighter future.

Lives change when we all give 100%! You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

BISHOP MARK'S PASTORAL PARISH VISIT

Bishop Mark will be visiting the Parishes of St Anthony's and St Bernard's in the coming weeks. He will be celebrating Masses on the weekends he is visiting and will also visit the Parishes during the week. He will meet with Parishioners, Parish Council Members, School Staff and Parish Office Staff. We look forward to Bishop Mark's visit.

St Anthony's Visit: The weekend 30th /31st March and Tue/Wed 2nd/3rd April.

St Bernard's Visit: The weekend 6th/7th April and Thu/Fri 4th/5th April.

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

PRIME TIMERS NEXT OUTING

Melton Botanic Gardens for a BYO picnic lunch in the Gazebo Tuesday 26th March at 12 o'clock.

Please contact John or Lois Brewis on 9743 6582 for any information.



TRAINING SESSION FOR NEW ALTER SERVERS

Youth from our Parish who are interested in becoming Alter Servers are invited to attend a training session on Wednesday 27th March 2019 at 3.30pm.

For further enquiries call Ben 0423 076 305

ST BERNARD'S

ST BERNARD'S FETE

St Bernard's Fete Committee would like to thank everyone who made the fete both a social and financial success.

Major Raffle Prize winners are:

1st Prize – Matt Kearney

2nd Prize – Monique Vereker

3rd Prize – Paul Iannazzo

ACTION EASTER EXPERIENCE 2019

St Bernard's Parish Bacchus Marsh in conjunction with the Knights of the Southern Cross Bacchus Marsh would like to extend to you an invitation to the "Action Easter Experience" this Easter 2019. It is a three-day experience over the Easter period, bringing together young people from our Parish to share, learn and discuss how we can best experience the Easter period. It is being run by Knights of the Southern Cross, who intend to build community, install and empower leadership in our youth and most importantly have fun as they work together with Christian values. Venue: St Bernard's Parish Primary School Date and Time: 5pm Thursday 18th April to 8:30pm Saturday 20th April. Cost: \$25, which includes food and accommodation. You will need to bring sufficient change of clothes, a sleeping bag, mat and pillow, toiletries and towel and your enthusiastic spirit. All the activities will be primarily based at the school, with some involving walking around Bacchus Marsh. If interested please leave your name at the Parish Office.

Any inquiries please contact Mark Farrell 0416251025.

EASTER LITURGY TIMETABLE—ST ANTHONY'S

Sunday 14th April Palm Sunday - Gather in Hall before all Masses for the Blessing of the Palms

Monday 15th April 7.30pm Mass

Tuesday 16th April No morning Mass
Chrism Mass at St Patricks Cathedral
East Melbourne. All welcome
6.30pm Mass

Wednesday 17th April 9.15am Mass

Thursday 18th April Holy Thursday
No morning Mass
7.30pm Mass of the Lord's
Last Supper followed by Night Prayer

Friday 19th April Good Friday
10.00am Stations of the Cross
3.00pm The Passion of Our Lord
7.00pm Veneration of the Cross
7.30pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 20th April 8.00pm Vigil Mass
Please gather at rear of Church
For the Service of Light.

Sunday 21st April Easter Sunday
8.30am Mass
10.30am Mass

EASTER LITURGY TIMETABLE—ST BERNARD'S

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Tuesday 16th April No morning Mass
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East Melbourne. All welcome

Wednesday 17th April 9.30am Mass

Thursday 18th April Holy Thursday
No morning Mass
7.30pm Mass of the Lord's
Last Supper followed by Night Prayer .

Friday 19th April Good Friday
11.00am Ecumenical Way of the Cross.
A re-enactment of Christ's Passion & Death by way of a street-side procession starting in the Foodworks carpark.
3.00pm The Passion of Our Lord

Saturday 20th April 7.30pm Vigil Mass
Please gather in Church carpark
For the Service of Light.

Sunday 21st April Easter Sunday
8.30am Mass
10.00am Mass

KOROBEIT 8.30am Mass

WORSHIP NEWS

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

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 30th & 31st March

MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

5.30pm: Mila Little
8.30am: Anthea Scerri
10.30am: Elaine Lacey

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.30pm : Gavin Pereira (P) & Lorraine Tellis
8.30am : Lillian Christian (P) Michael Higgins & Sue Alexander
10.30am: George Bonello (P) & Doris Bonello

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

MASS COORDINATORS

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

ALTAR SERVERS

5.30pm: Jedi Anyayahan & Mason Azzopardi
8.30am: Nixon, Thytus & Aaron Ben
10.30am: Nick Taunuu & Anakin Anderson

If you are unavailable please contact
Ben Kratochvil 0423 076 305

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the recently deceased: Virginia Jewers & Oswald Vieyra.

We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Ausi Anderson, Joel Cardiz, Anglo Debrincat, Mariya Dolores Borg, Teresa D'Silva, Marina Marano, Catherine McLaren & Franco Resondino

Please pray for the Sick: Michael Wright, 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, & 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

Father we lift up all those who are facing illness. We ask that You bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of your love. Amen



ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 30th & 31st March

MINISTERS OF THE WORD:

5.00pm: John Thorne
8.30am: Jan Carragher
10.00am: Carmel Shea & Jennifer Taylor

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Stuart Robertson
8.30am: Volunteer Please
10.00am: James Waters

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ROSTER

March: Diane Corro

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

SPIRIT OF THE TWO HEARTS YOUTH GROUP

Experience faith, friendship and fun.

Age group: 11years+ When: Every Thursday fortnight (starting 28th Feb) 7.00pm-9.00pm

Where: Two Hearts Centre, 274 La Cote Road, Greendale

Contact: Sister Clare 0415 806 217 or

Email : twoheartscentre@bigpond.com

Website: www.missionariesofloveandpeace.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:

Michael Brady, Leigh Gray, Annie Holloway, Christopher Mugavin & Frank Shanahan.

Please pray for the Sick:

Terry Sims, 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, Danny McRae, Marcus Meno, Paul Mullin, Kevin O'Gorman, Arthur Pape, Michael Paterson, Georgia Peacock, 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: 30th & 31st March

PIETY STALLS VOLUNTEERS

5.30pm: Marthese Mercieca
8.30am: Chris Fitzgerald
10.30am: Kim Barton

CUPPA ROSTER

Cuppa Weekend: **30th & 31st March**
(Bishop Mark's visit)



5.30pm: Judy Van Hoos, Gladys Clarke & PPC
8.30am: Joyce Stellini, Lina Calleja & PPC
10.30am: Rose Ma'ae and Family & PPC

CHURCH FLOWERS

Doris Bonello & Josephine German



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	0410 478 046,
Amy Honrade	0457 042 695
Lillian Christian	0400 441 257

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 : 30th & 31st March

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: Margot Short
Sunday: Kay Lafranchi

MORNING TEA ROSTER

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

Next Morning Tea: **7th April 2019**

Host: Rosary & Prayer Group



CHURCH FLOWERS

Tup Shea



COUNTING TEAM #

Volunteers Please

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS- (March)

Front Garden:	Stuart Robertson
Back/Side Garden:	Volunteer Please
Parish Centre:	Ron Geurts
Carpark/Pines:	Ron Geurts
Back Paddock:	Colm Carragher

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Welfare Number is 1800 305 330.

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.

THE NEIGHBOURS PLACE

Emergency Foodbank and Hospitality centre

Address: 77 Main Street Bacchus Marsh

Open: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9.30am-3.00pm

Email: neighbourspl@inet.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 March**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: **7th April (No Baptisms on 21st April– Easter Sunday)**

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: **Da'Cunha Family** **0469 863 253**

Group 2: **Naim Chdid** **0437 004 790**

Group 3: **Rohini Selvanayagam** **0425 868 967**



ST BERNARD'S

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

Next program: **Sunday 24th March**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: **7th April (No Baptisms on 21st April– Easter Sunday)**

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.

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

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' he answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 102

Comm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.

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.

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING : 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;

the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life .

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS – 4th SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12;

Second Reading: 2 Cor 5:17-21

Gospel: Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



The Catholic family: Raising children in a secular world XVI

FOLLOW THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The Church already has a plan, an outline, or table of contents for teaching children the faith and it has hardly been tried. We tried it in our family and it worked beautifully. It is this: Just follow the Liturgical Year.

1. Enter marriage by living the liturgical year, so that when children arrive, they will be joining in this way of life with you.
2. Pray together before and after meals.
3. Pray together at night before a picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary or a statue of Mary. Even the smallest children can hear and see, even though they are too young to recite prayers.
4. Go to Mass together; discuss homilies at Sunday breakfast.
5. Read about the Saint of the day and briefly discuss.
6. Have crucifix in the home.
7. Light a candle at mealtimes, especially at supper, to represent Christ, our Guest.
8. Become servers and readers at Mass; feel at home in and around church.
9. Observe feast days, birthdays, baptisms, Confirmation, etc.
10. Have holy water fonts along the route to bed or at the entrance to the house.
11. Have good Catholic magazines at home such as *Our Sunday Visitor* and the many good books and reading materials available.
12. Be happy, our religion is a joy.
13. Say the Angelus. We have this picture over the piano. Children love this prayer because it reminds them every day of Christmas and the Incarnation.
14. Make the sign of the cross upon waking in the morning. Say the morning offering while dressing and “Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten me” when leaving school.
15. Encourage devotion and prayer to each child’s guardian angel.
16. Have tablecloths in liturgical colours of red, white, purple, green, gold or pink, depending on the season of the year or the feast day.
17. The big feasts of Christmas and Easter have endless lessons and possibilities: months of preparation in Lent and Advent.

Extract from *Teaching the Catholic Faith Effectively*, edited by Father John Hardon SJ

18. It helps to have a Christian marriage, which is a covenant like Christ’s covenant with his Church. Children feel good to know we will “be with them always”. But these suggestions work even for one person alone, single-parent homes and all kinds of families.

19. Children learn almost by osmosis if this is done, each absorbing to the degree that they can as the grow.

20. The song *Earthen Vessels* contains the phrase “One Treasure Only”. We started calling out “OTO” to each other when saying goodbye or driving off to distant places. It has become our family’s code for a final reminder: there is one treasure only — the Lord, the Christ, in us his earthen vessels. We sign off our letters to each other with this. Now I see this being passed along to the next generation. Faith is not difficult, but it takes a lifetime to practice. Thank God.

TEACHING CHILDREN CATECHISM

Catechism means a summary of the principles of a religion in the form of questions and answers. A parent must take every opportunity to “teach catechism” to their children. This is part of their vocation as a parent. But maybe many parents don’t know their catechism and so are afraid to teach catechism themselves.

I recently experienced a spiritual rebirth in the Catholic Faith and I really wanted to learn my catechism. I had many questions that had never been answered in my childhood or young adulthood. Now, as an adult—and a parent—I began to search for these answers for myself. My children had been asking these same questions, so I was able to answer them as I had wanted them to be answered for myself.

Teaching children catechism does not have to be a formal class, although it can be. I think that every question, every situation is an opportunity to teach. I do use a very good “catechism book” to do formal teaching in a class situation. Then I let the children ask questions. I help them answer the questions in their own way, but I make sure that they are answered correctly. This is where a good catechism book is necessary. Sacred Scripture is also very important in teaching as well as papal documents and the lives of saints.