



St Anthony's Parish



St Bernard's Parish

67-75 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
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, KOROBET
309 MYRNIONG-KOROBET ROAD 3341

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

10th November 2019

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Fabian Smith

ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint & Fr Alexander Athanas SAC

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: 8099 7800

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 –Fri 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 - Vice Chair	0400 441 257
Stephen Fernandes	0439 743 533
Amy Honrade	03 9747 0078
Natalie Howard - Chair	0410 478 046
Villy Julita	0403 751 343
Rose Ma'ae	0431 386 473
Marthese Mercieca	0421 378 691
Kim Nguyen	0431 035 980
EX-OFFICIO:	
Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint, Fr Alexander Athanas and Damien Schuster	Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Cathy Belcher - Vice Chair	0431 082 886
Shane Cook -School Advisory Board	0419 999 052
Peter Farren	0418 594 501
Moira Ross	0400 675 056
Aaron Russell	0401 927 502
Emilio Scalzo	5366 5800
John Thorne - Secretary	5310 6692
James Waters - Chair	0403 822 795
EX-OFFICIO:	
Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint, Fr Alexander Athanas 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

If you need a Priest in the case of an emergency please call 0403 435 471

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH

MASS TIMES : 11th-17th November

Monday:	St Martin of Tours Memorial	7.45am	FFS
Tuesday am:	St Josaphat Memorial	9.15am	FAA
Tuesday pm:		6.30pm	FAA
Wednesday:		7.45am	FLM
		9.15am	FFS
Thursday:		7.45am	FAA
		9.15am	FLM
Friday:		9.15am	FLM
Saturday Vigil:		5.30pm	FLM
Sunday:		8.30am	FLM
		10.30am	FLM

INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION

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

ROSARY:

Prayed at 9.00am before every weekday Mass.

ADORATION:

No Adoration during the Church Renovations.

CRC MELTON CHAPEL: 8.00am

Mass held on Fridays during school term.



ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH

MASS TIMES : 11th-17th November

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

Monday :	St Martin of Tours Memorial		No Mass
Tuesday:	St Josaphat Memorial	5.30pm	FLM
Wednesday :		9.30am	FAA
Thursday :		9.30am	FFS
Friday:		9.30am	FFS
Senior's Mass:		10.30am	FAA
Saturday Vigil :		5.00pm	FFS/FAA
Sunday :		8:30am	FFS/FAA
		10.00am	FFS/FAA

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 6th December**

ADORATION: 30 minutes before every weekday Mass.

Adoration is held every first Friday 10.00am until 4.00pm

Next Date: **Friday 6th December**

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

Next Mass: **Friday 13th December**

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 November**

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOROBEIT

MASS TIME

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm FFS/FAA

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

WESTERN SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: SIGNS OF HOPE IN A WORLD OF SORROW

Tuesday, 19 November, 7.30pm

Club Italia, 128-152 Furlong Rd, St Albans

People can be overwhelmed in our world where children have been sexually abused, refugees and asylum seekers are not welcomed, the truth is disparaged, many types of wars are being fought, the poor are neglected. It is a world of sorrow. It could be easy to become depressed and pessimistic, but that would mean we had missed out on the Signs of Hope that are also present in our world. Come along and listen to speakers Emeritus Professor Des Cahill and Maria Minto.

PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

THANK YOU once again to all parishioners who have already returned their completed pledge commitments and Parish Groups and Ministries forms to our Parish Office. We'll finalise our Program over the next week, because follow-up calls are still being made to some parishioners.

Please note that your new pledge commitment will take effect on Sunday 24 November. Letters that confirm your new commitment and new sets of numbered giving envelopes (where appropriate) will be available for you to collect at all Masses on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 November. I am grateful for your generous response.

Fr Fabian.

RETREATS Brochures for the Retreats are available this weekend. Please complete forms and return. Women's Retreat to be booked online.

CATHOLIC DEAF APPEAL— THIS WEEKEND

MISSION STATEMENT: Inspired by Jesus Christ and the traditions of the Catholic Church, the John Pierce Centre seeks to empower all Deaf people and their families within Victoria to live their lives to the full. Please give generously. Thank you.

WELCOME FATHER ALEXANDER ATHANAS

We extend a warm welcome to Father Alexander who will be concelebrating with Father Fabian at all Masses at St Anthony's, this weekend. Father Alexander will concelebrate with Father Fabian at all Masses at St Bernard's next weekend (16th/17th Nov).

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

PARISH PICNIC-SUNDAY—THIS SUNDAY

Be sure to check it out 11.30 am to 2.00 pm. To be held on the school oval. BYO food and drink. We will be enjoying some fun with activities.



PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

2020 (for students who attend non-Catholic schools)

To enrol your child in the program, please attend one of the 5.30pm Saturday evening Masses, during the next 2 Saturdays of November and speak to the Sacramental Coordinator after Mass. All information and dates will be mailed to you after they have been confirmed. EFTPOS is available.

EFTPOS MACHINE

Parishioners please note we now have an EFTPOS machine in the Parish Office and we are able to accept payments and donations, during office hours.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE WORKING BEE

We will be having a working bee after this week's Wednesday and Thursday morning Masses. If you are able to help we would appreciate it. A light lunch will be provided. Please leave your details on the clipboard provided at the rear of the Church. Thank you, Lesley

DONATIONS FOR HEATING AND COOLING FOR CHURCH

If you would like to make a direct online donation to the heating and cooling fund you can do so with the following details
Account Name: St Anthony's Parish Annual Appeals
Account No: 083347/025471925
Reference: 110116461.
Thank You.

ST BERNARD'S

CHRISTMAS DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Would you like to help at the Christmas Day lunch for people who are on their own? If so, call Marion Ingram (0432 719 440) or Iris Blyth (0408 106 733). A meeting for volunteers is planned for Monday 11th November, 5.00pm in the hall at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Gisborne Rd.

THANKSGIVING WORKING BEE

DATE: Friday 15th November 2019 TIME: 9:30am PLACE: St Bernard's Presbytery A team of volunteers is needed to prepare new envelopes and statements for distribution. It would be greatly appreciated if you can spare some time to help. Lunch will be provided. Please contact the Parish Office, or place your name and contact details on the clipboard in the church foyer. Thank you.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020 (for students who attend non-Catholic schools)

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 alternately. All information and dates will be given to you at the Sacramental Enrolment Meeting.

St BERNARD'S NATIVITY PLAY

When: Sunday 15th December Time: 11am BBQ Lunch
12.30pm Nativity Play & Christmas Carols Where: St Bernard's Primary School recreation centre Entry: Free Food: Gold coin cost RSVP: Monday 9th Dec (for catering purposes) Contact: 0491 706 678 (Jessica Klenkowski) or saintbernardsyouthgroup@gmail.com. All Welcome.

KSC MEMORIAL MASS KSC Deceased Members Memorial Mass will be held on Friday 22nd November 2019 at 6:00pm.

PIETY STALL Christmas cards are available in the Piety Stall \$9 for a pack of 10. Also don't forget to purchase your Columban Calendar from the stall.

SENIOR'S PARISHIONERS MASS GROUP

The Senior's final Mass for this year will be celebrated on the 2nd Friday of the month, 13th December at 11.30am in the Parish Centre. This will be the Senior's Christmas Mass and as usual will be followed by a Christmas luncheon. For catering purposes bookings for the luncheon are necessary and may be made by phoning Elizabeth Lummis 5310 6320 or Mary Flanagan 5367 3306. The cost of the luncheon is \$20 per head (traditional 3 course meal). Bookings will close Monday 9th December at 12noon.

WORSHIP NEWS

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

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 16th & 17th November MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.30pm : Stephen Fernandes
8.30am: John Brewis
10.30am: Susan Malinov

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.30pm: Ann Tennakoon (P) & Gavin Pereira
8.30am: Lois Brewis (P), Geoff Sutton
& Ineke Allen
10.30am: Sally Markulin (P) & Elaine Lacey

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

MASS COORDINATORS

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

ALTAR SERVERS

5.30pm: Kieran Grech & Jedi Anyayahan
8.30am: Nixon Thytus & Aaron Ben
10.30am: Anakin Anderson & Nick Taunuu
If you are unavailable please contact Ben Kratochvil 0423 076 305

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Wanda Biechun, Tony Sciberras, Imelda Thomson,
Regina Tolosa & Patrick Woods

Please pray for the Sick:

Jean Barnett, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana,
Mary Caruana, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Reg Marslen,
Brendan Michael, Veronica Michael, Wanda Novak,
John Osborne, Peter Poole, 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: 16th & 17th November MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm: Trish Davine
8.30am: Peter Lafranchi & Margaret Love
10.00am: Diane Corro & James Waters

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Vikki Benson
8.30am: Colm Carragher
10.00am: Jenny Kearney

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ROSTER

November: John Thorne

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

ST BERNARD'S YOUTH GROUP

Growing in the Spirit of Faith, Friendship and Fun
Age group: 11-30yrs Where: St Bernard's Church chapel and
Parish Centre
61 Lerderberg Street, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340
When: Fortnightly, Thursday's 7:15pm - 9:15pm
Next Youth Group meet up: **21st November**
Email contact: saintbernardsyouthgroup@gmail.com

FAITH ON FIRE PRAYER GROUP

Every fortnight on Thursday 7.15pm - 9.15pm. Prayers in the
Church followed by fellowship in the Parish Centre.
Next meeting **21st November**

We pray for the recently deceased:

Eileen Rebecca Closter

We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Lorna Hives and Mary Walsh.

Please pray for the Sick:

Noah Barlow, Dudley Baddeley, Michael Barrett, Peter Bennett,
Steven Braszel, Kevin Bridges, Tina Bower, 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 John-
son David Kasprzak, Loretta Kervin, Michael Larkin, Marie Maloney,
Patricia Marechal, Debbie Marshall, Jordanis Maryo, Pauline
McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Marcus Meno, Paul Mullin, Arthur
Pape, Michael Paterson, Georgia Peacock, Bev Pickett, Mitchell
Prendergast, Peter Roberts, Ken Shaw, Terry Sims, Marian Smith,
Elizabeth Stehmann, Susan Trist, Hayden Tung, Mitchell Tung,
Stephen Van Eede, John Van Orsouw, Angela Vicum, Louis Vogels,
Barry Walsh, Mary Walsh, Cath Wheelahan, Jayne Wilkins, Niels
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: 16th & 17th November

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.30pm: Liza Fernandes
8.30am: Edwina La Rose
10.30am: Indika Silva

CUPPA ROSTER

Cuppa Weekend: 23rd & 24th November

5.30pm: Visna & Oshadie
8.30am: Geoff Sutton & Sky James
10.30am: Charlie & Lina Vasallo



CHURCH FLOWERS—Sept/Oct

Anna 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 10.30am.

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

God, strengthen and sustain all those who volunteer in our Churches; that with patience and understanding they may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow with Jesus Christ offering to you their gifts and talents.



Amen

ST BERNARD'S

VOLUNTEERS WEEKEND : 16th & 17th November

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: Trish Davine
Sunday: Margot Short

MORNING TEA ROSTER

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

Next Morning Tea: **1st December**

Host: Parish Pastoral Council



CHURCH FLOWERS—November

Natalia & Jessica Klenkowski



COUNTING TEAM # 5

Pat O'Leary

Jo Cowan

Peter Lafranchi

Frank Pomeroy

Stuart Robertson

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS- (November)

Front Garden: Stuart Robertson

Back/Side Garden: Hugh Miller

Parish Centre: **Volunteer Please**

Carpark/Pines: **Volunteer Please**

Back Paddock: **Volunteer Please**

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@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 Nov**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: **1st & 15th Dec**

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 Alexander, Fr Lucas 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 Alexander or Fr Lucas .

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: **Darian & Hoan Pertzelt** 0413 961 958

Group 2: **Agata Kubala** 0405 470 372

Group 3: **Aubrey & Doreen Smith** 0433 003 322



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 November**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: **1st & 15th Dec**

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 Alexander, Fr Lucas or the Parish Office for queries.

COORDINATORS : Steve and Geraldine

ADULT PREPARATION for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation are through the R.C.I.A Program. Please see Fr Fabian, Fr Alexander or Fr Lucas.

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 PROCESSION

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

FIRST READING 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

There were seven brothers who were arrested with their mother. The king tried to force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law forbids, by torturing them with whips and scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman for the others, said, 'What are you trying to find out from us? We are prepared to die rather than break the Law of our ancestors.'

With his last breath the second brother exclaimed, 'Inhuman fiend, you may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up, since it is for his laws that we die, to live again for ever.'

After him, they amused themselves with the third, who on being asked for his tongue promptly thrust it out and boldly held out his hands, with these honourable words, 'It was heaven that gave me these limbs; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again.' The king and his attendants were astounded at the young man's courage and his utter indifference to suffering.

When this one was dead they subjected the fourth to the same savage torture. When he neared his end he cried, 'Ours is the better choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet relying on God's promise that we shall be raised up by him; whereas for you there can be no resurrection, no new life.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 16

Comm: Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

All: Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

Lord, hear a cause that is just,
pay heed to my cry.

Turn your ear to my prayer:
no deceit is on my lips.

I kept my feet firmly in your paths;
there was no faltering in my steps.
I am here and I call, you will hear me, O God.
Turn your ear to me; hear my words.

Guard me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me in the shadow of your wings.
As for me, in my justice I shall see your face
and be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory.

All: Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

SECOND READING 2 Thessalonians 2:16 - 3:5

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who has given us his love and, through his grace, such inexhaustible comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and strengthen you in everything good that you do or say.

Finally, brothers, pray for us; pray that the Lord's message may spread quickly, and be received with honour as it was among you; and pray that we may be preserved from the interference of bigoted and evil people, for faith is not given to everyone. But the Lord is faithful, and he will give you strength and guard you from the evil one, and we, in the Lord, have every confidence that you are doing and will go on doing all that we tell you. May the Lord turn your hearts towards the love of God and the fortitude of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees - those who say that there is no resurrection - approached Jesus and they put this question to him. 'Master, we have it from Moses in writing, that if a man's married brother dies childless, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Well then, there were seven brothers. The first, having married a wife, died childless. The second and then the third married the widow. And the same with all seven, they died leaving no children. Finally the woman herself died. Now, at the resurrection, to which of them will she be wife since she had been married to all seven?'

Jesus replied, 'The children of this world take wives and husbands, but those who are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection they are sons of God. And Moses himself implies that the dead rise again, in the passage about the bush where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all men are in fact alive.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS – 33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Mal 3:19-20;
Second Reading: 2 Thess 3:7-12;
Gospel: Lk 21:5-19



The Catholic family: Raising children in a secular world XLVIX

The five marks of a Catholic Family

Should Catholic families be different in some way from other families (other than in the ways we pray and the rules we follow) and, if so, what does that look like?

Most Catholics, I think would answer, “yes, we should be different.” But at the same time, most Catholics would be hard-pressed to say whether the particular secular or Protestant experts they were relying on for advice on how to build their marriage or raise their kids were actually articulating ideas that were consistent with a Catholic view of marriage and family life.

In my experience, most Catholics think that as long as they say Catholic prayers in their home and go to Mass on Sunday, they can rely on whatever sources they choose to tell them how to treat each other. But nothing could be further from the truth.

The Church cares deeply how we treat one another, especially in our marriages and families. The problem is that it is difficult to translate theory into practice. You should not need a degree in theology to know how to be a Catholic couple or family. There needs to be some kind of articulation of the Catholic vision of marriage and family life that even the simplest, poorest-formed Catholic (or non-Catholic for that matter) can point to as the ideal that Catholic couples and parents should be striving for.

I have listed five marks of a Catholic family. I do not suggest that it is a complete list. There may be some glaring omissions. The point is to get a conversation going about what a practical guide to Catholic family life (as articulated by the relevant post-conciliar documents on family life) should look like. Here are my modest suggestions.

1. Catholic Families Worship Together. The Eucharist is the source of our love and the sign of the intimacy to which we are called. Therefore, as a family, we attend Sunday Mass every week (and Holy Days and at other times) and we actively participate in parish life — our spiritual home away from home. We also recognise that, as fallen persons, we struggle to be the loving community we are called to be. Therefore, as a family, we regularly go to confession (recommended: monthly) to seek God’s healing and grace so we might better live his vision of love in our lives and homes.

2. Catholic Families Pray Together. As the “domestic church” we recognise that we cannot love one another as God loves us unless we ask him, *together*, to teach us what this means. Therefore, in addition to our individual prayer life, we *gather together as husband and wife and also as a family for prayer each day*. In that time, we praise and thank God for his blessings, we ask him for the grace to love each other and the world better, we seek his will for our lives, and we pray for our needs and the needs of the Family of God. We recognise, in the words of Servant of God Fr Patrick Peyton, that “the family that prays together, stays together”.

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3. Catholic Families are Called to Intimacy. Tertullian once proclaimed, “The world says, ‘Look at those Christians, see how they love one another!’” The Christian life is first and foremost a call to intimate communion. We recognise that families are “Schools of Love.” Therefore, as a family, we constantly challenge ourselves to seek new ways to be even more open with and loving to each other as husband and wife, parents and children. We recognise that children are to be a visible sign of the loving union between husband and wife and we work to make this a reality in our homes both in the quality of our relationships and in our openness to life. Further, we cultivate marriage and parenting practices that make each member of the family – husband and wife, parents and children – willingly open up to one another and seek freely to give themselves to create a deeper “community of love” and practise all the virtues that help us live life as a gift.

4. Catholic Families Put Family First. We recognise that — because our family relationships are the primary vehicle God uses to perfect us and challenge us to become everything we were created to be — family life, itself is the most important activity. To protect the intimacy we are called to cultivate as the domestic church, we recognise the importance of regular family rituals *and* we are intentional about creating and protecting those activities such as family dinner, family prayer and worship, a game night and/or family day, and regular time for one-on-one communication and relationship-building. We hold these activities as sacred rituals of the domestic church and value them over all other activities that would seek to compete with them.

5. The Catholic Family is a Witness and Sign. God wants to change the world through our families. We allow ourselves to be part of his plan for changing the world in two ways. First, by striving to exhibit, in every way possible in our daily interactions as husband and wife, parents and children, the love and intimacy that every human heart longs for. We must show the world that this love is a possible dream worth striving for. Second, we will carry this love outside the home by serving the world-at-large in a manner that is responsible and respectful of the integrity of the family unit. We do this by committing ourselves and our families to the intentional practice of all the corporal and spiritual works of mercy within the home and outside of it. To this end, the ways we, as a family, are trying to fulfil this responsibility will be a regular topic of conversation in our homes.

No doubt this is an incomplete list. Nevertheless, I believe it represents the kind of effort that must be undertaken by the Church to evangelise families. People do not know how to be a family anymore much less what it means to be a “Catholic family”. The faithful deserve concrete, practical recommendations that can serve as an effective launching point for delving more deeply into the Catholic vision of marriage and family life.