



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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

11th August 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: 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 Patrick Bradford, Fr Joseph Panackal
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
Emillio Scalzo	5366 5800
John Thorne - Secretary	5310 6692
James Waters - Chair	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

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 : 12th-18th August

Monday:	7.45am	FFS
Tuesday:		
morning:	9.15am	FJP
evening:	6.30pm	FFS
Wednesday:	St Maximilian Mary Kolbe Memorial	
	7.45am	FJP
	9.15am	FFS
Thursday:	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	9.15am	FJP
School Mass	10.15am	FJP
	7.30pm	FJP
Friday:	9.15am	FJP
Saturday Vigil:	5.30pm	FFS
Sunday:	8.30am	FFS
	10.30am	FFS

INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4.45pm and before and after weekday Mass.

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

Mass held on Fridays during school term.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOROBET

MASS TIME:

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm FJP

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH

MASS TIMES : 12th-18th August

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

Monday :	No Mass	
Tuesday:	5.30pm	FJP
Wednesday :	St Maximilian Mary Kolbe Memorial	
	9.30am	FJP
Thursday :	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	9.30am	FFS
School Mass	11.15am	FFS
	7.00pm	FFS
Friday:	9.30am	FFS
Senior Parishioner's Mass	10.30am	FFS
Saturday Vigil :	5.00pm	FJP
Sunday :	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 6th September**

ADORATION: 30 minutes before every weekday Mass.

Adoration is held every first Friday 10.00am until 4.00pm

Next Date: **Friday 6th September**

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 September**

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 16th August**

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

DARE TO BE DIFFERENT FORUM

Thursday 5 September, 7.30–9.30pm

Eldon Hogan Performing Arts Centre, Xavier College, 135 Barkers Road, Kew

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to hear Robert de Castella, Fr Brian McCoy SJ and Shaun Bourke speak at the 2019 *Dare to be Different Forum*: 'Discernment to Action'. We are also privileged to welcome Margaret Coffey back to moderate the event. We encourage you to come with your friends and family. The forum is targeted to all ages from Year 5 upwards.

Cost: \$15, concession \$5

Enquiries: Bronwen Kellett, Xavier Social Justice Network Coordinator on 0427 413 503 or Bronwen.Kellett@xavier.vic.edu.au

Bookings: trybooking.com/BDJOW

PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

TA PINU SHRINE (AUST)

The Ta Pinu Shrine, 15 Flanagans Drive Merrimu (Bacchus Marsh), invites you to join The Most Rev. Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne in concelebration with other members of the Clergy for The Solemnity of the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary. Saturday 17th August 2019

2.00pm Praise and Worship with Hymns 2.30pm Rosary Procession 3.00pm Holy Mass & Benediction
Visit www.tapinushrine-australia.org or call 5367 7006-Mob 0437 261 217 or 0412 360 231

A JOURNEY OF FAITH TO JERUSALEM WITH FR FABIAN SMITH

Dates : 20th Oct– 2 Nov 2019 Price: \$5690 per person. For further details contact Fr Fabian 0403 435 471.

SPIRITUALITY OF DYING WORKSHOP.

This workshop aims to:

- Build your confidence during this sacred and precious time
 - Broaden your understanding of spirituality and spiritual care
 - Increase your awareness of the role of culture
 - Consider rituals and spaces
 - Learn about communicating with the dying person and the family.
- Date: Monday 26th August Time: 2pm Location: Providence Community Hall, Tesselaaar Ave, Maddingley Facilitated by: Sr Lorraine Testa, Pastoral Care Practitioner Kindly Register by 23rd August: Phone: 5310 6776 or Email: Maria.Carnovale@vmch.com.au

CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY APPEAL– THIS WEEKEND

This weekend is the CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Donations from our parish community will help CatholicCare to support the most vulnerable families in our community. Please give generously. Thank you.

FR LUCAS KYAW MYINT

We welcome Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint to St Anthony's and St Bernard's Parishes as part-time Assistant Priest from 19th August, 2019. This role is in addition to his current role as part-time Chaplain to the Myanmar Catholic Community in the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

WELCOMING NEW PARISHIONERS - LAST FIVE YEARS

The Parish would like new Parishioners who have joined St Anthony's Parish during the last five years to come together on **Sunday, 25th August 11:30am in the Padua Hall**. Kindly save this date and place your name on the clipboard that is at the back of the Church, for catering purposes as a luncheon will be provided.

ROCK AND ROLL DINNER DANCE -7TH SEPTEMBER

The dance committee will be at the rear of the Church after all Masses to take your orders for tickets and to give you more information about the dance.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

The Thanksgiving envelopes for 13 weeks are available for collection at the rear of the Church. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped.

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.

PRIME TIMERS

Our next outing will be for Games Day at the Lifestyle Village, Coburns Road, Brookfield. Tuesday 27th August. Proceedings to start at 11 am. BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided.

Enquiries ring Ineke 0400120401

CRAFT GROUP STALL

Come visit the Craft Group stall running over the weekend of 17th and 18th August after all Masses.

Pick up a special gift for your special Dad as Father's Day is around the corner. Or browse amongst the other handmade crafts.

FATHER JOSEPH'S FAREWELL

We will have the opportunity to gather and farewell Father Joseph after all Masses this weekend. Please stay for a cuppa.

ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD– MICHAEL BUCK

Parishioners have been invited to Deacon Michael's ordination on the 7th September, 2019. Please see noticeboard for details.

ST BERNARD'S

TWO HEARTS PRAYER GROUP

Every fortnight on Thursday evenings 7.15pm - 9.15pm. Prayers in Church followed by fellowship in the Parish Centre.

Next date: **15th August**

READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER'S WORKSHOP

Saturday August the 24th at 3.30pm is confirmed as the date and time for the Readers and Extraordinary Ministers. If you missed putting your name on the list and you wish to come to either or both workshops you are most welcome. Just turn up. More details to follow.

FATHER JOSEPH'S FAREWELL

Father Joseph will be leaving St Bernard's Parish and moving to Geelong as Assistant Parish Priest of St Mary's on the 19th August. His last weekend to celebrate Masses at St Bernard's will be next weekend.

KSC MEETING

Monday 12th August 2019 at 8pm in the Parish Centre.

JOSEPHITE ASSOCIATE

The Josephite Associate (Bacchus Marsh) group will be celebrating the feast day of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. After the 10 am mass this Sunday 11th August the Josephite Associates will be having a brunch and get together.

***Father, you sent your Son to save
all humanity. Help me show true
Christian love to strangers, and to
everyone who needs my help, so
that one day I may live in eternal
happiness with all your people.***



WORSHIP NEWS

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

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 17th & 18th August MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.30pm : Stephen Fernandes
8.30am: John Brewis
10.30am: Rosabella Tuala

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: Godwin Barton & Pat Fernandez
8.30am: Natalie Howard & Ron Howard
10.30am: Godwin Barton & 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 recently deceased:

Peter Cooper, Kevin Eldridge &
Mary Noonan (Monica Kratochvil's mother)

We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Margaret Austin, Theresa Buttigieg, Emmanuel Calleja,
Brodie Grevink, Milos Kratochvil, Charles Van Hoos,
& George Phelan.

Please pray for the Sick:

Jean Barnett, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana,
Mary Caruana, Margaret Hall, 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: 17th & 18th August MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm: Vikki Benson
8.30am: Moira Ross & Marj Tung
10.00am: Sr Mary Fermio

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Colin Remedios
8.30am: **Volunteer Please**
10.00am: **Volunteer Please**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ROSTER

August: Mary Flanagan

ALTAR SERVERS

5.00pm: Roster Pending
8.30am: **Volunteers Please**
10.00am: Thank you

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

SPIRIT OF THE TWO HEARTS YOUTH GROUP

Experience faith, friendship and fun.
Age group: 11-30years When: Every Thursday
fortnight, 7:15pm - 9:15pm Where: St. Bernard's
Chapel and Parish Hall 61 Lerderderg Street, Bacchus Marsh
Next Youth Group: **15th August**

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 recently deceased: Brian Blood Sr Mary Lanigan
& Mary Noonan (Monica Kratochvil's mother)

We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Veronica Buttler, Jack Dannatt, Ian Dominguez, David Fava, Milos
Kratochvil, John McMahon, Lawrence Roberts, Mary Shea
& Edward Tudball.

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 Johnson 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, Frank & 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, 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: 17th & 18th August

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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



CUPPA ROSTER

Cuppa Weekend: **24th & 25th August**

5.30pm: Marian Muller & Margaret Coghlan
8.30am: Edwina La Rose & Carol De Rocha
10.30am: Charlie & Lina Vassallo

CHURCH FLOWERS—August

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 10.30am.

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

ST BERNARD'S

VOLUNTEERS WEEKEND : 17th & 18th August

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: Jan Farmelo
Sunday: Carmel Shea

MORNING TEA ROSTER

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

Next Morning Tea: **1st September**

Host: Parish Pastoral Council



CHURCH FLOWERS

Deborah Hosking



COUNTING TEAM # 2

John Tung
Lucille Wheelahan
Jennifer Taylor

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS- (August)

Front Garden:	Volunteer Please
Back/Side Garden:	Volunteer Please
Parish Centre:	Ron Geurts
Carpark/Pines:	Ron Geurts
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 22nd Aug**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the month: **1st & 15th September**

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: **Robert & Angela Lacono 0424 801 928**

Group 2: **Ben & Geetha Arulanandhu 0431 572 577**

Group 3: **Mark and Edwina La Rose**



ST BERNARD'S

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

Next program: **Sunday 25th August**

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

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 : Steve & 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 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 PROCESSION

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

FIRST READING Wisdom 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors,
so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put
their trust in, they would joyfully take courage.
This was the expectation of your people,
the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies;
for by the same act with which you took vengeance on
our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.
The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in
secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord:
that the saints would share the same blessings and
dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the
hymns of the fathers.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 32

Comm: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

All: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own.

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

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

All: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS –

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10;

Second Reading: Heb 12:1-4;

Gospel: Lk 12:49-53



SECOND READING Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

We will look for the city designed and built by God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

The Catholic family: Raising children in a secular world XXXVI

The Secret ingredient for a great Family Meal

Some time ago I wrote an article called “Ten Reasons for Eating Together” to inspire fathers and encourage families. The week after the story went out, I spoke to my wife about it.

I said: “You know, a lot of men are going to start eating more with their families after last week’s article, but not realise the secret recipe behind family meals. They won’t have much success because they won’t understand the secret key that unlocks the door of success.”

My wife was quite strong in her reply: “No, I believe you are wrong, Honey. If families begin to practise having regular meals together and men help their wives with the meal, they will succeed.

“When men make sure that the television, computers and mobile devices are turned off and focus on their family, they will find the secret anyway. When men put a priority on eating with their family, they will reap the benefits that research has shown.

“Making time for eating together is a very difficult thing to do, especially as their children get older. If they can achieve that, they will do very well, the rest will follow.”

The benefits I wrote about in my article, “Ten Reasons for Eating Together”, are all proven results of spending time around the table.

The benefits of eating together as a family are massive for your children: better nutrition, better language skills for children, better grades at school, better health, long-term positive diet effects, lowering of childhood obesity, happier children, children less likely to experiment with drugs, teenagers less likely to experiment with promiscuity, and more family time. It is a long list!

We have experienced these benefits ourselves; and your family will too, if you make eating together at meal times a priority.

As my wife says: “All these positive benefits talked about in your article will happen whether they know the secret recipe behind family meals or not. It will be a natural progression.”

Alison was persuasive, but I was not so sure. I started to play back in my mind the different stories I had heard over the years. I remember the tragedy of talking to a handsome young man in his last year of school. It was at a “family, faith and football” barbecue that was attended by fathers and sons.

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I asked the young man what sort of relationship he had with his dad. His reply was incredibly sad. He said: “My dad has read all the fathering and parenting books, but he never hangs out with me or spends time with me.” My heart sank as I heard that young man’s words.

I had heard similar things before when doing concerts in jails, or visiting drug rehabilitation clinics, mostly from young men who longed to have their father spend some time with them. In many cases, these same troubled men never even had a father!

But this was one of the first cases I had ever heard of a father who knew exactly what to do, perhaps going through the motions, but never really connecting.

I have also heard other stories from adults about how they grew up with strict parents who kept family dinners together religiously. Sadly, these children later rebelled, rejected their parents and in many cases their very upbringing.

In many of these stories I noticed the same theme was repeated. A child’s father may have been fastidious about keeping family dinners with his children but was non-communicative with them when he did. The fathers in question did not make family dinners fun for their children, nor did they engage in conversation with them and inquire about their welfare and their day.

In other words, the father was a “pretender”. Children don’t mind playing pretend with their father but they hate it when their father is a hypocrite. It is not just about eating with your children, it’s really about loving them. You give time to the one you love, but you must also give them your attention.

Fathers must learn to be there, in the moment, because what your children want for dinner is *you*.

Which comes first, the chicken or the egg? Am I right or is my wife right? Is it family dinners, or is it just love? I don’t think it is a case of “either/or”, but of “both/and”. Love is a verb as well as a noun.

Yes, have dinner together as often as you can as a family, but don’t forget to include the secret ingredient to make your family meals together really successful.

You see the secret to raising great children is a four-letter word. That four-letter word is L-O-V-E.

You got it! Always mix family meal times with love. Love is the secret ingredient behind the success of family dinners, and this is one case where you can’t spoil the recipe by adding too much.