



# 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

**5th Sunday of Easter**

**Year C**

**19th May 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 –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
Moira Ross	0400 675 056
Aaron Russell	
Emillio Scalzo	5366 5800
John Thorne	5310 6692
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 : 20th-26th May**

<b>Monday:</b>	7.45am	FFS
<b>Tuesday morning:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Tuesday evening:</b>	6.30pm	FJP
Week 10 Novena to St. Anthony		
<b>Wednesday:</b>	7.45am	FJP
Anointing Mass (no 9.15am Mass)	11.00am	FFS
<b>Thursday:</b>	7.45am	FPB
	9.15am	FJP
<b>Friday:</b>	9.15am	FJP
<b>Saturday Vigil:</b>	5.30pm	FFS
School Mass (All Welcome)		
<b>Sunday:</b>	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**

Friday

**ST BERNARD'S** BACCHUS MARSH

**MASS TIMES : 20th-26th May**

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	FFS
<b>Friday:</b>	9.30am	FFS
<b>Saturday Vigil :</b>	5.00pm	FJP
<b>Sunday :</b>	8:30am	FPB
	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 7th June**

**ADORATION:**

30 minutes before every weekday Mass.

Adoration is held every first Friday 10.00am until 4.00pm

Next Date: **Friday 7th June**

**PROVIDENCE MASS**

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

Next Mass: **Friday 14th June**

**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 21st June**



**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS** KOROBET

**MASS TIME:**

<b>Our Lady, Help of Christians Feast Day</b>		
<b>Fri 24th May Mass</b>	5.30pm	FFS
<b>Saturday Vigil:</b>	6.30pm	FJP

## NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

**PALMS AUSTRALIA**

Bring your Palms Together...

As we prepare for Pentecost, join Palms Australia to celebrate diversity, cross-cultural understanding, and our Call to peaceful development of global family.

Palms Together

Thursday June 6th from 5:30pm

Irish Times Pub

427 Little Collins St

MELBOURNE

RSVP by June 2nd to Robert@palms.org.au or call 02 9560 5333 www.palms.org.au

## PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

### CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY COLLECTION– THIS WEEKEND

The 2019 Melbourne Catholic Archbishop's Appeal is focused on health care chaplaincy. Health care chaplains offer support to patients and their families in Melbourne's major public hospitals as well as hospitals in regional Victoria.

Please give generously to the appeal so that our Chaplains may continue to bring hope for a way forward for the lives of these people and be messengers of our God's mercy, love and compassion.

### EXTRAORDINARY MONTH OF MISSION-SONG CONTEST 2019

Catholic Mission invites budding musicians to compose a song to celebrate Pope Francis' Extraordinary Month of Mission. Songwriters will use the medium of music and lyrics to give expression to our mission to make a difference in this world – by celebrating our baptismal call which centres our faith on the needs of the poor and oppressed. Please see noticeboard for details.

### ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE-MASS COUNTS

Parishioners and visitors to our Parishes please note, to maintain an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese a mass count will be held at all weekend Masses in May.



## NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

### ST ANTHONY'S

#### ANOINTING MASS—22nd May

We will be having an Anointing of the sick and the elderly Mass on Wednesday 22nd May at 11am. A light luncheon will be served after Mass. Please feel free to bring along friends and relatives who would like to receive the anointing. There is a clipboard at the back of the Church for catering purposes. Please note they will be no 9.15am Mass on this day.

#### NEW PARISHIONER'S BLESSING

All new Parishioners will be invited to stand and receive a Blessing at all Masses next weekend. It is also cuppa weekend so we warmly invite you to stay and have a cuppa and chat and meet your fellow Parishioners.

#### PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed 9am-1pm, Thursday the 23rd May. It will be open from 1pm-5pm. Thank You.

### ST BERNARD'S

#### WORKING BEE

Where: Two Hearts Centre, 274 La Cote Road, Greendale  
When: Sunday, 19th May 2019 from 10am  
What to bring: Gloves and any gardening tools  
BBQ Lunch and hot/cold drinks provided with a camp fire at the end! Contact: Sister Clare on 0415 806 217

#### St BERNARD'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING -14th MAY

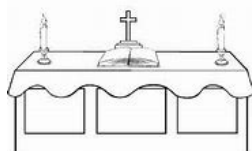
Some important points discussed at the Parish Council meeting Tuesday 14th May:

- Review of the Parish Constitution: Sub-committee of Council has been formed
- Welcome to two new members: John Thorne and Aaron Russell. Thanks to retiring member David Loxley
- Parish Council Office Bearers for 2019: Chair; James Waters, Vice Chair; Cathy Belcher, Secretary; John Thorne, School Advisory Board member; Shane Cook
- Counting Teams to be re-located to the Sacristy
- Feedback from the AGM
- Formation of a Liturgy Committee
- Formation of a Social Committee; parish volunteers needed
- Review of the latest Time and Talent sheet
- Recommendation that a Thanksgiving Campaign be instituted

#### OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS– FEAST DAY

Mass will be held on Friday 24th May to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady, Help of Christians at 5.30pm Korobeit.

***Lord God, as I approach your house,  
help me to lay aside every distracting  
thought, and instead to focus my mind  
and heart on  
my gracious Host.  
Let me be a grateful guest at your  
banquet table.***



# WORSHIP NEWS

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

## ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

**NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 25th & 26th May**  
**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

5.30pm : Dolores Turcsan  
8.30am: Geoff Sutton  
10.30am: Romeo Sacris

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.30pm: Lorraine Tellis (P) & Gavin Pereira  
8.30am: Michael Higgins (P), Villy Julita  
& Edwina La Rose  
10.30am: Elaine Lacey (P) & George Bonello

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: Lina Calleja & Godwin Barton  
10.30am: Leonia Jessop & Josephine German

### ALTAR SERVERS

5.30pm: Jonathan Dacunha & Mason Azzopardi  
8.30am: Rhys Tuala & Andre Oqueli  
10.30am: Nick Taunuu & Ethan Porter

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:

Helen Debrincat, Sammy & Maria Debrincat,  
Peter Jones, Alistar Knox, Sr Irene McCormack,  
Albert Micallef, Jon Nicotra, Tarcisio Scerri, Alma Smart,  
Edith Stone, Fuatino Taulapapa & Peduru Wisidagama

### 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: 25th & 26th May**  
**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

5.00pm: Vikki Benson  
8.30am: Moira Ross & Marg 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

May: Sister Mary Fermio

### ALTAR SERVERS

5.00pm: **Volunteer Please**  
8.30am: **Volunteer Please**  
10.00am: Lindorff Family

## 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: **23rd May**

Contact: Sister Clare 0415 806 217 or

Email : [twoheartscentre@bigpond.com](mailto:twoheartscentre@bigpond.com)

Website: [www.missionariesofloveandpeace.com](http://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:

Gus Baselmans, Gwyneth Davies, Kevin Heap, Edward Hehir,  
Neil Loughlin, Mary Walta & Irene West.

### 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, Michael Larkin,  
Marie Maloney, Patricia Marechal, Debbie Marshall,  
Jordanis Maryo, Pauline McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Danny McRae,  
Marcus Meno, Paul Mullin, 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:** 25th & 26th May

#### **PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS**

**5.30pm:** Kristina Scerri  
**8.30am:** Judy Johnson  
**10.30am:** Sally Markulin



#### **CUPPA ROSTER**

Cuppa Weekend: **25th & 26th May**

**5.30pm:** Visna & Oshadie  
**8.30am:** Ineke Allen & Agnes Faavae  
**10.30am:** Charlie and Lina Vassalo

#### **CHURCH FLOWERS—May**

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	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 :** 25th & 26th May

#### **PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS**

**Saturday:** Carmel Shea  
**Sunday:** Jan Farnelo

#### **MORNING TEA ROSTER**

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

Next Morning Tea: **2nd June 2019**

Host: Museum Committee and  
Josephite Associates



#### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

Deborah Hosking



#### **COUNTING TEAM # 10**

Kath Connell  
Val Dickson  
Michael Duffy  
Mary Delahey

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

Front Garden:	Stuart Robertson
Back/Side Garden:	Hugh Miller
Parish Centre:	<b>Volunteer Please</b>
Carpark/Pines:	Sean Gianì
Back Paddock:	Henry Gasior

#### **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 23rd May**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the month: **2nd & 16th June**

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: **Richard & Rosabella** 0422 390 617

Group 2: **Rudy & Carol Nalipay** 0401 875 410

Group 3: **Tony & Stella Cochrane** 9743 6340



## ST BERNARD'S

### BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

Next program: **Sunday 26th May**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the month: **2nd & 16th June**

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 : 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

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### FIRST READING: Acts 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans. The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 144

**Comm:** I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

**All:** I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God,  
to make known to men your mighty deeds  
and the glorious splendour of your reign.

Yours is an everlasting kingdom;  
your rule lasts from age to age.

**All:** I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

### SECOND READING : Revelation 21:1-5

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'  
Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new'.  
The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL John 13:31-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

When Judas had gone Jesus said:  
'Now has the Son of Man been glorified,  
and in him God has been glorified.  
If God has been glorified in him,  
God will in turn glorify him in himself,  
and will glorify him very soon.  
My little children,  
I shall not be with you much longer.  
I give you a new commandment:  
love one another;  
just as I have loved you,  
you also must love one another.  
By this love you have for one another,  
everyone will know that you are my disciples'.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty,  
alleluia.

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS – 6th Sunday of Easter

**First Reading:** Acts: 15:1-2, 22-29;  
**Second Reading:** Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23;  
**Gospel:** Jn 14:23-29



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

## How a father protects his family

How does a man act to protect his wife and children? Let's approach this question by first examining a man's masculinity, the distinctive character of any normal adult male.

Men are different from women. They think differently. They have instincts and attitudes and physical strengths that empower them for tough-minded, sacrificial service to those people who count most in their lives, starting with their families.

All the special features of an adult male's personality, developed from boyhood – his muscles, will power, stamina, competitive drive, aggressiveness and assertiveness, mathematical and abstractive powers of mind, love for strategic planning and manipulating physical reality, strong sense of fairness and ethical conduct – all coordinate towards a single great purpose in life: *protection*.

Nature, it seems, endows men with the physical and mental powers they need to protect their loved ones. The instinct to *protect from harm* lies at the core of a man's masculinity, and it is an immensely powerful force.

I once witnessed this protective instinct dramatically in action.

One warm Sunday afternoon a few years ago, I was strolling with a friend near the Boston Public Garden in Boston's elegant Back Bay neighbourhood. My friend and I stopped at a pedestrian light and waited with a few other people to cross Commonwealth Avenue. Cars whizzed by, true to the pattern of that city's notoriously frantic traffic.

Across the street, an elderly lady was walking slowly alongside two young girls, about six or seven years old. I would guess they were her granddaughters or grandnieces. The elderly lady was blind. In one hand she carried a red-and-white cane, while her other held the leash of a German shepherd seeing-eye dog. One of the little girls was stroking and patting the back of the huge, friendly animal.

Suddenly, chaos. From down the block hurtled a large mongrel street dog, barking and snarling loudly, spoiling for a fight. Swiftly he lunged at the German shepherd, which sprang back at him in snarling, furious rage. The two dogs pounced and snapped with bared teeth at each other, growling and barking ferociously in an all-out serious fight. The noise was loud and shocking.

What happened next was even worse. The blind woman wildly thrashed her cane back and forth trying to scare away the attacker, while the two children screamed hysterically. The little girls stood transfixed, absolutely horrified, loudly shrieking and sobbing in terror. The street echoed with the children's terrified screams mixed with wild, furious barks and growls.

Something in that sudden, frightening sound – kids screaming and dogs wildly barking – electrified everyone within earshot. My friend and I dashed across the street to help the lady and the little girls. As we did, we saw other men running at full speed from every direction.

A taxi screeched to a halt, and the driver and his passenger leaped out. Other cars slammed their brakes, and men, leaving their car doors open, dashed out to help. Doors flew open in the townhouses nearby and men ran down stairs into the street. One professorial looking man had evidently been reading the newspaper. He held his glasses in one hand and his paper in the other; he quickly pocketed the glasses and rolled up his newspaper to use it as a kind of club as he ran toward the dogs.

In seconds a group of 12 or 15 men, including a couple of college youths, pulled the screaming kids and the woman back to safety, while the others belted the dogs with jackets and rolled-up papers, anything at hand, to separate them and chase off the attacker. (A brave thing to do, for it's dangerous to meddle in a dogfight.) The mongrel quickly broke off and ran away. All the men then turned to calm down the children and assure them everything was OK. A woman beckoned from a townhouse doorway and gently led the blind lady with her dog and the kids inside to rest up. People stepped back into cars and drove off, while pedestrians drifted away.

What happened in this rescue was something primitive and powerful, a force thousands of years old. Each adult male within earshot heard a sound that reached deep inside his male instincts and jolted him into enraged defensive action – “Children being attacked by beasts! Save the children! Repel the beasts!” Men dropped what they were doing and, heedless of their own safety, flung themselves forward to protect the kids.

This incident, though dramatic and violent, underscores what a man does in countless subtle ways in family life. He is there to ward off harm.