



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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

20th October 2019

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Fabian Smith

ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Patrick Bradford & Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint

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 Lucas Kyaw Myint 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 Patrick Bradford, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint 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 0478 768 141

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH

MASS TIMES : 21st-27th October

Monday:	7.45am	FLM
Tuesday:		
morning:	9.15am	FLM
evening:	6.30pm	FLM
Wednesday:		
	7.45am	FLM
	9.15am	FLM
Thursday:		
	7.45am	FPB
	9.15am	FLM
Friday:	9.15am	FLM
Saturday Vigil:		
	5.30pm	FLM
Sunday:		
	8.30am	Visiting Priest
	10.30am	Visiting Priest

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 : 14th-20th October

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	FPB
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.

ROSARY: Prayed every Monday at 7.30pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for one hour. Rosary is also held on the first Friday of the month following morning mass.

Next Date : **Friday 1st November**

ADORATION: 30 minutes before every weekday Mass.

Adoration is held every first Friday 10.00am until 4.00pm

Next Date: **Friday 1st November**

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

Next Mass: **Friday 8th November**

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	FPB
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NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

Mission Adventure?

Communities in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific seek medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins to assist their development.

Learn more:

10.30 am, Sunday October 27

Jenny Florence Room, Ross House

247-251 Flinders Lane, Melbourne



On October 27 teacher **Kathy Brick** will share her experience of mentoring in Samoa, Tanzania and South Africa, and explain how **sharing your skills** can **immerse** you in a **world of deep cultural discovery**.

PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

RETREAT DATES -SAVE THE DATE

Men's Alive Retreat 23rd/24th November, Women Retreat 23rd Nov and Children's Retreat 23rd Nov Details to follow.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION- THIS SUNDAY

This weekend our parishes will be holding the annual Catholic Mission, World Mission Appeal. This year we are invited to support the Eden Gardens Children's Home in Nagaland, north-eastern India. – please give generously.

NEW PRIEST- FATHER ALEXANDER ATHANAS

The Archbishop has appointed Father Alexander Athanas SAC (Pallottine Congregation) as Assistant Priest at the Parishes of St Anthony of Padua and St Bernard's with effect 6th November, 2019.

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

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.

PARISH PICNIC-SUNDAY 10th November

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. Bring your whole family, your friends and neighbours and come to have a fun day with us. Hope to see you there.

VOLUNTEER DETAILS In order for us to be aware of all volunteers in this Parish or if we need to contact you for anything to do with your work here at St Anthony's Parish we need your contact details. Could all volunteers who haven't given the Parish Office your email address & mobile phone number please do so by email to meltonsouth@cam.org.au as most communications will soon be via text or email. If you don't have an email address, please ring through with your Mobile phone number to 9747 9692

WEEK 2-PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT WEEKEND

Welcome to Week 2 of our Parish Renewal Program. Our focus this week is on **ENGAGEMENT** in parish life. Our parish is blessed by the many people who give their time, skills and enthusiasm in so many ways, helping us to be a community where people are welcome, cared for and supported. **WE THANK YOU!** This weekend we will hear from members of the Parish Leadership Team who will share with us how being actively involved in our parish has nourished their faith and positively affected their lives. We invite you to play your role, so please take some time to look at the Groups and Ministries brochure and see how you can make your contribution to the life of our special community of faith. Follow us on our parish website – click on the Parish Renewal Program tab for further details.

PARISHIONER FORUM

A reminder that our special **Parishioner Forum** will be held this weekend immediately after the 10.30am Mass in Padua Hall. Join us for this special event - it will be a great investment of 45 minutes of your time and an ideal opportunity to contribute to the discussion on the future of our great parish.

THOUGHTS FROM OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Q: Why is it important to be actively engaged in our parish groups & ministries?

"Because we receive so much from our parish, it is important to give back. It is rewarding to give."

"It makes us grow stronger as a community of faith."

"To be part of the spiritual, physical life of the Church."

"It makes a better community and strengthens the parish."

"Share the load of the jobs to be done."

"Like all groups and communities the strength of them relies on the involvement of its members. If we all become involved and committed, the parish grows and thrives."

"It helps strengthen my faith and provides an opportunity for me to give something. I also like to set a good example for my children."

ST BERNARD'S

SING AUSTRALIA BALLARAT

Come and enjoy this entertaining and joyous choir. Wed 23rd Oct, St Bernard's Parish Centre, 2pm, Adults \$10.00, Children, Concession, & Carers \$5.00. Tickets available at Holy Trinity Office 10.00am-12noon. Afternoon tea supplied.

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We invite you to play your role, so please take some time to look at the Groups and Ministries brochure and see how you can make your contribution to the life of our special community of faith.

Follow us on our parish website - place your mouse on HOME and PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM will pop up.

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POPE FRANCIS SAYS

"A parish is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach."

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium 28

Together we pray the **PROGRAM RENEWAL PRAYER** for its success:

Stewardship Renewal Program Prayer

*Lord, we thank you for calling us to be your Church.
Through our Baptism we are called to service and to witness.
In the Eucharist we sustain and strengthen that call.
By serving others we follow your example and proclaim our beliefs.
By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our love and care. Lord, help us always to worship you as you deserve,
to grow in faith and service and to give without counting the cost. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

WORSHIP NEWS

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

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 26th & 27th October MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.30pm : Stephen Fernandes
8.30am: Sally Markulin
10.30am: Faustina Ma'ae

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.30pm: Aloysious Dacunha (P) & Lorraine Tellis
8.30am: Lillian Christian(P), Edwina La Rose
& Villy Julita
10.30am: Doris Bonello (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 & Dolores Turcsan
8.30am: Godwin Barton & Lina Calleja
10.30am: Anthea Scerri & Leonia Jessop

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:

Peter Biechun, Kevin Francis Doyle, Barry Finn,
Paul & Hazel Harding, Laura Leslie, Beryl Lloyd,
Kathleen Pinto, Louise Pereira & Josphe Scicluna

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: 26th & 27th October MINISTERS OF THE WORD

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

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Mary Beaton
8.30am: Peter Lafranchi
10.00am: Tup Shea

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL ROSTER

October: Sr Ellie Taffe

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: **24th October**
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 **24th October**.

We pray for the death anniversary at this time of:

Isabel Aquino, Patricia Knight, and Margaret Scott.

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, 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: 26th & 27th October

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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

CUPPA ROSTER

Cuppa Weekend: 26th & 27th October

5.30pm: Josephine Sultana & Carol Fonua
8.30am: Joyce Stelline & Lina Calleja
10.30am: Anne Nappi & Doris Bonello



CHURCH FLOWERS—Sept/Oct

Anna Taunuu & 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 : 26th & 27th October

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: Sean Gianni
Sunday: Marj Tung

MORNING TEA ROSTER

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

Next Morning Tea: 3rd November

Host: Parents & Friends



CHURCH FLOWERS—October

Katie Lindorff



COUNTING TEAM #2

John Tung
Lucille Wheelahan

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS- (October)

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

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 24th Oct**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: **3rd & 17th Nov**

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 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 Patrick 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: **John & Rose Ma'ae** 0431 386 473

Group 2: **Maria & Juan Dumaden** 0402 177 623

Group 3: **John & Pauline Osborn** 9743 1437



ST BERNARD'S

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

Next program: **Sunday 27th October**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month: **3rd & 17th November**

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 Lucas 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 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

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

FIRST READING Exodus 17:8-13

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm until sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 120

Comm: Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

All: Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.

The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.

The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever.

All: Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures - from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience - but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active;
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from
death, to keep them alive in famine.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS –

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19;

Second Reading: 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18;

Gospel: Lk 18:9-14

The Catholic family: Raising children in a secular world XLVI

Mum brings preemie son to life with two hours of loving cuddles after doctors pronounce him dead

Love is the most powerful force in the universe. Love is perfected and perpetuated in the furnace of marriage, and then passed on to our children, with often miraculous results.

David and Kate Ogg love each other. Sometime ago Kate delivered premature twins at a Sydney hospital. One of the twins died and the doctor handed them the dead baby to say goodbye to him.

It was a final chance to say goodbye for grieving mother Kate after doctors gave up hope of saving her premature baby. She tearfully told her lifeless son — born at 27 weeks weighing 0.9 kilograms — how much she loved him and cuddled him tightly, not wanting to let him go.

Although Jamie's twin sister Emily had been delivered successfully, doctors had given Kate the news all mothers dread — that after 20 minutes of battling to get her son to breathe, they had declared him dead.

Having given up on a miracle, Kate unwrapped the baby from his blanket and held him against her skin. And then an extraordinary thing happened. After two hours of being hugged, touched and spoken to by his mother, the little boy began showing signs of life.

At first, it was just a gasp for air that was dismissed by doctors as a reflex action. But then the startled mother fed him a little breast milk on her finger and he started breathing normally.

"I thought, 'Oh my God, what's going on,'" said Kate. "A short time later he opened his eyes. It was a miracle. Then he held out his hand and grabbed my finger.

"He opened his eyes and moved his head from side to side. The doctor kept shaking his head saying, 'I don't believe it, I don't believe it'."

The Australian mother spoke publicly to highlight the importance of skin-on-skin care

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for sick babies, which is being used at an increasing number of British hospitals.

"He started gasping more and more regularly. I thought, 'Oh my God, what's going on?' A short time later he opened his eyes. It was a miracle."

In most cases, babies are rushed off to intensive care if there is a serious problem during the birth. But the "kangaroo care" technique, named after the way kangaroos hold their young in a pouch next to their bodies, allows the mother to act as a human incubator to keep babies warm, stimulated and fed.

Pre-term and low birth-weight babies treated with the skin-to-skin method have also been shown to have lower infection rates, less severe illness, improved sleep patterns and are at reduced risk of hypothermia.

Kate and her husband David told how doctors gave up on saving their son after a three-hour labour in a Sydney hospital.

"The doctor asked me had we chosen a name for our son," said Kate. "I said, 'Jamie', and he turned around with my son already wrapped up and said, 'We've lost Jamie, he didn't make it, sorry.'"

"It was the worse feeling I've ever felt. I unwrapped Jamie from his blanket. He was very limp.

"I took my gown off and arranged him on my chest with his head over my arm and just held him. He wasn't moving at all and we just started talking to him.

"We told him what his name was and that he had a sister. We told him the things we wanted to do with him throughout his life.

"Jamie occasionally gasped for air, which doctors said was a reflex action. But then I felt him move as if he were startled, then he started gasping more and more regularly.

"I gave Jamie some breast milk on my finger, he took it and started regular breathing."

Her husband David added: "Luckily I've got a very strong, very smart wife. "She instinctively did what she did. If she hadn't done that, Jamie probably wouldn't be here."