

St Bernard's Catholic Parish Bacchus Marsh

61 Lerderberg Street, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Phone: 5367 2069

Email: bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au



Sacrament of Baptism – Preparation Program 2019

Welcome to the Parish of St Bernard's! In choosing to have your child baptised, parents and Godparents, you have the privilege and responsibility of encouraging and supporting the Catholic faith of your child and the honour of preparing them for the life of heaven. We are here to support you with information and resources that you will need to be successful in your vocation. Please note, the office at St Bernard's operates on limited days and times Tuesday to Friday. The Parish website details the latest opening hours. Please familiarise yourself with the details of our Baptismal Preparation Program:

1. Baptisms are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11:30am. There are no baptisms in January and not on 21st April 2019 (Easter Sunday).
2. A Baptismal Preparation Program must be attended by Parents and Godparents before the baptism.

These meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of each month at St Bernard's in the Parish Centre (Hall) at 11:15am. There is no need to contact the parish office and book in for these meetings or the baptism itself, as all your details will be collected and checked by our baptism team.

Dates of Preparation Meetings for 2019

• Sunday 27 th January	• Sunday 24 th February	• Sunday 24 th March
• Sunday 28 th April	• Sunday 26 th May	• Sunday 23 rd June
• Sunday 28 th July	• Sunday 25 th August	• Sunday 22 nd September
• Sunday 27 th October	• Sunday 24 th November	• December - no meeting

Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate, and \$15 per child to the meeting.

3. Registration details can be filled out on the following page. Please bring completed forms and a copy of your child's Birth Certificate to the Preparation Program on Sunday morning. We will need to retain a copy of this for our records.
4. A \$15 cash payment will be collected at the meeting to cover the cost of the stole, booklet, and candle sticker. On the day of Baptism, you will need to bring your own candle, and the stole which will be provided at the Preparation Meeting.
5. Families are required to attend a Welcome Mass prior to the Baptism so that your child or children being baptised can be presented to the community. Welcome Masses are scheduled at 10:00am on the first and third Sundays at St Bernard's. Please make yourself known to the priest no later than 15mins before Mass begins. Father can usually be found in the Sacristy, the small room accessible from the front right-hand side of the church. It might be helpful to sit near the front pews of the church to be easily called forward during Mass.
6. Godparents form a spiritual relationship with their Godchildren through Baptism. They share their own faith, and encourage their Godchildren to live a life of holiness. Therefore, it is essential that a Godparent is Catholic and practices their faith. During the ceremony, Godparents will make solemn promises before God and the Church to honour their own Baptism and the teachings of the Catholic Church expressed in the Nicene Creed. Note: The baptism ceremony does not constitute Godparents as the legal guardians or custodians of children.

The requirements for Godparents in the Catholic Church:

1. Godparents must be Catholic.
2. Christian Witnesses baptised in other Christian denominations (eg. Orthodox, Anglican, Lutheran, Methodist, Uniting, Presbyterian, and Congregational churches).
3. Non-Christian (non-baptised) persons cannot be Godparents.

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Applicant: (please include middle names for Child and Parents, as printed on Birth Certificate)

	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3
First name(s)			
Last name			
Date of Birth			
Place of Birth			

	Father	Mother
First name(s)		
Last name		
Maiden name	N/A	
Phone number		If different
Email		If different
Religion		
Parish name & suburb		If different
Home Address	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Postcode:</p>	<p>If different</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Postcode:</p>

	Godparent 1 <i>(Catholic only)</i>	Godparent 2 <i>(Catholic only)</i>	Christian Witness <i>(any baptised person)</i>
First name(s)			
Last name			
Religion	<input type="radio"/> Catholic	<input type="radio"/> Catholic	<input type="radio"/> Baptised Christian

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Baptism Preparation Team to check:

Check	Task	Details
<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of Preparation Meeting (11:15am 4 th Sunday)	Date attended:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of proposed Welcome Mass (10:00am 1 st & 3 rd Sunday)	Date to attend:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of proposed Baptism (11:30am 1 st & 3 rd Sunday)	Baptism Date:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other children in family? (for parish census card)	Names & ages: 1. 2. 3. 4.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Activity Fee: \$15 with receipt issued to family	Paid:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Given out the welcome pack: stole, sticker for candle, booklet, and donation envelope.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Original Birth Certificate sited.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Preparation Team member.	Name: Signature: