



St Anthony's Parish

67-75 EXFORD ROAD, MELTON SOUTH, 3338.
P.O BOX 2152 MELTON SOUTH 3338
TEL: 9747 9692



St Bernard's Parish

61 LERDERBERG STREET, BACCHUS MARSH 3340
TEL: 5367 2069
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, KOROBEIT
309 MYRNIONG-KOROBEIT ROAD 3341

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD -YEAR A

9th April 2023

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Fabian Smith
ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint and Fr Samuel Kapani

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Lesley Morffew
Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson

Parish Office Hours:

Mon 9am-12noon Tue-Fri 9.00am-4.00pm
Email: parishsecretary83@gmail.com
Website: www.stanthonyofpadua.com.au

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

St Lawrence of Brindisi School **Principal:** Bill Hill
31 Waterway Boulevard, Weir Views, 3338

Phone: 8099 6699
Email: principal@slweirviews.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.slweirviews.catholic.edu.au

ST BERNARD'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Dolores Turcsan
Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson
Sacramental Coordinator/ Bookkeeper: Naim Chdid

Parish Office Hours:

Tue 9.00am-11.30am Wed & Thu 9.00am-1.00pm
Email: bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au
Website: www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au
Facebook link:
<https://www.facebook.com/stbernardsbacchusmarsh>

St Bernard's School **Principal:** Sr Mary Sarah Galbraith
19a Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Phone: (03) 5366 5800
Email: principal@sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

St Francis Catholic College- Melton (Years 7-12)
Principal: Marlene Jorgensen **Phone:** 8099 6000
109-141 Bulmans Rd, West Melton, 3337 **Website:** www.crcmelton.com.au

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

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Naim Chdid	0437 004 790
Lillian Christian - Vice Chair	0400 441 257
Stephen Fernandes	0439 743 533
Amy Honrade	0457 042 695
Natalie Howard - Chair	0492 947 201
Rose Ma'ae	0460 672 571

EX-OFFICIO: Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint,
Fr Samuel Kapani, Damien Schuster and Bill Hill
Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Rob Brennan OLHC	0430 312 684
Shane Cook -School Advisory Board	0419 999 052
Peter Kennedy - Secretary	0407 778 119
Annette Marum	0417 525 617
Moir Ross	0400 675 056
Aaron Russell - Chair	0401 927 502

EX-OFFICIO:
Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint and Fr Samuel Kapani
Sr Mary Sarah Galbraith

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Coordinator/Officer: Godwin Barton (0425 734 449) **Officers:** St Anthony's - Lorraine Tellis 0409 110 259 & Geetha Vincent 0478 112 996
St Bernard's - Margaret Love (0437 247 779) Evana Miesen & Ron Geurts

Items for the newsletter must be submitted by Tuesday 6.00pm. Please email judyparishnews@gmail.com or call 0414 007 009

Judy Johnson's Office Hours 9.00am-1.00pm Monday-Wednesday

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 10/4/2023-16/4/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 10/4	No Mass
Tuesday 11/4	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday 12/4	9.30am
Thursday 13/4	9.30am
Friday 14/4	9.30am

Rosary at 9.00am before 9.30am morning masses

Sunday Masses

Saturday 15/4	5.00pm
Sunday 16/4	8.30am & 10.30am

Divine Mercy Sunday 16/4

2.00pm Confession, Adoration, Holy Rosary, Litany and Meditations

3.00pm 3 o'clock Prayer, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction and Holy Mass

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

No Confession on Monday.

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 10/4/2023-16/4/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 10/4	No Mass
Tuesday 11/4	8.30am
No Holy Hour	
Wednesday 12/4	8.30am
Thursday 13/4	8.30am
Friday 14/4	8.30am
Providence Mass	11.00am
Saturday 15/4	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 15/4	6.30pm
Sunday 16/4	8.30am & 10.30am

(Rosary in the Chapel 10.00am on Sundays)

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOROBEIT

MASS TIMES

VIGIL	15/4	5.00pm
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Please be advised change of Mass times for Saturday Vigil Mass. Starting Saturday 15th April, Mass time at St Bernard's will be 6.30pm and Our Lady Help of Christians Korobeit will be at 5.00pm

PARISHIONER'S FIRST COLLECTION/SECOND COLLECTION

Parishioners who normally give cash each weekend for the collections, if they wish to donate, are now able to go to the link below and make their payments online.

The link to the St Anthony's Parish is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMeltonSouth>

The link to the St Bernard's Parish is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayBacchusMarsh>

Please put your name and thanksgiving number if you know it as a reference. Thank you.

REFLECTION EASTER SUNDAY 2023

We are told that if it looks too good to be true, it probably is. I have stories of St Mary MacKillop appearing to people, asking for prayer for a special intention and helping a mother lift her son back into bed, when she dropped him thinking he was better, and healing that lad of cancer and MS. Some sceptics would probably think "too good to be true".

Imagine the apostles and women going to the tomb where they had seen a dead Jesus buried and now being told "He is not here. He has risen." Too good to be true! There was much toing and froing that morning. Women, returning from the tomb to tell the Apostles, were met by Jesus. Mary, mistaking Jesus for the gardener and realising with amazement, that it was Jesus. With what excitement Mary Magdalen returned to the Apostles exclaiming: "I have seen the Lord!". Peter and John entering the tomb and seeing the burial cloths, realising the truth. Did some think this was too good to be true!

As St Paul said if Christ was not risen, that our faith, all our effort etc. is a waste of time.

Our whole faith is based on this one truth – Christ is Alive!

"Among the many voices of the world that make us lose our sense of existence, let us tune into the will of Jesus, risen and alive," said Pope Francis.

If we do "we will make of our life today a dawn of Resurrection." Nov. 2019

May the joy of Easter fill your lives and flow out to others.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

FAITH FORMATION : Our Faith Formation sessions begin at 7.00pm every Tuesday at St Anthony's Church of Padua, 67-75 Exford Road, Melton South (Age 16+).

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP—SAVE THE DATE

DATE: Saturday 29th April **TIME:** 11:30am **VENUE:** Padua Hall St Anthony's Melton South

This Safeguarding Workshop is intended to provide foundational knowledge in relation to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable persons from abuse and harm. Also, a clear understanding of one's duty of care and expectations. The workshop is presented by Rosemary Teed from the Professional Safeguarding Unit of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

It is a requirement that all Parish Leaders, Coordinators, current and future volunteers attend this workshop to keep abreast with the updates and newly required processes. Please bring along your WWCC or VIT card in order to receive a Certificate of Completion.

This invitation is also extended to all parishioners, including parents/carers who have a keen interest in the safety of children and vulnerable adults. Any enquiries, please call Godwin Barton 0425 734 449 or Margaret Love on 0437 247 779.

We look forward to your support—Safeguarding Committee.

HISTORY HELP Any information on St Bernard's folk who became nuns, priests or brothers is being sought for the 150th book. We have information on Srs Carmel, Francis, Francis Clare, Adrian (Josephites), Maree Holt (Brigidine), Mary Ward (Mercy). Please take a green history help notice (with contact details) from the foyer and seek family input for our anniversary book.

Remember all of Melton was part of St Bernard's Parish for much of its history.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 16th April 2023—ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH MELTON SOUTH 2.00pm Confession, Adoration, Holy Rosary, Litany and Meditations 3.00pm 3 o'clock Prayer, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction and Holy Mass. (Blessing of Divine Mercy Images towards end of Mass).

Dear Parishioners, The Archbishop has appointed me Parish Priest of St Kevin's Hampton Park Effective from 3 May 2023. I have spent many happy years at St Anthony's and St Bernard's as Parish Priest and now look forward to many more as I take up my new appointment. Together with the Assistant Priest and Deacon I will be ministering to a very large parish. The last mass count registered 2000 mass goes on a weekend and a 100 for daily mass. St Kevin's is sending 32 youth to world youth day this year. They have 100 altar servers. So I do have my work cut out for me. Thanks for all the support you have given me over the years. Many blessings, Fr Fabian

ST ANTHONY'S

FR FABIAN'S FAREWELL

Brothers and Sisters

A great Priest is hard to find

And even harder to forget.

Please join us to Farewell the Great

Fr Fabian Smith

At any of the following functions

Saturday 29th April after the 5pm Mass

at Padua Hall for Dinner

Sunday 30th May for Morning Tea

After each of the morning Masses.

Please note the Parish Council is coordinating the Events

If you would like to assist, please place your name on the clipboard at the back of the church

There will be another clip board

For catering numbers also.

FR FABIAN'S FAREWELL COLLECTION

Fr Fabian will be leaving our Parish. His last weekend Masses at St Anthony's will be on the 29th & 30th April. We will have a farewell collection for Father on the weekend 22nd and 23rd April. This collection will be presented to Father at his Farewell function.

FR LUCAS ' 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Please join us after the 5.00pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 22nd April and help us celebrate Fr Lucas 70th Birthday. Please bring a plate to share.

EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION We collected \$810.00 for our Easter Flower collection, last weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

ST. ANTHONY'S BINGO Don't forget Bingo will be continuing through Easter on Tuesday Night! Eyes down at 7.00pm. Enjoy some great hot food from the canteen prepared by our Social Committee. And good company from our parishioners.

Remember you have to be in it to win it!!

DID YOU KNOW THAT OUR PARISH IS GOING TO BE CELEBRATING OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR? WATCH THIS SPACE!!!!

ST BERNARD'S

FR FABIAN' S FAREWELL AND FR LUCAS' 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Please join us to farewell Fr Fabian and to celebrate Fr Lucas's 70th Birthday after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 23rd April.

FR FABIAN'S FAREWELL COLLECTION

Fr Fabian will be leaving our Parish. His last weekend Masses at St Bernard's will be on the 22nd and 23rd April. We will have a farewell collection for Father on the weekend 15th & 16th April. This collection will be presented to him at his farewell function.

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS

Parishioners are invited to our monthly Providence and Friends Mass on Friday 14th April at 11.00am. Please bring a plate for morning tea/lunch. If transport is required please let the Parish Office know or call Margot Short 0419 507 438.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Bacchus Marsh Vinnies Store 164-190 Main Street is in urgent need of donations. All donations gratefully appreciated and can be dropped at the Store 7 days a week.

Any enquiries please contact the Store Manager on 8199 4205.

FINANCE CO UPDATE

Paul Williams is repairing the parish centre curtains. Please ensure children do not play in or pull on the curtains. Shane Cook will repair the broken and loose roof panels in the centre. Stove options for the kitchen are being considered.

KSC WORKING BEE

Last week, our Knights of the Southern Cross members worked with Colm Carragher to trim the trees alongside the Parish Centre.

There is now much more natural light in our Parish Centre after the nine trailer loads of green waste were taken away.

A huge thank you and many blessings to all those who helped.

WORSHIP NEWS

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND A CODE OF CONDUCT FORM SIGNED.

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 15th & 16th April

Please present yourself to the Mass Coordinator

15 minutes before the scheduled Mass time or a replacement will be found. Thank you.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm: Liza Fernandes

8.30am: Mercy Seufatu

10.30am: Susan Malinov

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Ann Tennakoon

8.30am: Geoff Sutton

10.30am: Frank Carreon

If you are unavailable for these dates please contact Lesley at the Parish Office Thank you

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Godwin & Coleen

8.30am: Julie & Lillian

10.30am: Annonica & Leonia

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

ALL MINISTERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS FOR THE EASTER SERVICES HAVE BEEN ADVISED

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: 15th & 16th April

5.00pm: Evana Miesen

8.30am: Maggie Kratochvil

10.30am: Dominic Van Der Linden

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Colin Remedios

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

April: John Thorne

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time:

Emmaneul Borg, Joseph Borg, Carmelo Giodamaja, Dean Komanycki, Carlo Lloyd, John Mercieca, Jane Spiteri & Oli Oli Tomasi Tuilau.

Please pray for the Sick:

Hazel Michael, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Christabelle, Lydia De Vega, Melanie Fue, Bruce Hynes, Kotinis Cornelia Kani, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Lisa Melia, Damien Michael, Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Nickol, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Vaivasa Ruth Perez, Catherine Roberts, Peter Roberts, Pat Roberts, Anna Samy, Samantha Smith, Charlie Spiteri, Janko Stojanovic, Christina Tuigamala, Uatoa Tuigamala, Clint Abela Wadge, Wai Walsh and all those who have requested our prayers. **PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST.**

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time:

Ada Judge, Marjorie Long, George Maver, Daphne Pocock, John Reilly, Marie Sommerfeld and Doris Storey.

Please pray for the Sick:

Patricia Allison, Noah Barlow, Chaiel Balcombe, Michael Barrett, Peter Bennett, Carmel Berry, Steven Braszel, Tina Bower, Fred Capuano, Gary Ching, Chris, Josephine Cilia, Robyn Cola, Ted Cooling, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, Judy Delahey, Theresa Dockter, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, George Farrell, Justin Fernandez, Pasquale Gagliardi, Mario Galea, Cynthia Goodyear, Gwen Green, Joe Gristi, Adam Hillier, Leonie Kervin, Elle Hillman, Kiahni Holamotutama, Alicia Holborn, Chaiel Jackson, Matthew Jansen, David Kasprzak, Michael Larkin, Marie Maloney, Patricia Marechal, Brian Marshall, Debbie Marshall, Jordanis Mary Pauline McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Marie Maher, Marcus Meno, Paul Mullin, Arthur Pape, Michael Paterson, Georgia Peacock, Mitchell Prendergast, Peter Roberts, Ken Shaw, Terry Sims, Marian Smith, Elizabeth Stehmann, Colin Taffe, Catherine Time, Susan Trist, Stephen Van Eede, John Van Orsouw, Angela Vicum, Louis Vogels, Barry Walsh, Cath Wheelahan, Jayne Wilkins, Patricia Yazbek, Betty Young 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



SERVICE / COMMUNITY

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND A CODE OF CONDUCT FORM SIGNED.

ST ANTHONY'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS: 15th & 16th April

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera
8.30am: Ineke Allen
10.30am: Gilles Maitre

CHURCH FLOWERS

April: Ana

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330
The Melton South Conference meet every 3rd Tuesday morning in the Meeting Room 10.30am.
New members most welcome, training provided.
Non perishable items within the use by date can be left in the 'drop box' in the Church foyer.
We cannot accept re-packaged food.

COMBINED CHURCHES CARING MELTON INC

We're here to support City of Melton residents get ahead through access to our foodbank and other community programs. It's never just about the food or the budget help, it's about recognising the beauty that is in the person and bringing it out so they can be their best.
Address: 100 Coburn Road Melton South 9747 6811

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

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS : 15th & 16th April

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 5.00pm Marj Tung
Sunday: 8.30am Dianne Shelly
10.30am Natalia Klenkowski

CHURCH FLOWERS

April: Melinda Martin Blooms

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

April: Stephen Millington

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Welfare number 1800 305 330.
Bacchus Marsh Vinnies Store 164-190 Main Street is in urgent need of donations. All donations gratefully appreciated and can be dropped at the Store 7 days a week. Any enquiries please contact the Store Manager on 8199 4205

THE NEIGHBOURS PLACE

The Neighbours' Place is a Christian not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to serve people of the **Moorabool Shire**, west of Melbourne Australia, who are disadvantaged, at risk or temporarily unable to feed themselves or their family and who are in need of emergency food relief.

NILS is a **No Interest Loans Scheme** for assistance of up \$1500 for things like white goods, furniture and minor car repairs to keep life going.

We are located at [77 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh](#)

Phone: 03 5367 6222

Email: neighbourspl@iinet.net.au

Hours of Operation: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-12.30pm. Closed on public holidays.

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.

PARISH CENTRE BOOKING

Tel: 5367 3427 Mon—Fri 9.00am to 6.00pm

Hall Managers: Marie & Terry Casey

FAITH FORMATION

ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM– ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S

Dear Parishioners, the Parishes of St Anthony's and St Bernard's have updated their Baptism Preparation Program.

Baptisms will be held at St Anthony's on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month at 11.00am and Baptisms will be held at St Bernard's on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month at 11.00am.

Please go to [St Anthony of Padua Catholic Parish | Melton South](#) click on 'Faith Formation' and then 'Baptism of Infants' for all the information and the application form.

Please contact the Parish Offices if you need any assistance. Thank you.



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

FATIMA STATUE—ST ANTHONY'S

These families are praying together for the mission of the Parish:

Group 1:	Stephen & Liza Fernandes	0439 743 533
Group 2:	Elaine & Edward Rodrigues	0405 956 724
Group 3:	Lyndon & Nequita Pereira	0430 782 212

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

1st Sunday of the month 3pm.



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.



NEO-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



Lord, we ask you to continue
to be with us as we
' TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL '
together in prayer.

May we open ourselves to you
with a new depth of trust and conviction
in your guiding hand,
so that we may discern our journey
with compassionate and humble hearts
and come to know your Holy Spirit
Moving within and amongst us,
And so be transformed Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD –EASTER SUNDAY MASS OF THE DAY

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 10:34, 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM : 117

Commentator: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

All: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS

2nd Sunday of Easter-Divine Mercy Sunday

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Second Reading: 1 Pet 1:3-9

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31



SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;

and Christ, the undefiled,

hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;

shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;

let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Eucharist VII

The Eucharist and Mass (2)

2. The Mass

The Council of Trent taught that the Mass is the same as Calvary, “only the manner of offering being changed” from bloody to unbloody. Similarly, Vatican II (*Sacrosanctus Concilium* (“On the Liturgy”), §10) says that the Mass is the renewal of the New Covenant.

A sacrifice as Catholics understand it (in contrast to some pagan concepts) has two elements: the outward sign and the interior dispositions. The outward sign is there to express and perhaps promote the interior. Without the interior it would be worthless. Hence, God once complained through Isaiah (29:13): “This people honours me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.” We need to take care that we too do not descend into mere externalism, thinking it enough to just make the responses and sing and so on.

At the Last Supper, the outward sign was the seeming separation of body and blood, with the two species. This was a dramatised way of saying to the Father: “I know the command you have given me, I am to die tomorrow. Very good, I turn myself over to death — expressed by the seeming separation — I accept, I obey.”

On the next day, Jesus did as He pledged, but then the outward sign was the physical separation of body and blood, while the interior remained the same. In the Mass, by the agency of a priest who acts “in the person of Christ” (Vatican II, *Lumen Gentium*, §10), Christ continues and repeats His offering.

The external sign is multiplied as many times as there are Masses. But the interior disposition of Christ is not multiplied, it is continued from that with which He died. For death makes permanent the attitude of will with which one leaves this world.

Since the Mass has the same external sign, and the same interior dispositions on the part of Christ, we rightly call it a sacrifice, the continuation of Calvary. He does not need to earn redemption for us all over again — that was done once for all (Hebrews 9:28) by His death. But since the Holiness of God loves everything that is good, and in good order, it pleases Him to have means in place for what

He will give. So, it pleases Him to have the Mass provide the means for the distribution of what was once for all earned on Calvary.

Catechists often like to use a memory word ACTS to express the dispositions: adoration, contrition, thanksgiving, and supplication. This is not wrong, but it leaves out the essential disposition: obedience to the Father.

At the Last Supper, Jesus ordered: “Do this in memory of me.” Since we were not there, He wants us to join our dispositions to His. The great liturgy encyclical of Pope Pius XII, *Mediator Dei*, explains well that the people can be said to exercise their royal priesthood, to offer the Mass with the priest.

First, “from the fact that the priest at the altar in offering a sacrifice in the name of all His members, does so in the person of Christ”, whose members they are. (Since only the ordained priest acts “in the person of Christ”, Vatican II says [*Lumen Gentium*, §10] that the ordained priesthood differs from that of the laity in essence, not only in degree).

Second, the people can be said to offer since “the people join their hearts in praise, petition, expiation and thanksgiving with the prayers or intention of the priest, in fact, of the High Priest Himself, so that in the one and same offering of the Victim ... they may be presented to God the Father”. *Lumen Gentium* (§10) explains that this is what it means for the people to “offer spiritual sacrifices”.

These spiritual sacrifices consist of the people’s obedience to the will of the Father, already carried out, and planned for the future (Cf. *Lumen Gentium*, §34). This includes their works, their bearing the troubles of life, their prayers, their apostolic efforts, their living out the duties of their state in life, even their relaxation of body and mind if all these things are done as part of the Father’s plan, to enable them to serve Him better.

Jesus Himself spent about 30 of 33 years in family life, to show how greatly the Father values this if done precisely because it is part of His plan. No wonder that Pope Paul VI told the 13th National Congress of the Italian Feminine Centre that “marriage is a long road towards sanctification”, that is, if one takes everything in it as part of the Father’s plan.

To be continued