



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

THE 11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR A

18th June 2023

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Alex Clemente
ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Wilford Urmaza and Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Lesley Morffew
Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson

Parish Office Hours:

Mon 9am-12noon Tue 9am-4pm
Wed 9am-5.30pm & Thu-Fri 9am-4pm
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 / Bridge Rd, Cobblebank 3338 **Website:** www.crcmelton.com.au

In the case of urgent situations-sickness etc. please call 0422 869 646

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 Alex Clemente PP, Fr Wilford Urmaza,
Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint, 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 Alex Clemente PP, Fr Wilford Urmaza, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint and
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) & 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 19/06/2023-25/06/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 19/6	6.30pm
Tuesday 20/6	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday 21/6	7.30am & 9.30am
Thursday 22/6	9.30am
Friday 23/6	9.30am
Rosary at 9.00am prior to 9.30am Masses	



Sunday Masses

Saturday 24/6	5.00pm
Sunday 25/6	8.30am & 10.30am

Confession is available and begins 30 minutes prior to each Mass and will cease 5 minutes before Mass commences.

No Confession on Monday.

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 19/06/2023-25/06/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 19/6	No Mass
Tuesday 20/6	7.30am
Holy Hour	6.30pm
Wednesday 21/6	9.30am
Thursday 22/6	7.30am
Friday 23/6	7.30am
Saturday 24/6	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 24/6	6.30pm
Sunday 25/6	8.30am & 10.30am
(Rosary in the Chapel 10.00am on Sundays)	

Every Monday-Rosary and Adoration 7pm-8pm in the church.
Confession is available and begins 30 minutes prior to each Mass and will cease 5 minutes before Mass commences.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOROBEIT MASS TIMES

VIGIL	24/6	5.00pm
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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 11TH SUNDAY 2023– Mary Fermio rsj

In the past the priest travelled by horse from Bairnsdale to visit Catholics across the High Country and to the eastern border. The circle has turned, and this parish is once again that size, and the three priests travel by car. The same can be said for other parishes, most of which are larger, because of fewer priests, but we have a growing population.

The words of Jesus "the harvest is great, but the labourers are few" are very appropriate today. We know that in today's Church there are fewer priests, fewer religious sisters and brothers. Australia was a country, that received hundreds of Irish priests and religious, who left their homes, country and families to serve people living thousands of kilometres away. As the Church grew, Australia supplied its own priests. Now we have come full circle, when we again have to rely on missionaries from overseas to be our pastors. Why? Our population is growing, so why are our Congregations of Sisters diminishing, the priests in our seminaries fewer, the people in the pews fewer?

We all have a mission in the Church, all have been called through Baptism to spread the Good News. My faith is not something I can hug to myself, feel comfortable about because I go to Mass, I say my prayers. How can I share my faith, invite others?

The future of our Church is up to you!



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP - SAVE THE DATE

Date: Saturday, 15 July 2023

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Venue: St Anthony's Padua Hall

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 new 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 young children and vulnerable adults.

Any enquiries, please call, Godwin Barton (St Anthony's Parish) on 0425 734 449, or Margaret Love (St Bernard's Parish) on 0437 247 779.

We look forward to your support. - *Safeguarding Committee*

ST ANTHONY'S

THANK YOU!!!

A huge thank you to our Mission Team who organised our St Anthony's 40th Anniversary and St Anthony's Feast Day masses and celebrations

Thank you to all our community groups that worked together to make it such a special time for our Parish. Thank you to all our groups that hosted supper after all our evening services last week.

A big thank you to everyone that supported our International Festival and all our activities last Sunday.

The Social Committee once again organised a fantastic and successful Masquerade Dance on 3rd June. A great effort by this hardworking team.

Thank you to all our volunteers who provided such beautiful flower arrangements for the whole week, and on our Feast Day.

Thank you to all our Priests and visiting Priests that created such a wonderful and strong faith filled week for us.

Congratulations St Anthony's on 40 years of Parish Life!!!

CHURCH CLEANERS- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help with the cleaning of the Church. If you are able to help please contact Lesley in the Parish Office.

BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED -URGENTLY

St Anthony's Bingo needs volunteers to help pack up each Tuesday night after Bingo 9.50pm-10.15pm. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please call Rose 0460 672 571.

BINGO

Bingo is held every Tuesday night at 7pm in the Padua Hall, St Anthony's Parish. Complimentary tea and coffee available. Canteen services available. Come along and enjoy a great night, and with a bit of luck you could be one of our lucky winners!

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION-NEXT WEEKEND

The Peter's Pence Collection is a worldwide collection that helps provide the Holy Father with funds for emergency assistance to those in need. The proceeds enable Pope Francis to assist the most disadvantaged in emergency situations including victims of war, oppression, and disasters.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting this special collection.

ST BERNARD'S

COULD YOU WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?

St Bernard's Prayer Group wish to resume First Friday 24 Hour Adoration Roster. If you want to commit to one hour each month, contact Colm on 0413 223 400.

ST. BERNARD'S TRIVIA NIGHT

Tickets are now available for our parish trivia night. Get a team together (or come on your own) and join us for a night of fun and games.

Saturday 22nd July 2023

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Parish hall

Price: \$15

Scan the QR code for more info and to purchase tickets.

For any enquiries, please get in touch with Thomas Halloran on 0431 504 402.



PARISH OFFICE

Parishioners, please note our Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 20th June and Thursday 29th June.

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: 24th & 25th June

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: Aloysious Dacunha

8.30am: Mercy Seufatu

10.30am: Romeo Sacris

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Gavin Pereira

8.30am: Geoff Sutton

10.30am: George Bonello

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

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Ron & Natalie

8.30am: Olen & Julie

10.30am: Leonia & Annonica

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

MINISTERS OF THE WORD-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Vikki Benson

8.30am: Gerard O'Shea

10.30am: Volunteer needed

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Colin Remedios

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 24th & 25th June

6.30pm: Evana Miesen

8.30am: Dominican Sisters

10.30am: Beatrice Younger

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS 24th June

6.30pm: Mary Beaton

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

June: Margaret Love

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Nellie Chiles, Phyllis Gilder, Margherita Grech, Salvina Pace, Sergio Robert Pin, James Plant, Lucia Savona & Victor Vella.

Please pray for the Sick:

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, Hazel Michael, Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Nickol, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, 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 the recently deceased: Cath Wheelahan
Requiem Mass for Catherine Wheelahan will be held at St Bernard's church this Tuesday 20th June at 11am.

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time: Fairy Bellman, John Cavka, Dorothy (Dot) Elmer, Maria de Freitas, Frances Farrugia, Henry Hocking, Anton Jakobovic, John Madigan, Ivan Prkic, Dorothy Shelly, James (Jim) Vallence, Magdalena Wasilewski, Noreen Wheelahan, & Jean Young.

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 Gagliarbi, 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, 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, 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: 24th & 25th June

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Liza Fernandes
8.30am: Mercy Seufatu
10.30am: Elizabeth Underwood

CHURCH FLOWERS

June: Gloria

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

*The Harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
Pray therefore (**Rogate Ergo...**) to the Lord of the Harvest that He may send Good workers into His vast vineyard. (Mt. 9:37-38).*

Prayer is the answer to the perennial problem of the lack of good evangelical workers. It is a command and not just a simple request or an invitation. The Church needs holy workers. She needs committed, faithful, and zealous ministers of the Gospel. But if we will not beg the Lord, we will never be blessed with Good and Holy Vocations.

St. Hannibal Ma. Di Francia, the Patron of Vocations said; Vocations come from on High, if we do not pray, vocations will not come. Let us therefore implore the Master of the Harvest with this short prayer:

Send, O Lord, Holy Apostles into Your Church!



ST BERNARD'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS : 24th & 25th June

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm Jackie Tabone
Sunday: 8.30am Lyn Shea
10.30am Natalia Klenkowski

CHURCH FLOWERS

June: Natalia Klenkowski

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

June: Colm Carragher & Ron Geurts

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 to \$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 Alex, Fr Wilford or Fr Lucas .

FATIMA STATUE—ST ANTHONY'S

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

Group 1:	Anna Samy	0435 258 230
Group 2:	Pat Fernandes	0416 191 766
Group 3:	Ben & Geetha	0478 112 996

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

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

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.
Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

FIRST READING Exodus 19:2-6

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagle's wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM : 99

Commentator: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

All: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age.

We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time– YEAR A

First Reading: Jer 20:10-13
Second Reading: Rom 5:12-15
Gospel: Mt 10:26-33



SECOND READING: Romans 5:6-11

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near;
repent and believe the Good News!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 9:36 - 10:8

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows: 'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

The Holy Eucharist XVII

The Real Presence (3)

Reverence for the Real Presence can certainly be enhanced through regular instruction, Benediction, processions, visits, adoration, holy hours, and quiet times of personal prayer before the Tabernacle.

These Eucharistic devotions are obviously also intended to deepen our conscious recognition of the centrality of the Real Presence of Jesus within the liturgy of the Mass. Quiet Masses, sung Masses, solemn Masses, and especially the ordinary ritual Masses for weddings and funerals are certainly great opportunities to witness to our faith in the Eucharist as a pastoral gift to those who may have been poorly catechised or even have fallen away.

In all circumstances, the greatest possible care should be devoted to public worship in the preparation of homilies, and the training of servers, readers, ushers, and musicians.

It must always be remembered that it is at Mass where Jesus gathers the Church into the Eucharistic assembly. It is at Mass that his Word is proclaimed and heard, preached and pondered. It is at Mass where Jesus renews in our very midst his One Perfect Sacrifice on the Cross, because it is at Mass that we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

It is at Mass where Jesus our High Priest offers the atoning sacrifice of praise and thanks to his Father. It is at Mass where through the power of the Holy Spirit the whole substance of the bread and wine are transubstantiated: that is, fully and completely changed into Christ's true Body and Blood.

It is at Mass where through that same Spirit we may actually become a part of what we receive. It is at Mass where the presence of Jesus becomes both the source and the summit of our entire life as Catholic Christians. It is at Mass where the way we live is formed and the way we serve is inspired and sustained.

How could we ever dare to neglect Sunday Mass or fail to share with future generations the infinite treasure of the Real Presence of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

By Bishop Daniel Jenky, www.catholicculture.org

The First Letter of John begins with some striking words that describe the sheer wonder, the spiritual rapture of a disciple who had personally known Jesus: "What existed from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked upon and touched with our hands." (1 John 1:1) In the Most Holy Eucharist, that same intimate contact with the Word made Flesh is just as possible for us today as it was for the Lord's first disciples.

Jesus is our Lord, our Saviour, our Teacher, our Priest, and our King, who together with the Father and the Holy Spirit is now and forever adored as our good and gracious God.

In the Blessed Sacrament, we actually "taste and see the great goodness of the Lord".

The much revered prayer called the *Anima Christi* expresses the faith, hope, and especially the intense love of believers for Jesus Christ truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, embolden me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me.

Within your wounds, hide me.

Never permit me to be parted from you.

From the evil enemy defend me.

At the hour of my death call me
and bid me to come to you,

that with your saints I may praise you

for age upon age. Amen.

May the Catholic parish of St Anthony's and its schools, its ministries and charities be intentionally centred on the Real Presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

May this faith always be the unshakable conviction of our Holy Church: "O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine."