



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, KOROBET
309 MYRNIONG-KOROBET ROAD 3341

THE 14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR A

9th July 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 10/07/2023-16/07/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 10/7	6.30pm
Tuesday 11/7	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday 12/7	7.30am & 9.30am
Thursday 13/7	9.30am
Friday 14/7	9.30am

Rosary at 9.00am prior to 9.30am Masses



Sunday Masses

Saturday 15/7	5.00pm
Sunday 16/7	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 10/07/2023-16/07/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 10/7	No Mass
Tuesday 11/7	7.30am
Holy Hour	6.30pm
Wednesday 12/7	9.30am
Thursday 13/7	7.30am
Friday 14/7	7.30am
Providence Mass	11.00am
Saturday 15/7	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 15/7	6.30pm
Sunday 16/7	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	15/7	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 14th SUNDAY 2023– Mary Fermio rsj

As Gippsland became settled bullock wagons carried food and goods from Port Albert to places like Walhalla, over plains and up and down steep hills. To protect their animals, the drivers had to make sure the yokes that linked them, fitted comfortably, as they hauled their burdens.

Jesus promised that if we take our burdens to him, they would be “easy and light”, or as the Greek translation is “comfortable and light”. They may not be taken away, but he would help us carry them. He knew from experience how a burden or cross could irritate or cause anguish, how a betrayal hurt and how loss causes us to grieve.

I am reminded of the poem “Footprints” where the author believes Jesus had deserted him during the hard times. Jesus comforts him by saying:

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you

Never, ever, during your trials and testings.

When you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Sit in silence. Recall times when Jesus may have carried you.

Give Jesus your present burdens. Let Jesus carry you now.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP - NEXT SATURDAY

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. Please add your name to the clipboard in the foyer for catering purposes. *Safeguarding Committee*

LAMPS ALIGHT SPEAKERS SERIES 2023

Lamps Alight Speaker Series 2023: Anima Women's Network and the Dominican Sisters are hosting our next mini-retreat for women on Saturday 15 July at St Mary MacKillop Parish, Keilor Downs. This month, Prof Tracey Rowland will speak on: "The Saintly Queens and How They Changed History". We'll begin at 9 AM with Mass followed by Adoration and an opportunity for Confession. Tracey's talk and discussion begins at 10:30 and concludes at midday. No cost, donations gratefully accepted. Contact: melbourne@op-tn.org for more information. Bring a friend and we look forward to seeing you next Saturday!

SEARCH PROGRAM-HAPPINESS IS NOT BY CHANCE, IT IS A DECISION

'The Search' is for you. Seven free sessions to answer questions about life and death. **Venue:** St Anthony of Padua, Melton South

Date: Commences 4th August 2023 **Time:** 6.00pm. Please see flyers for more information, to register for the program add your name to the clipboard or send your details to Naim 0437 004 790.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY-WINTER APPEAL-THIS WEEKEND

Our parishes will be supporting the St Vincent de Paul Society's Winter Appeal this weekend.. Each year, our Winter Appeal plays a vital role in enabling the good works of the Society and, with your support, we hope to achieve a strong result so we can continue serving our communities. Parishioners are encouraged to donate generously to our special collection to assist us continue the Society's work of helping those most in need. Over the past six months, the Society has provided over \$5 million in material assistance, including food, clothing, furniture and financial support, to families and households in need throughout Victoria. With the current homelessness crisis, the assistance we provide for people experiencing hardship this Winter will be needed more than ever. Please go to the website for more information <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/winter-appeal-vic> or you can donate to the Bacchus Marsh Conference by calling 13 18 12 or scan the QR code. Thank you.



ST ANTHONY'S

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!

ST ANTHONY' YOUTH GROUP

The St Anthony's Youth Group will recommence on Wednesday 12th July at 6.00pm. The group starts with a Rosary and Faith Formation followed with activities and finishing with pizza for dinner. If you would like to join the group, have a chat to Naim after Mass, or give the Parish Office a call.

ST BERNARD'S

MORNING TEA-THIS WEEKEND

There will be a morning tea held after the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses this Sunday, July 9th. All welcome.

ST. BERNARD'S TRIVIA NIGHT

Time is running out to book tickets for our upcoming trivia night. Please scan the QR code for more info.

Saturday 22nd July 2023 Time: 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Parish hall Price: \$15

If you would like to attend but don't have a team, please get in touch with Thomas Halloran on 0431 504 402 so we can find one for you.



PROVIDENCE AND FRIENDS MASS

Parishioners are invited to our monthly Providence and Friends Mass on Friday 14th July at 11am. 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

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 July

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: Gavin Pereira

8.30am: Mercy Seufatu

10.30am: Nikshita D'Souza

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Ann Tennakoon

8.30am: Roa Seufatu

10.30am: Frank Carreon

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

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Coleen & Godwin

8.30am: Lillian & Godwin

10.30am: Lillian & Annonika

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

MINISTERS OF THE WORD-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Maureen Zahra

8.30am: Moira Ross

10.30am: Dominic Van Der Linden

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Vikki Benson

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 15th & 16th July

6.30pm: John Thorne

8.30am: Peter La Franchi

10.30am: Samantha Butler

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: Colin Remedios

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

July: Josephite Companions C/- L Wheelahan

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the recently deceased:

Maria Powell & Matthew Siketa

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

John Burton, Clive La Rose, Fonoti Sepelini Ma'ae,
Charlie Magri, Mabel McShane, William Mullins,
Estanislao Sanchez, Grace Vella, & Mary Abela Wadge.

Please pray for the Sick:

David Bonello, 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.**

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 PASTORAL CARE

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

Kevin Barry, Victor Carter, Br Jason Duck, Kitty Marshall,
John Spice, Leonard Trask, & Margaret Wilson.

Please pray for the Sick:

Patricia Allison, Noah Barlow, Chaiel Balcombe,
Michael Barrett, Stephen Beaton, Peter Bennett,
Carmel Berry, Steven Braszel, Tina Bower, Fred Capuano,
Gary Ching, Josephine Cilia, Brendan Coburn, 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, , 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,
Nathan Witmore, 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.**

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 July

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera
8.30am: Merla Veloso
10.30am: Gilles Maitre

CHURCH FLOWERS

July: 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 : 15th & 16th July

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Jan & Colm
Sunday: 8.30am: Jan Farnelo

CHURCH FLOWERS

July: Tup Shea

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

July: 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 to \$2000 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@inet.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:	Robert & Angela Lacono	0424 801 928
Group 2:	Maria & Juan Dumandan	0402 177 623
Group 3:	Godwin & Kim Barton	0425 734 449

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

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

FIRST READING Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this:
'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM : 144

Commentator: 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.

I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.

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.

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and loving in all his deeds.
The Lord supports all who fall
and raises all who are bowed down.

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

SECOND READING: Romans 8:9, 11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual,
since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact,
unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not
belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus
from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus
from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies
through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey
our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do
live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit
you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and
of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the
clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father,
for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been
entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son
except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except
the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,
and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from
me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find
rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden
light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time– YEAR A

First Reading: Is 55:10-11

Second Reading: Rom 8:18-23

Gospel: Mt 13:1-23



The Holy Eucharist XX

Perpetual adoration (3)

Each of us might spend at least one hour each week in prayer before the Eucharist. Each can follow his own inspiration as to how this hour is to be spent. Some use holy-hour booklets meant to encourage faith, trust and commitment. Others bring a Bible and speak to our Eucharistic Lord “heart to heart”.

There are those who pray the Rosary and offer to Jesus the love and praises of Mary while meditating on the Mysteries. Many simply sit or kneel and enjoy the profound peace and love of Christ as they draw near to him in wordless prayer and silent contemplation.

Eucharistic adoration is an acknowledgement of our complete dependency upon him who is the “vine”, a profession of faith and gratitude in his Real Presence and an expression of love in desiring him and his holy will as the centre of our lives. More than devotion, Eucharistic adoration is a commitment to the Eucharistic Christ and the Good News of his Gospel.

Adoration facilitates prayer

Because time is a precious commodity today, the practical advantage of perpetual adoration is that it opens up and makes available all 168 hours in the week for people who otherwise might have a time conflict if adoration were limited to only a couple of hours. Adoration on a 24-hour basis enables the vast majority of parishioners to participate by allowing them to choose an hour compatible with responsibilities.

The second reason has to do with the nature of prayer itself. Adoration on a monthly basis is too long a wait for most people to acquire a proper appreciation for Eucharistic prayer. Eucharistic adoration on a daily or weekly basis helps develop a taste and hunger for that deep peace and divine love which flow so generously from the open Heart of Our Eucharistic Lord.

The third reason has to do with a community faith witness. In a hectic, distracting world, perpetual adoration heightens the consciousness of people to the Real Presence of Our Lord, while bringing about a community awareness of the proper spiritual priorities in the life of the individual, and in the life of the parish.

Perpetual adoration is putting our faith into action, expressing as a community that we believe that Our Lord is truly and personally present to us

By Father Martin Lucia, www.catholicculture.org

in the Blessed Sacrament. Together we proclaim him as the loving Emmanuel who dwells with us as the Head, Heart and Centre of our parish and family.

God cannot be outdone

The fourth reason conveys the value of communication. When a priest invites his people to perpetual adoration, the laity unmistakably perceive the message of the seriousness and importance in his challenge. Monthly Eucharistic adoration communicates a cool, casual message, whereas perpetual adoration is a statement of attitude, which cries out, like Jesus, to the essential value of Eucharistic prayer.

Another factor is of course, the absolute necessity of evangelisation. From the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. Putting something in the bulletin or making an announcement is a whisper that most people won't hear or will fail to understand. The effectiveness of this fifth reason was made evident when a nun spoke on the value of Eucharistic adoration to a particular parish after each Mass on Sunday. Although she was not eloquent and had to read her message, over 500 people responded by committing themselves to a holy hour.

The sixth reason is the effectiveness of lay involvement. Anything worthwhile requires the effort of organisation. In every parish there are parishioners willing to coordinate the various hours on a weekly basis.

The seventh and most important reason of all is the grace of God poured out on a parish when a priest is willing to open his doors to perpetual adoration. God cannot be outdone in generosity. The Blessed Sacrament is the sign and reality of his infinitely generous love for man.

When we begin to make an appropriate faith response to this gift through perpetual adoration, he provides the power through the grace of his love to draw all to himself.

Proclaim Christ King of Kings

The purpose of perpetual adoration is to enrich one's spiritual life, deepen one's faith, and strengthen one's relationship and union with Our Lord. Priests can provide the people with that opportunity, it is up to them to respond. That is their serious responsibility.