



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

19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR A

13th August 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:

Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-1.30pm

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
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
& Liza Fernandes
St Bernard's - Margaret Love (0437 247 779) & Ron Geurts

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

Judy Johnson's Office Hours 9.30am-1.30pm Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 14/08/2023-20/08/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 14/8	6.30pm
Tuesday 15/8	9.30am & 6.30pm
<i>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	
<i>Rosary begins at 6.00pm followed by mass at 6.30pm</i>	
Wednesday 16/8	9.30am
Thursday 17/8	9.30am
Friday 18/8	9.30am
Saturday 19/8	9.00am

Rosary **9.00am prior to weekday masses &**

Rosary **8.30am prior to Saturday morning masses**



Sunday Masses

Saturday 19/8	5.00pm
Sunday 20/8	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 14/08/2023-20/08/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday 14/8	No Mass
Tuesday 15/8	<i>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> 7.30am
	Holy Hour 6.30pm
Wednesday 16/8	9.30am
Thursday 17/8	7.30am
Friday 18/8	7.30am
Saturday 19/8	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 19/8	6.30pm
Sunday 20/8	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	19/8	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 –Fr Alex Clemente

One of the most amazing dimension of Jesus's life was his prayer. It's simply astonishing to know that he can stay awake overnight praying after a whole busy day of ministry.

His typical day included curing the sick, exorcisms or doing other charitable works, and of course preaching with occasional heated argumentations with the Pharisees and Scribes. But at the end of each busy and exhausting day, he always set aside sacred moment to pray like in this Sunday's gospel; "after sending the crowds away, he went up into the hills by himself to pray."

Did Jesus need to recite long lists of supplications? A few episodes in the four gospels reveal that Jesus' prayers were all simple yet very refreshing for him. Prayer was his moment of communion with God the Father, who is the source of all that is good.

Praying in solitude enabled Jesus to connect to the Father and be recharged for the next day's mission.

Prayer assures that God cares. It puts us within the divine loving embrace where deep in our hearts, we can hear Jesus's comforting words in this Sunday gospel "Take courage! It is I! Do not be afraid!"

Beyond the hard struggles of our daily life, prayer strengthens and inspires us to go on. What are your burdens and anxieties now? Lift them all up to the Lord. You don't actually need to say too many words. After all, God understands what you're going through and knows your needs. Just find a quiet space and calm down.

Like Elijah in our first reading this Sunday, let us feel God's presence and assurance in a 'gentle breeze' of our prayer time.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE-YEAR 7 2025 ENROLMENTS -DUE FRIDAY 18 AUGUST

You can apply online for our Melton and Cobblebank campuses at www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/join-us/enrolment

We welcome you to join one of our final Melton Campus tours for 2023. Reserve your place at www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/joinus/college-tour

CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL- THIS WEEKEND

Today we have a special collection for the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare services includes counselling and mental health services, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care in hospitals and prisons and many other programs that help our community. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this special collection. You can also donate using the appeal envelope available or donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.

THANK YOU FROM SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE

The Safeguarding Committee would like to thank all volunteers who attended the workshop on Saturday, 5th August 2023. Special thanks to all who helped with the registration, catering and setting & packing up in the hall.

THE LAMPS ALIGHT SPEAKER SERIES

The series continues this month with a presentation by Monica Doumit who will be speaking on "How to be Women of Hope, Even in the Public Sphere." Monica is the Director of Public Affairs and Engagement for the Archdiocese of Sydney and a columnist for the *Catholic Weekly*. Monica will present on the blessings and challenges of witnessing publicly to our Catholic faith in an increasingly secularised society. Join us on Saturday 19 August at St Mary MacKillop Parish, Keilor Downs for 9 AM Mass followed by Adoration and an opportunity for Confession. Monica'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 soon!

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK - 13th August

National Vocations Awareness Week - Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.

ST ANTHONY'S

REKINDLING OUR DEVOTIONS TO BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Tuesday 15th August : Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rosary 6.00pm followed by Mass 6.30pm

Saturday 2nd September: First Saturday Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Rosary 8.30am followed by Mass. 9.00am and a talk on 'Cherishing First Saturday Devotions & welcoming Maria Bambinella in our church.'

Friday 8th September: Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rosary 6.00pm Mass 6.30pm Followed by procession after mass adjourn to fellowship and supper.

CLEANING

We are now cleaning on Saturdays as well as Fridays. If you are interested in helping to keep our church clean, please add your details to the clipboard in the foyer or contact Elizabeth on 042 288 2562.

MEMORIAL MASS

Elizabeth Underwood is inviting friends to join her for her brother's Memorial mass at St Anthony's on Thursday 17th August at 7 pm followed by supper. For catering purposes could you please put your name on the clipboard in the foyer.

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 BERNARD'S

ST BERNARD'S NOVENA

We will recite the novena after communion after during masses from the 11th –20th August.

MORNING TEA-THIS SUNDAY

There will be morning tea held after the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses this Sunday. All welcome.

ST. BERNARD'S FEAST DAY!

Come and Celebrate St. Bernard's Feast Day on August 20th. Pot Luck Lunch in the Parish Centre after the 10.30am Mass. Please bring a plate or pot to share for lunch. Tea, coffee, and drinks supplied.

THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The Knights of the Southern Cross meeting will be held Monday, August 14 at 8pm, in the parish meeting room.

PARISH CENSUS

If you missed out on completing a parish census card last weekend, they will be available on the ledge as you enter the church for the second and third weekends in August. Please complete the card and hand it in with the collection or take it to the bench in the sacristy.

MEN'S POKER NIGHT

To celebrate Father's Day, we will be hosting a men's social night in the hall on Friday 1st September. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a fun night of poker and also form connections with other men in the parish. If you'd like to attend please get in touch with Thomas Halloran on 0431 504 402 for details.

THANK YOU

A word of thanks from the St Bernard School Community to parishioners who attend 9:30 Mass on Wednesdays. Thank you for encouraging the students who are beginning to assist in the preparation of Mass readings and prayers of the faithful. Your support is greatly appreciated! Sr Mary Sarah

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: 19th & 20th August

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: Leonia Jessop

10.30am: Romeo Sacris

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Ann Tennakon

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: Coleen & Olen

8.30am: Godwin & Julie

10.30am: Godwin & Annonica

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

MINISTERS OF THE WORD-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Maureen Zahra

8.30am: Dominican Sisters

10.30am: Chloe Lindorff

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Vikki Benson

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 19th & 20th August

6.30pm: John Thorne

8.30am: Nathan Costin

10.30am: Dominic Van Der Linden

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: Colin Remedios

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

August: John Wilson

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

For the recently deceased:

Miguel Antonio Queli

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

Maryard Austin, Anthony Bughair, Theresa Buttigieg, Emmanuel Calleja, Eva Cornelisz, Cynthia (Topsy) Daly, Lucy Harrington, Frances Micallef & Charles Van Hoos.

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, Troy Saliba, 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

For the recently deceased: Sr Betty O'Donnell & Kevin O'Brien
Sr Betty's funeral is Thursday 17th August at Hawthorn East and will be live-streamed by Tobin Bros.

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time: Lena Carli, Leonard Condon, William George Cook, Patricia Cooper, Peter Fanning, Maureen Grogan, Margarete Johnson, Moya McGonegal, Bill McGrath, Joseph & Dora Mercieca, Ketty Mifsud, Anton Mijic, Paddy O'Leary, James Symmons & Rebecca Ruby Vas.

Please pray for the Sick:

Patricia Allison, Noah Barlow, Chaiel Balcombe, Michael Barrett, Stephen Beaton, Peter Bennett, Carmel Berry, Steven Braszel, Tina Bower, Tracey Burn, Alex, 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 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, Troy Saliba, 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.**

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: 19th & 20th August

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera

8.30am: Judy Johnson

10.30am: Gilles Maitre

CHURCH FLOWERS

August: Rosabella

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS– 26th & 27th August

5.00pm Vigil:

8.30am: To be advised

10.30am:

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. res: 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 : 19th & 20th August

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Jackie Tabone

Sunday: 8.30am: Lyn Shea

10.30am: Natalia Klenkowski

CHURCH FLOWERS

August: Debra Hosking



PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

August: Stuart Roberston & Sean Giani

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@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:	Aloysious & Michelle DaCunha	0469 863 253
Group 2:	Gavin & Alison Pereira	0419 178 970
Group 3:	Dragica Mladen Soldo	0466 482 035

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

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 84

Commentator: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

All: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –

20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME– YEAR A

First Reading: Is 56:1,6-7
Second Reading: Rom 11:13-15,29-32
Gospel: Mt 15:21-28



SECOND READING Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord,

I trust in his word.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

The Holy Eucharist XXV

Eucharistic saints (1)

Today we address ourselves to the immense subject of Eucharistic saints. The very title is misleading. Every saint of the Catholic Church has been deeply devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. In fact, there is no sanctity without the Eucharist.

We have no choice but to choose just seven out of hundreds of saintly men and women who have been outstanding in their devotion to the Sacrament of the Altar.

Let's start with a saint from the fourth century. Why? Because it was in the fourth century that the Church first assembled what we now call a "catechism" of the principal doctrines of the Catholic faith. Then we will jump to the 13th century, when the first major heresies against the Real Presence began to plague the Church. Our next choices will be from what is popularly called the post-Reformation Age, when Protestantism deprived whole nations of their fidelity to the See of Peter. Finally we shall look at a few modern saints whose Eucharistic holiness is an inspiration for our day.

St Cyril of Jerusalem

This doctor of the Church, as Bishop of Jerusalem, suffered deeply for his faith. He was the sworn enemy of the heretic, Arius, who denied Christ's divinity. His most important writing was the catechetical compendium, which has become the standard for all catechisms since the end of the fourth century.

St Cyril wrote extensively on the Holy Eucharist as Sacrifice, Communion, and Real Presence. His writings are not only clear and uncomplicated, but they show us how unqualified was the faith of the early Church in the priestly powers of changing bread and wine into the living Jesus Christ. Among the classic passages that have been quoted over the centuries, the following is typical:

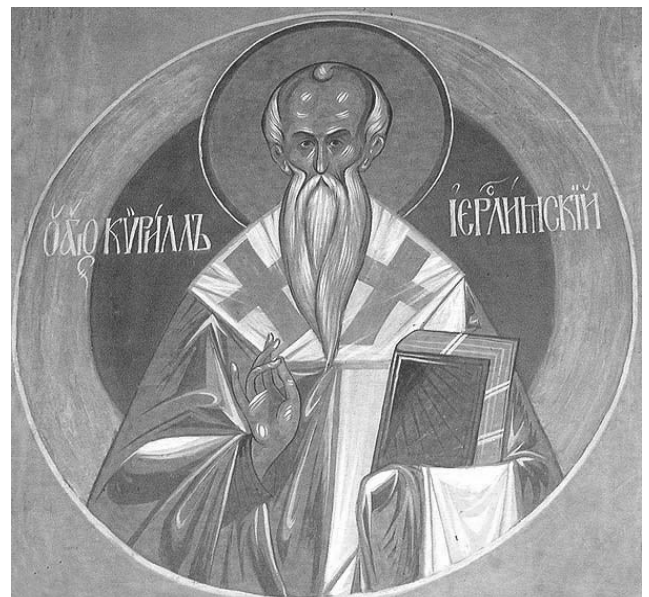
"The bread and wine of the Eucharist before the invocation of the holy and adorable Trinity were simply bread and wine. But after the invocation the bread

becomes the Body of Christ and the wine becomes the Blood of Christ."

(*Catechetical Discourses*, 19,7).

What is most significant about this profession of faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist is its unqualified clarity. From the dawn of Christian history, faith in the Holy Eucharist as the living Christ has been continuous. Thus, we have writers like St Ignatius of Antioch, St Justin Martyr, St Irenaeus, St Cyprian, and many others, all attesting to the presence of the living Christ in the Holy Eucharist through the words of consecration at Mass.

By Fr John Hardon SJ, catholicculture.org



St Cyril of Jerusalem

This is especially important in our day when professedly Catholic theologians undermine this faith by claiming that it is a later development of Christian thought. Moreover, the earliest Fathers of the Church never dissociated the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist from the priesthood, instituted by the Saviour at the Last Supper. So true is this that we may simply declare that Christian Patrology always associates two sacraments: the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. Without the priesthood there would be no Eucharist.