



## 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

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR A

24th September 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-4.30pm

**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:

Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-1.30pm

**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

Judy Johnson's Office Hours 9.30am-1.30pm Tuesday-Thursday 0414 007 009

Items for the newsletter must be submitted by Wednesday midnight please email judyparishnews@gmail.com

## MASS AND DEVOTIONS

### ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 25/09/2023-1/10/2023

#### MASS TIMES:

|           |      |                 |
|-----------|------|-----------------|
| Monday    | 25/9 | 6.30pm          |
| Tuesday   | 26/9 | 9.30am & 6.30pm |
| Wednesday | 27/9 | 9.30am          |
| Thursday  | 28/9 | 9.30am          |
| Friday    | 29/9 | 9.30am          |
| Saturday  | 30/9 | 9.00am          |

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

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



#### Sunday Masses

|                |      |                  |
|----------------|------|------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | 30/9 | 5.00pm           |
| Sunday         | 1/10 | 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 25/09/2023-1/10/2023

#### MASS TIMES:

|           |      |         |
|-----------|------|---------|
| Monday    | 25/9 | No mass |
| Tuesday   | 26/9 | 9.30am  |
| Holy Hour |      | 6.30pm  |
| Wednesday | 27/9 | 9.30am  |
| Thursday  | 28/9 | 9.30am  |
| Friday    | 29/9 | 9.30am  |
| Saturday  | 30/9 | 9.00am  |

#### Sunday Masses

|                |      |                  |
|----------------|------|------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | 30/9 | 6.30pm           |
| Sunday         | 1/10 | 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 KOROBET MASS TIMES

|       |      |        |
|-------|------|--------|
| VIGIL | 30/9 | 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.**

### 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A (Mt. 20:1-16)

#### GENEROUS GOD – Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint

**Generosity of God:** In today's Gospel (Mt. 20:1-16), the parable is not dealing with equal rights for all, or an honest day's work for an honest day's pay. Its main thrust is to show the generosity of God in throwing open the doors of the kingdom of heaven to Gentiles and sinners on equal footing with the Jews.

**God's Love and Mercy:** Gospel reading from Matthew today fills us with an inspiring image of a generous, gracious and forgiving God whose love for us has no bounds and whose mercy extends both to those who have laboured all their lives in His service and to those who have broken faith but turned to Him in their dying hour. God's justice is over and above the formality of human justice.

**Human Ways:** We human beings fail to understand the plans and designs of God, for His "thoughts are not our thoughts". Prophet Isaiah (Is. 55:6-9) urges us to put our whole trust in the Lord: "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call him while he is near". We have no right to blame God's action. Envy creates all sorts of problems for individuals and for the community.

**God's Will First:** St Paul writes this letter to the Philippians (Phil. 1:20-24, 27) from prison while awaiting his death. In his dilemma of whether he should live to serve his community or die to be with Christ, he opts for that which God wills for him, and he says "YES" to God's will.



## PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

### NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

#### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS-NEXT WEEKEND

A reminder that daylight savings begins next weekend-1st October. Clocks are turned forward 1 hour.

#### DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE?-THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

You say you "BELIEVE" every Sunday as you recite the Creed. But do you know what you're saying you "believe" in? Do the truths of the faith-listed in the Creed—really permeate your life? Learn how these ancient truths contain the promise of peace, joy and happiness for our lives. The Creed is not some dry statements we recite at Mass, it is a way of life, which bring peace and fulfilment. To learn more how the Creed can become the source of joy, join us in this study over 11 weeks Starting Tuesday 26/9/2023 7.15pm Mackillop Room, St Anthony's Church, Melton South. **Lesson 1 -[Coming to Faith](#)** | Believe.....The Desire for Happiness-Fulfilling that Desire-Coming to Know God

#### THANK YOU FROM SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE

Safeguarding Committee would like to thank all volunteers who attended the workshop on Monday, 18th September 2023 at St. Bernard's. Special thanks to all who helped with the registration, catering and setting & packing up in the hall.



#### THE ANNUAL APPEAL TO SUPPORT THE FORMATION OF THE ROGATIONIST SEMINARIANS-THIS WEEKEND

*This weekend we will have a special collection for the Father Di Francia Center of Studies -(Rogationist Seminary)—the community in the Philippines that Fr Alex and Fr Wilford are from. This school year 2023-2024 the Rogationsit Seminary are sending 25 religious students (15 Filipinos, 7 Vietnamese and 3 Indonesians) for their theological studies to the Don Bosco School of Theology, as part of their preparation in their future ministry. In this regard the Community are seeking our help and support in this noble mission.*

*"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs. 19:17)*

*Your generosity in supporting this appeal would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.*

#### **ST ANTHONY'S**

##### St VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY-VICTORIA

Become a volunteer of the St Vincent de Paul Society and help change people's lives. Inviting everyone to come along and see, how the Melton South St Vinnies Conference helps our local community. We will have a BBQ on Saturday 30th September at 10.00am. Please see the flyer on the notice board and scan the QR code for more information or go to [Vinnies - Good Works](#)

**CUPPA** Please join us for a cuppa and a chat after all Masses this weekend. All Welcome!

**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!

**MEN'S MONTHLY RECOLLECTION** A time of prayer. Learning, making resolutions and fellowship. Tuesday 26th September 2023 7.00pm-9.30pm. Topic: The paralytic in the pool-charity.

##### FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION-7TH OCTOBER

Our First Saturday Devotion will begin with Rosary at 8.30am, followed by Mass at 9.00am and after Mass Fr Alex will give a talk on 'The Role of the Rosary in our Catholic Life'.

**INTERMENT OF ASHES-TONY MIFSUD** Thursday 5th October, 10.30am -Melton Cemetery

##### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

PPC minutes dated 13th July 2023 are available for collection in the foyer.

#### **ST BERNARD'S**

##### THANKSGIVING MASS and Sr. MARY FERMIO'S FAREWELL

We are celebrating our awesome community with a Thanksgiving Mass at 10.30am on Sunday 8th October, followed by a POT LUCK LUNCH in the Parish centre. We would like to thank our long-standing parishioners for their vast contributions, and also welcome and thank our new parishioners. We are also saying farewell to Sr Mary Fermio, who, after fourteen years of service to St. Bernard's parish, will sadly be leaving us. This will mark the end of 133 years of the Josephite's presence in Bacchus Marsh. Sr. Mary will be making a presentation on the history of the Josephites in the Parish centre after the 10.30am Mass. We hope to see you there!

##### COLLECTION FOR SR MARY FERMIO

We will take up a collection for Sr. Mary at all Masses **next weekend** 30th Sept/1st Oct.

##### CRAFT AND CUPPA GROUP

The Social and Fundraising team are starting a Craft and Cuppa group. Our aim is to create craft items to sell at stalls periodically to raise funds for the Church whilst enjoying a chat, cuppa, and sharing ideas and talents. Please see the notice board for more details. Our first meeting is on Thursday 28th September in the Parish centre at 10.00 am. All welcome!

##### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO JOIN THE FUNDRAISING AND SOCIAL TEAM.

Help is needed to run our Social and Fundraising events. We are a fun and enthusiastic team, enjoying a dinner out for our meetings as we discuss ideas and plans on how to support and bring our community together. If you would like to join the team, or just help out occasionally, please fill out the form in the foyer.

##### LAST CALL

This is the last call for stories, notes, reports, memories, photos etc. for the history of our parish and the people who have built it. If your family has, in any way, contributed to the building of the St Bernard's Parish facilities and culture, we would love to have that recorded.

A short paragraph will suffice.

September 30<sup>th</sup> this year is the cut-off date for contributions. Contributions should be sent to Bacchus Marsh Parish Office [BacchusMarsh@cam.org.au](mailto:BacchusMarsh@cam.org.au)

Please marked Attention: Parish history

**FREE** Available now or Mid-October. If interested or need to inspect contact Sr Mary 5367 2078

2 large desks; 2 chest of drawers; dining table with leaf; 2 book shelves; video/dvd player/TV and stand; big sideboard; chairs; bedside table; colour printer; 2 coffee tables; bedside commode; clothes horse; ironing table; steam iron; microwave; Dust buster. coat/hat stand; drawer freezer; refrigerator (no freezer) small cupboard.

## 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: 30th Sept & 1st Oct**

**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:** Marian Muller

**8.30am:** Amy Honrade

**10.30am:** Rhys Tuala

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**5.00pm:** Dolores Turcsan & Aloysious Dacunha

**8.30am:** Roa Seufatu & 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 & Annonica

**8.30am:** To be advised

**10.30am:** To be advised

### ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

#### **MINISTERS OF THE WORD—THIS WEEKEND**

**6.30pm:** John Thorne

**8.30am:** Gerard O'Shea

**10.30am:** Chloe Lindorff

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS-THIS WEEKEND**

**6.30pm:** Volunteer needed

#### **MINISTERS OF THE WORD 30th Sept & 1st Oct**

**6.30pm:** Vikki Benson

**8.30am:** Dominican Sisters

**10.30am:** Dominic Van Der Linden

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**6.30pm:** John Thorne

#### **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**October:** Greta/Grace Kratchotvil

### ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Archibald Arandez, Fay Blake, Angelo Borg, Leslie Butler, Christopher John Doyle, & Darren Grech.

#### **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 Manicaró, Lisa Melia, Damien Michael, Hazel Michael, Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Nickol, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Troy Saliba, Anna Samy, Samantha Smith, Sina, Saleri, 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:**

Mary & Zvonko Benac, John Davine, Frank McMahon, Lesley James Noonan, Bryan Stewart, Edna Thorne, & Edward Wilkinson.

#### **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:** 30th Sept & 1st Oct

#### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Kim Barton  
8.30am: Edwina La Rose  
10.30am: Judy Van Hoos

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

October: Ana

**CUPPA VOLUNTEERS— 23rd & 24th September**

5.00pm Vigil: Dolores Turcsan & Julie Sequiera  
8.30am: Sam & Pat Chiles  
10.30am: Kathleen McCurry

#### 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.  
ress: 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 :** 30th Sept & 1st Oct

#### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Marj Tung  
Sunday: 8.30am: Dianne Shelly  
10.30am: Natalia Klenkowski

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

October: Beatrice Younger



#### PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

October: 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 \$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](mailto: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,

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: | Theresa Anderson     | 0420 820 118 |
| Group 2: | Leonia Jessop        | 0450 419 654 |
| Group 3: | Beth & Alex Labrador | 0459 326 088 |

### 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**

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.  
Should they cry to me in any distress,  
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

### **FIRST READING** Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,  
to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks.  
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM 144**

**Commentator:** The Lord is near to all who call him.

**All:** The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured.

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.

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts.

The Lord is near to all who call him.

### **NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –**

#### **26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME– YEAR A**

**First Reading:** Ezek 18:25-28

**Second Reading:** Phil 2:1-11

**Gospel:** Mt 21:28-32



### **SECOND READING** Philippians 1:20-24, 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results - I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.  
Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL** Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;  
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

# The Holy Eucharist XXXI

## Devotion to the Real Presence and Growth in Sanctity (2)

What is the simplest way of identifying the Real Presence? The Real Presence is Jesus Christ who is living in heaven at the right hand of His heavenly Father and on earth only and exclusively in the Eucharist.

To summarise, therefore, the Real Presence refers to that reality which constitutes the Living Christ. And just as truly as Christ was really present in the fullness of His human and divine natures only within the limits of that Child whom Mary loved at Bethlehem (outside of the Child that lay in the straw at Bethlehem God was surely present but Christ was not present there as the God-Man).

He was not present as God and Man in the air that He breathed. He was not present as the God-Man in Mary or Joseph. He was present only and uniquely in that Man Who was born on Christmas day.

The Eucharist began in the womb of Mary. St Augustine's phrase "the flesh of Jesus is the flesh of Mary", is beautiful. It means that when we believe in the Real Presence we believe that having risen from the dead and ascended at the right hand of His heavenly Father, Christ did not leave the earth.

The real difference between anyone else and a Catholic is that a Catholic believes that Christ is present in heaven and on earth. The expression *and on earth* is our faith in the Real Presence. The discovery of the full reality of the Real Presence I consider one of the greatest graces in the spiritual life. A lot of believers do not really see it. But it is the foundation of the spiritual life!

Now the history of spirituality is related to the Real Presence. Here you could choose the life of any saint: ancient, medieval or modern. If you want to know the relationship there is between devotion to the Real Presence and growth in sanctity, read the lives of the saints. They *all* had it.

One of the simplest ways of promoting devotion to the Real Presence among those in

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formation is to get them to read from and about these saints about whose devotion to the Real Presence we know the most. Once it dawns on you, then you deal with Him as you deal with the living Christ. You talk to Him; you know He is there listening. He sees you; and with the eyes of faith you see Him.

Being in the company of Christ is not the same as knowing in whose company you are. This is one grace that I urge you to get for yourselves and then to urge other Catholics to pray for, for themselves. Some young people may have it. Converts usually have it. Most of the time that is how their conversion starts.

Consequently, one of the most effective ways of inspiring the faithful to be more devoted to the Real Presence is to expose them to the life history of the great men and women who have reached sanctity because of their own great devotion to the Real Presence.

A few names are: the outstanding theological writer on the Real Presence, St Alphonsus de Ligouri; and St Peter Julian Eymard, the founder of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers and Brothers.

St Peter Julian Eymard's writings about the Real Presence are especially important because they bring out how Christ in the Real Presence is to be imitated. This Christ who is imitable from His visible stay on earth to His Eucharistic stay on earth.

Among the virtues that Peter Julian brings out that Christ wants us to especially imitate in the Eucharistic Presence are His patience, His love, His obedience and, with strong emphasis, His humility.

A third saint is St Margaret Mary Alacoque. The two books that are easily available translated into English are her letters and her autobiography. Margaret Mary's devotion to the Eucharist was so deep that she says devotion to the Sacred Heart is devotion to the Real Presence to the Holy Eucharist.

There is no devotion that modern Popes have more emphasised than devotion to the Sacred Heart for the best reasons because the Eucharist is the Sacred Heart ... making sure that we know His physical Heart is there.