



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

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR A

8th October 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, Vikki Benson &
Marj Tung

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 9/10/2023-15/10/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday	9/10	6.30pm
Tuesday	10/10	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday	11/10	9.30am
Thursday	12/10	9.30am
Friday	13/10	9.30am
Saturday	14/10	9.00am

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

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



Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	14/10	5.00pm
Sunday	15/10	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 9/10/2023-15/10/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday	9/10	No mass
Tuesday	10/10	7.30am
Holy Hour		6.30pm
Wednesday	11/10	9.30am
Thursday	12/10	7.30am
Friday	13/10	7.30am
Providence Mass		11.00am
Saturday	14/10	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	14/10	6.30pm
Sunday	15/10	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 KORBEIT MASS TIMES

VIGIL	14/10	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 27TH SUNDAY 2023-Fr Alex Clemente

The kingdom of God is at the center of Jesus' mission. He came to launch God's kingdom here on earth. He went on preaching and did many good works to promote the kingdom of God. His sermons were invitations to live the values of that kingdom and all his miracles were foretastes of the fullness of the blessings present in that same kingdom which is about to unfold.

This Sunday's liturgy of the word focuses on the image of the vineyard which symbolizes the kingdom of God. The responsorial psalm recalls with gratitude that Israel is the vine planted and nourished by God with a beautiful plan. But during his time, the prophet Isaiah in the first reading laments with disappointments over the vine God favored. For it did not mature well nor bore good fruits.

Jesus, through the parable in the gospel, claims to be the owner of the vineyard. When he first came, he re-established the vineyard God has planted and entrust it to his disciples who are expected to work for its growth. At the end times, he reveals that he will come again to harvest the fruits of his vineyard.

Do I see myself as an active worker in the Lord's vineyard? What good fruits have I produced so far?
Let us pray that we may have enough inspiration to sincerely participate towards the progress of God's kingdom in our working places and in the community where we belong.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE?

To learn more how the Creed can become the source of joy, join us in this study over the next 9 weeks Tuesdays 7.15pm Mackillop Room, St Anthony's Church, Melton South. **Lesson 3 God and His Creation**

2023 MARIAN FESTIVAL-SUNDAY 15th OCTOBER 2023

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo Celebrant: Bishop Leslie Tomlinson 11.00am Mass

1.00pm –Festival begins (BYO lunch) 3.45pm Festival concludes with afternoon tea. Please see the poster for more details.

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC HISTORIC MELBOURNE MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

The annual Catholic Historic Melbourne Marian Pilgrimage co-hosted by Anima Women's Network and the St Cecilia Dominicans will be held on Saturday 21 October, beginning with 10 AM Mass at St. Mary Star of the Sea, West Melbourne, followed by a 5K rosary pilgrimage route through Melbourne CBD. We'll walk in the footsteps of the saints who have gone before us and pray at some of the most beautiful Marian shrines in the city, including St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Francis, St. Mary Mackillop's chapel, St. Mary Star of the Sea and more. No registration required, BYO lunch. Contact Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org for more information.

FR ALEX CLEMENTE'S INSTALLATION-SAVE THE DATE

Fr Alex's Installation as Parish Priest will be held on **Saturday 18th November 2023** 5pm at St Anthony's Church Archbishop Peter Comensoli will be in attendance and a reception will be held after the service in Padua Hall. All Welcome! Please save the date, more details to come.

28th ANNUAL FEAST IN HONOUR OF THE HEARTS OF JESUS AND MARY

Josefina Maria's Two Hearts Chapel, 274 La Cote Road, Greendale

Sunday 15th October 2023 1:30pm Holy Rosary 2:00pm Holy Mass and Procession of the Eucharistic Lord and the Two Hearts Statues Followed by afternoon tea Fr Alex Clemente - Celebrant, Fr Wilford Urmaza – Concelebrant For further details, contact Sr Maria 0425 882 470 or email twoheartscentre@bigpond.com Missionaries of Love and Peace Community

THE ANNUAL APPEAL TO SUPPORT THE FORMATION OF THE ROGATIONIST SEMINARIANS

On the weekend of the 23rd & 24th September we had a special collection for the Rogationist Seminarians. St Bernard's Parish collected \$740.00 and St Anthony's Parish collected \$ 2233.00. Thank you all for your generosity.

SOUL FOOD –CHRISTMAS FUNCTION DONATIONS

Soul Food Program Inc. has seen a big increase in our numbers of Guests over the last few years. Our Christmas function for this year will be on Wednesday 13th December 2023. Soul Food are once again looking for generous people to be a Sponsor for one of our children this Christmas. You will be given a first name and age, and asked to buy some presents for the child, to put into a gift bag (unwrapped) and deliver to Soul Food for distribution. The present will be handed to your child at our Christmas function. For many of our children, this is the only gift they will receive for Christmas. We would like to collect the presents by the end of November, so we can be organized early.

If this is something you would like to do, please call Jenny on 0408104155, and you will be allocated a local child in need of a little help.



ST ANTHONY'S

MONTH OF OCTOBER-- DEDICATED TO THE HOLY ROSARY

Our Parish will be dedicating the Month of October to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. Rosary will commence 30 minutes before Mass on Saturday mornings and at the weekend Masses. A special tribute of Roses will be made to Our Lady before the Final Blessing at Mass on Saturday morning and at the weekend Masses. Your contributions are welcomed as you get a rose or rosary in the church foyer. Flowers from your garden are welcome.

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

THANKSGIVING MASS and Sr. MARY FERMIO'S FAREWELL

We are celebrating our awesome community with a Thanksgiving Mass at 10.30am this Sunday, 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!

ALL SAINTS DAY In honour of ALL SAINTS DAY we are inviting all the families to join us, and for the kids of St Bernard's to dress as their favourite Saint, or bring a statue or picture, on Sunday 29th October, after the 8.30am Mass in the hall!

There will be games with prizes and a sausage sizzle (\$2) cool drinks (\$1) tea and coffee (free) ending in a saints parade!

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

CHURCH HISTORY AND FAMILIES WHO BUILT OUR PARISH

Thank you to all folk who have contributed information and photos for this publication. Your efforts to have material to me by Sept 30 are much appreciated. Pre-paid orders will be sought prior to determining the print run. Margaret Love

PROVIDENCE AND FRIENDS MASS Parishioners are invited to our monthly Providence and Friends Mass on Friday 13th October 11.00am. Please bring a plate for morning tea/lunch. If transport is required please let the Parish Office know or call Margot Short 0419 507 438

THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS meeting will be held in the Parish meeting room at 8pm on Monday, October 9.

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: 14th & 15th October

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: Michelle Tennakoon

8.30am: Leonia Jessop

10.30am: Rose Ma'ae

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Dolores Turcsan & Aloysious Dacunha

8.30am: Roa Seufatu & Geoff Sutton

10.30am: John Ma'ae

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

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Coleen & Annonica

8.30am: Lillian & Josephine

10.30am: Leonia & Lillian

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

MINISTERS OF THE WORD-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Evana Miesen

8.30am: Nathan Costin

10.30am: Samantha Butler

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Vikki Benson

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 14th & 15th October

6.30pm: Maureen Zahra

8.30am: Moira Ross

10.30am: Charlotte Lindorff

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: Colin Remedios

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

October: Greta/Grace Kratchotvil

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Francisco Alatrasta, Anthony D'Cruz, Francis D'Cruz, Jorris D'Cruz, Wilfredo de Guzman, Rick Galanti, Bridget Gomez, Joseph Gomez, Rosa Gomez, Fr Peter James, William Kelly, Michael Portelli, Dalcly Silva. John and Angelina Micallef

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, 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:

Kevin Bridges, Caleb Davis, Sr Mary McArdle rsj, Dominic Morabita, Fr John Nagle, Tim Shea, John Trask, & Betty Williams.

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: 14th & 15th October

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Kim Barton
8.30am: Ineke Allen
10.30am: Giles Maitre

CHURCH FLOWERS

October: Ana

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS– 21st & 22nd October

5.00pm Vigil: Judy Van Hoos and Cristal D'Souza
8.30am: Geoff & Debra Sutton & Remy Peroy
10.30am: Doris & Emily Bonello

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 : 14th & 15th October

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Jackie Tabone
Sunday: 8.30am: Lyn Shea
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

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:	Barry & Rosanna Melder	9743 5063
Group 2:	George & Doris Bonello	0431 459 668
Group 3:	Santos & Liz Schembri	0466 854 476

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

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.

FIRST READING Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend has a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.
In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.
He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.
What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?
I expected it to yield grapes.
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?
Very well, I will tell you
what I am going to do to my vineyard:
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.
I will command the clouds
to rain no rain on it.
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,
and the men of Judah
that chosen plant.
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 79

Commentator: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

All: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel
You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.
Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.
God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.
The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

SECOND READING Philippians 4:6-9

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray
for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that
peace of God, which is so much greater than we can under-
stand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.
Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, eve-
rything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, every-
thing that we love and honour, and everything that can be
thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things
that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have
heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people:
'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who
planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and
built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad.
When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants
to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants,
thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent
some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt
with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them.
"They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw
the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let
us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him
and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the
owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?'
They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end
and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the pro-
duce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have
you never read in the scriptures:
It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?
'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you
and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.

NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –

28TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME– YEAR A

First Reading:	Is 25:6-10
Second Reading:	4:12-14, 19-20
Gospel:	Mt 22:1-14



The Holy Eucharist XXXIII

Devotion to the Real Presence and Growth in Sanctity (4)

Compare the Real Presence with the Mystical Body of Christ. Both are realities. Christ now has two existences, while until He died on the Cross He had only one.

Perhaps we could put this in stages. Before the Incarnation, God was present on earth only as God. With the Incarnation, God became present on earth as the God-Man. The distinctive difference between Christ's presence on earth since the Incarnation and before, the distinctive difference is His humanity. There is now a man who is "hypostatically", that is, totally and substantially, united with the divinity present in the world of space and time.

The moment Christ died on the Cross, the Mystical Body came into existence. The physical Body of Christ came into existence at Nazareth when Mary said: "Be it done to me according to Your word." The Mystical Body came into existence the moment Christ pronounced the words: "It is finished. Into Your hand I commend My spirit."

The moment Christ died what had been only the physical Christ now took on in addition His members with whom He united Himself as their Head. The Mystical Body of Christ, therefore, is the Church. The Mystical Body may also be called the Communion of Saints. The Mystical Body is that communion of the souls in heaven, the souls in purgatory, and the living who are in God's grace and members of the Church on earth, whose head is the Physical Body.

So, the Mystical Body is a society; the Mystical Body is a group of people united with Christ. The Mystical Body has a soul. The soul of that Mystical Body is the Holy Spirit. St Paul distinguishes — he never mixes the two up; he never confuses the physical Body of Christ with the Mystical Body.

The physical Body in Greek is *Sarx*; the Mystical Body or the Church in Paul is *Soma*. What's the difference? The difference between the physical Body of Christ and the Mystical Body of Christ is all the difference

between Jesus Christ who is the Son of God, that became the Son of Mary, and the society of all those who are united with Christ joined to their Head.

The Mystical Body as such is not sensibly perceptible. You cannot see the Mystical Body as Mystical Body with your senses. You do not directly touch this Mystical Body, although the Head, Christ, is sensibly perceptible, the members are as members sensibly perceptible. The physical Christ is Jesus; the Mystical Body is the Church.

We receive the physical Body of Christ substantially. We receive the rest of the Mystical Body in spirit or volitionally because Christ has all of us on His mind. He has all of us in His Heart. And in so far as the whole Church is on Christ's mind and in Christ's Heart, that is the extent to which we receive what is on His mind and in His Heart.

The physical Body of Christ by Christ's own command is necessary to keep the Mystical Body of Christ alive. In other words, the members of the Mystical Body who are still struggling on earth will not remain united with that Mystical Body unless they receive the physical Body. They will not grow in union with Him; they will not grow in union with one another, unless they receive the Head of the Mystical Body in the Eucharist. The one is a condition for the other.

Remember: until we reach the Beatific Vision, we can be separated from Him; we are at risk of losing that union. Consequently, we must constantly strengthen our bonds with Him through the Eucharist. That is why it is called the Sacrament of unity. We are all naturally individual persons, separate, distinct from one another.

Nature divides; grace unites. The principal source of that which unites is the Eucharist. That is why Christ could not — as He did at the Last Supper — have given us the command to love one another as He has loved us unless He gave us the means. He made sure He gave us both the command and the means on the same occasion.