



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

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE -YEAR A

26th November 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
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 27/11/2023-3/12/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday	27/11	6.30pm
Tuesday	28/11	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday	29/11	9.30am
Thursday	30/11	9.30am
Friday	1/12	9.30am
First Friday Devotions		7.30pm & Midnight
Saturday	2/12	First Saturday 9.00am

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

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



Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	2/12	5.00pm
Sunday	3/12	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 27/11/2023-3/12/2023

MASS TIMES:

Monday	27/11	No Mass
Tuesday	28/11	7.30am
Holy Hour		6.30pm
Wednesday	29/11	9.30am
Thursday	30/11	7.30am
Friday	1/12	7.30am
Saturday	2/12	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	2/12	6.30pm
Sunday	3/12	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	2/12	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.

"Christ the King Feast Day"

- by Fr. Lucas Myint

Theme: Christ is our Good Shepherd and our King. To make efforts to be allowed to enter His eternal Kingdom.

Prophet Ezekiel speaks of a shepherd, who cares for the whole flock and especially for those sheep which are in danger. In Jesus, the Good Shepherd, his prophecy is fulfilled.

Jesus Christ is our King who serves and saves. He is not a dominating King. His Kingdom is in the hearts of people when they have love, peace, joy and justice. His Kingdom is partly arrived, but only in heaven, it will be fully arrived.

This feast, Kingship of Christ teaches us to serve Christ in our fellow creatures here and now, with love and dedication. When we die, we shall be judged on the basis of our faith in God and for love, especially for poor and neglected.

Let us accept Christ in the Eucharist as our loving King and recognize Him in people who are in need of our help as our King did.

This feast brings the end our liturgical Year A, and with it comes a reminder that our own earthly life will end one day and we are to prepare for our eternal life by our good moral life and charitable service. We shall be judged not only on the sins of committing, but also on our sins of omission.

If you like to be welcomed into Christ's Eternal Kingdom, practise His teachings and follow his footsteps of giving preference to His Father and helping the people in need.

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 few weeks Tuesdays 7.15pm Mackillop Room, St Anthony's Church, Melton South. **Lesson 10 The Church**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM Classes for our Sacramental Program will begin early in 2024. If you have a child who is attending a non Catholic school, and would like that child to receive their sacraments, please go to enrol4sacraments@gmail.com and leave your contact details and the child's details, age, grade and sacraments already received. Please note the child must be a baptised Catholic.

ADVENT REFLECTION TALKS Prepare yourself for the coming of Jesus through in depth Reflection and Study on the Sunday Advent readings. 7.15pm –Monday 27/11 Monday 4/12 Tuesday 12/12 & Monday 18/12. Reflection will be in the Mackillop Room at St Anthony's Church.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS FROM ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S FOR MAKING FR ALEX'S INSTALLATION MASS AND RECEPTION A JOYFUL OCCASION. THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED DURING THE INSTALLATION MASS AND THOSE WHO ORGANISED AND DONATED FOOD FOR THE RECEPTION AND TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO DEDICATED THEIR TIME AND TALENT TO MAKE IT AN OCCASION TO REMEMBER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF OUR PARTNERED CHURCHES!

ST ANTHONY'S

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 8th DECEMBER

Novena to the Feast of Immaculate Conception will be recited daily at each mass beginning Wednesday 30th November until Thursday 7th December. Please join us on Friday 8th December for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Rosary: 6.30pm Solemn Mass: 7.00pm followed by a procession and veneration of Mary Immaculate at the Padua Hall. The evening will conclude with a sausage sizzle, salad and cake.

We will have a collection at the 7.00pm Mass on Friday 8th December, to cover the expenses for the whole evening's celebration.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

If you or your family are on your own on Christmas day and don't have family or friends to share a Christmas meal with. You are welcome to join us for lunch. We will do our best to make it an enjoyable few hours for you. When: Christmas Day Where: Padua Hall Time: 12.00noon till 4.30pm. If you are joining us, please add your name and phone number on the clipboard provided in the foyer. For more information please contact Elizabeth 0422 882 562

MEN'S RECOLLECTION-TUESDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2023

A time for prayer, learning, making resolutions and fellowship 7pm-9pm.
Topic: Christian view of death

CUPPA

Please join us for a cuppa and a chat after all masses this weekend.

Prayer for our Dearly Departed

All: O Jesus our loving Saviour, grant we pray you, in your mercy, that through the intercession of Blessed Mary, ever-Virgin, and all your Saints especially our patrons St Anthony of Padua and St Bernard of Clairvaux, that our friends, relatives, members of our family and parish community who have passed from this world, may attain a share in everlasting happiness. Amen

Priest: Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord

All: And let your perpetual light shine upon them.

Priest: May they rest in peace.

All: Amen



ST BERNARD'S

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Novena to the Feast of Immaculate Conception will be recited daily at each mass beginning Wednesday 30th November until Thursday 7th December.

ST. BERNARD'S CHRISTMAS FAMILY DAY

Come and join us after the 10.30am Mass on SUNDAY 10th December for Christmas Fundraising Fun! We will have an Advent Pageant, BBQ, Drinks, a Craft Stall, Games for the children and adults young at heart, and a visit from St. NICHOLAS with lolly bags.

CHRIST THE PRIEST FEAST DAY NOVEMBER 26TH

Come and celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. We will have a Eucharistic Procession after the 8.30 am Mass followed by Benediction. (10.30am mass goers are encouraged to arrive earlier in time to join in with the Procession which will begin at around 9.30 am) Morning tea will be held in the Parish centre after the Procession and also after the 10.30am Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

ST BERNARD'S NEW THANKSGIVING/OFFERTORY GIVING PROGRAMME

Thank you for your involvement in the Parish Offertory Giving program. This new programme asked both present givers and new givers to complete a pledge card. The card's main focus was the giving programme but it also allowed first (clergy) collection to be given electronically. Thank you to everyone who handed in their cards If you haven't returned your pledge, I encourage you to carefully consider your offering and return your pledge cards to the parish office or into any of the mass collections.

ST VINCENTS DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Bacchus Marsh St Vincent de Paul Conference is providing a hamper of essential pantry items to families we have assisted during the year. Through the generosity of St Bernard's Primary School families, we will have sufficient items to make up the hampers, although we do require funds to purchase gift cards for the children of the families we are assisting.

If you wish to make a contribution donation can be placed in the poor box in the Church or by contacting President Margot Short 0419 507 438 or Treasurer Peter Kennedy 0407 778 119.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE

Available after all masses this weekend.
\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Eftpos available.

PIETY STALL

Christmas cards now available \$3.00 (pack of 5)
Columban calendars \$10.00 each

KSC MEMORIAL MASS

KSC deceased members Memorial Mass
Friday 1st December 2023 at 6:00pm
Dinner to follow at Bacchus Marsh Golf Club.

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: 2nd & 3rd December

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: Liza Fernandes

8.30am: Rosabella Tuala

10.30am: Anakin Anderson

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Gavin Pereira & Ann Tennakoon

8.30am: Roa Seufatu & Ron Howard

10.30am: Frank Carreon

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

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Ron & Natalie

8.30am: Lillian & Leonia

10.30am: Annonika & Lillian

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

MINISTERS OF THE WORD-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: Sonia Smith

8.30am: Gerard O'Shea

10.30am: Samantha Butler

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS-THIS WEEKEND

6.30pm: John Thorne

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 2nd & 3rd December

6.30pm: Sonia Smith

8.30am: Dominican Sisters

10.30am: Charlotte Lindorff

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: John Thorne

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

December: Jan Carragher

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Tom Dagge, Martin Giordmaina, Lorenz Sapulovic & Damina Sciberras.

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:

Andrew Connell, William Delahey, Gladys Gonsalvez, Kerry Lindsay, Ray Marshall, Jean McGregor, Peter Mullins, Con Rigby, Roma Webster & Kevin Unthank.

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, Charlie, Gary Ching, Josephine Cilia, Brendan Coburn, Robyn Cola, Ted Cooling, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, Judy Delahey, Theresa Dockter, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, Evelyn, George Farrell, Yvonne Feliciouz, 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, Joe, 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: 2nd & 3rd December

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Lorraine Tellis
8.30am: Edwina La Rose
10.30am: Judy Van Hoos

CHURCH FLOWERS

December: Gloria

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS— November

5.00pm Vigil: Cristal de Souza & Dolores Turcsan
8.30am: Pat & Sam Chiles & Remy Peroy
10.30am: Doris & Emily Bonello &
Romeo & Maribel Sacris

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330
The Melton South Conference meet every 1st Tuesday of the month in the Mackillop 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's 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 : 2nd & 3rd December

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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



CHURCH FLOWERS

December: Melinda Martin Blooms

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

December: Colm Carragher & Ron Geurts

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Welfare number 1800 305 330.
Bacchus Marsh Vinnies Store 164-190 Main Street is in urgent need of donations. All donations gratefully appreciated and can be dropped at the Store 7 days a week. Any enquiries please contact the Store Manager on 8199 4205

THE NEIGHBOURS PLACE

The Neighbours' Place is a Christian not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to serve people of the **Moorabool Shire**, west of Melbourne Australia, who are disadvantaged, at risk or temporarily unable to feed themselves or their family and who are in need of emergency food relief.

NILS is a **No Interest Loans Scheme** for assistance of up \$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:	John & Rose Ma'ae	0460 672 571
Group 2:	Tune & Epi Kepu	0410 416 445
Group 3:	Helen Calleja	0401 497 980

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

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and divinity,
and wisdom and strength and honour.
To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest - it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 22

Commentator: The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

All: The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT –YEAR B

First Reading: Is 63:16-17 64:1.3-8

Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9

Gospel: Mk 13:33-37



SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in the proper order: Christ as the first -fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord sits as King for ever.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The Holy Eucharist XL

My Eucharistic Day

(7) Before the Altar Throne: Saturday

The Sacrificial Offering of Our Eucharistic Lord

"He Loved Me and Delivered Himself for Me"

We have with us in the Host one whose presence is the unaltered bliss of the angels and the saints. To be with God is the happiness of Heaven. And here I am with him.

Like the saints I praise and adore him. Like the blessed who possess him in the Beatific Union, I can possess him by the Eucharistic Union or Holy Communion. If we only could understand the value of one Mass! The infinite value of this Sacrifice far surpasses our negligences, our miseries and even our faults.

We do not half realise how great a treasure God has placed in our hands or how great is the gift which we can offer him every time we present to him his Son on the altar, regardless of the unworthy creature who makes the offering.

We can renew this offering at all hours and at every moment of the day and night, by uniting ourselves to the priest who in some part of the world has just consecrated; or we can unite ourselves to the Heart of the great High Priest, Jesus, who in the Host offers himself to his Father without ceasing and renders him a homage which is entirely worthy of him.

At God's tribunal many good souls will be surprised to find to their credit so many good works, simply because they knew how to offer them to God the Father through Jesus. This they did regardless of their own merit and with no sensible fervour. They did this at times when it seemed to them that they were wholly undeserving but yet with childlike confidence, and so it will be that a multitude of souls will have been helped, strengthened and saved by this offering of Jesus immolated on the altar.

Through him they become purified of those numberless imperfections which so greatly afflicted them on earth, and all because they understood where to go when their discouraged souls needed the Blood of the Lamb.

If in addition they have offered up the many trials, sorrows and sacrifices brought to them each hour of the day, hiding and abandoning themselves in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, letting him make amends for their failures as he recommended to St Margaret Mary Alacoque, then they will see their deeds, so defective in themselves, all impregnated with the Precious Blood and clothed with an incomparable value.

They will even, as the vilest metals dipped in gold, take on a glittering brilliance. They will see that it was not in vain that they sought refuge in the Divine Heart, that it was not in vain that they abandoned themselves to his infinite mercy. Understanding that they could not depend on any creature here below and still less on themselves, they came to the Divine Prisoner, crying to him, "Have pity, I have no one but you."

By St Peter Julian Eymard, catholicculture.org

Would we not feel moved by pity if some one came to us in deepest affliction and said, "You are all I have"? Would we not feel obliged to help? Would we not want to prove that it was not useless to appeal to our heart? How then could it be that the most merciful, the most sympathetic Heart, the Heart of the God who put into our hearts a spark of the abundance of his own pity, could remain insensible to our cry of distress? This would be inconsistent.

If among those who read these words there be anyone suffering from painful, inexplicable feelings which bind the soul, oppressing it and spreading over it profoundest darkness, if there be any one weighted down by weariness or dreadful temptations who feel that they are losing everything — Faith, Love and Hope — that God himself seems to be turning from them, that Heaven is closed to them and that death is in their souls, I implore you, come to the Host. Throw yourself at his feet and cry out to him: "I have none but you, save me by your love and by the Wound of your Heart."

Then abandon yourself to him. Leave your soul in his hands, as the Canaanite woman confided to Christ her daughter who was possessed of an evil spirit ... In his name I say to you: "No, you will not perish." Never during his mortal life nor in his Sacramental state has Jesus repulsed or abandoned anyone who had recourse to him.

However terrible the state of your soul may seem to you, however unfortunate or even guilty you may feel, do not shy from him, do not lose courage but cling to your Jesus even as a drowning man clings to a rope. Stay near the Host, for his Heart is ever watchful. Who can tear you away if you do not wish to leave? Has he not said that he himself will be your Defender? Remember, his Word has never deceived anyone.

I implore you, do not listen to Satan, who wishes to drive you away. Stay with Jesus, who is there in the Sacred Host, for from him, even as in the days of his mortal life, there will come forth that powerful virtue which heals and saves.

It is for you that he is there, for you that he offers his Blood, his Wounds and his Merits. It is when you are there prostrate at his feet, that his Blood flows over your soul, that he covers you with his Merits, that he hides you in his Wounds and in his Heart.

If you but understood the gift of God, if you but knew him who waits for you all the day long, even as he waited at the well of Jacob for the Samaritan woman, you would realise that it is there that he has desired to cover you with his protection and his love, it is there that he wishes to be your Saviour and your Friend, it is from there that he will come to you in your last hour if you have gone to him during your life, and it is there that he will receive you into his Heart to conduct you to eternal happiness.

May our sweet heavenly Mother obtain for us all the grace to understand more and more the greatness of the Gift of the Eucharist, and may these pages resound to the Glory of her Eucharistic Son.