



## 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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT -YEAR B**

**17th December 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.sfcc.vic.edu.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 18/12/2023-24/12/2023**

### MASS TIMES:

|           |              |                          |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Monday    | <b>18/12</b> | 5.00am & 6.30pm          |
| Tuesday   | <b>19/12</b> | 5.00am , 9.30am & 6.30pm |
| Wednesday | <b>20/12</b> | 5.00am & 9.30am          |
| Thursday  | <b>21/12</b> | 5.00am & 9.30am          |
| Friday    | <b>22/12</b> | 5.00am & 9.30am          |
| Saturday  | <b>23/12</b> | 5.00am & 9.00am          |

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

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



### Sunday Masses

|                |              |                          |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | <b>23/12</b> | 5.00pm                   |
| Sunday         | <b>24/12</b> | 5.00am, 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 18/12/2023-24/12/2023**

### MASS TIMES:

|                            |              |               |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Monday                     | <b>18/12</b> | No Mass       |
| Tuesday                    | <b>19/12</b> | 9.30am        |
| Holy Hour & Reconciliation |              | 7.00pm-8.00pm |
| Wednesday                  | <b>20/12</b> | 9.30am        |
| Thursday                   | <b>21/12</b> | 9.30am        |
| Friday                     | <b>22/12</b> | 9.30am        |
| Saturday                   | <b>23/12</b> | 9.00am        |

### Sunday Masses

|                |              |                  |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | <b>23/12</b> | 6.30pm           |
| Sunday         | <b>24/12</b> | 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 | <b>23/12</b> | 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.**

### REFLECTION 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2023- Fr Wilford Urmaza (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

**I AM NOT THE CHRIST!**

To understand today's Gospel, let us go back to the prophecy of Isaiah in the Old Testament, where he foretold about a precursor who would proclaim the coming of the Lord. "He is the voice crying out in the wilderness to make a way and straighten His paths" (Is 40:3). Isaiah wrote this prophecy about seven centuries before the coming of the Lord. So, who then is the mouthpiece referred to of the one coming?

In St. John's Gospel today, the one alluded to is John the Baptist, the herald of Good News. His name doesn't appear randomly in the Gospels devoid of any importance but bears an essential role in the history of salvation. He is the son of Zechariah, from the priestly lineage, and Elizabeth, the cousin of Mary. In Jewish tradition, a child's name carries his family identity, future preoccupation, and who he will become. In this case, his name appears to invoke the graciousness of God right from the beginning.

In Luke's Gospel, after the announcement of the Angel Gabriel to Mary about her role in becoming the mother of the Son of God, she hastily visits her cousin Elizabeth, who's on her six-month pregnancy, to divulge God's power and greatness. Being humble and obedient, they both assent to the tasks entrusted to them to accomplish. God's divine plan becomes evident through these two blessed women by giving birth to two great personalities that would fulfill God's grand plan of salvation.

And what is his specific role in this whole economy of salvation?

The author emphasized the role of John the Baptist as a witness. He was not the Light but came to bear witness to the Light. This declaration underscores the humility and awareness of John the Baptist's identity.

The fact that Jewish leaders specifically ask if he is the Christ, Elijah, or the Prophet reflects the anticipation and expectation surrounding the coming of the Messiah. The people were eagerly awaiting the fulfillment of the prophecies, and John's bold and charismatic presence in the wilderness drew their attention.

He serves as a model of humility, redirecting the focus away from himself and toward the impending arrival of Jesus. His baptism is an act of cleansing and repentance, preparing hearts for the transformative encounter with the Messiah.

Reflecting on this passage, how do we prepare the way for our Lord amid the pressing circumstances? Are we shifting our vision to the true Light that has come into the world?

The call to repentance and readiness resonates, inviting us to make straight the way of the Lord in our hearts, removing any obstacles that hinder a profound encounter with Christ. Just as John the Baptist pointed to the Light, we too are called to be voices in the wilderness, heralding the arrival of the Savior who brings hope, redemption, and the fullness of God's grace.

## PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

### NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

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

**MELBOURNE OVERSEAS MISSION-SPECIAL COLLECTION** Last weekend we had a special collection for the Melbourne Overseas Mission. St Anthony's collected \$477.70 and St Bernard's collected \$420.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**PARISH OFFICE** Both parish offices will be closed on Tuesday 19th December 11.00am-1.00pm.

#### **CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES (SIMBANG GABI)-16th December-24th December**

We will be celebrating Mass at **5.00am each morning from Saturday 16th December– Sunday 24th December**

at St Anthony's Church. Please join us in this spiritual preparation for Christmas. Please stay after mass for a cuppa and fellowship.

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

##### **ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY-CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023**

Our parish is supporting the St Vincent de Paul Society's Christmas Appeal, with a special collection this weekend.

Parishioners are encouraged to donate generously to help continue the Society's work of helping those most in need. Please do so by donating to our special collection this weekend or by calling **13 18 12**, OR visit our website [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS** If you would like to contribute to the cost of the flowers for our Christmas services, please place your donation in the box provided on the sanctuary. Thank you.

##### **FAMILY CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS-5.30PM 24th December**

Dear fellow parishioners, we are strongly encouraging all children who come to the 5:30pm Christmas vigil Mass on 24th Dec to help create and join in the spirit by coming dressed as a biblical Christmas character: e.g., Mary, Jesus, Joseph, shepherd, angel, wise man, star, drummer boy. Let's celebrate 'Jesus' birthday'!

The 5:30pm Family Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve will be live streamed. Connection is through the 'St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church Melton South' Face book page.

**BINGO** On Tuesday 5th December we had a special Christmas Bingo event. The amount raised through ticket sales was \$ 6792.00 and the canteen, run by our social committee raised \$1776.60. Thank you to all our volunteers and patrons for supporting this fundraiser, all funds will go towards the extension of Padua Hall.

Please note our last night for Bingo will be Tuesday 19th December and we will recommence on Tuesday 16th January 2024.

##### **SPECIAL COLLECTION –FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER**

We had a special collection last Friday at the mass for the Immaculate Conception. We raised \$330.25, these funds covered the expenses on the evening and will also go towards further Marian events.

##### **PARISH PASTORALCOUNCIL MINUTES-DATED 14th SEPT 2023**

The PPC minutes are available for collection in the church foyer.

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

##### **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.**

##### **HOLY HOUR AND RECONCILIATION**

Holy Hour and Reconciliation will be held at St Bernard's on Tuesday 19th December 7.00pm-8.00pm.

##### **WEEKDAY MASS TIMETABLE**

Parishioners please note our weekday 7.30am mass will now be held at 9.30am during the summer school holidays.

**THANK YOU!** St. Bernard's Social and Fundraising Group would like to thank all who participated and contributed to our Christmas Family Day, Advent Pageant, Raffle, and Craft Stall. What a great effort and beautiful community spirit! We have raised an amazing \$1,790.50! This will go towards next year's 150th Anniversary expenses. Congratulations to the following Raffle prize winners: Scott Xanthoulakis, Ned Brennan, Elizabeth Brennan, Beatrice Young, Sam Van Der Linden, Jan and Anton, John Cooper, Sr. Mary Sarah, Agnes Nabanoba, Debra Campani, Lucille, Jenni Davine, Isaac Halloran, Nicholas Russell. Guess the lolly jar winner: Blake Williamson.

Parishioners please note next weekend's newsletter will be the final one for the year. While the parish office is closed for the Christmas holidays (27th December –8th January) we will have a 'holiday' version of the newsletter for the weekends of the 31st Dec and 7th Jan. Please note the newsletter will be a simple edition to cover this holiday period.

If you have any items for next weekend's newsletter please send them in by Wed 20th December. Thank you. Judy

#### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

##### **CAROLS PRECEDING ALL MASSES**

|               |          |               |              |
|---------------|----------|---------------|--------------|
| Christmas Eve | 24th Dec | Live streamed | 5.30pm Mass  |
| Christmas Eve | 24th Dec |               | 8.00pm Mass  |
| Christmas Eve | 24th Dec |               | 11.00pm Mass |
| Christmas Day | 25th Dec |               | 10.30am Mass |

##### **NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICES**

|                |          |                   |              |
|----------------|----------|-------------------|--------------|
| New Year's Eve | 31st Dec | Adoration 10.00pm | 11.00pm Mass |
| New Year's Day | 1st Jan  |                   | 10.30am Mass |

#### **RECONCILIATION**

Reconciliation will be held at St Bernard's Church Tuesday 19th December 7.00pm-8.00pm.

#### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

##### **CAROLS PRECEDING ALL MASSES**

|               |                     |              |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Christmas Eve | 24th Dec            | 6.30pm Mass  |
| Christmas Eve | 24th Dec (Korobeit) | 8.30pm Mass  |
| Christmas Eve | 24th Dec            | 10.00pm Mass |
| Christmas Day | 25th Dec            | 10.30am Mass |

##### **NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICES**

|                |         |              |
|----------------|---------|--------------|
| New Year's Day | 1st Jan | 10.30am Mass |
|----------------|---------|--------------|

## 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: 23rd & 24th 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 & Gavin Pereira

**8.30am:** Amy Honrade & Leonia Jessop

**10.30am:** Rose Ma'ae & Joseph Ma'ae

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

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

**8.30am:** Geoff Sutton & Philip Anyayahan

**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:** Godwin & Annonika

**8.30am:** Josephine & Lillian

**10.30am:** Leonia & Godwin

### ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

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

**6.30pm:** Maureen Zahra

**8.30am:** Moira Ross

**10.30am:** Chloe Lindorff

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

**6.30pm:** Colin Remedios

#### **MINISTERS OF THE WORD 23rd & 24th December**

**6.30pm:** Vikki Benson

**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:**

Noe Taupi Asiata, Andrea Butcher, Rita Christian & Margaret Hilbert.

#### **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:**

Marie Graham, Patrick Green, Raymond Hare, Walter Ibbs, Michael Kenny, Johnny Lawrence, Kevin Long, Michael Marshall, Eddie Mullane, Imelda Pace, Pat Pigott, Sheila Rice, Vicki Riddell, Jane Sammut, Brian Shanahan, Alice Sloan & Joan Younger.

#### **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 Gagliardi, 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:** 23rd & 24th December

#### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Liza Chdid  
8.30am: Mercy Seufatu  
10.30am: Elizabeth Underwood

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

December: Gloria

#### CUPPA VOLUNTEERS-

5.00pm Vigil:  
8.30am: To be advised  
10.30am:

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330  
The Melton South Conference meet every 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 :** 23rd & 24th December

#### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Dianne Shelly  
Sunday: 8.30am: Marj Tung



#### 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](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: | Tunya & Jason Sant  |              |
| Group 2: | Julie & Roa Seufatu | 0402 182 458 |
| Group 3: | Josephine Muncaro   | 0416 832 013 |

### 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**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

### **FIRST READING** Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,  
to bind up hearts that are broken;  
to proclaim liberty to captives,  
freedom to those in prison;  
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.  
'I exult for joy in the Lord,  
my soul rejoices in my God,  
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,  
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,  
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,  
like a bride adorned in her jewels.  
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,  
as a garden makes seeds spring up,  
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise  
spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM** 1:46-50, 53-54

**Reader:** My soul rejoices in my God.

**All:** My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.  
He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy.

My soul rejoices in my God.

### **NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –**

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT –YEAR B**

**First Reading:** 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16  
**Second Reading:** Rom 16:25-27  
**Gospel:** Lk 1:26-38



### **SECOND READING** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things  
give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you  
to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy  
with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to  
what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may  
you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body,  
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called  
you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL** John 1:6-8, 19-28

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,  
as a witness to speak for the light,  
so that everyone might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews  
sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who  
are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite  
openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are  
you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He  
answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We  
must take back an answer to those who sent us. What  
have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as  
Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:

Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they  
put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if  
you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?'  
John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among  
you unknown to you the one who is coming after me; and I  
am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at  
Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was  
baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

# The Holy Eucharist XLIII

## My Eucharistic Day

### An Adorer's Daily Life

When possible, begin your day with Holy Mass and Holy Communion.

Remember that Jesus in the Sacred Host is the same God-Man who while on earth toiled and suffered for you. The same Jesus who consoled the afflicted, forgave sinners and was kind to all. To you also going to your various duties, Jesus should be ever present and your actions should be performed under the gaze of our Lord in his Sacrament of Love.

If you have received him in the morning, as is expected of you, bring him to whatever place you go, that the Eucharistic influence may pervade all you do and all with whom you come in contact. Offer your work to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The Eucharistic soul now and again will turn his thoughts in the spirit of faith to the Tabernacle or the Throne of Exposition, and every hour, if possible, will say the "O Sacrament most Holy". At noon he will keep a few minutes for his examen and give thanks to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament, paying him a visit if possible.

### How to Make a Holy Hour

The Divine King is ever ready to grant us an audience and to admit our souls to the intimacy of his love.

We come to his Eucharistic Throne to render to him our homage of adoration, receiving in return his blessing and his love, encouragement and strength, light and grace to see and follow his holy will, together with the power to practise virtue and thereby become more like unto the divine Model after whose image we have been made.

"I have given you the example that you may do likewise."

### Saint Peter Julian's Eucharistic Method

There are several methods of meditation and all are good, but Saint Peter Julian Eymard suggests one which is truly Eucharistic since it is taken from the four ends (purposes) of the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

It is so simple that any Catholic practising it may become competent and progress in sanctity and the spiritual life. It unifies still more our life with the Eucharistic life of our Lord whose purpose

in coming into this world, dying on the cross and in continuing the sacrificial act, was really to render to his Heavenly Father the supreme duty of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation and petition; which fallen humanity had failed — and still fails — to adequately fulfil.

The four great acts of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation and petition comprise our entire duty towards God, the whole of the Christian life.

### First Quarter — Adoration

First, adore our Lord in his divine Sacrament by the exterior homage of the body. As soon as you perceive his adorable presence in the sacred Host, genuflect profoundly and with extreme reverence as an evidence of your faith and love.

Adore him in union with the Wise Men who, when prostrating themselves to the earth, adored the infant God, cradled in a humble manger and wrapped in swaddling clothes.

After this first silent and impulsive act of homage, adore our Lord by an act of faith. This act is needed to awaken the senses and render them susceptible to the influences of devotion. It will open to you the heart of the Divine Master and the treasures of his grace. Be faithful to it with simplicity and devotion.

Offer now to Jesus the homage of your whole being, specifying the homage of each particular faculty of your soul. Offer him your mind to know him better, your heart to love him, your will to serve him, and your body with all its senses, that each may glorify him in its own way.

Offer him your thoughts, so that the Eucharist may be the dominating thought of your life and may reign over your heart and its affections; call Jesus your God and your King and desire no other aim in life than to serve, to love and to glorify him.

Give him your memory, that it may dwell on him alone and thus desire to live but for him, in him, and through him.

Since your adoration is in itself so weak and imperfect, unite it to the adoration of the Blessed Virgin at Bethlehem, at Nazareth, in the Cenacle, on Calvary, and before the tabernacle.

Unite it to the adoration of holy Church and all pious souls who are adoring our Lord at this moment, and with the heavenly court, glorifying him in Heaven; then your adoration will share in their merit and holiness.

(To be continued next Sunday)