



St Anthony's Parish

67-75 EXFORD ROAD, MELTON SOUTH, 3338.
P.O BOX 2152 MELTON SOUTH 3338
TEL: 9747 9692



St Bernard's Parish

61 LERDERBERG STREET, BACCHUS MARSH 3340
TEL: 5367 2069
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, KOROBET
309 MYRNIONG-KOROBET ROAD 3341

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR B

14th January 2024

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

Godwin Barton	0425 734 449
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 15/1/2024-21/1/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	15/1	6.30pm
Tuesday	16/1	6.30pm
Wednesday	17/1	9.30am
Thursday	18/1	9.30am
Friday	19/1	9.30am
Saturday	20/1	9.00am

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

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



Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	20/1	5.00pm
Sunday	21/1	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 15/1/2024-21/1/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	15/1	No Mass
Tuesday	16/1	9.30am
Holy Hour		7.00pm
Wednesday	17/1	9.30am
Thursday	18/1	9.30am
Friday	19/1	9.30am
Saturday	20/1	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	20/1	6.30pm
Sunday	21/1	8.30am & 10.30am

(Rosary in the Chapel 10.00am on Sundays)

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	20/1	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.

2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR B-Sr Mary Femio rsj

Today's Gospel is about SEEING – John staring at Jesus, Jesus staring hard at his future apostles. Both were about seeing the truth of the other, the real person hidden in a human body and leading others to the truth.

A book I read recently, **Anonymous Disciple by Gerard E. Goggins**, told of two Jesuit priests who were alcoholics and this disease gave them the ability to see that alcoholism was the cause for many people to be imprisoned or confined to an asylum for mental patients. They also believed from their own experiences, that alcoholics were loved by God and were themselves lovable. Frs Fred and Jim began visiting prisons and asylums discovering alcoholics like themselves.

They saw them in a different way, people who could become sober, who were loved by God, and introduced them to Alcoholics Anonymous, where they found sobriety and peace, friendship and love. Through their efforts the two priests were holding meetings with 300 people attending. These people did not just see two alcoholic priests, but two priests who loved them and showed them the way to sobriety, so they listened. A large crowd attended Fr Jim's funeral to the amazement of his brother. One asked the question: *Do you think Fr Jim was really a saint?*

The reply he got was: *If he wasn't a saint, he'll sure do until the real thing comes along.*

How do I see others? Is my vision tainted with prejudice, fear or ignorance?



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

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 baptised. Applications are closing soon.

FAITH FORMATION

Our Faith Formation talks resume in the Mackillop Room, at St Anthony's Church Tuesday 16th January at 7.15pm.
Topic: Liturgy & Sacraments

ST ANTHONY'S



BINGO

Bingo will recommence on Tuesday 16th January 2024.

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!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Thank you to our Social Committee for organising a very successful Christmas Raffle. We raised \$2155.00 all funds will go towards the extension of Padua Hall. Thank you to everyone that supported this fundraiser. All prize winners have been notified.

ST BERNARD'S

WEEKDAY MASSES

Parishioners please note all our weekday masses during the school holidays will commence at 9.30am.

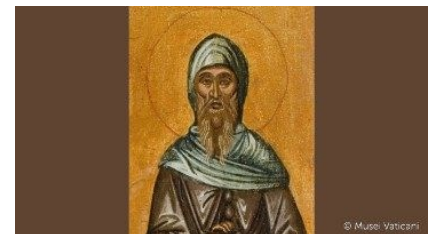
Feast of St. Anthony the Abbot

17th January

St. Anthony the Abbot was a hermit-saint in the fourth century who died in the deserts of Egypt. (Not to be confused with St. Anthony of Padua, a Franciscan saint of the thirteenth century.) Legend has it that during his periods of prayer and fasting in the desert, his only companions were the animals. An integral part of St. Anthony's feast day is the blessing of domestic animals.

Falling as it does in mid-January, the Feast of St. Anthony is a propitious time for regeneration of the cosmos. The blessing of domestic animals on this feast day was considered auspicious, keeping away harmful forces from the home and land, bringing fertility and fecundity.

[Catholic News Agency](#)



PRAYER FOR OUR PETS

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with hearts full of gratitude for the furry companions you've placed in our lives. Our pets bring joy, comfort, and companionship. We ask for your blessings upon them.

Watch over our beloved pets, providing them with health, safety, and happiness. May our care for them reflect your love and care for all of your creation. Help us to be responsible and loving stewards, showing them the kindness they deserve.

***In your loving embrace, we entrust our pets to your care.
Amen.***

Source: Unknown



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: 20th & 21st January

Please present yourself to the Mass Coordinator

15 minutes before the scheduled Mass time or a replacement will be found. Thank you.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm: Marian Muller & Lisa Marshall

8.30am: Leonia Jessop & Amy Honrade

10.30am: Rosabella Tuala & Anakin Anderson

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Gavin Pereira & Ann Tennakoon

8.30am: Roa Seufatu & Geoff Sutton

10.30am: George Bonello & Doris Bonello

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 & Godwin

10.30am: Annonika & Lillian

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 20th & 21st January

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

6.30pm: John Thorne

8.30am: Maggie Kratochvil

10.30am: Chris Lindorff

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: Colin Remedios

8.30am: Peter McPhan

10.30am: John Wilson

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

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

January: Parish Office

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Molimau Asiata, Alfredo Ling Baoan, Maria Cachia, Wilma Dacunha, Letizja Gatt, John Paul Montejo, Mary Noronha & Colin Prowd

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:

Margaret Bolger, Zoe Egan & Yvonne Kelekis.

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: 20th & 21st January 2024

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequeira

8.30am: Ineke Allen

10.30am: Gilles Maitre

CHURCH FLOWERS

January: Ana

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. res: 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 : 20th & 21st January 2024

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Marj Tung

Sunday: 8.30am: Dianne Shelly



CHURCH FLOWERS

January: Tup Shea

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

January: 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:	Carmen Vella	0429 435 724
Group 2:	Sr Therese Dagge	0418 480 880
Group 3:	Tony & Stella Cochran	9743 6340

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

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening"'. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 39

Commentator: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

All: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:35-42

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' - which means Teacher - 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' - which means the Christ - and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' - meaning Rock.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

NEXT WEEKEND 'S READINGS –

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME–YEAR B

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Second Reading: 1 Cor 7:29-31

Gospel: Mk 1:14-20



The Holy Eucharist XLV

My Eucharistic Day

An Adorer's Daily Life

Fourth Quarter — Petition

Adore our Lord in his most divine Sacrament, pleading unceasingly for you, showing to his heavenly Father his sacred wounds, his Sacred Heart pierced with the lance, in order to obtain mercy for you and yours and unite yourself with his prayers and his intentions.

Jesus asks his heavenly Father to bless, to exalt and to defend his Church; he bids him to make it better known, better loved and served among men.

Pray for the Holy Church in the person of the Vicar of Jesus Christ, Pope Francis, so tried and so persecuted, that God may deliver him from his enemies, that he may convert them and bring them humbled and repentant, to his feet.

Jesus prays continually for the sacred priesthood, that its members may be filled with the grace and unction of the Holy Spirit: that they may grow in all virtues and be consumed with zeal for his glory and the salvation of the souls he has purchased with his death on the Cross.

Pray earnestly for your Archbishop, Peter, that God may spare him, bless and console him and grant success to his zealous desires for God's greater glory.

Pray for your pastors that they may grow in the virtues of their state and may be enlightened and strengthened in their solicitude for and direction of the flock confided to their care.

Pray that God may grant to Holy Church many saintly vocations to the priesthood. A holy priest is the greatest gift of heaven. He can bring down the blessing of God upon a whole city.

Pray for all religious orders, that they may be ever fervent and faithful in their apostolic vocation, and that all on whom the hand of God is laid may have the grace to answer the divine call to the religious life and to persevere therein. One saint may save an

entire nation, and his prayers are a surer safeguard and protection to his country than the might of armies.

Pray for the fervour and perseverance of pious souls in the world who are vowed or devoted to the service of God. They too, are religious, and have greater need of prayer and assistance, because they face greater dangers and sacrifices.

Ask of God the conversion of some great sinner. Nothing gives greater glory to God as such marvellous manifestations of his mercy and grace.

Then pray for yourself, that you may spend your days in a manner pleasing to God.

Pray for the holy souls in Purgatory. Make a little bouquet of your sacrifices, offer it to Jesus, and ask him in return for his loving benediction.

By St Peter Julian Eymard, catholicculture.org

