



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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT -YEAR B

17th March 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: meltonsouth@cam.org.au
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

Bookkeeper: Naim Chdid
Pastoral Worker for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

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
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

For any queries regarding the newsletter please contact Judy Johnson 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 18/3/2024-24/3/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	18/3	6.30pm
Tuesday	19/3	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday	20/3	NO MASS
Thursday	21/3	9.30am
Friday	22/3	9.30am
Stations of the Cross after morning Mass		10.15am
Exposition/Stations of the Cross/Talk		6.00pm
Saturday	23/3	9.00am

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

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



Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	23/3	5.00pm
Sunday	24/3	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 18/3/2024-24/3/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	18/3	No Mass
Rosary and Adoration		7.00pm
Tuesday	19/3	7.30am

NO HOLY HOUR 19th & 26th March

Wednesday	20/3	NO MASS
Thursday	21/3	7.30am
Friday	22/3	7.30am
Stations of the Cross		7.00pm
Saturday	23/3	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	23/3	6.30pm
Sunday	24/3	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 commence.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOROBET MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil	23/3	5.00pm
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PARISHIONER'S FIRST COLLECTION/SECOND COLLECTION

Parishioners who normally give cash each weekend for the collections, and wish to pay electronically 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.

5th SUNDAY OF LENT (B) JOHN 12:20-33- Fr Wilford Urmaza

THE HOUR HAS COME

As we approach Holy Week, the Gospel of John introduces us to a profound progression of what will transpire following the days of this period. While the crowd in the gospel gathers together to worship at the Feast of Passover, we are brought to this sacred time to prepare for the holiest event and the pinnacle of the celebration.

The "hour has come" holds significance in our faith as it represents the pivotal moment of Jesus in the history of salvation. The "hour" is a revelation and fulfillment of what has been prophesied in the past. It synthesizes the glorification of Jesus through his passion, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven.

This hour encapsulates the greatest act of love, where Jesus voluntarily gives Himself to save humanity, demonstrating the depth of His love and the point at which He fulfills the purpose of the mission to which He was sent for the sake of humankind.

"Unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat, but if it dies, it produces much fruit."

Jesus uses such an analogy to indicate the transformative power; through His death, he will bring abundant fruits, that is, to gather people to Himself, both Jews and Gentiles alike.

There is no shortened path to Calvary; one must embrace sacrifice and die to oneself in order to gain the fruit of redemption.

Following in His footsteps may be a challenging and arduous task, but this is the only and definite way to manifest and confirm the identity of a true disciple.

Essentially, the Evangelist invites us to contemplate the depth of Christ's sacrificial love, the transformative power of his death, and the exhortation to share in His mission of redemption through embracing the cross. It calls for a keen understanding of the significance of His sacrifice as the ultimate expression of God's radical love for humanity, urging us to respond with faith and willingness to follow Jesus in His passion to partake in His Resurrection.

PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

FAITH FORMATION for ADULTS talks continue in the Mackillop Room, St Anthony's Church Tuesdays at 7.15pm.

THE STUDY ON CHURCH HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF CATHOLIC TEACHING,

Gerard O'Shea started these talks last year at St Bernard's, it will continue this year, at 7pm last session 20th March. Gerard will also present the same study at St Anthony's 3 weeks, last session being 21st March.

LENTEN CATECHESIS FOR CHILDREN: Is on again this weekend from 12pm to 1pm at St Anthony's In Padua Hall, Ages 7-12. Parents will need to fill in a Safeguarding Form when you drop your children off.

ST ANTHONY'S

MERCY MELBOURNE & SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

On **Tuesday 19 March**, a host of churches across Melbourne will be open for an evening of prayer and the sacrament of Reconciliation as part of the inaugural "Mercy Melbourne" event. More than 40 parishes are currently involved in this Archdiocese-wide event, including St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church Melton South. The Mercy Melbourne event will fall by chance — or by Providence — on the feast of St. Joseph. The example of Joseph, particularly as a person of courage, is good for us to look to. Pope Francis uses the phrase "creative courage" to describe Joseph's trusting obedience. He trusted God, he trusted Him fully, and he offered all his abilities, his talents and skills to serve Him, and God gave him His grace to carry out the difficult mission entrusted to him.

Sometimes it takes courage to go to Confession — looking to St. Joseph, the great model of courage, might help us.

Join us on 19 March 2024

6:15 pm: St Anthony Novena followed by Mass and thence to fellowship to celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph

Lenten Reconciliation: 7:30pm - 9:30 pm

Adoration: 8 - 9:30 pm

CHRISM MASS-ST PATRICKS WED 20th MARCH 2024

Dear Parishioners of **St Anthony's and St Bernard's** **no masses** will be celebrated in our parishes on Wednesday 20th March 2024, our priests will be attending the Chrism mass at **St Patrick's, East Melbourne**. The Mass will be held at 10.30am. All welcome.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR EASTER FLOWERS- NEXT WEEKEND

Dear Parishioners we will hold a special collection at **both parishes** next weekend to assist in covering the costs of the Easter floral arrangements for the Church and the Altar of Repose.

Please give generously. Thank you.



HOLY WEEK TIME TABLE-St Anthony's Parish

Lenten Reconciliation

Tuesday 19th March: 7:30pm - 9:30 pm

Monday of Holy Week 25th March Mass at 6.30pm

Tuesday of Holy Week 26th March Mass at 9:30am & 6:30pm

Wednesday of Holy Week 27th March Mass at 9.30am

Holy Thursday 28th March No morning Mass

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm

followed by **Adoration** until **Night Prayer** 10.00pm

Good Friday 29th March

Stations of the Cross 10.00am

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3.00pm then

Veneration of the Cross until 7.00pm

Evening Prayer 7.00pm

Holy Saturday 30th March Easter Vigil Mass at 8.00pm

Easter Sunday 31st March Mass of Easter Sunday 8.30am & 10.30am



ST BERNARD'S

150TH COMMEMORATIVE PAVERS- ORDERS CLOSE SOON.

Engraved pavers available to all parishioners. Order forms in foyer. \$50. EFTPOS available after all Masses this weekend. Orders close 2nd April. For more information contact Ellen Xanthoulakis 0422571527 or Margot Short 0419507438

St. PATRICK'S FAMILY FEAST DAY Today after the 10.30am Mass in the Parish centre. Come and join us for family fun! BBQ, Desserts, games, and Best Dressed Irish-themed costume! This is a Social and Fundraising event.

EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS and TICKET SALES.

Please place Easter-themed donations in the basket in the church foyer by Sunday 17th March. All donations gratefully received. Raffle tickets will be sold at all Masses this weekend and Palm Sunday. Raffle will be drawn after the 10.30am mass on Palm Sunday.

CRAFT AND CAKE STALL Craft and cakes will be available at all Masses on Palm Sunday weekend. Please bring a cake or biscuits and then buy one! Please list ingredients. No fresh cream, raw eggs or custard. Thank you!

HELPING OUR PARISH VIA OUR MINI-MISSIONS Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help Natalia's Social and Fund-raising group, Tup Shea's flower group and Carmel Shea's garden folk and to those other good folk who have picked up extra jobs (See recent Safeguarding Circular for details).

We desperately need helpers for our MAGIC - Maintenance and Grounds Improvement Co. We must have some fit, competent odd job folk. If you can help this in area, please add your name to the sheet in the gathering space.

THANK YOU Fr Alex and our PPC thank Jen and Nathan Costin and Anne and Gerard O'Shea for their generous donations towards clean up, repair, plumbing and restoration costs because of serious flooding in and around our confessional area. Thanks go to Michelle Parr and daughters, Lauren and Leah for erecting the replacement altar servers' clothing rack. It was heartening to have some names appear on our MAGIC roster. A few more would help spread the load.

HOLY WEEK TIME TABLE-St Bernard's Parish

Monday of Holy week 25th March Rosary & Adoration 7.00pm

Tuesday of Holy Week 26th March No Holy Hour in the Evening

Lenten Reconciliation: 7.00pm-9.00pm

Wednesday of Holy Week 27th March Mass at 9:30am

Holy Thursday 28th March No morning Mass

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm

followed by **Adoration** until **Night Prayer** 10.00pm

Good Friday 29th March

Stations of the Cross 10.00am

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3.00pm

Holy Saturday 30th March Easter Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Easter Sunday 31st March

Mass of Easter Sunday (**Korobeit**) 8.30am

Mass of Easter Sunday (**St Bernard's**) 8.30am

Mass of Easter Sunday (**St Bernard's**) 10.30am



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 March

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: Aloysious Dacunha & Michelle Tennakoon

8.30am: Amy Honrade & Leonia Jessop

10.30am: Susan Malinov & Rosabella Tuala

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Gavin Pereira

8.30am: Geoff Sutton & Ron Howard

10.30am: Frank Carreon & Cita Carreon

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

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Olen & Julie

8.30am: Josephine & Lillian

10.30am: Annonica & Olen

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 23rd & 24th March

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

6.30pm: Sonia Smith

8.30am: Margaret Love

10.30am: Volunteer please

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: John Thorne

8.30am: John Wilson

10.30am: Cheryl Stevens

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

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

March: Cheryl Stevens

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Joseph Buttigieg, Marya Dolores Borg,
Nicolas Andi Durhanuddin, Paola Giordamanja, Lila Morrison & Bill Ryan.

Please pray for the Sick: David Bonello, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Christabelle, Lydia De Vega, Ann Eskdale, Ian Faux, Melanie Fue, Bruce Hynes, Kotinis Cornelia Kani, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaró, 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:

Michael Brady, Wendy Diacono, Annie Holloway, Hala Krizmanic, Peter Ward, Bernard Wilkie.

Please pray for the Sick:

Noah Barlow, 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, Matthew Jansen, John & Frances, 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 March

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Dolores Turcsan
8.30am: Mercy Seufatu
10.30am: Elizabeth Underwood

CHURCH FLOWERS

March: No flowers during Lent

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 March

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Jan & Colm
Sunday: 8.30am: Jan Farmelo
10.30am: Natalia Klenkowski

CHURCH FLOWERS

March: No flowers during Lent

PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

Colm Carragher, Ron Geurts and Michael Love.

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

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 BE ADVISED THERE WILL BE NO PREPARATION ON THE 28TH MARCH 2024 AT ST ANTHONY'S NOR WILL THERE BE ANY BAPTISMS ON THE 15TH JUNE AT ST ANTHONY'S.

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, Fr Lucas or Naim Chdid .

FATIMA STATUE—ST ANTHONY'S 11/2—25/2

These families are praying together for the mission of the Parish:

Group 1:	Jojo & Wilma Chua	0423 953 843
Group 2:	Frank & Cita Carreon	0431 206 357
Group 3:	Vilma Pinto	0400 070 263

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

1st Sunday of the month 3pm.

Divine Mercy Sunday: 7th April 2024



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.

PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH SPOUSE OF MARY

O glorious St Joseph, model of all those who are devoted to labour, obtain for me the grace to work in a spirit of penance. To work conscientiously with thankfulness and joy, considering it an honour to employ and develop the gifts received from God. To work with order, peace, moderation and patience. All for Jesus, all through Mary, all after thy example, St Joseph. Such shall be my watch-word in life and in death. Amen.

"Each of us can discover in Joseph - the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence - an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble." *Pope Francis.*



LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 50

Commentator: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

All: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READING

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Entrance: Mk 11:1-10

First Reading: Is 50:4-7

Second Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Gospel: Mk 14:1-15:47



SECOND READING Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;

and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL John 12:20-30

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you, most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder;
others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was
not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Everyone who lives and believes in me
will not die for ever, says the Lord.

The Holy Eucharist LIII

Preparation for the Eucharist

When people say, “I don't get anything out of Mass”, the obvious question is: “What are you putting into your preparation for Mass?” The Eucharist is the source and summit of our life in Christ. Each of us needs to prepare carefully, especially for the Sunday Eucharist.

How should we prepare for Mass? The most important way to do that is by living as faithful disciples of Jesus, day by day. We ask God's forgiveness for our sins, and regularly receive the liberating graces of the sacrament of Reconciliation.

We ask God to help us to grow in a life of virtue, centred on love of God and neighbour. Each day we spend some time in prayer, and seek to live rightly. That is the best way to prepare for Mass.

We also prepare by seriously seeking to understand the wording of the prayers of Mass, and the meaning of the liturgical actions that take place during the Mass.

It is vitally important that we prepare to hear the word of God. One excellent idea is to spend a little time before Mass prayerfully reflecting on the biblical readings of the day (there are many excellent Missals and missalette available).

Those who proclaim the Word of God should take special care to do that. It is good if a parish Bible study group gathers in the preceding week to study the Scriptures that will be heard at the Eucharist. Parishes may wish to print the references to the following Sunday's Mass readings (and, in fact, those for the weekdays as well) in the bulletin of the preceding Sunday.

Even if it is not possible to be present at Mass every day, you can prayerfully reflect on the Mass readings of the day at home.

How much time do I spend gazing at the TV or at a computer screen? To what purpose? Can I find at least 15 minutes every day for the reading of the Word of God, in a spirit of attentive devotion?

If we regularly pray and study the Sacred Scriptures, and especially the Gospels, we will appreciate the Word of God at Mass.

An ancient Christian tradition, called *Lectio Divina* (Sacred Reading), allows us prayerfully to encounter the Lord in the slow, meditative reading of God's Word.

Those who are more publicly engaged in the action of the Mass need to prepare spiritually so that whatever they do is done with loving devotion, whether it is reading, welcoming, leading music, serving at the altar, caring for the children, or acting as the priestly celebrant.

An important aspect of preparation is the way in which we use the time between our arrival in church and the beginning of Mass. We should warmly greet our fellow parishioners, and any visitors, certainly, but as we take our places in the church we all need a time for quiet prayer, for reading of the Scripture passages soon to be proclaimed, and for establishing a transition between the busy world of distractions from which we have come and the world of special attentiveness to the presence of God that we have entered.

When we leave a superhighway, we need an off-ramp on which we can slow down. It is the same thing whenever we enter into conscious awareness of God's presence in prayer.

God is always present to us, but we are not always present to God; so, whenever