



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER -YEAR B

21st April 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 - Allison Pereira 0422 775 245 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 22/4/2024-28/4/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	22/4	6.30pm
Tuesday	23/4	9.30am
St Anthony's Novena 6th Week-Adoration 6pm Novena 6.15pm Followed by Benediction & Mass		
Wednesday	24/4	9.30am
Thursday	25/4	9.30am
Friday	26/4	9.30am
Saturday	27/4	9.00am

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

Rosary **8.30am prior to Saturday mass**



Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	27/4	5.00pm
Sunday	28/4	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 22/4/2024-28/4/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	22/4	No Mass
Tuesday	23/4	7.30am
Holy Hour		7.00pm
Wednesday	24/4	9.30am
Thursday	25/4	7.30am
Friday	26/4	7.30am
Saturday	27/4	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	27/4	6.30pm
Easter Sunday	28/4	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	27/4	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.

REFLECTION 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER -THE GOOD SHEPHERD (JOHN 10:11-18) B- FR WILFORD URMAZA

On this 4th Sunday of Easter in the Gospel of John, Jesus aptly called himself as the Good Shepherd. He uses this powerful metaphor to reveal the nature of his mission of love for humanity. He made some distinctions of a good shepherd's preoccupation and a person hired to oversee the fold.

What makes him so?

As the Good Shepherd, he knows them individually by name and loves them unconditionally as unique individuals. He feeds and nourishes them by His grace and bring them abundant life. He lays down his life for his sheep, offering himself freely in sacrifice on the Cross. This altruistic love is the ultimate expression of the Father's love for the world that's beyond telling.

The Good Shepherd is contrasted with the hired man who abandons the flock when danger approaches. The Good Shepherd protects and defends his sheep, even at the risk of his own life. He knows each of his sheep intimately and cares for them individually. As God declares in the book of the prophet, Jeremiah, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I sanctified you."

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus actively searches for the lost and scattered sheep, and tenderly cares for the wounded and weak, bringing them back to the fold. Even his voice is recognized by the sheep. This personal, attentive love of the Good Shepherd reflects God's love for each person, whom he has created in his own image.

The universality of the Good Shepherd's sacrifice on the Cross is apparent - it is offered for the salvation of all people, not just the "sheep of this fold." Through his death and resurrection, the Good Shepherd gathers all people into one flock under his loving care.

Essentially, the Risen Christ continues to shepherd his people in the Eucharist nourishing them with his own Body and Blood.

As the Priest and Victim, he perpetually offers himself for the life of the world, making present the events in Calvary, and as a memorial of the Paschal meal he rendered to his disciples.

PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis tells us: *There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.* Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

FAMILY ENRICHMENT AUSTRALIA

Family Enrichment Australia presents a couple's workshop facilitated by marriage education experts. The workshop offers skills to improve partnership between spouses for increased happiness along with practical and immediate tactics. The event will take place on Sunday 28th April, 2:30-4:30pm at the Gamekeepers Secret Country Inn (1555 Melton Hwy, Rockbank 3335).

Cost: each person to order a beverage/afternoon tea.

This is an adults-only event. Breastfeeding babies are welcome. Contact: Renee 0403 080 632.

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on 4 May 2024 Saturday, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne.

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 3357 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

ST ANTHONY'S

PARISH OFFICE

Parishioners please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 25th April for the ANZAC day public holiday, and Friday 26th April also.

PRIME TIMERS

Our April outing will be Tuesday 30th, to The Mill Cafe and Larder, 105 Central Springs Rd., Daylesford.

We will meet at the old Bunnings car park at 10.30am.

If anyone needs a lift meet us there. Lunch for 11.30 - 12 o'clock.

RSVP 27th April so I can confirm booking numbers.

Enquiries: ineke49@yahoo.com or 4044120401.

Hope to see you there.

ST ANTHONY'S OF PADUA AND ST LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI SACRAMENTAL CHOIR

All primary school students who are part of St Anthony's primary school, Saint Lawrence primary school and the parish are invited to be part of a sacramental choir for the upcoming sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Rehearsals will be held weekly on Thursdays from 3:45 to 4:45 commencing in May. Afternoon tea will be provided and rehearsals will be held in the church meeting room. If interested please contact Mrs Caitlyn Lalor on 8099 7800 or email clalor@sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au. Please see the full schedule of rehearsals and sacramental dates. All participants must be able to attend all of the sacraments. See noticeboard.

MOTHER'S DAY BINGO SPECIAL

POSTPONED TILL 11th JUNE 2024

Join us for a night of fun. \$200 package=47games

Join us for a night of fun. \$200 package=47games

Contact Rose for further details on 0460 672 571

DON'T FORGET WE HAVE BINGO RUNNING EVERY WEEK ON A TUESDAY NIGHT AT 7PM.

NEWSLETTER-28th APRIL 2024

Parishioners please note, with the ANZAC public holiday on Thursday 25th April, our newsletter will be finalized and printed on Wednesday 24th April.

If you have any items for that newsletter please note all items must be submitted by **9.00am Wednesday 24th April**.

Thank you

Judy

ST BERNARD'S

PARISH OFFICE

Parishioners please note, the Parish Office will be closed next week. If you need any assistance please contact St Anthony's Parish Office 9747 9692 .

MOTHER'S DAY DINNER

Saturday 11th May at 6.00pm at BACK TO BACCHUS.

All Mums welcome to join us on a great night out! For booking purposes, please put your name on the clipboard in the foyer before Friday 3rd May.

PEOPLING OUR PARISH-ORDER FORMS

This 300-page full colour A4 size book is a compilation of the efforts of those priests and people who built our church, nurtured our parish culture and maintained our facilities and community life from 1841 until today.

It will be launched on June 23rd 2024, after the Special Anniversary Mass. The cost is \$ 75.00.

Please refer to the back page of the newsletter or go to our website [St Bernard's Catholic Parish | Bacchus Marsh](http://StBernardsCatholicParish|BacchusMarsh) (stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au) to order your copy!

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: 27th & 28th April

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 & Marian Muller

8.30am: Mercy Seufatu & Geoff Sutton

10.30am: Anakin Anderson & Ana Taunuu

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Gavin Pereira & Volunteer needed

8.30am: Roa Seufatu & 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: Natalie & Ron

8.30am: Josephine & Godwin

10.30am: Annonica & Olen

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 27th & 28th April

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

6.30pm: Vikki Benson

8.30am: Evana Miesen

10.30am: Volunteer needed

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: John Thorne

8.30am: Tup Shea

10.30am: Cheryl Stevens

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

May: Maureen Zahra

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Jennifer Barrow, John DeBrincat, Bernie Lavery, Josephine Pullicino, Kenneth & Ella Rule, & John David Schuler

Please pray for the Sick:

Teresita Arrozal, 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, 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:

Muriel Burt, Patrick Leonard, Marie (Pat) Roberts, Ray Rogers & Neville Thompson.

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, 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: 27th & 28th April

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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

CHURCH FLOWERS

May: Rosabella

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS-27th & 28th April

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera, Cristal D'Souza & Marian Muller
8.30am: Remie Peroy, Catherine Perez, Cecil Perez, Mary Saliba & Raquel Barrameda
10.30am: Melissa Battaglia, Daniella Spiteri
Marianne McCullagh & Lina Andrade

Thank you for the plates to share on these dates.

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.
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 : 27th & 28th April

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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

CHURCH FLOWERS

April: Tup Shea

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.



THEY WILL BE NO 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

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

Group 1:	Ben & Gita Arulandha	0478 112 996
Group 2:	Richelle & Mike Lorenzo	0475 887 149
Group 3:	Joseph & Carmel Cilia	0418 201 027

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,

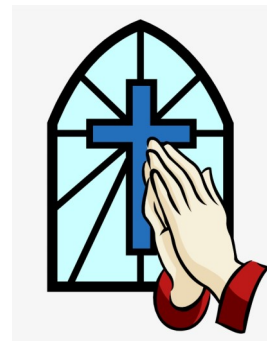
so that we may discern our journey

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

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 4:8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 117

Commentator: The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

All: The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in men:

it is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in princes.

I will thank you for you have given answer
and you are my saviour.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;
I will thank you for you have given answer
and you are my saviour.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
for his love has no end.

The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READING

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Reading: Acts 9:26-31

Second Reading: 1 Jn 3:18-24

Gospel: Jn 15:1-8



SECOND READING 1 John 3:1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 10:11-18

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:

the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd;

I know my own

and my own know me,

just as the Father knows me

and I know the Father;

and I lay down my life for my sheep.

And there are other sheep I have

that are not of this fold,

and these I have to lead as well.

They too will listen to my voice,

and there will be only one flock

and one shepherd.

The Father loves me,

because I lay down my life

in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me;

I lay it down of my own free will,

and as it is in my power to lay it down,

so it is in my power to take it up again;

and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Holy Eucharist LVIII

Celebration of the Eucharist

4. The Liturgy of the Eucharist

(continued)

Last Sunday we ended with the comment that at Holy Communion, we are not receiving “Holy” or “Blessed” bread, but rather that it is Jesus Himself that we receive, though under the appearances of bread and wine.

It is good to show a sign of reverence before receiving Communion. I suggest a bow. In our hearts we might say: “My Lord and my God.” Our “Amen” means that we have committed ourselves to be disciples of Jesus in the parish that celebrates this Eucharist.

By receiving Communion, I profess that I accept the whole faith of the Catholic Church, that I intend to participate fully in the life of the Church, and that I acknowledge the apostolic authority of the local bishop and of the Pope.

The significance of this becomes most obvious at the Easter Vigil, when those who have joined the Church through Baptism or the Profession of Faith, often after a long spiritual journey, receive Communion, and so complete the process of entry into the Catholic Christian faith community. In effect, receiving Communion is the way in which a person fully becomes a Catholic Christian.

Jesus did not will that we simply relate to him one by one. The act of receiving Communion is a profound affirmation not only of a personal and individual relationship with Jesus, but of a relationship with the faith community, the parish, which is the fundamental context for our discipleship.

This is why it is a general principle that only those who are Catholic Christians receive Communion in the Catholic Church. Others are most welcome to join us in prayer, and we deeply appreciate the goodness and fidelity that they show in their lives. But, for someone who is not a Catholic Christian to receive Communion would be to profess by action a faith identity that does not correspond to what that person in conscience accepts.

By Cardinal Thomas Christopher Collins, catholicculture.org

We all pray for the day when all Christians will be united in faith, and will be able to celebrate the Eucharist together. We are not there yet, but we are already united in Baptism, and in many elements of faith, and so we can pray together, and work together for the coming of the Kingdom in many ways.

If they wish to do so, those who do not receive Communion, for whatever reason, may come forward for a prayer or a blessing, or they may wish just to stay in their place. We welcome them most sincerely to our celebration.

After Communion, we should spend some time in quiet prayer and adoration. There should be a period of silence to allow for this.

Those who handle the Eucharist should always do so reverently, in an unhurried manner, without a lot of distracting commotion. It should always be evident that they are profoundly aware that they are handling not bread and wine, but the Body and Blood of Christ.

5. Go, in the Peace of Christ

With a final prayer and blessing, we are sent forth on our mission: “Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.” We come together, to be strengthened by our encounter with the Lord in Word and Sacrament, so that we may go and put our faith into action.

Our final hymn should be filled with a spirit of lively energy, sending us out into the continuing struggle.

It is an excellent idea if, after Mass, the parishioners spend a few moments in silent prayer before leaving. It is also good if, after that, the community can gather for Christian fellowship.

Some communities have a meal, or a time for coffee and conversation. This is a fine idea, but we should try to arrange this so that both before and after Mass the actual worship area may be a place for silent prayer. We leave the Mass, enlightened and strengthened for our mission as disciples.