



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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD -YEAR B

12th May 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 13/5/2024-19/5/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	13/5	6.30pm
Tuesday	14/5	9.30am
St Anthony's Novena 9th Week-Adoration 6pm Novena 6.15pm Followed by Benediction & Mass		
Wednesday	15/5	9.30am
Thursday	16/5	9.30am
Friday	17/5	9.30am
Saturday	18/5	9.00am

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

Rosary **8.30am prior to Saturday mass**



Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	18/5	5.00pm
Sunday	19/5	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 13/5/2024-19/5/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	13/5	No Mass
Tuesday	14/5	7.30am
Holy Hour		7.00pm
Wednesday	15/5	9.30am
Thursday	16/5	7.30am
Friday	17/5	7.30am
Saturday	18/5	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	18/5	6.30pm
Sunday	19/5	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 KOROBEIT MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil	18/5	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.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD-Fr Alex Clemente, RCJ

In the appearances of the risen Jesus, a clear instruction to his disciples was to go and remain in Jerusalem for the fulfillment of the Father's promise. Beyond the threat of persecutions, they hurriedly proceeded and waited at the city where Jesus was arrested and crucified. But this time, they were looking forward to something marvelous to unfold.

Some Christians expected the world to end with Jesus to be exposed as the Messiah King while exaltation awaits all believers and condemnation to those who mistreated them. To everyone's surprise, the risen Jesus appeared for the last moment and began to ascend into heaven with His instruction; "go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation" (Mk 16;16). Instead of a wonderful festivity, a challenging responsibility were handed over to them.

The Lord's ascension is a feast to be celebrated in our church liturgy. Why? First, Jesus' going up to heaven represented humanity's entrance into the realm of eternity. It's like a restoration of man's original state in paradise with God during the story of creation. Secondly, Jesus' return to the Father opened an access to believers living everywhere on earth to reach our Lord Jesus. Rather than detaching away Himself from the concerns of the world, Jesus became available to believers as a Mediator. Lastly, with Jesus seated at the right hand of the Father, we got an intercessor before God who is one among us. Jesus both human and divine understands and sympathizes with our human struggles. Thus, He can effectively respond to our needs and bestows on us the necessary grace to reach the place where He is eternally glorified.

We recall Ascension event this weekend in a spirit of great joy and faithful commitment to our common mission to share the Good News of salvation to everyone to we encounter.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL

Last weekend we had a special collection for Catholiccare Victoria. St Anthony's Parish collected \$867.50 and St Bernard's Parish collected \$560.00 Thank you for your generosity.

MELBOURNE ARCHDIOCESE- MASS COUNT

The annual Mass count will take place in May, the four weekends of 4-5 May, 11-12 May, 18-19 May and 25-26 May have been selected for the count. This annual count taken in May is important for our pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years. The count maintains an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese.

ST ANTHONY'S

PARISH CENSUS 2024

Dear Parishioners to support our pastoral leadership teams, in their role of acknowledging, guiding and empowering our Parish community, please fill in the census card. This information is used only for pastoral and administrative purposes within this parish and will not be shared. Thanks to those who have filled up the census cards. To those who are yet to fill up the census card please do so. Any queries, please contact either Natalie Howard, Lillian Christian, Godwin Barton or Lesley Morffew. Thank you.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL-19th May 2024

We will be holding our International Food Festival on Pentecost Sunday -19th May 2024, following the 10.30am Mass, in the Padua Hall. Come along and enjoy food from the many cultures that make up our vibrant Parish community. All funds raised will go towards the extension of the Padua Hall.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Save the date! There will be a Trivia night facilitated by St Anthony's youth Saturday 1st June 2024. It will be a night of competitive fun, food & some entertainment.

Come and support the youth & parish on this night.

Please see flyer in the foyer.

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.

ST BERNARD'S

MORNING TEA-THIS WEEKEND

There will be a morning tea held in the foyer after the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses on Sunday May 12th. All welcome.

MOTHER'S DAY CAKE AND CRAFT STALL

A Mother's Day Cake and Craft Stall will be held at all Masses on the weekend of 11th/12th May. Please bring a cake/slice/ biscuits and then buy one! Please list ingredients. No fresh cream, custard or raw eggs. Thank you.

THANKSGIVING STATEMENTS & ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving statements for those giving via direct debit/online contributions are available in the Gathering Space. So, too, are envelopes for those giving that way. If you indicated you wished to give and have not received a statement or envelopes, please put your name and contact number on the clipboard to allow follow-up.

THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Meeting will be at the Parish Centre meeting room. Monday 13th May 8pm.

FEAST OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Please come and honour Australia's patroness Mary, Help of Christians on Friday 24th of May. The Solemnity Mass will be held at 9.30am. Morning tea will be held in the hall after the 9.30am Mass.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 16th, Friday 17th, and Tuesday 21st May. Please contact the St Anthony's Parish office if you need assistance 9747 9692.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of motherhood.

***Today, we celebrate the loving sacrifice of mothers, both biological and spiritual,
who nurture and guide us in Your ways.***

***Bless them with joy, strength, and love to
continue their selfless devotion.***

***May they feel deeply
appreciated and honoured not just today,
but every day. Amen.***

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



Source: [12 Beautiful Mother's Day Prayers & Blessings for 2024 \(christianity.com\)](https://www.christianity.com/12-Beautiful-Mother's-Day-Prayers-Blessings-for-2024)

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: 18th & 19th May

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: Anakin Anderson & Rose Ma'ae

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Gavin Pereira & Volunteer needed

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: Julie & Annonica

8.30am: Godwin & Lillian

10.30am: Leonia & Godwin

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 18th & 19th May

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

6.30pm: Jeremy Toledo

8.30am: Volunteer needed

10.30am: Volunteer needed

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

6.30pm: Colin Remedios

8.30am: Colm Carragher

10.30am: Vanina Isah

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

May: Maureen Zahra

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Taumasina Pela Amoa, Emilia Borges, Annie Bowland, Emidia Buhagiar, Ivan Cornelisa, Lance Finn, Evelyn Galea, Josephine Giordamanja, Peter Jones & Robert Marley.

Please pray for the Sick:

Bruce Amoa, Teresita Arrozal, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Christabelle, Lydia De Vega, Ann Eskdale, Melanie Fue, Bruce Hynes, Kotinis Cornelia Kani, Judy Layton, Faamu Leiataua, Peter Manicaro, Damien Michael, Hazel Michael, Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Nickol, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Anna Samy, Samantha Smith, Sina, Saleri, Charlie Spiteri, Janko Stojanovic, Uatoa Tuigamala, Clint Abela Wadge, Wai Walsh, Remy Zografidis 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:

David Barry, Gus Baselmans, Patricia Coates-Richardson, Ernest Cosgrove, Billy Gleeson, Bill Grogan, Kevin Heap, Edward Hehir, Helen Lennox, Neil Loughlin, John Scott Massey, Carmel Monaghan, Frank Sammut, Marty Walta, & Peter Wouters.

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 Felicieux, 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, Nancy Pace, 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: 18th & 19th May

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequeira

8.30am: Ineke Allen

10.30am: Gilles Maitre

CHURCH FLOWERS May: Rosabella

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS– 25th & 26th May

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera, Cristal D'Souza,
Isabella Dawn Jusayan, Jojo Dimapilis

8.30am: Sam & Pat Chiles, Mary Saliba,
Remie Peroy, Raymund Sumayed

10.30am: Kathleen McCurry, Romeo & Maribel
Sacres, Melissa Battaglia,
Marianne McCullagh

Thank you for the plates to share.

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 : 18th & 19th May

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 6.30pm: Jan & Colm

Sunday: 8.30am: Jan Farmelo

10.30am: Natalia Klenkowski

CHURCH FLOWERS

May: 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.

THEY WILL BE NO BAPTISMS ON THE 22ND JUNE AT ST BERNARD'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:	Brian Barker	0408 974 322
Group 2:	Nirmala Meegama	0452 200 344
Group 3:	Mary & Tony Galea	0401 169 224

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,

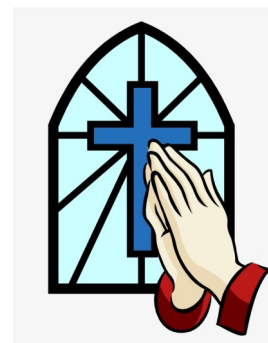
so that we may discern our journey

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

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had

promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to

Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 46

Commentator: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 16:15-20

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world, proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READING

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Reading: Acts 2:1-11

Second Reading: Gal 5:16-25

Gospel: Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15



The Holy Eucharist LXI

Celebration of the Eucharist

5. Living the Eucharist

4. Action

The Eucharist always leads to action. We do not linger, simply enjoying the presence of Jesus. The Lord comes into our midst so that we can be strengthened for our mission as disciples.

This is the rhythm of the Christian life: we come to the celebration of the Eucharist (or to the prayer of Eucharistic vigil), only to go back into our life of discipleship. From the struggles of that life we then return to the Eucharist, to be sent back out again.

The Eucharist should make us ready us for our personal lives as disciples, and also for the mission of social justice. How can we blithely receive Jesus in the church, and not show love and justice to him, present in our brothers and sisters whom we meet day by day?

As we try to live with greater Christian integrity, so that, by God's grace, what we are in our daily lives is more and more consistent with what we celebrate at the Eucharist, we can benefit from the checklist of Christian discipleship: See, Judge, Act.

See: What is the situation in which I live day by day? What are the practical needs of those around me? Who is suffering? What is really happening in my life?

Judge: What does Jesus want me to do? What do I learn at the Eucharist about the mission of the disciple? How can I put into practice the words of Sacred Scripture that I hear at the Eucharist? How can I help to make the world of my daily life more harmonious with the Lord whom I receive at the Eucharist?

Act: How can I, and my parish community, do one practical thing to make our world be more in harmony with the Gospel? How can we consistently and effectively act so as to bring the light of Christ into our society? How can we, guided and strengthened by the Eucharist, make of our society a culture of

life, not a culture of death? How in practice can we make the message of the Gospel effective in the world?

5: Hurrying To Jerusalem

The disciples at Emmaus hurried back to Jerusalem, once they had recognised Jesus "in the breaking of the Bread". Their hearts had burned within them as he spoke his word to them, and now they hastened to share the Good News.

We are passing through this world. It is not our home. During our short time here, we are like travellers staying at a hotel, getting ready to check out. It is wise not to become too attached to this life, nor to set our priorities in terms of the values of our society. Each of us has a brief time in this world, and in the perspective of eternity there is not much difference between a life of 20 years and one of 90.

Too easily we can get trapped in illusion, slaves of selfishness, and of the values of a world that is passing away. Our challenge as Christians is to live our lives to the full for as long as we are here, loving God and loving neighbour. That is what ultimately matters.

Through the Eucharist, God frees us from illusion, and brings us into contact with reality: the unseen world of divine providence and grace, the heavenly Jerusalem, the City of God. The Liturgy of the Word shows us the path ahead. The Liturgy of the Eucharist connects us to the source of eternal life.

We are homeward bound, hurrying to the heavenly Jerusalem, the fulfilment of the promise of the kingdom of God, which we have already begun to experience, during our brief stay on earth, through the celebration of the Eucharist.

"In your mercy keep us free from sin, and protect us from all anxiety, as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ."

Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus.