



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 12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR B

23rd June 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 –see page 3
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: Aloysious Dacunha 0431 012 511 **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

Email: parish.safeguard@gmail.com

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

Judy Johnson's office hours are Tue, Wed and Thu 9.30am-1.30pm

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 24/6/2024-30/6/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	24/6	6.30pm
Tuesday	25/6	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday	26/6	9.30am
Thursday	27/6	9.30am
Friday	28/6	9.30am
Saturday	29/6	9.00am

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

Rosary **8.30am prior to Saturday mass**



Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil	29/6	5.00pm
Sunday	30/6	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 24/6/2024-30/6/2024

MASS TIMES:

Monday	24/6	No Mass
Tuesday	25/6	7.30am
Holy Hour		7.00pm
Wednesday	26/6	9.30am
Thursday	27/6	7.30am
Friday	28/6	7.30am
Saturday	29/6	9.00am

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil	29/6	5.00pm
Sunday	30/6	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 **2nd & 3rd Saturdays of the month** 5.00pm

Saturday 13th & 20th July

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 12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR B –Sr Mary Fermio rsi

150 years ago, an optimistic congregation built a beautiful church in Bacchus Marsh where they could offer thanksgiving to God. At that time there were no cars, no electricity, no refrigeration, no telephones, ipads, email, Facebook. That Church celebrates today and looks forward to serving its people for another 150 years in a very different world.

Many storms swept around the Church – 2 World Wars, droughts, floods, abuse by trusted priests, corruption in business, a depression and most recently a pandemic and its fallout. Yet it has survived all. Like the Apostles the people did not abandon ship, but continued faithfully knowing Jesus was with them. The Apostles, afraid for their lives, woke Jesus – did they need his assurance in their fear? Did they believe he could do something about it? Jesus came to their help, calmed the storm and chided them for their lack of faith. **“How is it that you have no faith?”** he said.

Just as we would not wish to go back 150 years, so Jesus leads us forward through his representative, Pope Francis, to a future full of hope, not to a past that is now irrelevant. But like the Apostles each of us must have an active faith, calling on Jesus to help us survive the storms of today.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

PETER'S PENCE APPEAL –NEXT WEEKEND-29TH & 30TH JUNE

Next weekend we will have a special collection to support the Peter's Pence appeal. Donations to the appeal support Pope Francis' mission, from the proclamation of the Gospel to the promotion of integral human development, education and peace. Peter's Pence also aims to support a range of charities that bring aid and comfort to the poor, children, families, the elderly, the marginalised, victims of war and natural disasters, refugees and migrants.

VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR MEN

Saturday 6th July 10.00am-4.00pm Carmelite Monastery, Kew

The Vocations Office invites all men discerning a vocation to a day retreat. The day will include talks on the Priesthood and discernment as well as time for prayerful reflection. RSVP by 3rd July a vocations@cam.org.au

YEAR 7 2026 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN-ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2026 at St Francis Catholic College are now open. You can apply online at www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/joinus/enrolment We welcome you to join one of our college tours.

Reserve your place at www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/joinus/college-tour Applications close on Friday 16 August 2024.

ST ANTHONY'S

PRIME TIMERS

Our June outing will be to Braybrook Hotel. 353 Ballarat Rd. Braybrook. Tuesday 25th, seniors cost \$26 for buffet lunch at 12 o'clock. Meet at old Bunnings's car park 11.15am.

Lifts can be arranged.

Enquiries: Ineke 0400 120 401 or ineke49@yahoo.com.

PARISH PASTORAL MINUTES-21st March 2024

Copies of the Parish Pastoral Minutes are on display and available for collection in the church foyer.

THANKSGIVING DIRECT DEBITS

Our Parish has changed its Direct Debit Software System to a more secure and safe platform. As such, the description on your Bank Statements for Direct Debits and Credit Cards may be different. If you have any concerns or questions, please call the Parish Office and speak to Lesley on 9747 9692 Tuesday – Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm.

SOLDIERS OF CHRIST-CHILDREN'S CATECHISM

Children's Catechism sessions will be held every 1st Sunday of the month, beginning Sunday 7th July. Suitable for children aged 5-12 years of age. 12pm till 1.30pm in the Padua Hall. The sessions will include games, Catechism activities and fun! Please contact Naim 0437 004 790. See flyer on noticeboard.

ST ANTHONY'S FEAST DAY -SPECIAL COLLECTION

We collected \$1223.85 in our special collection last week.

The funds raised will go towards the expenses for the celebration of St Anthony's Feast Day.

Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH OFFICE

Parishioners please note the Parish Office will be closed on Friday 28th June., and we will have temporary office hours from Tue 2nd July– Tue 9th July, during this period the office will be open Tue-Thu 9.30am-1.30pm.

Office hours will be back to normal on Wednesday 10th July.

ST BERNARD'S

VIGIL MASS & 150th ANNIVERSARY MASS

-SPECIAL COLLECTION-22nd & 23rd JUNE 2024

This weekend we will have a special appeal collection for funds to help maintain our beautiful St Bernard's church.

150th ANNIVERSARY MASS

Sunday 23rd June our parish, once again gathers to celebrate another meaningful occasion. At **11.00 am** Archbishop Peter Comensoli will be the principal celebrant of the Mass acknowledging the 150th Anniversary of the Blessing and Opening of St Bernard's Church. Special guests will be Nancy Lloyd, Mary McMahon, Bernice Light and Pat O'Leary, our longest continuing parishioners as well as Tim O'Leary, former parishioner and altar server who is now Executive Director Stewardship for the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

At the conclusion of the Mass, Archbishop Comensoli will bless the new installation in our Gathering Space of the Foundation Stone of St Laurence O'Toole Chapel, the first Catholic Church in this parish.

Parishioners and visitors are then invited to gather in the Parish Centre for the launching, by Pat O'Leary, of the book *Peopling Our Parish*. Those who have ordered books will be able to collect their copies after the launch.

Refreshments will then be served. Those attending will receive a bookmark commemorating the occasion and will be able to view the commemorative pavers laid near the Shanny Thompson seat.

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: 29th June & 30th June

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 & Liza Fernandes

8.30am: Mercy Seufatu & Eva Caliguram

10.30am: Susan Malinov & Anakin Anderson

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Dolores Turcsan & Leo Felix

8.30am: Ron Howard & Elizabeth Underwood

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: Natalie & Ron

8.30am: Josephine & Lillian

10.30am: Annonica & Lillian

ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 29th & 30th June

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm: Maureen Zahra

8.30am: Margaret Love

10.30am: Samantha Butler

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Vicki Benson

8.30am: Colm Carragher

10.30am: Cheryl Stevens

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

June: Margaret Love

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Nellie Chiles, Mary Rose Gauci, Antonio Savona,
Peter John Thomas, & Victor Vella

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 Manicaró, Damien Michael, Hazel Michael,
Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Jan Mifsud, 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 the recently deceased:

Fr Brendan Dillon

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

Fairy Bellman, Mary (Violet) Borg, Frank & Maria Candeloro,
Maria de Freitas, Gloria Jones, Dorothy Shelly Jim Vallence
& Jean Young.

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, Joanne Mumford
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: 29th & 30th June

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Kim Barton
8.30am: Judy Johnson
10.30am: Lorette Soba

CHURCH FLOWERS

June: Gloria

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS 22nd & 23rd June

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera, Isabella Dawn
Jusayan, Marian Muller
8.30am: Remie Peroy, Catherine Perez,
Cecil Perez, Raquel Barrameda
10.30am: Kathleen McCurry, Maryanne
McCullagh, Melissa Battaglia,
Doris & Emily Bonello

Thank you for your 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 : 29th & 30th June

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 5.00pm: Margot Short
Sunday: 8.30am: Carmel Shea
10.30am: Natalia Klenkowski

CHURCH FLOWERS

June: 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@inet.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 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:	Anna Samy	0435 258 230
Group 2:	Pat Fernandes	0416 191 766
Group 3:	Josephine Muncaro	0416 832 013

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

1st Sunday of the month 3pm.



PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



NEO-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

[bow during the next line]

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Lord, we ask you to continue

to be with us as we

‘ TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL ’

together in prayer.

May we open ourselves to you

with a new depth of trust and conviction

in your guiding hand,

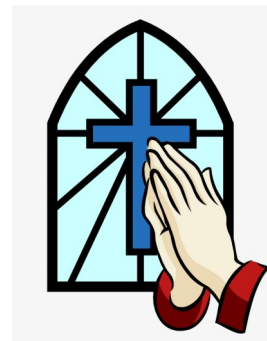
so that we may discern our journey

with compassionate and humble hearts

and come to know your Holy Spirit

Moving within and amongst us,

And so be transformed Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

The Lord is the strength of his people,
a saving refuge for the one he has anointed.
Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage,
and govern them for ever.

FIRST READING Job 38:1, 8-11

From the heart of the tempest the Lord gave Job his answer. He said:

Who pent up the sea behind closed doors
when it leapt tumultuous out of the womb,
when I wrapped it in a robe of mist
and made black clouds its swaddling bands;
when I marked the bounds it was not to cross
and made it fast with a bolted gate?
Come thus far, I said, and no farther;
here your proud waves shall break.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 106

Commentator: Give thanks to the Lord,
his love is everlasting.

All: Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.

Some sailed to the sea in ships
to trade on the mighty waters.
These men have seen the Lord's deeds,
the wonders he does in the deep.

For he spoke; he summoned the gale,
tossing the waves of the sea
up to heaven and back into the deep;
their soul melted away in their distress.

Then they cried to the Lord in their need
and he rescued them from their distress.
He stilled the storm to a whisper:
all the waves of the sea were hushed.

They rejoiced because of the calm
and he led them to the haven they desired.
Let them thank the Lord for his love,
the wonders he does for men.

All: Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them.

From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;

God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 4:35-41

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The eyes of all look to you, Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24

SECOND READING: 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15

GOSPEL: Mk 5:21-43



The Blessed Virgin Mary 6

The Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (continued)

For us, Mary is also a sign of great hope.

Vatican II stated: “The Mother of Jesus in the glory which she possesses body and soul in heaven is the image and beginning of the Church as it is to be perfected in the world to come. Likewise, she shines forth on earth, until the day of the Lord shall come, a sign of certain hope and comfort to the Pilgrim People of God” (*Lumen Gentium*, No. 68).

For this reason, she is called “Morning Star”, because she is a symbol of the victorious Christian who perseveres in faith and shares in Christ’s messianic authority and victory over the darkness of sin and death.

The term is found in the Book of Revelation (2:26-28): “To the one who wins the victory, who keeps to my ways till the end, I will give authority over the nations — the same authority I received from my Father. He shall rule them with the rod of iron and shatter them like crockery; and I will give him the morning star.”

Also in Song of Songs (6:10) we find: “Who is this that comes forth like the dawn, as beautiful as the moon, as resplendent as the sun?” As the brightness of a light penetrating the early morning darkness, Mary heralds the

coming of her Son, who is the light of the world (cf. John 1:5-10, 3:19).

She too is the “Gate of Heaven”. Mary is the means by which our Lord came down from heaven to free us from sin. At the end of her life, we believe that Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven (the Assumption), a fulfilment of everlasting life and the resurrection of the body promised by Jesus. Therefore, she is the gate through which Jesus entered this world, and the gate of fulfilled promise by which we will share everlasting life.

Therefore, we look to her as the “Star of Sea”. As a star guides the sailor on the stormy sea to safe port, so Mary, through her prayer and example, guides us along our journey of life, over sometimes turbulent water, to the heavenly port.

In all, Mary is the “Mystical Rose”. The rose is considered the most beautiful flower, the flower of royalty, which surpasses all others in fragrance. Mary has the sweetness of sanctity and the beauty of virtues.

In sum, all of these titles remind us of the important role of the Blessed Mother in our Catholic spirituality, as a model of virtue and sanctity, in her motherhood, and as a sign of the life to come.

By William Saunders, catholiceducation.org



Left:
The Gate of Heaven



Right:
Mystical Rose