



## 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, KOROBEIT  
309 MYRNIONG-KOROBEIT ROAD 3341

THE 15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR B

14th July 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,<br>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<br>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 15/7/2024-21/7/2024**

### MASS TIMES:

|           |             |                 |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|
| Monday    | <b>15/7</b> | 6.30pm          |
| Tuesday   | <b>16/7</b> | 9.30am & 6.30pm |
| Wednesday | <b>17/7</b> | 9.30am          |
| Thursday  | <b>18/7</b> | 9.30am          |
| Friday    | <b>19/7</b> | 9.30am          |
| Saturday  | <b>20/7</b> | 9.00am          |

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

Rosary **8.30am prior to Saturday mass**



### Sunday Masses

|                |             |                  |
|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | <b>20/7</b> | 5.00pm           |
| Sunday         | <b>21/7</b> | 8.30am & 10.30am |

Confession is available and begins 30 minutes prior to each Mass and will cease 5 minutes before Mass commences.  
No Confession on Monday.

**ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 15/7/2024-21/7/2024**

### MASS TIMES:

|           |             |         |
|-----------|-------------|---------|
| Monday    | <b>15/7</b> | No Mass |
| Tuesday   | <b>16/7</b> | 7.30am  |
| Holy Hour |             | 7.00pm  |
| Wednesday | <b>17/7</b> | 9.30am  |
| Thursday  | <b>18/7</b> | 7.30am  |
| Friday    | <b>19/7</b> | 7.30am  |
| Saturday  | <b>20/7</b> | 9.00am  |

### Sunday Mass

|                |             |                  |
|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | <b>20/7</b> | 5.00pm           |
| Sunday         | <b>21/7</b> | 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 15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR B –Sr Mary Fermio**

Some years past, I attended a seminar for our Sisters conducted by an American Sister who described very vividly how we can carry around our past like dragging a black bag behind us. One can imagine what that means: it is not forgotten; it still rankles and affects our lives; it will also affect how we act in the future.

Jesus sends his apostles out to give them some practice in preaching, but tells them if they are not welcomed by a village to "Shake the dust from their feet!" and go to the next. There was no time to have a post mortem about how they were treated; nor time to dwell on their actions and attitude and lack of hospitality. They were to travel lightly, not carry unnecessary burdens. Otherwise, they would find themselves exhausted, unable to look with fresh eyes and hearts at the next village, remembering the last experience.

How many of us drag a "black bag" behind us? Resentments of the past, hurts we have felt, times we have felt ignored, not-wanted; times when people have betrayed our trust; etc etc. We need to do what Jesus said "Shake the dust (past) from our feet!" Not easy! We can lie in bed and go over and over an event and feel the same hurt and pain we did years ago!!

Mary MacKillop said: "Help one another on, and forgive and forget anything painful in the past." 1882

## PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

### NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

#### **PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL-THIS WEEKEND 13TH & 14TH JULY 2024**

This weekend we will have the Propagation of the Faith Appeal. The Catholic Mission invites you to extend your generosity to help enhance the vital services they provide. This year the Mission are focusing on the Church in Mongolia, and many other life-giving mission programs around the world. The Church in Mongolia is working hard to provide essential services to people in need. Without shelter and food the homeless and poverty stricken face a real risk of freezing to death in the harsh winter. Catholic Mission : Freecall 1800 257 296 or catholicmission.org.au/Mongolia Envelopes are also available in the Church foyer.

#### **FAITH FORMATION**

Sessions will begin **27<sup>th</sup> August** every **Tuesday at 7.15pm** in the Mackillop meeting room at St Anthony's church. Everyone is encouraged to attend especially those who seek to deepen their faith or learn about the catholic faith or want to receive the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. Please contact the parish office for enquiries.

#### **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](http://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](http://www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/joinus/college-tour)  
Applications close on Friday 16 August 2024.

#### **ST ANTHONY'S**

#### **ST ANTHONY'S COLLECTION BOX**

We will be blessing and distributing St Anthony's Bread on the First Tuesday of each month during the evening service. If you would like to help with the costs associated with this you can contribute by putting your donation into the wooden collection box on the right hand side of the wall next to the St Anthony's statue. The box is labelled 'St Anthony's Bread.' Thank you.

#### **PRIME TIMERS**

Our July outing will be for a movie day at the Melton Library, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10.30am. The movie is The Miracle Club with Maggie Smith. After the movie we will be having lunch at La Porchetta Melton for 12 o'clock. Please RSVP by 19<sup>th</sup> to confirm La Porchetta numbers contact Ineke on 0400 120 401 or [ineke49@yahoo.com](mailto:ineke49@yahoo.com).

#### **BINGO**

Bingo is held every Tuesday evening at 7.00pm, in the Padua Hall. Bingo books can be purchased from 6.00pm. We have a great canteen with delicious food available and we have complimentary tea and coffee. Come along and try you luck!

**NO BINGO ON THE 6<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

#### **ST BERNARD'S**

#### **MORNIGN TEA-SUNDAY**

Morning tea will be held after the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses on Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup>. All welcome.

#### **HISTORY BOOK**

A reprint is being done to cater for requests from our 150<sup>th</sup> gathering. A few extras will be available. If you wish to purchase one, please contact Dolores at the parish office to place your order and make payment.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

An acknowledgement - a humble parishioner marks another milestone in his extraordinary journey. A simple acknowledgement will be afforded to Paul Miesen at the Vigil Mass on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.



2024 St. Bernard's Bacchus Marsh

# Trivia Night

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Scan QR code for details



Thomas Halloran - 0431 504 402

#### **SAFE BANKING ONLINE**

Learn the potential risks and precautions you can take to protect your personal and financial information  
Learn the benefits and importance of engaging with online services - identifying and avoiding common online scams, frauds and tips on protecting personal and financial data from identity theft - how to use the features of Bendigo e-banking to help protect yourself from and/or respond to fraud and scam events Jul 31, 2024, 11am at Darley Neighbourhood House  
This is a FREE session. RSVP is **essential** either by registering online here <https://www.socialplanet.com.au/activity/view?id=21517> or by calling Darley Neighbourhood House 53 67 4390.

## WORSHIP NEWS

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND A CODE OF CONDUCT FORM SIGNED.

### ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

#### **NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 20th & 21st July**

**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:** Liza Fernandes & Gavin Pereira

**8.30am:** Amy Honrade & Leonia Jessop

**10.30am:** Niel Evangelista & Susan Malinov

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**5.00pm:** Dolores Turcsan & Aloysious Dacunha

**8.30am:** Ron Howard & Roa Seufatu

**10.30am:** Doris Bonello & George 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 & Olen

**10.30am:** Annonica & Godwin

### ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

#### **NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 20th & 21st July**

#### **MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

**5.00pm:** John Thorne

**8.30am:** Volunteer needed

**10.30am:** Beatrice Younger

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**5.00pm:** Colin Remedios

**8.30am:** Tup Shea

**10.30am:** Volunteer needed

#### **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**July:** Josephite Companions

### ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

#### **We pray for the recently deceased:**

Emanuel Galea

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

Salvina Azzopardi, John Burton, Maria Falzon, Charles Grech, Georgia Grech, Joe Grech, Robbie Grech, Clive La Rose, George Magri, Artemio Panganiban, Lawrens Tanti Snr, Grace Vella, & Mary Abela Wadge.

#### **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, 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



### ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

#### **We pray for the recently deceased:**

Mary Caruana, Mike Flavel, Dawn 'Teresa' Goehler-Dockter, Daniel Guighard, Darren Zarb.

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

Kevin Barry, Dolores & Victor Carter, Irene Ham, Kitty Marshall, Leonard Trask, & Irene Wojcicki.

#### **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, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, Evelyn, George Farrell, Yvonne Feliciouz, Justin Fernandez, Pasquale Gagliardi, 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.**



## SERVICE / COMMUNITY

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND A CODE OF CONDUCT FORM SIGNED.

### ST ANTHONY'S

#### WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS: 20th & 21st July

##### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera

8.30am: Judy Johnson

10.30am: To be advised

##### CHURCH FLOWERS

July: Ana

#### CUPPA VOLUNTEERS 27th & 28th July

5.00pm: Julie Sequiera, Jojo Dimapilis,  
Isabelle Dawn Jusayan, Jan Edward Dela Cruz

8.30am: Raymond Sumayed, Remie Peroy,  
Raquel Barrameda, Mary Saliba

10.30am: Kathleen McCurry, Maryanne McCullagh,  
Melissa Battaglia, Daniella Spiteri,  
Anna and Niko Taumu

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 : 20th & 21st July

##### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 5.00pm: Jackie Tabone

Sunday: 8.30am: Lyn Shea

##### CHURCH FLOWERS

July: 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](mailto: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 note that there are no baptisms at St Bernard's Church on Saturday 10th August 2024**

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: | Joe & Jacqueline Spiteri | 0424 512 841 |
| Group 2: | Carolyn Cruz             | 0401 875 410 |
| Group 3: | Indika & Mangala Silva   | 0410 677 692 |

### 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,

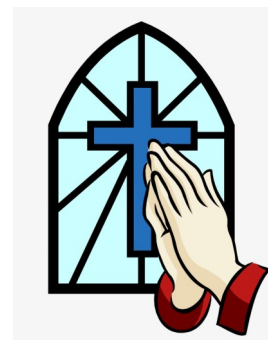
so that we may discern our journey

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**

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

### **FIRST READING** Amos 7:12-15

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM 84**

**Commentator:** Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

**All:** Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps.

Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

The sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.

### **NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS**

#### **16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**FIRST READING:** Jer 23:1-6

**SECOND READING:** Eph 2:13-18

**GOSPEL:** Mk 6:30-34



### **SECOND READING** Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.

Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determined that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ

for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved

in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight.

He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning,

under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will;

chosen to be,

for his greater glory,

the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came.

Now you too, in him,

have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation,

and have believed it:

and you have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise,

the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our heart

that we might see how great is the hope  
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL** Mark 6:7-13

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff - no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

# The Blessed Virgin Mary 9

## The Immaculate Conception

The feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8 celebrates an important point of Catholic teaching. Here are eight things you need to know about the teaching and the way we celebrate it.

### 1. Who does the Immaculate Conception refer to?

There's a popular idea that it refers to Jesus' conception by the Virgin Mary.

It doesn't.

Instead, it refers to the special way in which the Virgin Mary herself was conceived.

This conception was not virginal. (That is, she had a human father as well as a human mother.) But it was special and unique in another way.

### 2. What is the Immaculate Conception?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains it this way: "To become the mother of the Saviour, Mary 'was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role'. The angel Gabriel at the moment of the Annunciation salutes her as 'full of grace'. In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God's grace." (No. 490)

The Catechism continues: "Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, 'full of grace' through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854:

"The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin' [*Ineffabilis Deus*]." (No. 491)

### 3. Does this mean Mary never sinned?

Yes. Because of the way redemption was applied to Mary at the moment of her conception, she not only was protected from contracting Original Sin but also from committing any personal sin.

The Catechism explains: "The Fathers of the Eastern tradition call the Mother of God 'the All-Holy' (*Panagia*), and celebrate her as 'free from any stain of sin, as though fashioned by the Holy Spirit and formed as a new creature'. By the grace of God, Mary remained free of every personal sin her whole life long. 'Let it be done to me according to your word.'" (No. 493)

### 4. Does this mean Mary did not need Jesus to die on the Cross for her?

No.

What we've already quoted states that Mary was immaculately conceived as part of her being "full of grace" and thus "redeemed from the moment of her conception" by "a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race".

The Catechism goes on to state: "The 'splendour of an entirely unique holiness' by which Mary is 'enriched from the first instant of her conception' comes wholly from Christ: she is 'redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son'. The Father blessed Mary more than any other created person 'in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places' and chose her 'in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before him in love'." (No. 492)

"From among the descendants of Eve, God chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of his Son. 'Full of grace', Mary is 'the most excellent fruit of redemption' (No. 103): from the first instant of her conception, she was totally preserved from the stain of original sin and she remained pure from all personal sin throughout her life." (No. 508)

To Be Continued