



## 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 20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -YEAR B

18th August 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 **Acting Principal:** Caitlyn Lalor

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, 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 19/8/2024-25/8/2024**

### MASS TIMES:

|           |      |                 |
|-----------|------|-----------------|
| Monday    | 19/8 | 6.30pm          |
| Tuesday   | 20/8 | 9.30am & 6.30pm |
| Wednesday | 21/8 | 9.30am          |
| Thursday  | 22/8 | 9.30am          |
| Friday    | 23/8 | 9.30am          |
| Saturday  | 24/8 | 9.00am          |

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

Rosary **8.30am prior to Saturday mass**

### Sunday Masses

|                |      |                  |
|----------------|------|------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | 24/8 | 5.00pm           |
| Sunday         | 25/8 | 8.30am & 10.30am |

(Rosary 10.00am on Sundays)

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 19/8/2024-25/8/2024**

### MASS TIMES:

|           |      |                                                                                         |
|-----------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday    | 19/8 | No Mass                                                                                 |
| Tuesday   | 20/8 | St Bernard's Feast Day<br><i>9.30am Mass &amp; 7.00pm Mass/Night Prayer/Benediction</i> |
| Wednesday | 21/8 | 9.30am                                                                                  |
| Thursday  | 22/8 | 7.30am                                                                                  |
| Friday    | 23/8 | 7.30am                                                                                  |
| Saturday  | 24/8 | 9.00am                                                                                  |

### Sunday Mass

|                |      |                  |
|----------------|------|------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | 24/8 | 5.00pm           |
| Sunday         | 25/8 | 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 commences.

### **OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS KOROBEIT MASS TIMES**

|                |                                  |        |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Saturday Vigil | 2nd & 3rd Saturdays of the month | 5.00pm |
|                | Saturday 14th & 21st September   |        |

### 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 20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR B THE LIVING BREAD: HOPE OF THE WORLD - Fr Wilford Urmaza**

Our liturgy for the five Sundays in ordinary time underscores the significance of this great mystery that defines the dignity and great hope of Christians. No wonder, then, that the Mother Church employs the Gospel of John to present the profound theological meaning of the words of Jesus about the bread of life and its impact on the lives of the faithful.

The early Christians, who first received Jesus' teachings, understood and believed his words in the hope of a life eternal. But, for other Jews who anticipated the coming of a political and military Messiah whom they had expected to liberate them from the power of the Romans, this reality was quite incomprehensible: "He came to what was his own, but his own people did not know him (Jn 1:11).

The creation narrative foreshadows the prologue in John's gospel, which in the beginning, the Word already existed and later revealed Jesus' divinity and humanity when the Father sent him – the synthesis of the whole gospel. "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us". (Jn 1:14).

The discourses in chapter 6, introduce a deeper and theological meaning of the food that Jesus offers to draw us back to the Father, through him, in contrast to the bread, which their ancestors received and ate during their sojourn in the desert yet they died. Such discourse presents a prefiguration in Exodus when their forebears were liberated from Pharaoh's forces after God inflicted plagues upon the whole of Egypt.

For those who do not believe in the Son of Man, much less to eat his flesh and drink his blood, this evokes a sense of scandal and controversy among the Jews. They must have forgotten God's strict instructions at the Passover event to gnaw the unblemished lamb sacrifice; otherwise, they would die the next day. Apparently, however, according to St. Paul, Christ is our Passover lamb, "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" - a type that Jesus fulfilled when he shed his blood on the cross.

"I am the Bread of Life who came down from heaven; whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life." This is the Eucharist that Jesus instituted that up to this day people commemorate in order to glorify the Father, remain in his love, and receive sanctifying grace that brings them to salvation.

In summary, the Bread of Life discourses reveal the Eucharist as a profound mystery that nourishes the soul, fosters community, and calls believers to live out their faith actively in the world. It is a celebration of Christ's love, a source of eternal life, and a challenge to embody that love in service to others.

## PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

### NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

#### 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 and be baptised a Catholic. **Week 1: What do you Seek? - The Desire for Happiness-Fulfilling that Desire**

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

##### FATIMA STATUE

Please note the contact person for the Fatima Statue is now Lillian Christian, if you are on the roster or would like to join the group in 2025 or have any queries please call Lillian on 0400 441 257

##### BINGO CALLER VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We need a caller for Bingo-urgently- Tuesdays 5.30pm-10.00pm. If you are able to help please speak to Rose Ma'ae 0460 672 571.

##### PRIME TIMERS

Our next outing will be a Games Day at the Leisure Centre, Lifestyle Village Melton. Tuesday 27th August from 11.30am. BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided. Hope to see you all for a fun day. Enquires Ineke 0400 120 401 or [ineke49@yahoo.com](mailto:ineke49@yahoo.com).

##### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you are able to donate any items for St Vinnies, it would be greatly appreciated.

**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.** Thank you.

##### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

The PPC minutes dated 6th June 2024 are available in the pocket next to the PPC notice board.

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

##### PARISH HISTORY

In such a momentous work as the Parish History released in celebration of the Parish Sesquicentenary, the effort required to accurately cover 150 years will always test even the best of us. We have been made aware that in its account of more recent times, there was some divergence from just historical reporting of events to the proffering of personal opinion. Consequently, in view of information unavailable at the time, some unintended inaccuracies have become apparent. Please accept our apology for this.

##### ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN

Today, we are each invited to make a pledge to the **2024**

**Archbishop's Campaign** in a **special collection**. For those who are still considering a pledge, we encourage you to look through the brochure at the life-giving work being done across our parish and Archdiocese.

To donate, you can either make an online donation by scanning the QR code on the tear-off pledge card attached to the Campaign envelope provided, or fill out a pledge card to make a cash or cheque donation. Donations and pledge cards can be dropped into our 3rd collection. Please give generously. Thank you.

##### ST BERNARD'S YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

The first gathering of St Bernard's Young Adults Group (18-35 years) will be held on Tuesday 3rd September at St Bernard's Church & Parish Centre. The monthly gatherings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month & will be incorporated into the regular Tuesday night Holy Hour. The tentative program will commence at 6pm with complimentary meal & fellowship, followed by Holy Hour, Benediction & Night Prayer (confession available), then finish with Formation Talk until 9pm. Coordinators are Joseph & Evana Carragher.

For catering purposes, if you want to be present for the meal, please text details to 0423 965 819 by Monday afternoon prior to date you are attending. Include "Young Adults Group" as well as your name and names of others coming with you.

##### SOCIAL EVENT - MEN'S POKER NIGHT

To celebrate Father's Day, we are hosting a men's poker night in the parish hall on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August. This is a great opportunity to socialise and form connections with other men at the parish. If you'd like to attend, please get in touch with Thomas Halloran on 0431 504 402.

##### ST. BERNARD'S FEAST DAY-TUESDAY 20TH AUGUST

Please come and celebrate our Parish saint by attending either the 9.30am Mass or the 7.00pm Mass. We will pray a novena to St. Bernard leading up to the Feast Day. Morning Tea after the 9.30am Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

#### *The Memorare Prayer*

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
never was it known that anyone who fled to thy  
protection, implored thy help, or sought thy  
intercession was left unaided.*

*Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee,*

*O Virgin of virgins, my Mother,  
to thee do I come, before thee I stand,  
sinful and sorrowful.*

*O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not  
my petitions, but in thy clemency*

*hear and answer me.*

*Amen.*

## 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: 24th & 25th August**

**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:** Gavin Pereira & Liza Fernandez

**8.30am:** Amy Honrade & Geof Sutton

**10.30am:** Anakin Anderson & Niel Evangelista

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

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

**8.30am:** Philip Anyayahan & Roa Seufatu

**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:** Annonica & Julie

**8.30am:** Josephine & Godwin

**10.30am:** Leonia & Godwin

### ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

#### **NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 24th & 25th August**

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

**5.00pm:** John Thorne

**8.30am:** Evana Miesen

**10.30am:** Volunteer needed

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**5.00pm:** Vicki Benson

**8.30am:** Colm Carragher

**10.30am:** Cheryl Stevens

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

**August:** John Wilson

### ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Mable Michael

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

John Bailey, Frank Barket, Anthony Buhagiar, Anthony Bughair, Eric Clyne, Angelina de Guzman, Franklin Michael, Duminku Mintoff, & Doris Trevor.

#### **Please pray for the Sick:**

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, Gregory McCutcheon, Pam Meier, 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:**

Judith Delahey & Eileen Hutchinson

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

Maurice Clancy, Patricia Cooper, Maureen Grogan, Roy Magill, Paddy O'Leary, Antonio Schembri, Jack Shelley, Norma Stevens, James Symmons, & John Thorneycroft.

#### **Please pray for the Sick:**

Aubrey, 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 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 June Murray, 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: 24th & 25th August PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Dolores Turcsan  
8.30am: Mercy Seufatu  
10.30am: To be advised

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

August: Rosabella

#### CUPPA VOLUNTEERS

To be advised

#### 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 : 24th & 25th August PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

August: 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 to \$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

All use of the Parish Centre must be authorised by either the parish office or by contacting Marie Casey.  
Mass coordinators will unlock & lock the Parish centre before & after masses so that the toilets can be accessed.

# 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:

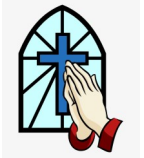
[St Anthony of Padua Catholic Parish | Melton South](#)

[Baptism of Infants | St Bernard's Catholic Parish \(stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au\)](#)

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: Aloysious & Michelle Da'Cunha 0469 863 253  
Group 2: David & Anne Leheny 0405 621 232  
Group 3: Dragica Mladen Soldo 0466 482 035



### DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

1st Sunday of the month 3pm.

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.

### 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

### PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of God and Mother of men.



We believe with all the fervor of our faith in your triumphal Assumption, both in body and in soul, into heaven where you are acclaimed as Queen by all the choirs of angels and all the legions of saints; and we unite with them to praise and bless the Lord who has exalted you above all other pure creatures, and to offer you the tribute of our devotion and our love.

We know that your gaze, which maternally embraces the humble and suffering humanity here on earth, finds in heaven more reason for pity on our miseries, more power to succour us in our needs.

*(Mention your Intention)*

We are confident that you, who are clothed with the glory of God, will intercede for us and obtain for us the grace to follow your example.

Amen

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### **ENTRANCE PROCESSION**

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
and look on the face of your anointed one;  
one day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

### **FIRST READING** Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built herself a house,  
she has erected her seven pillars,  
she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine,  
she has laid her table.  
She has despatched her maidservants  
and proclaimed from the city's heights:  
'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.'  
To the fool she says,  
'Come and eat my bread,  
drink the wine I have prepared!  
Leave your folly and you will live,  
walk in the ways of perception.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM 33**

**Commentator:** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**All:** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.

Revere the Lord, you his saints.  
They lack nothing, those who revere him.  
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Come, children, and hear me  
that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Who is he who longs for life  
and many days, to enjoy his prosperity?

Then keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from speaking deceit.  
Turn aside from evil and do good;  
seek and strive after peace.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

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

#### **21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**FIRST READING:** Josh 24:1-2, 15-18

**SECOND READING:** Eph 5:21-32

**GOSPEL:** Jn 6:60-69



### **SECOND READING** Ephesians 5:15-20

Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who eat my flesh and drink my blood  
live in me and I in them, says the Lord.  
Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL** John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowd:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give  
is my flesh, for the life of the world.'  
Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:  
'I tell you most solemnly,  
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man  
and drink his blood,  
you will not have life in you.  
Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood  
has eternal life,  
and I shall raise him up on the last day.  
For my flesh is real food  
and my blood is real drink.  
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
lives in me  
and I live in him.  
As I, who am sent by the living Father,  
myself draw life from the Father,  
so whoever eats me will draw life from me.  
This is the bread come down from heaven;  
not like the bread our ancestors ate:  
they are dead,  
but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

With the Lord there is mercy;  
in him is plentiful redemption.

# The Blessed Virgin Mary 14

## The Annunciation (4)

A second cause why Mary was disturbed at the words of the angel Gabriel was because they contained her praises. Humble souls always tremble and sink with confusion in their own minds when they hear themselves commended; because they are deeply penetrated with a sense of their own weakness and insufficiency, and they consider contempt as their due.

They know that the glory of all gifts belongs solely to God, and they justly fear lest the poison of praise should insinuate itself into their minds; being sensible how infinitely dangerous honours and flattery are to humility.

Are these our sentiments? Do we never speak of ourselves to our own advantage? Do we never artfully praise ourselves, or willingly lend an ear to what flatterers say to applaud us? Are we troubled when we hear ourselves praised? What gives trouble but to too many is, that men give them not what they take to be their right; and that their praises equal not the notion they have framed of their merits.

The high eulogiums bestowed on Mary by the angel she answers no otherwise than by a profound silence, by a saintly trouble of mind, which, with a modest blush, appears in her countenance. The angel, to calm her disquiets, says to her: "Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found favour before God." He then informs her that she is to conceive and bring forth a son whose name shall be Jesus, who shall be great, and the son of the Most High, and possessed of the throne of David, her illustrious ancestor.

Mary, who according to St Augustine had consecrated her virginity to God by a vow, is not at all weakened by the prospect of such a dignity in her resolution of living a virgin; but, on the contrary, out of a just concern to know how she may comply with the will of God without prejudice to her vow, neither moved by curiosity, nor doubting of the miracle or its possibility, she inquires, "How shall this be?"

Nor does she give her consent till the heavenly messenger acquaints her that it is to be a work of the Holy Spirit, who, in making her fruitful, will not trench in the least upon her virginal purity, but cause her to be a mother, still remaining, as she desires, a pure virgin.

Moreover, had not Mary been deep-rooted in humility, what impression must not these great promises have made in her heart, at a time especially when the first transports are so apt to overflow the soul on the sudden news of an unexpected glory. The world knows, from too frequent experience, how strongly the promise and expectation of new dignities raise the spirits, and

alter the words, the looks, and the whole carriage of proud men.

But Mary is still the same, or rather much more lowly and meek in spirit upon the accession of this unparalleled dignity. She sees no cause to pride herself in her virtues, graces, and privileges, knowing that the glory of all these are due only to the divine Author and Bestower of them.

In submission, therefore, to God's will, without any further inquiries, she expresses her assent in these humble but powerful words: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to thy word." What faith and confidence does her answer express! What profound humility and perfect obedience! She was saluted Mother of God, yet uses no word of dignity, but styles herself nothing more than his handmaid, to be commanded and employed by him as he shall think fittest.

The world, as heaven had decreed, was not to have a Saviour till she had given her consent to the angel's proposal; she gives it, and behold the power and efficacy of her submissive *fiat*!

That moment, the mystery of love and mercy promised to mankind four thousand years before, foretold by so many prophets, desired by so many saints, is wrought on earth. That moment, the Word of God is forever united to humanity; the soul of Jesus Christ, produced from nothing, begins to enjoy God, and to know all things past, present, and to come.

That moment, God begins to have an adorer who is infinite, and the world a mediator who is omnipotent; and, to the working of this great mystery, Mary alone is chosen to cooperate by her free assent.

The prophets represent the earth as moved out of its place, and the mountains as melting away before the very countenance of God looking down upon the world. Now that he descends in person, who would not expect that the whole heavens should be moved? But another kind of appearance best suited his coming on this occasion, which was with the view of curing our pride by his wonderful humiliations, and thereby repair the injury the Godhead had suffered from our unjust usurpation; and not to show forth his grandeur, and display his all-glorious majesty.

How far are the ways of God above those of men! how greatly does divine wisdom differ from human folly! how does every circumstance in this mystery confound the pride, the pomp, and the vain titles of worldly grandeur, and recommend to us the love of silence and sincere humility! Shall the disciples of Christ have other sentiments?

To be continued