



Parish Priest
Fr John Paul Mount

Parish Secretary
Dolores Turcsan

Bookkeeper
Naim Chdid

Parish Office Hours
Tuesday–Friday, 9:30am–1:30pm

Telephone
03 5367 2069

Email
bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au

Website
www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au

Facebook link
<https://www.facebook.com/stbernardsbacchusmarsh>

St Bernard's Primary School
19a Gisborne Road
Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Principal
Sr Mary Sarah Galbraith

Telephone
03 5366 5800

Email
principal@sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

Website
www.sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

COLLECTIONS

First Collection for the Presbytery
supports our Parish Priest
and priests of the Archdiocese.
Second Collection for the Church
supports our parish.

Parishioners who normally give cash but wish to pay online, can go to this link:
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/donate?id=0012w00000LOj42AAD>
As a reference, please include your name & Thanksgiving number (if you know it). Thank you.

Newsletter items must be submitted by Wednesday midnight. Please email to
bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au

St Bernard's Parish acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land.

St Bernard's Parish

61 Lerderderg Street, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Our Lady Help of Christians

309 Myrniong-Korobeit Road, Korobeit VIC 3341

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C 23rd February 2025

MASS & DEVOTION TIMES

St Bernard's

24th February to 2nd March

Monday	3:00pm – Divine Mercy Chaplet
Tuesday	7:00pm – Holy Hour
Tuesday Thursday Friday	7:30am Masses
Wednesday	9:30am Mass
Saturday	9:30am Mass (<i>please note new time</i>)
	5:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30am and 10:30am Masses
	10:00am – Rosary in the Chapel

Ash Wednesday 5th March 9:30am (school presence) and 7:00pm

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

Our Lady Help of Christians

first & third Saturday of the month – 1st & 15th March

Saturday 6:30pm – Vigil Mass

MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

Fr John O'Reilly – Rest in Peace

Fr John O'Reilly was born on 25th March 1937 and brought up in County Mayo, Ireland. When he decided to become a priest, he was formed at St Peter's Wexford. He also decided to minister in Australia and when he departed, his mother said, "I give you to Australia". It was an incredible act of generosity back then, to sail away to the other side of the world. It was very difficult when he first arrived in Australia. He was a young man and basically knew no one and didn't have a penny. At 25yrs old he was appointed Assistant Priest of Mentone on 12th December 1961. At Christmas he found himself alone and Fr John said if he had the money he would've gone home there and then. Thank God he didn't. Thankfully, very soon he found a home with some of the wonderful parishioners there. Some of these were at his funeral, including their children and grandchildren. They and some estimated 1,100 others who were at his funeral are a testament to the impact that he had on so many families over 62 years in Australia.

He was appointed to Sacred Heart St Albans in 1968 first as Assistant Priest and stayed at St Albans for more than 50 years. He established many schools including the Catholic Regional Colleges, St Albans, Keilor, Sydenham, Caroline Springs, and Melton. He was very involved in all parts of the Archdiocese.

Sr Judith Carlson was a great friend and support to him for many years. They were a powerful team at St Albans, building up that Parish to one of the biggest Catholic communities in Melbourne.

Fr O'Reilly was very personable and sociable - he never drank alcohol but loved a cup of tea. He was generous to a fault - giving to everyone who asked as Our Lord said. He had boundless energy, a great sense of humour, and always time for those in need. He lived a simple life himself, and was impossible to buy for because he never wanted anything. He was quite athletic, ran every morning, and watched some sport or news in the evening with his hurling stick next to him propped against the wall. Fr O'Reilly was always full of words of encouragement and faith-filled inspiration - whether that be to his daily parishioners, those that worked with him especially at the schools, or those that came to him for help and counsel. He was a rock of constancy for those around him. And his rock was God. He was always invoking the Holy Name of Jesus, reminding people to feel Jesus' presence, encouraging people to 'be free' trusting in the Holy Spirit, and of course brought it all back to Jesus' Presence at Mass in the Eucharist.

Requiescat in Pace.

Fr John Paul Mount

MINISTRIES – 1st & 2nd March

Ministers of the Word

5:00pm	Jeremy Toledo
8:30am	Evana Carragher
10:30am	Dominic van der Linden

Extraordinary Ministers

5:00pm	John Thorne
8:30am	Peter McPhan
10:30am	Cheryl Stevens

Prayers of the Faithful

February	Jill Braithwaite
----------	------------------

Piety Stall Volunteers

5:00pm	Jackie Tabone
8:30am	Lyn Shea
10:30am	

Church Flowers

February	Tup Shea
----------	----------

Presbytery & Church Grounds

Colm Carragher, Ron Geurts & Michael Love

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Baptism of Infants

Baptisms are held on the second & fourth Saturdays of the month at 11:00am.

Baptism Preparation sessions are held on the second Sunday of the month at 11:30am in our Parish Centre.

Application forms can be downloaded from our website under:

“Faith Formation – Baptism of Infants”.

Sacraments for Children

If your child does not attend a Catholic school but would like to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation, application forms are available on our website under: *“Faith Formation – Sacraments for Children”*.

Adults Becoming Catholic

For Adults wishing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation, you can register your interest on our website under: *“Faith Formation – Becoming Catholic”*.

If you need assistance with any of the above sacramental programs, please contact the Parish Office.

ST BERNARD'S PARISH CENTRE

The Parish Centre is available for hire and can be booked through our Hall Managers – Marie & Terry Casey.

All use must be authorised by the Parish Office and the Hall Managers.

Phone: 03 5367 3427, Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 6:00pm

COMMUNITY SERVICES

St Vincent de Paul, Bacchus Marsh

Welfare assistance is available Mon-Fri 10am-3pm on 1800 305 330.

New members most welcome to our Conference.
Contact President, Margot Short on 0419 507 438.

Vinnies Store is located at 164-190 Main Street.
Donations can be dropped off 7 days a week.

The Neighbour's Place

The Neighbours' Place is a Christian not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to serve people of the Moorabool Shire, who are disadvantaged, at risk or temporarily unable to feed themselves or their family.

They also offer NILS, a No Interest Loans Scheme.

They are located at 77 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh.

Phone: 03 5367 6222

Email: office@neighboursplace.org.au

Open: 9:30am to 12:30pm, Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

Closed public holidays.

Soul Food

Soul Food provides a free community meal each Wednesday (excluding school holidays) in the Uniting Church Hall, Gisborne Road, Bacchus Marsh. Meals are served up at 12noon. All are welcome and this is a free event. No need to book; just come along.

CATHOLIC LINKS

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope.html>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news>

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

YEAR 7 2027 ENROLMENTS

St Francis Catholic College

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2027 at St Francis Catholic College are now open.

You can view the prospectus and apply online at:

www.sfcc.vic.edu.au/join-us/enrolment

You are welcome to join one of the College tours.

Applications close on Friday 15th August 2025.

PASTORAL CARE

Recently Deceased

Patrick Shanahan, Sydney Vas.

Death Anniversaries

Blanche Chapman, Wilma Fowler, Andrew Monteith, Caryl Pereira, Kaylene Preston, Kevin Punshon.

We pray for the Sick

Brendan Coburn, Kathleen Dally, Dean Elms, Robert Elms, Frances, Caleb Silas Ginger (baby), Michael Johnston, John & Patricia Kelly, Michael Larkin, Joanne Mumford, Chinenye Victoria Oriaku Nwalozie, Peter Roberts, Kevin Shelly, Liz Shelly, and all those who need our prayers.

Please let us know when your loved one is no longer needed on this Sick List.

REFLECTION

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

Some years ago, a mother lost three of her own children and a nephew when they were hit and killed by a drunken driver. She spoke publicly: "I think in my heart to forgive him...I am not going to hate him, because that's not who we are." Such words of forgiveness and compassion can only come from a love of God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us a recipe for living – "Be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate". The words before, explain what living compassionately means. It seems to be a hard ask, ignoring our own needs for the sake of others, who are in need. But as Jesus says: "Even sinners lend to sinners...", expecting a return, whereas we are asked not to expect anything in return. But, Jesus also says: "Give, and there will be gifts for you...and the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back".

To let go of words and actions that hurt and imitate the mother, can be a giant step to restoring life to ourselves and those we forgive.

Maybe, I am the one who needs forgiveness? Can I accept it?
Talk to Jesus about this.

Reflection by Sr Mary Fermio

Funeral – Pat Shanahan

Date: Tuesday 25th February 2025

Time: 1:30pm

Requiem Mass:

Our Lady Help of Christians Church
309 Myrniong-Korobeit Road, Korobeit

Burial: Greendale Cemetery

Napoleon Street, Greendale

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

A pancake dinner will be held on Tuesday 4th March from 6pm to 7pm in the Parish Centre. For a gold coin donation, tea, coffee and pancakes with all the trimmings will be provided.

There will be a talk during dinner, and all are welcome to attend Holy Hour after the dinner between 7pm - 8pm.

Piety Stall

Our Piety Stall is appealing for volunteers to man the stall. The time commitment is about 15 minutes every 4 weeks.

We especially need volunteers after the 10:30am Mass. If you wish to volunteer, or for further information, contact Margot Short on 0419 507 438 or margotmshort@gmail.com.

Ash Wednesday

Masses on Ash Wednesday 5th March will be held at 9:30am (school presence) and at 7:00pm.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world:
receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

NICENO-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 two lines]
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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark, David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalms 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

Reader: The Lord is kind and merciful.

ALL: The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repays us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him

ALL: The Lord is kind and merciful.



SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

Next Sunday's Liturgy – 2nd March 2025

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 91:2-3, 13-16

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45