



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

The Presentation of the Lord – Year C 2nd February 2025

MASS & DEVOTION TIMES

St Bernard's

3rd to 9th February

Monday	no services
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

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

Our Lady Help of Christians

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

Saturday 6:30pm – Vigil Mass

MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

This Sunday 2nd February coincides with the feast of the Presentation in the Temple, otherwise known as Candlemas. This date also traditionally brings to a close the Christmas season, forty days following the birth of Christ.

On this feast, the Holy Family present themselves to the Temple. They present themselves to God to give thanks, to offer a sacrifice, and ask for life and blessing from the Lord. In other words, they come to the Temple to dedicate and entrust their lives to God.

On Saturday 1st February, one of our Parishioners, Rita Marshall, presented herself to the Carmelite Convent (Monastery) in Kew to entrust her life to God there in a particularly beautiful way.

Rita has daily presented herself to God in our Church and served God in our Parish for the past five years. In recent times she felt, and discerned, a calling from God to the Carmelites. It is a great blessing for our Parish to see one of our Parishioners enter such a life. Chatting with Rita, she spoke of her devotion to St Therese of Lisieux and the intercession of that saint to lead her to the Carmel in Kew. Rita said she was drawn to the life of contemplative and intercessory prayer lived by the Carmelites. Clearly, she was drawn to live such a life because of her love for Jesus Christ, and contemplative prayer is simply to more exclusively spend time loving Jesus Christ. Rita said she felt strongly called by Jesus to a more exclusive relationship with him. I think that really sums up the beauty of the life of the contemplative. She “has chosen the better part, and it shall not be taken from her” (Lk 10:42).

We wish Rita every blessing.
May God bring to fulfillment the graces He has begun in her.

Fr John Paul Mount

SAFEGUARDING

Bacchus Marsh Parish is committed to the safety of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.
Safeguarding Officers – Margaret Love on 0437 247 779, Ron Geurts, Vicki Benson, Jenn Costin and Marj Tung.

MINISTRIES – 8th & 9th February

Ministers of the Word

5:00pm Vicki Benson
8:30am Peter Kennedy
10:30am Dominic van der Linden

Extraordinary Ministers

5:00pm John Thorne
8:30am John Wilson
10:30am Jenny Kearney

Prayers of the Faithful

February Jill Braithwaite

Piety Stall Volunteers

5:00pm Margot Short
8:30am Carmel Shea
10:30am Natalia Klenkowski

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.

Social & Fundraising Meeting

The Social & Fundraising Committee will meet this Monday 3rd February in the Parish Centre at 6.30pm. Anyone interested in joining this awesome team or would like to help out periodically, please come along to the meeting or call Natalia on 0409 445 552.

Craft & Cuppa Group

The Craft & Cuppa Group resumes this Thursday 6th February in the Parish Centre starting at 9.00am. If you are interested in doing craft, or just want to have a cuppa and a chat, please come and join us! We have lots of fun while creating items to raise funds for our church. Our meetings run every 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursday of the month throughout the year. Any enquiries, please call Natalia on 0409 445 552.

Morning Tea

There will be a morning tea held after the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses next Sunday 9th February. All welcome.

PASTORAL CARE

Recently Deceased

Death Anniversaries

Doreen Blood, Thelma Crowley, Alma Dowsett, Richard Evans, Joseph Gonsalvez, Mercy Kumar, Marija Magdic, Jane Reilly, Peter Shea, Jill Smith, Tom Thompson, Betty Tregurtha, Milutin Zupan.

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, 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.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

The next gathering of St Bernard's Young Adults Group will be held this Tuesday 4th February 2025.

Holy Hour will begin at 7:00pm and this will be followed by social activities and a formation talk in the hall.

A meal will be provided at 6:00pm for those interested. For catering purposes, if you are coming for the meal, please text the number of those in your group to 0423 965 819. Also, include the words "Young Adults Group" in the text.

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.

REFLECTION

The Presentation of the Lord

We don't remember much about our own Baptism unless we were an adult, but for parents it is a proud day. One has only to be present at a child's Baptism to see this. It is a day to celebrate as the child becomes a member of the faith community. Parents and friends hope only good things will happen to this child.

One can imagine then, how Joseph and Mary felt as they presented their son to God, by taking Jesus to the Temple as the Law prescribed and making their offering. But how surprising it would be for them to have Simeon take Jesus into his arms and proclaim that he had now seen "the salvation which you have promised". They must have looked at each other in puzzlement, and maybe things began to fall into place. Like all parents, they would have had expectations about the future of Jesus and what he would become. How precious this baby must have been to them, as they reflected and pondered on what had been said by Simeon and Anna.



Let us pray that, like them, we remain true to the God who loves us, despite the ups and downs we experience, remembering that Mary and Joseph also experienced the good and bad times, and ask them to walk with us.

PROVIDENCE AND FRIENDS MASS

Parishioners are invited to the monthly Providence and Friends Mass on Friday 14th February at 11am in Providence Village. Please bring a plate for morning tea/lunch.

If transport is required, please let the Parish Office know or call Margot Short on 0419 507438.

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

The Presentation of the Lord – Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

FIRST READING *Malachi 3:1-4*

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 23:7-10*

Reader: Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

ALL: Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory.

ALL: Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!



Next Sunday's Liturgy – 9th February 2025
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

First Reading: *Isaiah 6:1-8*
Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 137:1-5, 7-8*
Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*
Gospel: *Luke 5:1-11*

SECOND READING *Hebrews 2:14-18*

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham.

It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation, he is able to help others who are tempted.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Luke 2:32*

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people, Israel.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Luke 2:22-40*

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now, in Jerusalem, there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit, he came to the Temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and he blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.