



Parish Priest
Fr John Paul Mount

Parish Secretary
Dolores Turcsan

Bookkeeper
Naim Chdid

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

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

St Bernard's Primary School
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Principal
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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

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C **2nd March 2025**

MASS & DEVOTION TIMES

St Bernard's

3rd to 9th March

Monday	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
Tuesday	7:00pm	Holy Hour
Tuesday Thursday Friday	7:30am	Mass
Ash Wednesday	9:30am	(school) & 7:00pm Masses
Friday	6:00pm	Stations of the Cross (Lent)
Saturday	9:30am	Mass
	5:00pm	Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30am	& 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 March & 5th April

Saturday 6:30pm Vigil Mass

MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

Lent is upon us!

Lent is the liturgical season that prepares us for the Easter Triduum. The Easter Triduum is the celebration of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Lent is approximately 40 days of spiritual preparation. This time is a gift from God. It is a time of paying special attention to our spiritual life. The way of preparing is summed up by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

How will you spend your Lent? Hopefully this can get you thinking:

Prayer? Perhaps as well as Sunday Mass come to a weekday Mass; start each day with prayer such as the rosary; say the Angelus each day at 6am, midday, and 6pm; spend time in silent prayer each day; visit the Church and pray before the Tabernacle. Have you read all the Bible? You could include reading the Scriptures; the Catechism; read the life of a saint, or another spiritual work. Prayer is also a sacrifice and act of love to God and neighbour.

Fasting? For Lent, we can offer sacrifices to God. Perhaps take out extra foods like sweets or chips or any 'junk' food; make your meals smaller; give up alcohol, or coffee, or smoking. You can sacrifice watching TV and all screens except for work; you could take cold showers; or simply keep to a disciplined way of life like getting up early and getting to bed early. Oh, and you're allowed to enjoy making sacrifices to God too, as you make them prayerful acts of love to Him.

Almsgiving? This is not only giving to the poor but all 'charitable' works. Charity is simply the Latin word for 'love'. So, almsgiving includes all acts of love and generosity to our neighbour, but at this time of Lent we make a special effort – especially to those in need. So, this might mean giving time and attention to those we least want to; visiting the lonely, the sick and elderly, or a friend we've neglected. It could mean being extra helpful; taking initiative to do the least popular jobs at home or at work or wherever; being extra thoughtful and caring to the needs of those around us. Let your almsgiving also be a prayerful sacrifice pleasing to God.

Fr John Paul Mount

MINISTRIES – 8th & 9th March

Ministers of the Word

5:00pm	Maureen Zahra
8:30am	Meg Kennedy
10:30am	Beatrice Younger

Extraordinary Ministers

5:00pm	Vicki Benson
8:30am	Tup Shea
10:30am	Cheryl Stevens

Prayers of the Faithful

March	Cheryl Stevens
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Piety Stall Volunteers

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

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.

Church Flowers

March	Jennifer Costin (no flowers during Lent)
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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>

Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

<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

Margaret Mary Jephson

Death Anniversaries

Joseph Camilleri, Mary Delahey, Peter Gavin, Reginald Kirwan, Edward Kula, Margaret Linard, Nick Sgarbossa, Tomislav Vulic, and Greg Whelan.

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

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

At one place where I lived, I had a lovely orange tree, and I spent many Saturday afternoons making marmalade. One year, it had a huge crop of smaller fruit, and the next year it died. A deadly moth had attacked it.

Jesus likens us to a fruit tree and the kind of fruit it produces. It is the goodness within us and revealed in our actions and words that determine the kind of person we are. Sometimes we can't see faults in ourselves, but we criticise the same faults in others. Jesus calls us hypocrites for ignoring our larger faults but criticising the smaller faults in others.

We need to carefully examine our own actions and thoughts to see what kind of person we are. A Daily Examen has always been recommended by spiritual directors, so that we can check up on ourselves and our day.

As a tree is judged by the quality of its fruit, so will we be judged on the quality of our lives.

What kind of fruit am I producing? How would Jesus describe my life?

Reflection by Sr Mary Fermio

Thank You

Margaret Williams would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who assisted her recently at her time of need. May God bless you all for your prayers and generosity.

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.

Providence & Friends Mass

Parishioners are invited to the monthly Providence & Friends Mass on Friday 14th March at 11:00am. The Sacrament of Anointing will be offered during Mass.

Please bring a plate to share for morning tea/lunch.

If transport is required, please let the Parish Office know, or call Margot Short on 0419 507 438.

Ash Wednesday

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

Save the Date – Parish Picnic

There will be a Parish Picnic on Sunday 30th March at Our Lady Help of Christians, Korobeit. More details to follow.

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

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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord became my protector.
He brought me out to a place of freedom;
he saved me because he delighted in me.

FIRST READING Sirach 27:4-7

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.
The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.
The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly, a man's words betray what he feels.
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalms 91:2-3, 13-16

Reader: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

ALL: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night.

The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

ALL: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.



SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

GOSPEL Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me,
sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Next Sunday's Liturgy – 9th March 2025

First Sunday of Lent – Year C

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 90:1-2, 10-15
Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13
Gospel: Luke 4:1-13