



# ST. BERNARD'S

CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



Year C

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## ST. JOSEPH

Teresa of Avila was famously devoted to St Joseph, saying that she couldn't remember a time when her prayer to St Joseph wasn't granted. I imagine many us have experienced the same. Perhaps St Mary Mackillop did and so named her order the Sisters of St Joseph.

It is remarkable how we can know so much about St Joseph even though there is not much specifically, biographically, mentioned of him in the Scriptures.

For instance, St Joseph never says a word in Scripture, yet doesn't that in itself say something? How many fathers are men of few words, make no fuss, no airs, and yet are powerful in love, in action, getting the job done for family and friends, and daily shoulder their responsibilities. Simply their presence is powerful. It dispels fears and gives us confidence.

St Joseph was entrusted by God to be the head of the Holy Family. Since the Church can be considered an extension of the Holy Family, St Joseph has a particular role as our protector and guide.

He is called a 'just man' (*Matthew 1:19*). Consider that although he is the head of the Holy Family, he is also least in the order of the Kingdom – both his Son and spouse being greater saints. How much he would have loved, and revered, his wife and child! For this we may consider his great humility, and that he is no doubt a model of a just, merciful, and humble exercise of rightful authority that does not neglect the shouldering of that responsibility. He is an example to husbands, fathers and priests.

In a world which continues to pendulum-swing to extremes the identity and role of masculinity, St Joseph is a saint for our times. Perhaps that's why, providentially, St Joseph has been emphasised so much by the Church recently. In 1921, Pope Benedict XV added his name to the Divine Praises. In 1937, in *Divini Redemptoris*, Pius XI placed "the vast campaign of the Church against world Communism under the standard of St Joseph, her mighty Protector." In 1955, Pius XII began the May 1st feast day of St Joseph the Worker. In 1962, St Joseph was added to the Roman Canon by St John XXIII, and Pope Francis later added him to the rest of the Eucharistic Prayers. Also, on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1917, at Fatima, at the Miracle of the Sun, St Joseph appeared in the sky holding the Christ Child.

We pray that St Joseph be a father and example to us. He protected and guided Mary and Jesus over long and difficult journeys – from Nazareth to Bethlehem, to Egypt, to Jerusalem. Like the journey to Egypt, St Joseph will be with us to 'hell and back'. He will be with us in Nazareth, in our homes, and he will guide us to the heights of Jerusalem, to help us enter into the very Presence of God. St Joseph, pray for us.

*Fr John Paul Mount*

## SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00pm (Vigil)  
Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am

### OLHC, Korobeit

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
5<sup>th</sup> April 6:30pm (Vigil)

## WEEKDAY MASSES

### March

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm Mass  
Tue 18<sup>th</sup> 7:30am  
Wed 19<sup>th</sup> 9:30am & 7:00pm  
Thu 20<sup>th</sup> 7:30am  
Fri 21<sup>st</sup> 7:30am  
Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:30am

## CONFESSION

30 minutes prior to each Mass  
& during Holy Hour

## DEVOTIONS

Mon 3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet  
Tue 7:00pm Holy Hour  
Fri 6:15pm Soup & Stations  
7:00pm Stations of the Cross  
Sun 10:00am Rosary (Chapel)

## DIARY

### March

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day (Mass)  
Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Solemnity of St Joseph,  
Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary  
Tue 25<sup>th</sup> The Annunciation of the Lord  
Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Parish Picnic at OLHC, Korobeit

### April

Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Young Adults Group  
Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday  
Thu 17<sup>th</sup> Holy Thursday 7:00pm  
Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Good Friday 10:00am  
3:00pm  
Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday 7:00pm  
Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday 8:30am  
10:30am

ST. BERNARD'S  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

61 Lerderberg Street  
Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

ST. BERNARD'S  
PARISH OFFICE

Tuesday-Friday, 9:30am – 1:30pm  
(03) 5367 2069  
bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au

OUR LADY  
HELP OF CHRISTIANS

309 Myrniong-Korobeit Road  
Korobeit VIC 3341

# PARISH NEWS

## THANKSGIVING

Parishioners, please note that Thanksgiving envelopes and statements are now available for collection from the Gathering Space. Contact the parish office if you have any queries or if envelopes are missing. Thank you.

## PARISH PICNIC

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 12midday**  
**Our Lady Help of Christians, Korobeit**

Please join us for a Parish Picnic at our beautiful historic sister church built on a small hill surrounded by lovely farmland. Only a fifteen minute drive from Bacchus Marsh, it's beauty and easy access makes for a great picnic spot. BYO picnic lunch, drinks, chairs, picnic rugs, games and sports equipment for the young and old.

## EASTER SUNDAY RAFFLE

There will be an Easter Sunday Raffle this year. Contributions will be very much appreciated and can be left in the baskets provided in the Gathering Space.

## EASTER SERVICES

Services for the Easter are as follows:

Holy Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup> April	7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	18 <sup>th</sup> April	3:00pm Passion of the Lord
Holy Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup> April	7:00pm Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup> April	8:30am and 10:30am Resurrection

Sign-up sheets are now in the Gathering Space for Readers and Eucharist Ministers needed during the Easter services this year.

## PROVIDENCE VILLAGE BOOK LAUNCH

You are invited to "The Life of Providence Village Book Launch". Join us for an afternoon teach in the Community Centre to celebrate this exciting occasion.

Guest speaker and author – Andrew Schoenmaekers

DATE: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April  
TIME: 2:00pm onwards  
RSVP: by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
[margaret.west@vmch.com.au](mailto:margaret.west@vmch.com.au)

## ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Let us help you enrol your child for Year 7 in 2027 at Melton and Cobblebank.

DATE: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March  
TIME: between 1:30pm – 6:30pm  
WHERE: 109-141 Bulmans Road, Melton West (enter via Gate 4)

# LET US PRAY

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Gerard Bailey

## DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Michael Brady, Angela Brennan, Harper Button, Nazarena Casha, Wendy Diacono, Nancy (Ann) Holloway, Hala Krizmanic, Joan Shanahan, Peter Ward, and Bernard Wilkie.

## THE SICK

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

# COMMUNITY

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Welfare assistance is available Monday - Friday, 10:00am - 3:00pm on 1800 305 330. Vinnies Store is located at 164-190 Main Street. Donations can be dropped off 7 days a week. New members most welcome to our Conference. Contact President, Peter Kennedy on 0407 778 119.

## THE NEIGHBOUR'S PLACE

The Neighbour's 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 offer a No Interest Loans Scheme.

77 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh  
(03) 5367 6222 [office@neighboursplace.org.au](mailto:office@neighboursplace.org.au)  
9:30am – 12:30pm, Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

## 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.

# SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

## INFANT BAPTISM

Baptisms are held on the second & fourth Saturdays of the month at 11:00am. Preparation sessions are facilitated on the second Sunday of the month at 11:30am. Application forms can be downloaded from our website.

## 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.

## BECOMING CATHOLIC

For adults wishing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation, you can register your interest on our website or speak directly to Fr John Paul.

Our parish is committed to the safety of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Vicki Benson

Ron Geurts

Margaret Love  
0437 247 779

Jennifer Costin

Marj Tung

# REFLECTION

## Second Sunday of Lent – Year C

All of us would have experienced at some time a moment, a celebration we did not want to end, but had to return to the mundane ordinary things of the day; maybe a wedding day, birthday, a holiday or trip overseas, but for all of us there is an end, and the duties of each day return and take over.

Jesus is about to start his journey, which will end with his death. Moses and Elijah talk about it with Jesus, as he is revealed in all his glory. The three disciples do not want to leave this experience, so they suggest erecting places to live in. A cloud that envelops them frightens them. A voice tells them to LISTEN to Jesus. Strangely, the Gospel states “They told know one!” as Jesus instructs them.

As a Christian, do I truly believe Jesus is God’s Son? Do I LISTEN to Jesus as the Father tells me? I wonder how difficult it was for them to keep it secret? Do I treat my faith as a secret or something so wonderful I must share it?

LENT is a good time to develop the practice of prayer which is LISTENING!

*Sr Mary Fermio*

# LITURGICAL LIVING

I've noticed that the current world keeps looking around at the intensity and pace of our day to day lives trying to find peace and some kind of balance that they can feel in their soul, is missing. Their answer, perhaps obvious to us sitting here in the pews, is Christ, but what does that even look like? We too can know that the answer is Christ, but also not know exactly how to make it real. Apart from going to Mass on Sundays and receiving the Sacraments, how are we getting ourselves into a rhythm with Christ where he is invited into our homes, even in those messy, getting ready for school, kind of moments.

The Church in her wisdom knows that humans need structure, they need the tangible in order to know ourselves, others but most importantly, Christ. This is where actually living the rhythm of the Church’s Liturgical Year can make all the difference.

Pope Francis in “Evangeli Gaudium” said “ The Liturgical Year is not simply a cycle of events; it is an invitation to become more like Christ...It calls us to live out the joy of the Gospel in our daily lives”.

We would like to use this column in our newsletter to look at this idea. Whether it is short explanations of feast days, traditions in the church, understanding the seasons or stories from parishioners of how they try to bring the cycles of the prayer of our Church into their own “Domestic Church”, as St John Paul II called the home. We hope it brings you closer to Him in this Jubilee year.

*Contribution from Monica Russell*

# MINISTERS

**22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Mass	Reader	Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	John Thorne	Colin Remedios	Jan & Colm Carragher
8:30am	Meg Kennedy	Colm Carragher	Jan Farmelo
10:30am	Beatrice Younger	Volunteer	Natalia Klenkowski

# 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,

**[all 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**

## 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.

Phone: (03) 5367 3427  
Mon - Fri, 9:00am - 6:00pm

# SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.

## FIRST READING *Genesis 15:5-12*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land,  
from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 26:1, 7-9, 13-14*

### **R: The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
before whom shall I shrink?

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken:  
'Seek his face.'

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face.  
Dismiss not your servant in anger;  
you have been my help.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord!

## SECOND READING *Philippians 3:17-4:1*

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Matthew 17:5*

### **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

### **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## GOSPEL *Luke 9:28-36*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him'. And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;  
listen to him.

## ———— NEXT SUNDAY ————

### **Third Sunday of Lent – Year C**

*First Reading*      *Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15*  
*Responsorial Psalm* *Psalms 102:1-4, 6-8, 11*  
*Second Reading*    *Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12*  
*Gospel*                *Luke 13:1-9*

## DONATE

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our Parish electronically

