



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



Year C

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

18th May 2025

The Resurrection

Soon we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord, 40 days after His Resurrection. Ten days after that we celebrate Pentecost, the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Church. Before the Easter passes, let's reflect on the Resurrection.

There are many things Jesus' resurrection was not:

Jesus' resurrection is not a resuscitation. He is not brought back to life like Lazarus, or Jairus' daughter, or the son of the widow of Nain. Lazarus rises in the same state of life that he lived, and would have to die again. Jesus will not die again. He lives now in a state of life that is forever.

Jesus' resurrection was not purely spiritual. His appearances to the disciples were not like that of a ghost or a vision.

The resurrection of Jesus is not a Christian metaphor or the moral highpoint of a fundamental human narrative myth. His resurrection is real and historical.

I'm no expert, but I think I remember from my cursory reading of the Koran, Islam believes also that Jesus did not actually die on the cross. Rather, since Jesus was a just and blameless prophet, God saved him from death, and he showed himself to the disciples and then was assumed into heaven by God.

Jesus' resurrection is bodily. He says to the Apostles, "A ghost/spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." (Lk 24:39) He has Thomas touch His wounds, He breaths on them, and He eats in front of them. Yet, His body is also different from before. The doors were closed where the Apostles were and then Jesus stood among them. Mary Magdalene and other disciples didn't recognise Him at first. Even John makes this curious comment, "none of the disciples dared ask 'who are you?' They knew it was the Lord." (Jn 21:12) This is the 'risen' body of Jesus. It is the same body, but different.

Jesus now has a 'glorified' body we say. Or, we call it His 'eternal' or 'immortal' body. We call Him now the 'risen Jesus'.

This reality of the resurrection of Jesus in the flesh is important for many reasons that are, of course, all connected. But here is one related to the Eucharist:

It is this risen, glorified and living Body that is present in the Eucharist. If one does not believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus, obviously one will not believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Since Jesus is truly risen, He is truly present. And what is placed on the altar is not just a ceremony, a remembrance, or a symbol, but the same Body that was given for us on the cross but is now risen and glorified. Jesus offers Himself with the same totality of self-giving, but now in an unbloody fashion.

And this means also that John Chapter 6 is indeed a prophecy or prediction of His own resurrection. "I am the living bread come down from heaven. whoever eats this bread will live forever." (Jn 6:48)

Fr John Paul Mount

SUNDAY MASSES

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1 st & 3 rd Saturday	6:30pm (Vigil)
17 th May & 7 th June	Our Lady Help of Christians
also Sat 24 th May	Feast Day Vigil Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES

May

Mon	no Mass
Tue, Thu, Fri	7:30am
Wed	9:30am
Sat 24 th May	9:30am no Mass

CONFESSION

30 minutes prior to each Mass
& during Holy Hour

DEVOTIONS

Mon	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
Tue	7:00pm	No Holy Hour on 20 th May
Fri	24 hours	First Friday Adoration
Sun	10:00am	Rosary (Chapel)

DIARY

May

17 th & 18 th	Special Collection - Myanmar
Sat 24 th	Our Lady Help of Christians
Sat 24 th	Sacrament of First Eucharist
Sat 31 st	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

June

Sun 1 st	The Ascension of the Lord
Tue 3 rd	Young Adults Group (18-35 years)
Fri 6 th	First Friday Devotion
Sun 8 th	Baptism Preparation Session
Fri 13 th	Providence & Friends Mass

DONATE

To support our Parish,
scan the QR code,
or contact the Parish Office
to set up recurring contributions.



ST. BERNARD'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH
61 Lerderdarg Street
Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

PARISH OFFICE
Tuesday – Friday, 9:30am – 1:30pm
(03) 5367 2069
bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au
www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au

OUR LADY
HELP OF CHRISTIANS
309 Myrniong-Korobeit Road
Korobeit VIC 3341

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.

PARISH NEWS

CRISIS IN MYANMAR

This weekend, we have a special collection to help the people of Myanmar recover from recent devastation. Caritas Australia is encouraging us to donate which will help provide emergency relief shelter, clean water and food, medical care and supplies, as well as emotional and psychological support. Please give generously.

CANCELLATIONS

Parishioners, please note the following cancellations next week:

Tuesday 20th May – 7:00pm Holy Hour & Adoration

Saturday 24th May – 9:30am Mass

OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Next Saturday 24th May, there will be a Vigil Mass to celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lady, Help of Christians, Patron of Australia. It will be held at Korobeit at 6:30pm. All welcome.

SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY

The annual Seminary Enquiry Day is being held on Saturday 24th May from 10:45am to 3:30pm at Corpus Christi College, 180 Drummond Street, Carlton. Corpus Christi is the place where young men discern and study for the priesthood.

If you are, or know of, a young person in the parish, in your family, or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious, please pass on this information and ask them to consider attending. Full details are on the noticeboard in the Gathering Space.

For catering purposes, please send your RSVP by Tuesday 20th May 2025 to the Vocations Office at vocations@cam.org.au. If you have any enquiries, the Vocations Director, Fr Dishan Candappa would be pleased to assist you.

THE LIFE OF PROVIDENCE VILLAGE

A few weeks ago, "The Life of Providence Village" book was launched. The books are now available to purchase, but there is a limited number. If anyone is interested, Margaret West at Providence can be contacted on 5310 6600, or by email margaret.west@vmch.com.au

LET US PRAY

Recently Deceased

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Death Anniversaries

John Carr, Gwyneth Davies, Gloria Rogers,
Ray Stevens, Aldo Vescovi.

The Sick

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

COMMUNITY

Soul Food

Soul Food provides a free meal each Wednesday (excluding school holidays). This community service is held in St Bernard's Parish Centre and is a free event. All are welcome. No need to book – just come along.

St Vincent de Paul Society Vic

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

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.

Children are to be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Vicki Benson
Jennifer Costin

Ron Geurts

Margaret Love
0437 247 779

Madeleine McManus
Marj Tung

REFLECTION

Fifth Sunday of Easter – Year C

Love is a word that can be spoken about loosely, used for all kinds of reasons e.g. I love licorice, I love cream cakes, etc. But love, in the real sense, is the love to which Jesus refers. If we wish to know how a Christian is to live and love, we look at Jesus.

Jesus's definition of love is to give oneself, even when that love is not returned or rejected or even betrayed. Love is not a feeling, but something we live out faithfully. We see this love in families who stick together through thick and thin, the good times and the bad times. Jesus showed this love when he washed the feet of the apostles, even Judas, to whom he gave a special sign of friendship, though he knew he was to betray him for money, his first love.

Spending one hour in Church each week does not make us disciples of Jesus. How we live in the family home, our place of work, on the bus, at the footy, in the street – this determines what kind of disciples we are.

Sr Mary Fermio

LITURGICAL LIVING

Bringing Christ to those who can't come to Him

St Bernard's has a small team of Home Communion Ministers who generally operate after Mass on the first Wednesday of the month. We take communion to those at home and those in care who are usually onetime parishioners of the parish.

By taking communion to those unable to come to Mass, we avoid scattering and losing the faithful because of their infirmity. Ministers not only bring the sacrament but also parish news and greetings from friends.

Sickness and infirmity are evils to be coped with; they can destroy the ability to manage our affairs and ourselves; they separate us from the normal commerce of daily life. They tempt the afflicted to withdraw and give in to despair and hopelessness. Receiving Christ in the Sacrament of Communion helps manifestly to restore the infirm as it brings with it the supreme example of Christ who himself suffered but triumphed over his suffering. Living with Christ encourages us to make the best of things even pain and suffering, and gives us strength to deal with adversity.

Removing the Body of Christ from the safety of the Tabernacle and Parish Church is a heavy responsibility. Communion Ministers attend communicants without delay after receiving consecrated hosts at Mass because detours for personal reasons expose the hosts to unacceptable risk of loss or damage. We do not take Our Lord to the supermarket!

Ministers tailor their approach to suit the communicant and to suit the circumstances. With someone who is mentally alert and physically able, then a structured observance is appropriate. However, if the communicant is not able for various reasons to cope with even a short ceremony, then the minister may have to improvise. Also, the recipient's living circumstances are a factor. Being at home is a far different situation to a busy nursing home where the minister may have to extemporize in finding a suitable space to communicate the resident and may need the services of nursing staff in case of difficulty consuming the host.

Ministering to the ill and infirm is a privilege. To be the messenger who brings no less than the Body of Christ, is an honour without bounds. To be an agent who can alleviate distress and bring real succor, is not to be taken lightly. May we ministers never do so.

John Thorne

'Communion of the Sick' The Liturgical Commission, Revised Ed, 2012

MINISTERS

24th & 25th May

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Vicki Benson	Maria Tunogbanua	Jackie Tabone
8:30am	Evana Carragher	Tup Shea	Lyn Shea
10:30am	Beatrice Younger	Shannon Harview	

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING *Acts 14:21-27*

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships', they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga, they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival, they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *144:8-13*

**R: I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God,
to make known to men your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendour of your reign.

Yours is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule lasts from age to age.

SECOND READING *Revelation 21:1-5*

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new'.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 13:34*

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *John 13:31-35*

When Judas had gone, Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified,
and in him God has been glorified.
If God has been glorified in him,
God will in turn glorify him in himself,
and will glorify him very soon.
My little children,
I shall not be with you much longer.
I give you a new commandment:
love one another;
just as I have loved you,
you also must love one another.
By this love you have for one another,
everyone will know that you are my disciples'.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me, and I in him,
bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

———— NEXT SUNDAY ————

Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year C

<i>First Reading</i>	<i>Acts 15:1-2, 22-29</i>
<i>Responsorial Psalm</i>	<i>Psalms 66:2-3, 5-6, 8</i>
<i>Second Reading</i>	<i>Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23</i>
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>John 14:23-29</i>