



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



Year C

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

27th July 2025

Church Etiquette IV

Over the last few weeks, we have spoken about some of the practical wisdom of how to conduct ourselves at Mass. We started with the all-encompassing rule of charity. To be considerate and understanding of others, and not judging them if they are not following the expected behaviours. They might have their reasons for all we know. In many cases of how to behave in Church there are a number of options, and it's the individual's choice of which option they might choose.

Last week we looked at Holy Communion. This was an important one to cover, especially for those who are new to Church, but also a good reminder for all of us. It was a bit of a heavier topic than mere etiquette I guess, however, I wish to cover one more 'heavy' topic before moving on.

Confession

In regards to the Sacrament of Penance, otherwise called Reconciliation or Confession, let's just make two points.

Firstly, no doubt we are aware of what is called the 'seal of the confessional', meaning that a priest cannot disclose what is said in confession. However, if anyone else were to accidentally or otherwise overhear another person's confession, he or she is also bound to secrecy (Canon 983).

Secondly, part of the seal that a priest is bound to, is that a priest should not even reveal, if he knows, *who* has been to confession. For the rest of us, if we see other people going to confession, we are not bound by the seal of confession in the same way that the priest is, however, we should be discreet about it. This means that we should not take notice of who is going to confession, and we should not mention it to others. Indeed, we should *intentionally not take notice* of who lines up for confession. Like last week's rule about whether others receive communion or not, and how they receive, here is this week's rule of, '*mind your own business*'.

Ok let's move onto lighter topics!

Ever felt totally embarrassed when the collection plate is put in front of you and you have no cash?! I certainly remember it. To cover myself, I confess, I have put bottle caps, buttons or anything I could find in my pocket to pretend...I've flicked the bottom of the plate to make it sound like I dropped a coin in. Today though, carrying cash has become increasingly rare. So, it can be very easy to forget to put some cash in your pocket before leaving the house. Additionally, more and more parishioners give to the Church electronically. Indeed, this is preferable. Therefore, no one should feel uncomfortable anymore when you simply pass the plate/basket along without putting anything in it. Needless to say, we most certainly shouldn't be noticing or judging others who do that. (Perhaps you could pass a judgement if you saw a young Fr John Paul Mount putting in a golf ball marker....) Moreover, people are of different means – some can give much or little, regularly or irregularly. That's their business. Some parishes even have cards saying 'I give online' so that parishioners can have something to put into the plate and not feel embarrassed. I think this is unnecessary. There should be no embarrassment, full stop. People give what they can and how they can, they give online, and people sometimes forget, and so it should just be completely normal now if you simply pass the basket on.

Fr John Paul Mount

SUNDAY MASSES

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1st & 3rd Saturday
2nd & 16th August 6:30pm (Vigil)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon no Mass
Tue, Thu, Fri 7:30am
Wed & Sat 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 24 hours First Friday Adoration
Sun 10:00am Rosary (Chapel)

FEAST DAYS

& SPECIAL MASSES

Fri 8th St Mary MacKillop (no 7:30am Mass)
9:30am School Mass in church
Parishioners welcome
Fri 15th The Assumption of BVM (no 7:30am Mass)
9:30am School Mass in church and
7:00pm Mass in church
Wed 20th St Bernard of Clairvaux (no 7:30am Mass)
9:00am School Mass at school and
7:00pm Mass in church (tea/coffee/cake after)

DIARY

August

Tue 5th Young Adults Group (18-35 years)
Wed 6th The Transfiguration of the Lord
Thu 7th Craft & Cuppa Group
Thu 7th KSC – "God & Beer"
Fri 15th Providence & Friends Mass
Sat 30th Trivia Night
Sun 31st Baptism Preparation Session

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 Lerderberg 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

FR AURELIO FRAGAPANE

Thank you Fr Aurelio Fragapane for celebrating Masses for us while Fr John Paul is away until Tuesday 12th August. Please make him welcome.

MASSES CANCELLED

Parishioners please note the following Masses have been cancelled:

9:30am Wednesday 30th July
7:30am Friday 8th August
7:30am Friday 15th August
7:30am Wednesday 20th August

ST BERNARD'S TRIVIA NIGHT 2025

Saturday 30th August at 6:30pm

Tickets are now available for our annual parish trivia night. Come and enjoy a fun-filled evening as you challenge fellow parishioners. Book a whole table (8 players), or buy individual tickets and we'll find a team for you.

BYO food & drinks. Adults \$20. Youth \$10.

Scan the QR code to secure your tickets.

Contact person: Thomas Halloran – 0431 504 402



PROVIDENCE & FRIENDS AUGUST MASS

The August Mass at Providence Village has been moved from Friday 8th August to Friday 15th August at 11:00am.

SAFEGUARDING AUDITS

Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) will be conducting audits of parishes in the Melbourne Archdiocese in the near future. We thank our Safeguarding Committee, staff and volunteers for all their Parish safeguarding efforts.

PARISH THANKSGIVING

1st Collection: Presbytery – supports our Parish Priest and priests of the Archdiocese.

2nd Collection: Church – supports our Parish.

The 'Tap & Go' device is now permanently available in the Gathering Space for any financial contributions to the Church/Parish.

Also, direct transfers can be made to the Church account:

Account Name: St Bernard's Bacchus Marsh Church Account
BSB: 083 347 Account No.: 651663131

LET US PRAY

Recently Deceased

...

Death Anniversaries

Tony Dickinson, Bill Griffith, Bronwyn Kays,
Bob Pope, Mihály Turcsan, Nadia Vescovi.

The Sick

Barry Anderson, Brendan Coburn, Kathleen Dally,
Dean Elms, Robert Elms, Frances, (baby) Caleb
Silas Ginger, Hannah & Molly, Matthew Hilbert,
Michael Johnston, John & Patricia Kelly, Michael
Larkin, Joanne Mumford, Chinenye Victoria Oriaku
Nwalozie, Noeline Haeday Riaca, Peter Roberts,
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
Peter Kennedy

REFLECTION

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For some people the word "father" is a loving word, for others the opposite. Each of us is affected by our experience of fatherhood, and this can affect the way we relate to God as Father.

Jesus offers us a model of Father, one which is personal and trusting, one who cares and provides our needs. Sin does not separate us from this Father, who continually and unfailingly forgives us, no matter how treated or neglected by us. The parable that follows assures us of God's response, just as we ourselves would respond if someone we knew asked for hospitality. We surely would not slam the door on them. This is the essence of prayer – our relationship with God, our extreme neediness – God cannot refuse us.

Do I believe this about God, my Father? Let us sincerely ponder this question.

Sr Mary Fermio

KSC

"God and Beer"

One of the Objects of the KSC (Knights of the Southern Cross) is getting out into the community for spiritual and intellectual activities. One of these is "God and Beer" sessions; regularly held in suburban social locations, and our next one is nearby at Hoppers Crossing. Our August guest speakers are Fr Jude Pirotta MSSP, Parish Priest of St James the Apostle Parish, Hoppers Crossing North, and Sean Menere, a highly accomplished and experienced counsellor.

Topic: **Building Resilience and Finding Purpose Through Faith**

Date: Thursday 7th August 2025

Time: 6:30pm dinner available for purchase, 7:30pm for the talk

Venue: Hoppers Club, 180-200 Pannam Drive, Hoppers Crossing

Contact: Jared jared.revell@gmail.com

Tickets: Free. Book at: www.godandbeer.com.au

ALL WELCOME. There is No hard-sell or expectation of further commitment. Just come along and maybe you will get some information to be able to help support a family member or friend.

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

MINISTERS

2nd & 3rd August

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Vicki Benson	Maria Tunogbanua	Dianne Shelly
8:30am	Nathan Costin		Marj Tung
10:30am	Dominic van der Linden	Shannon Harvie	

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

FIRST READING *Genesis 18:20-32*

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No,' he replied, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will be only forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 137:1-3, 6-8*

R: Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.

Response

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

Response

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction
you give me life and frustrate my foes

Response

You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.

Response

SECOND READING *Colossians 2:12-14*

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised;
and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through
your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead.
You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been
circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has
forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the
debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it
to the cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Romans 8:15*

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children,
and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Luke 11:1-13*

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had
finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just
as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when
you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and
goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend
me three loaves because a friend of mine on his travels has
just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and
the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me.
The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I
cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not
get up and give it to him for friendship's sake, persistence will
be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and
you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For
the one who asks always receives; the one who searches
always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door
opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a
stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead
of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If
you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is
good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy
Spirit to those who ask him!"

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Psalms 102: 2*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

———— NEXT SUNDAY ————

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

<i>First Reading:</i>	<i>Ecclesiastes 1:2,2:21-23</i>
<i>Responsorial Psalm:</i>	<i>94(95):1-2,6-9</i>
<i>Second Reading:</i>	<i>Colossians 3:1-5,9-11</i>
<i>Gospel:</i>	<i>Luke 12:13-21</i>