



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



Year C

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24th August 2025

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

This Sunday, children at St Bernard's Primary School will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. This year they will travel into St Patrick's Cathedral to receive the Sacrament. It was an idea of the Archdiocese to observe the Jubilee Year to offer all Parishes the opportunity to celebrate Confirmations at the Cathedral. I think it's a wonderful idea especially for Parishes on the outskirts of Melbourne because many of these families will not have visited the Cathedral very often, if at all.

A Cathedral receives its name from the Bishop's chair or throne, called a cathedra. This is the Bishop's home Church. FYI the Cathedral of Rome is not actually St Peter's but rather St John Lateran (the 'Lateran' comes from a family on whose property it was built.....I think). Anyway, our Cathedral, St Patrick's is a formidable building that no doubt will have our children in awe and make their Confirmation a memorable experience for their whole family. St Patrick's, like so many old Church's and Cathedrals, as mentioned last week, are impressive testimonies of the faith and devotion of past generations. That we seem incapable of constructing these beautiful buildings now, should humble us. Yes they are just 'bricks and mortar' so to speak, nevertheless these buildings all around the world are existing testimonies of the power of Pentecost through the generations and the inheritance of our faith.

The Sacrament of Confirmation brings Pentecost to each generation and each recipient. In the Eastern Church, as well as Orthodox, this Sacrament is given at the same time as infant Baptism. However, in the Roman Church, we receive it when we are a bit older. I think this is a good tradition because this Sacrament gives us the grace of the Holy Spirit specifically to strengthen us to live our faith in the world. So, Confirmation corresponds to the time of our life when we are older, taking responsibility for our life and actions, and need to go out into the world while being faithful to Christ and fulfil the will of God in our lives. In many places in the world even today, this Sacrament is given only when a person requests it when they are older – they are not just baptised as a baby and not living their faith, but rather have taken ownership and initiative and want to live their faith, and now request the gift of Pentecost to set their lives and the world on fire as Jesus desired in last week's Gospel.

As we grow older, we are confronted with many difficulties as we try to live our faith in the world. Even heading to secondary school, it will be more difficult to live our true identity as sons and daughters of the Father. And after secondary school, we need to be strong enough to leave home, 'fly the coup', and go out into the world. Confirmation gives us the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit to help us remain faithful to Christ, grow in holiness, defend and spread the Catholic faith, and generally take on life courageously. These gifts are wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, courage, piety and fear of the Lord.

St John Henry Newman will soon be made a doctor of the Church. Thanks be to God. He has a famous quote that I think is fitting for Confirmation because this Sacrament helps us to fulfil God's will in our adult life. Here is a larger portion of the text:

"God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission—I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. Somehow I am necessary for His purposes, as necessary in my place as an Archangel in his—if, indeed, I fail, He can raise another, as He could make the stones children of Abraham. Yet I have a part in this great work; I am a link in a chain, a bond of connexion between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling."

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SUNDAY MASSES

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1st & 3rd Saturday
6th & 20th Sept 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

August

Sun 24th Sacrament of Confirmation
2:00pm Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral

DIARY

August

Fri 29th Funeral 1pm – Gerard Harrington
Sat 30th Trivia Night
Sun 31st Baptism Preparation Session

September

Tue 2nd Funeral 11am – Pat Clancy
Tue 2nd Young Adults Group
Fri 5th Men's Poker Night (*Father's Day*)
Thu 11th First Reconciliation
(*information & preparation session*)
Fri 12th Providence & Friends Mass
Sun 14th Morning Tea (*after 8:30am Mass*)
Sun 14th 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

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



MEN'S POKER NIGHT

Friday 5th September at 7:00pm

To celebrate Father's Day, we are hosting a men's social night in the Parish Centre on Friday 5th September. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a fun night of poker and also form connections with other men in the parish. If you'd like to attend (Strictly 18+), please get in touch with Thomas Halloran on 0431 504 402 for more details.

2025 ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN

The 2025 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider an annual or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. These ministries are outlined in the campaign brochure. Posters, Frequently Asked Questions, and brochures with more information, together with envelopes, are available around the church.

The focus of this year's campaign is on seminarian education and formation, as well as gratitude for the lifelong contribution and ministry of our retired priests.

Donations can be made via the QR code, via the supplied campaign envelopes, or anonymously via cash directly into the special collections over the two campaign weekends. You can also make a gift online at www.melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign

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 available in the Gathering Space.

Direct transfers can also 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

John Bonnie, Pat Clancy, Gerard Harrington.

Death Anniversaries

Harper Button, Terrence Delahey, Alice Doolan, Ashley Hine, Phillip Lennox, Antonio Schembri, Brian Ward.

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, Peter Roberts, Laurie 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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

A 95 year old Sister once said to me: "Mary, do you think I will get to Heaven?" Astounded, I reminded her of the conditions – she taught Prep, 1 & 2 in our school, the hours she spent caring for the Church, hours teaching us shorthand after school, hours spent in prayer in the convent.

These may seem very ordinary actions, but when done for God and for others, they are the essence of living for God. When she died, I am sure she was welcomed by God who knew her and where she came from. To the question: Will I be saved? What will you answer. When we arrive home to God, will God say: "I do not know where you come from".

No one can answer for me. I am the only one who can respond to the question. So when I arrive at "heaven's door" and knock, will I be recognised? That is up to each one of us.

Sr. Mary Fermio

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION (CONT'D)

"Therefore I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. My sickness, or perplexity, or sorrow may be necessary causes of some great end, which is quite beyond us. He does nothing in vain; He may prolong my life, He may shorten it; He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends, He may throw me among strangers, He {302} may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide the future from me—still He knows what He is about."

"O Adonai, O Ruler of Israel, Thou that guidest Joseph like a flock, O Emmanuel, O Sapiaientia, I give myself to Thee. I trust Thee wholly. Thou art wiser than I—more loving to me than I myself. Deign to fulfil Thy high purposes in me whatever they be—work in and through me. I am born to serve Thee, to be Thine, to be Thy instrument. Let me be Thy blind instrument. I ask not to see—I ask not to know—I ask simply to be used."
St John Henry Newman.

Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount

Sunday 24th August

Congratulations to the children who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday 24th August at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Angelo Corder	Hiroshi Guianan	Lakyn Aquilina
Archie Jones	Isaiah Abbott	Lola Parsons
Aurora Browney	Jacob Cassar	Mia Dutt
Bella Avanti	Jaxon Cotter	Milla Jones
Blair Attard	Jed Peelman	Montie O'Leary
Bryce Harmon	Jessica Ross	Nyah Halfhide
Cooper Hunter	Joseph Gaffiero	Oscar Arandt
Emilia Ibrahim	Joshua Tymoszek	Riley Trent
Estelle Carter	Julia Bugeja	Sarah Peterson
Eva Maghamez	Kamryn Lillyst	Scarlett Borg
Flynn Parsons	Keira Woods	Talisha Cotter
Gabriella Borg	Kris Spiteri	Vezna Delev

Let us pray

We pray for our brothers and sisters who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, that they may give witness to Christ by their faith and love of the Gospel.

To the parents and sponsors of those confirmed, we pray that by their word and example, they may continue to encourage these children to follow the way of Christ and share the Good News.

MINISTERS

30th & 31st August

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Maureen Zahra	Jacki Tabone	Dianne Shelly
8:30am	Evana Carragher		Marj Tung
10:30am	Beatrice Younger	Jenny Kearney	

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

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading *Isaiah 66:18-21*

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 116*

**R: Go out to all the world
 and tell the Good News.**

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples!

Response

Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever.

Response

Second Reading *Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13*

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

Gospel Acclamation *John 14:6*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke 13:22-30*

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.'

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"'

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from the east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.'

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

Communion Antiphon *Psalms 129:7*

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work,
O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

———— NEXT SUNDAY ————

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

First Reading	<i>Sirach 3:17-20</i>
Responsorial Psalm	<i>Psalms 67:4-7, 10-11</i>
Second Reading	<i>Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24</i>
Gospel	<i>Luke 14:1, 7-14</i>