



St Anthony's Parish

67-75 EXFORD ROAD, MELTON SOUTH, 3338.
P.O BOX 2152 MELTON SOUTH 3338
TEL: 9747 9692



St Bernard's Parish

61 LERDERBERG STREET, BACCHUS MARSH 3340
TEL: 5367 2069
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, KOROBET
309 MYRNIONG-KOROBET ROAD 3341

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR C

16th October 2022

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Fabian Smith
ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint and Fr Samuel Kapani

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Lesley Morffew

Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson

Parish Office Hours: Mon 9.00am-12noon
Tue-Fri 9.00-1.00pm

Email: meltonsouth@cam.org.au

Website: www.stanthonyofpadua.com.au

St Anthony's School **Principal:** Damien Schuster
Wilson Road, Melton South 3338

Phone: 8099 7800

Email: principal@sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au

St Lawrence of Brindisi School **Principal:** Bill Hill

31 Waterway Boulevard, Weir Views, 3338

Phone: 0477 155 210

Email: principal@slweirviews.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.slweirviews.catholic.edu.au

ST BERNARD'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Dolores Turcsan

Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson

Sacramental Coordinator/ Bookkeeper:
Naim Chdid

Parish Office Hours:

Tue 9.00am-11.30am Wed & Thu 9.00am-1.00pm

Email: bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au

Website: www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au

Facebook link:

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

St Bernard's School **Principal:** Sr Mary Sarah Galbraith
19a Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Phone: (03) 5366 5800

Email: principal@sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Regional College - Melton (Years 7-12)

Principal: Marlene Jorgensen **Phone:** 8099 6000

109-141 Bulmans Rd, West Melton, 3337 **Website:** www.crcmelton.com.au

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Naim Chid	0437 004 790
Lillian Christian - Vice Chair	0400 441 257
Stephen Fernandes	0439 743 533
Amy Honrade	0457 042 695
Natalie Howard - Chair	0492 947 201
Rose Ma'ae	0460 672 571

EX-OFFICIO: Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint,
Fr Samuel Kapani, Damien Schuster and Bill Hill
Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Shane Cook - School Advisory Board	0419 999 052
Peter Farren	0418 594 501
Peter Kennedy - Secretary	0407 778 119
Maira Ross	0400 675 056
Aaron Russell - Chair	0401 927 502

EX-OFFICIO:

Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint and Fr Samuel Kapani
Sr Mary Sarah Galbraith

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Coordinator/Officer: Godwin Barton (0425 734 449) **Officers:** St Anthony's - Lorraine Tellis 0437 658 423 & Geetha Vincent 0478 112 996
St Bernard's - Margaret Love (0437 247 779) Evana Miesen & Ron Geurts

Items for the newsletter must be submitted by Tuesday 6.00pm. Please email judyparishnews@gmail.com or call 0414 007 009

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 17/10/2022– 23/10/2022

MASS TIMES:

Monday 17/10	6.30pm
Tuesday 18/10	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday 19/10	7.30am & 9.30am
Thursday 20/10	9.30am
Friday 21/10	7.30am & 9.30am

Rosary 9.00am before 9.30am weekday Mass.



Sunday Masses

Saturday 22/10	5.00pm
Sunday 23/10	8.30am & 10.30am

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.
No Confession on Monday.

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 17/10/2022-23/10/2022

MASS TIMES:

Monday 17/10	No Mass
Tuesday 18/10	7.30am
Holy Hour	7.30pm
Wednesday 19/10	9.30am
Thursday 20/10	7.30am
Friday 21/10	9.30am
Saturday 22/10	9.00am

Sunday Mass

Saturday 22/10	5.00pm
Sunday 23/10	8.30am & 10.30am

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

KOROBET

VIGIL MASS	22/10	6.30pm
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If you need a Priest in the case of a genuine emergency please call 0403 435 471

PARISHIONER'S FIRST COLLECTION/SECOND COLLECTION

Parishioners who normally give cash each weekend for the collections, if they wish to donate, are now able to go to the link below and make their payments online.

The link to the St Anthony's Parish is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMeltonSouth>

The link to the St Bernard's Parish is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayBacchusMarsh>

Please put your name and thanksgiving number if you know it as a reference.

REFLECTION 29TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME-Sr Mary Fermio

Years ago I tried to learn the piano and the guitar, but gave up because of time constraints and found it too difficult. I am not good at persevering I concluded. It can be very easy to lose heart and give up trying – to learn a new skill, to grow some veggies, to pray for a need, for someone...

Jesus assures us that we need to be persistent in our prayer – to not lose heart. We may think God is not listening, prayer is a waste of time and effort. But like the widow if we keep pestering God, our prayer will be answered, but maybe not in the way we want. God (like Father) knows best!

An East Timorese woman told one of our sisters that she prays to Mary MacKillop "to pull God's ear!"

St Teresa of Avila chided God saying "if that is the way you treat your friends, it's no wonder you have so few!". She spoke to God as a friend, and wrote "prayer is not thinking much, but loving much".

The words of the poem Footprints sum up God's relationship with us - that during the times of trouble and distress and we thought we walked alone, because there was only one set of footprints, that was the time we were carried.

So chat to God as your friend speaking of your troubles, your hopes and dreams and like Jesus did in the Garden, hard as it might be, accept what God sends, and let God carry you.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

FAITH FORMATION

For information call our Catechist Naim Chdid to 0437 004 790. Sessions begin at 7.00pm at St Anthony's Church of Padua, 67-75 Exford Road, Melton South (Age 16+) **Topic this week: the life of Christ** - Jesus the unexpected Messiah.

AS I HAVE LOVED YOU A parent training resource on forming children in a Catholic vision of sexuality. Dr Gerard O'Shea is professor of Religious Education at the University of Notre Dame and author of 'As I Have Loved You'. He will present a session for parents of the parish on how to form their own children in a Catholic vision of human sexuality according to the teaching of the Catholic Church. Padua Hall, St Anthony's Parish, Presenter: Professor Gerard O'Shea 20 October, 2022 7:00 PM 1-hour presentation, followed by time for questions.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY-CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL-SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend we will have a special collection for the Catholic Mission. Catholic Mission operates in over 160 countries to support initiatives in 1,100 dioceses. Your support of this mission will help continue vital Church-run mission programs around the world. Please give generously.

Donation envelopes are also available in the Church foyer or go online [Build brighter futures for families in Emdibir \(catholicmission.org.au\)](https://www.catholicmission.org.au)

CATHOLIC HISTORIC MELBOURNE MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

The Dominican Sisters are hosting a Catholic Historic Melbourne Marian Pilgrimage on Saturday 22 October. We'll meet for 11am Mass at St. Mary Star of the Sea, West Melbourne, then follow a 5K pilgrimage route through Melbourne CBD, stopping to pray at some of the most beautiful Marian shrines in the city. Stops include St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Francis, St. Mary Mackillop's birthplace, St. Mary Star of the Sea and more. BYO lunch, no registration required. Contact Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org for more information.

ALL SOUL'S DAY—Wednesday 2nd November 2022

Extra Masses will be held on All Soul's Day at **St Anthony's** 7.30am, 9.30am & 6.30pm and **St Bernard's** 9.30am & 7.30pm. During the month of November, the Church calls us to pray for all our departed members. If you wish Mass to be offered for your loved ones, please fill in the envelopes in the foyer and then place them in the box provided. Then please add your loved one's name to the clipboard provided.

Their names will then be included in a Memorial book which will be processed in and placed on the Altar at all the weekend Masses in November.

MEMORIAL MASS

A Memorial Mass will be held in November at both St Anthony's and St Bernard's Parishes. Date and time to be confirmed

ST ANTHONY'S

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STATUE-ROSTER

The roster for hosting our Lady of Fatima statue will be compiled in the 1st week of December. Any **NEW** family who wishes to go on the roster, must put their details on the clipboard in the Church foyer. Thank you.

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CORPORATE DINNER

Venue: Tabcorp Park, 2 Ferris Rd, Melton 3337 **Date:** 22nd October

Time: 6pm till late **Dress Code:** Black Tie

Adult: \$100 per head **Child:** \$50.00 (12 years and under)

Contacts: Julie S 0402182 458 & Ana T 0406 503 363

Tickets still available. All money raised will go towards the extension of Padua Hall.

PRIME TIMERS

Fun and games day at the Leisure Centre, Lifestyle Village Tuesday 25th October from 11.30am. BYO lunch, tea and coffee provided.

Enquiries contact Ineke 0400120401 or ineke49@yahoo.com Thanks.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Thanksgiving envelopes are available for collection in the Church foyer.

BINGO

Bingo is held every Tuesday night at 7pm in the Padua Hall, St Anthony's Parish. Canteen services available and complimentary tea and coffee provided. Come along and enjoy a great night, and with a bit of luck you could be one of our lucky winners!

ST BERNARD'S

SOUL FOOD CHRISTMAS GIFT Soul Food Program Inc. has seen a big increase in our numbers of Guests over the last few years. Our Christmas function for this year will be on Wednesday 14th December 2022. Soul Food are once again looking for people to be a Sponsor for our children this Christmas. You will be asked to buy some presents for the child (first name and age given), put into a gift bag, and delivered to Soul Food for distribution. The present will be handed to your child at our Christmas function. For many of our children, this is the only gift they will receive for Christmas. We would like to collect the presents by the end of November, so we can be organized early. If this is something you would like to do, please call Jenny on 0408104155, and you will be allocated a child. 

FUNDRAISING GROUP St Bernard's parish is forming a Fundraising Group to help raise funds for church expenses and also offer social opportunities to bring the community together. We are looking for enthusiastic people to join the team in bringing fresh ideas and help with coordinating the events. Please contact Natalia on 0409445552 if you are interested.

FUND-RAISER CAKE STALL AND BBQ- Sunday October 23rd.

Raising funds for Stage 2 Church Lighting. The Cake stall will run after the 8.30am Mass, and BBQ and Cake stall after the 10.30am Mass. Please bring a cake, slice or biscuits - and then buy one! Abiding by council regulations, please list all ingredients on your sweets. Ingredients requiring refrigeration such as cream or custard are disallowed. Please drop off sweets in church foyer before any of the weekend Masses on 22/23 October.

Enquiries or to volunteer help, please call Natalia 0409445552

BACCHUS MARSH ST VINCENT de PAUL is seeking new members to join our Conference. Have you thought about giving back? We need people who want to make a difference. It only takes a small amount of time to change someone's life Take action and become part of the St Vincent de Paul team who support our community with our home visitation program. The work of our Conference is not limited to our home visitation program. The work of a member can include – Spiritual Advisor, Mini Vinnies Liaison, Member Data Entry, Social Justice Representative and School Camps Liaison. Please join us for a 'cuppa' after 8.30am or 10.30am Mass on Sunday October 30 to hear more about the works of our Conference from our members.

For further information you can also contact Conference President Margot Short on 0419 507 438

or email bmarsh.conf.pres@sudp-vic.org.au

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday 18th October.

WORSHIP NEWS

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND A CODE OF CONDUCT FORM SIGNED.

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 22nd & 23rd October
Please present yourself to the Mass Coordinator
15 minutes before the scheduled Mass time or a replacement
will be found. Thank you.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm Vigil: Gavin Pereira
8.30am: Amy Honrade
10.30am: Annonica Mavaega

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm Vigil: Ann Tennakoon
8.30am: Geoff Sutton
10.30am: George Bonello

If you are unavailable for these dates please contact Lesley at the Parish Office Thank you

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Olen & Coleen
8.30am: Godwin & Lillian
10.30am: Godwin & Lillian

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the recently deceased:

Maria Cumbo

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time:

Kevin Francis Doyle, Barry Finn, Laura Leslie, Beryl Lloyd, Giovanni Madafferi, Michelina Madafferi, Rio Manion, Salvador Pereira, Kathleen Pinto & Joseph Scicluna.

Please pray for the Sick:

Hazel Michael, Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Christabelle, Lydia De Vega, Melanie Fue, Bruce Hynes, Kotinis Cornelia Kani, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Reg Marslen, Lisa Melia, Damien Michael, Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Nickol, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Catherine Roberts, Peter Roberts, Pat Roberts, Samantha Smith, Charlie Spiteri, Janko Stojanovic, Christina Tuigamala, Uatoa Tuigamala, Clint Abela Wadge, Wai Walsh and all those who have requested our prayers. **PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST.**

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father we lift up all those who are facing illness. We ask that You bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of your love.
 Amen



ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

MINISTERS OF THE WORD : THIS WEEKEND

5.00pm: Evana Miesen
8.30am: Margaret Love
10.30am: Dominic Van Der Linden

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: 22nd & 23rd October

5.00pm: Maureen Zahra
8.30am: Gerard O'Shea
10.30am: Samantha Butler

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

October: Greta & Grace Kratochvil

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the recently deceased:

Shirley Veronica Stone (nee Duncan)

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time:

Isabel Aquino, Kevin Bridges, Patricia Knight & Margaret Scott.

Please pray for the Sick:

Patricia Allison, Noah Barlow, Chaiel Balcombe, Michael Barrett, Peter Bennett, Steven Braszel, Tina Bower, Fred Capuano, Gary Ching, Chris, Josephine Cilia, Robyn Cola, Ted Cooling, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, Judy Delahey, Theresa Dockter, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, George Farrell, Justin Fernandez, Pasquale Gagliardi, Mario Galea, Cynthia Goodyear, Gwen Green, Joe Gristi, Adam Hillier, Leonie Kervin, Elle Hillman, Kiahni Holamotutama, Alicia Holborn, Chaiel Jackson, Matthew Jansen, David Kasprzak, Michael Larkin, Marie Maloney, Patricia Marechal, Brian Marshall, Debbie Marshall, Cathy-Sue Nuelist, Jordanis Mary Pauline McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Marcus Meno, Paul Mullin, Arthur Pape, Michael Paterson, Georgia Peacock, Mitchell Prendergast, Peter Roberts, Ken Shaw, Terry Sims, Marian Smith, Elizabeth Stehmann, Colin Taffe, Catherine Time, Susan Trist, Stephen Van Eede, John Van Orsouw, Angela Vicum, Louis Vogels, Barry Walsh, Cath Wheelahan, Jayne Wilkins, Patricia Yazbek, Betty Young and all those who have requested our prayers. **PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST.**

SERVICE / COMMUNITY

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK AND A CODE OF CONDUCT FORM SIGNED.

ST ANTHONY'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS: 22nd & 23rd October

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Liza Fernandez
8.30am: Ineke Allen
10.30am: Elizabeth Underwood

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS –22nd & 23rd October

5.00pm Vigil: Joe Perera & Gavin & Allison Pereira
8.30am: Geoff & Debra Sutton
10.30am: Dwi Rochfort

CHURCH FLOWERS

October: Regina & Richella Tuala



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330
The Melton South Conference meet every 3rd Tuesday morning in the Meeting Room 10.30am.
New members most welcome, training provided.
Non perishable items within the use by date can be left in the 'drop box' in the Church foyer.
We cannot accept re-packaged food.

COMBINED CHURCHES CARING MELTON INC

We're here to support City of Melton residents get ahead through access to our foodbank and other community programs. It's never just about the food or the budget help, it's about recognising the beauty that is in the person and bringing it out so they can be their best.
Address: 100 Coburn Road Melton South 9747 6811

God, strengthen and sustain all those who volunteer in our Churches; that with patience and understanding they may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow with Jesus Christ offering to you their gifts and talents.



ST BERNARD'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS : 22nd & 23rd October

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 5.00pm Marj Tung
Sunday: 8.30am Dianne Shelley
10.30am Dagmar Van Der Linden

CHURCH FLOWERS

October: Beatrice Younger



PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

October: Stephen Millington

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Welfare Number is 1800 305 330.
The Vinnies Store is now located at Shop 19, The Village, 164-190 Main Street Bacchus Marsh
The store is open 7 days a week. If you are able to volunteer and would like some more information, please contact the Store Manager on 8199 4205.

THE NEIGHBOURS PLACE

The Neighbours' Place is a Christian not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to serve people of the **Moorabool Shire**, west of Melbourne Australia, who are disadvantaged, at risk or temporarily unable to feed themselves or their family and who are in need of emergency food relief.

NILS is a **No Interest Loans Scheme** for assistance of up to \$1500 for things like white goods, furniture and minor car repairs to keep life going.

We are located at [77 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh](#)

Phone: 03 5367 6222

Email: neighbourspl@iinet.net.au

Hours of Operation: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-12.30pm. Closed on public holidays.

SOUL FOOD

Soul Food provides a free community meal each Wednesday (excluding school holidays), in the Uniting Church Hall, Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh. Meals are served up at 12noon. All are welcome and this is a free event. No need to book, just come along.

PARISH CENTRE BOOKING

Tel: 5367 3427 Mon—Fri 9.00am to 6.00pm
Hall Managers: Marie & Terry Casey

FAITH FORMATION

ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM– ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S

Dear Parishioners

Keeping in line with the Archbishop's vision for Mission, the Parishes of St Anthony's and St Bernard's have put together a new Baptism Preparation Program, for any parents who wish to have their child Baptised. Preparations for Baptisms will take place on Saturdays alternating between both Parishes. A welcome Mass must be attended prior to the Baptism. Baptisms will be held on Saturday mornings at 11.00am. Parents must attend two sessions. Sessions will run from 12.00pm-4.00pm. Godparents must attend the 2nd session. Bookings must be made to attend these sessions.

Please visit our website for a detailed description of the new program.

[Baptism of Infants | St Anthony of Padua Catholic Parish](#) [Baptism of Infants | St Bernard's Catholic Parish](#)
(stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au) If you have any questions please call the Parish Office.



ADULT PREPARATION Adult preparation for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation are through the R.C.I.A Program. Please see Fr Fabian, Fr Samuel or Fr Lucas .

FATIMA STATUE—ST ANTHONY'S

These families are praying together for the mission of the Parish:

Group 1: Joseph & Caroline Da Rocha 0421 854 711

Group 2: George & Doris Bonello 0431 459 668

Group 3: Amy & Ronald Honrade 0457 042 695

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

1st Sunday of the Month-3.00pm



PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,
be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the Devil; may God rebuke him,
we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the
heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits, who prowl
through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



NEO-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 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



Lord, we ask you to continue
to be with us as we
' TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL '
together in prayer.
May we open ourselves to you
with a new depth of trust and conviction
in your guiding hand,
so that we may discern our journey
with compassionate and humble hearts
and come to know your Holy Spirit
Moving within and amongst us,
And so be transformed Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

FIRST READING Exodus 17:8-13

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm until sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 120

Commentator: Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

All: Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.

The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.

The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever.

Our help is from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:2

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures - from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience - but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active;
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS-

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19;

Second Reading: 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18;

Gospel: Lk 18:9-14



St Lawrence of Brindisi IV

The 'Woman Clothed with the Sun' according to St Lawrence (part 1)

Pope Saint John XXIII in 1959 proclaimed Saint Lawrence of Brindisi a Doctor of the Universal Church. Lawrence now ranks with the elite Saints and Doctors of the Church, with Augustine, Bonaventure and Thomas Aquinas.

Brindisi in the year 1559 witnessed the birth of Lawrence. His career is characterised by salient work for the Church and his order, the Franciscans. Diplomatic missions for the popes of his time, work among the Jews, army chaplain, and defence of Catholic doctrine are a few of his labours that earned for him the praise and respect of many popes.

The Capuchin Doctor's love for Mary was astounding. He wrote magnificently on the majesty and importance of the Virgin Mother of Christ. Prolific writing about his heavenly Mother has stationed Mary's Doctor among the greatest of her eulogists.

In the first seven sermons of the *Mariale*, a collection of 84 sermons on the Mother of God, Lawrence propounds on her excellence and nobility from the greatness of the sign that appeared in the heavens: "A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon was under her feet" (Revelation 12:1). The Church has not stated definitively that this woman is truly the Mother of God or merely accommodated to her. But for the sage of Brindisi, this woman is without doubt the Mother of Jesus appearing in bodily glory.

Rather than enter into a controversy over the interpretation of this text, our purpose here is to bring out the marvellous exaltation of the Mother of Jesus by setting forth select quotations. Saint Lawrence gives us a mystical interpretation of this great sign and each of the gems with which she is adorned. We shall let Lawrence speak for himself as much as possible.

Let us first see why Mary appeared in such grandeur, then view the mystical meaning of each phrase, and finally examine just who it is that endowed the Virgin with such brilliance.

For Saint Lawrence, Saint John in Apocalypse 12:1 recorded a lasting memorial of the Virgin.

"It seems John wished to record some especial apparition of the Virgin for a lasting memorial when he wrote: *A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon was under her feet, and upon her head a crown of 12 stars.*

By Stanley Gahan OFM Cap, catholicculture.org

"John speaks here of the Virgin Mother of God, according to the opinion of Epiphanius, Bernard, Rupert, and other Fathers. John himself seems to have implied this. No, rather, he seems to have expressed this as clearly as possible, for he says: *She brought forth a male child, who is to rule all nations with a rod of iron.* By these words he is without doubt describing Christ, *the King of kings and Lord of lords* the Only-begotten Son of God and of the Virgin Mother of God. The Virgin Mother of God, the Mother of Christ, the Bride of God, the Queen of Heaven, the Mistress of the Angels, therefore, appeared to John clothed with celestial glory, resplendent with divine beauty and majesty: *A great sign appeared in heaven.*"

Immediately following, the Capuchin Doctor tells us that by this vision Christ wanted us to realise how precious His Mother is.

"By this heavenly vision the Lord wished to show John how great and precious was the treasure He had entrusted to his keeping, the treasure in which are contained all the riches and glories of heaven. Through John, He wished to show the universal Catholic Church, all the faithful of Christ, how exalted is the Virgin in the sight of the angels and elect of God in paradise. He did this lest we might perhaps think that Mary has been spurned by God, for the Holy Spirit has graced her with a certain holy obscurity in Sacred Scripture."

On God's part:

"By this heavenly vision God wished, as far as possible, to show the true Church the divine splendours of Mary and to unfold to the faithful the things that lie hidden in the Virgin. This He did that all might know, from the things written concerning her, how great and wonderful is the Virgin's glory."

From this heavenly vision two eminent privileges of Mary seem to radiate.

"These, in brief, are the two facts which have been divinely revealed to us regarding the Virgin: she is the Spouse of God and she is the Mother of Christ, as Eve was the spouse of Adam and the mother of men. In this vision, these two things are impressed on our minds: she is the Spouse of God, the Queen of Heaven, the Bride of the Supreme King; and she conceived and brought forth Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, Himself true God.

"But how great and wonderful is the glory that accompanies these two! Her very vesture, her very throne, her crown itself manifests her glory: *A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon was under her feet, and upon her head a crown of 12 stars.* O vision sublime."