



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

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR C

18th September 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 **Acting Principal:** Larissa Feketa
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

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 5.00pm. Please email judyparishnews@gmail.com or call 0414 007 009

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 19/09/2022-25/09/2022

MASS TIMES:

Monday 19/9	6.30pm
Tuesday 20/9	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday 21/9	9.30am
Thursday 22/9	9.30am
Friday 23/9	9.30am

Rosary 9.00am before 9.30am weekday Mass.



Sunday Masses

Saturday 24/9	5.00pm
Sunday 25/9	8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

Please note the 5pm Mass on Sunday 25th September will be our last Sunday evening service. Thank you.

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

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 19/09/2022-25/09/2022

MASS TIMES:

Monday 19/9	No Mass
Tuesday 20/9	9.30am
Holy Hour	7.30pm
Wednesday 21/9	9.30am
Thursday 22/9	9.30am
Friday 23/9	9.30am
Saturday 24/9	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 24/9	5.00pm
Sunday 25/9	8.30am & 10.30am

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

KOROBET

VIGIL MASS	24/9	6.30pm
------------	------	--------

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 25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME—Mary Fermio rsj

The song MONEY MONEY MONEY states "it must be sunny in a rich man's world." Sometimes, yes but what happens when the sun goes down! Then it is not funny, and can be a real struggle.

Families today have to think of the future, of education of children, housing, living costs etc. and it requires a certain wisdom, planning and carefulness, even depriving themselves of some pleasures.

In the Parable this Sunday, the steward is praised for making sure he has friends when he gets fired. He needed to make sure someone else would employ him or invite him in, by using his wealth and position with an eye to his future needs. He was praised for his astuteness, even though seemingly dishonest. Jesus advises us to use our money to get a good place in eternity, where we will have genuine riches. The choice is God or money. We cannot serve both.

Where do I stand? Those, who like Jesus, are willing to do what they can to help others, who choose God instead of fame, money or possessions, live according to God's plans. This is a much greater challenge, spending my time, my money, responsibly, to ensure I am invited into God's presence.

No one can serve two masters
Either you will love the one and hate the other
or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other
You cannot serve both God and money
Matthew 6:24 NIV



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC? -SESSIONS RECOMMENCE 4th October Looking for love? Needing hope? Seeking God's love? Find peace, hope and love through the Catholic Faith. Call our Catechist Naim Chdid to learn more 0437 004 790. Classes begin at 7.00pm at St Anthony's Church of Padua, 67-75 Exford Road, Melton South (Age 16+) **Topic is: 'Salvation history'** God created us out of Love, and wanted us to freely love him in return.

FREE NEW CLOTHING THIS WEEKEND Through the kind courtesy of a fellow parishioner, various distributors have contributed NEW Clothing for the purpose of FREE distribution amongst our community. Their only request for the items of clothing: NOT FOR SALE OR MAILED (OVERSEAS) – Please comply. Come along – preferably with bags – and fill them with your find.

DATE: Saturday 17/09/2022 (After 5pm Mass) Sunday 18/09/2022 (After 8:30am Mass and 10:30am Mass)

VENUE: PADUA HALL – St Anthony's Parish, Melton South. Donated spare plastic bags – much appreciated – Thank you

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL On the first weekend of September we had our annual Father's Day special collection. St Anthony's parish collected \$1075.00 and St Bernard's parish collected \$840.00. Thank you for your generosity.

NEWSLETTER

Please submit all articles for the newsletter by 6pm on **Tuesdays** to judyparishnews@gmail.com Thank you.

FOSTERING MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH FAITH!-by Dr Benjamin Arulanandhu

These sessions are intended to strengthen our knowledge about mental health, and how to improve mental health outcomes through faith. Who should attend? All are welcome and is not limited to those with mental health concerns.

These sessions are intended to journey together in Faith. **YOU CAN JOIN THESE SESSIONS AT ANY TIME.**

Every Wednesday until 5th October in St Anthony's Meeting room 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Scan QR Code to register



ST ANTHONY'S

PRIME TIMERS

We will have a Memorial Mass for deceased members with Fr. Martin at St. Ambrose Church, 18 Templeton St Woodend. WEDNESDAY 28th September at 11.30 am. Followed by lunch at the Victoria Hotel. Enquiries Ineke 0400120401 or ineke49@yahoo.com.

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH BBQ AFTER 5PM MASS

We are looking for volunteers to run a BBQ on the first Saturday of the month after the 5pm Mass. Please contact Julie if you are able to help 0402182 458. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED –PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 22nd September for the National Day of Mourning and Friday 23rd September for the Grand Final Public Holiday.

PARISH OFFICE-TEMPORARY HOURS

While our Parish Secretary is on long service leave, our office hours will be Mon 9.00am-12noon Tue –Fri 9.00am-1.00pm.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

The PPC minutes dated 21st July are available for collection in the Church foyer.

SUNDAY 5PM MASS

During COVID times, due to the restrictions of numbers allowed to gather, extra masses were scheduled to cater for the spiritual needs of the people. The 5pm Sunday service was added for this reason. After having discussed this matter at our recent Parish Pastoral Council Meeting and with the parishioners who attend the 5pm Mass, it has been decided to cease the Sunday 5pm Mass. However, if the need arises in the future, we will reassess the situation.

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CORPORATE DINNER

Venue: Tabcorp Park, 2 Ferris Rd, Melton 3337

Date: 22nd October 2022 **Time:** 6pm till late

Dress Code: Black Tie

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

RSVP: 1st October 2022

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

LIVE BAND-FUN FOR ALL-GROUP ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR SUPPORT IS MUCH APPRECIATED AND WILL

GO TOWARDS FUNDING THE EXTENSION OF PADUA HALL

ST BERNARD'S

FRESH FLOWER ROSTER VOLUNTEERS

Dear Parishioners, As flower expenditure has increased in the past year, we are in need of more volunteers to provide flowers & greenery from their gardens, and to freshen up the arrangements in the church each week. It is a monthly commitment, once or twice a year. Would you consider joining the team of volunteers who assist with this? If so, please contact the parish office. Thank you.



PARISH OFFICE-PUBLIC HOLIDAY

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 22nd September for The National Day of Mourning.

SAFEGUARDING – WWCC IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- If a person declines to apply for or provide a WWCC, they are not permitted to engage in work or undertake a voluntary role within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.
- It is important that each individual register and link their WWCC to the parish, agency or entity where they are volunteering and/or working.
- Under the Worker Screening Act 2020, penalties include two years' imprisonment or a fine of \$39,652.80, or both, for individuals who have knowingly engaged, continue to engage or recklessly engage a person in child-related work who does not have a valid WWCC.

CSSV- SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY -18th September 2022

The Church, through social service agencies, improves the wellbeing of the more than 200,000 people who we work with in Victoria each year. Inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, we focus on the dignity of each person, and work for the common good. We highlight the plight of those most in need. Please go to our website for more information [Catholic Social Services Victoria - Catholic Social Services Victoria \(css.org.au\)](http://Catholic Social Services Victoria - Catholic Social Services Victoria (css.org.au))

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: 24th & 25th September
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: Stephen Fernandes
8.30am: Mercy Seufatu
10.30am: Susan Malinov
5.00pm: Rebecca Comini

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm Vigil: Aloysious Dacunha
8.30am: Ron Howard
10.30am: George Bonello
5.00pm: Not rostered

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

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm: Godwin & Olen
8.30am: Ron & Natalie
10.30am: Godwin & Lillian
5.00pm: Leonia & Annonika

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Christopher Burge, Emmanuel Carvana, Mavis Ferreira & John Galea.

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: Maureen Zahra
8.30am: Maggie Kratochvil
10.30am: Charlotte Lindorff

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: 24th & 25th September

5.00pm: John Thorne
8.30am: Margaret Love
10.30am: Dominic Van Der Linden

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

September: Sr Mary Fermio

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Elaine Brook, Francis McGlinchey, Joe O'Brien, Leslie Scott, Gwen Tottle & Jack Walta.

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 Gagliarbi, 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: 24th & 25th September

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS –THIS WEEKEND

5.00pm Vigil: Cristal D'Souza & Marion Muller
8.30am: Ineke Allen & Mary Saliba
10.30am: Bonello family & Gerard Anderson

CHURCH FLOWERS

September: Ana Taunuu



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 : 24th & 25th September

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

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

CHURCH FLOWERS

September: Frances McDaid



PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

September: Colm Carragher & Ron Geurts

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](#) 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: Paul & Sonia Zarb 0477 813 272

Group 2: Tunya & Jason Sant 0422 178 260

Group 3: Indika & Magala Silva 0410 677 692

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

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

FIRST READING Amos 8:4-7

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy
and try to suppress the poor people of the country,
you who say, 'When will New Moon be over
so that we can sell our corn,
and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?
Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel,
by swindling and tampering with the scales,
we can buy up the poor for money,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.'
The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob,
'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 112

Commentator: Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

All: Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!

High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dunghill he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people.

Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS-

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Amos 6:1,4-7;

Second Reading: 1 Tim 6:11-16;

Gospel: Lk 16:19-31



SECOND READING 1 Timothy 2:1-8

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone - petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving - and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and - I am telling the truth and no lie - a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans. In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 16:1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty."

'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Crusades VI

The Real History of the Crusades (Part 2)

Urban II gave the Crusaders two goals, both of which would remain central to the eastern Crusades for centuries. The first was to rescue the Christians of the East.

As his successor, Pope Innocent III, later wrote: “How does a man love according to divine precept his neighbour as himself when, knowing that his Christian brothers in faith and in name are held by the perfidious Muslims in strict confinement and weighed down by the yoke of heaviest servitude, he does not devote himself to the task of freeing them? ... Is it by chance that you do not know that many thousands of Christians are bound in slavery and imprisoned by the Muslims, tortured with innumerable torments?”

“Crusading”, Professor Jonathan Riley-Smith has rightly argued, was understood as an “act of love” — in this case, the love of one’s neighbour. The Crusade was seen as an errand of mercy to right a terrible wrong. As Pope Innocent III wrote to the Knights Templar: “You carry out in deeds the words of the Gospel, ‘Greater love than this hath no man, that he lay down his life for his friends’.”

The second goal was the liberation of Jerusalem and the other places made holy by the life of Christ. The word *crusade* is modern. Medieval Crusaders saw themselves as pilgrims, performing acts of righteousness on their way to the Holy Sepulchre. The Crusade indulgence they received was canonically related to the pilgrimage indulgence.

This goal was frequently described in feudal terms. When calling the Fifth Crusade in 1215, Innocent III wrote: “Consider most dear sons, consider carefully that if any temporal king was thrown out of his domain and perhaps captured, would he not, when he was restored to his pristine liberty and the time had come for dispensing justice, look on his vassals as unfaithful and traitors ... unless they had committed not only their property but also their persons to the task of freeing him? ... And similarly will not Jesus Christ, the king of kings and lord of lords, whose servant you cannot deny being, who joined your soul to your body, who redeemed you with the Precious Blood ... condemn you for the vice of ingratitude and the crime of infidelity if you neglect to help Him?”

The reconquest of Jerusalem, therefore, was not colonialism but an act of restoration and an open declaration of love of God. Medieval men knew, of course, that God had the power to restore Jerusalem Himself — indeed, He had the power to restore the whole world to His rule. Yet, as St Bernard of Clairvaux preached, His refusal to do so was a blessing to His people: “Again I say, consider the Almighty’s goodness and pay heed to His plans

By Thomas Madden, catholicculture.com

of mercy. He puts Himself under obligation to you, or rather feigns to do so, that He can help you to satisfy your obligations towards Himself ... I call blessed the generation that can seize an opportunity of such rich indulgence as this.”

It is often assumed that the central goal of the Crusades was forced conversion of the Muslims. Nothing could be further from the truth. From the perspective of medieval Christians, Muslims were the enemies of Christ and His Church. It was the Crusaders’ task to defeat and defend against them. That was all. Muslims who lived in Crusader-won territories were generally allowed to retain their property and livelihood, and always their religion. Indeed, throughout the history of the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem, Muslim inhabitants far outnumbered Catholics. It was not until the 13th century that the Franciscans began conversion efforts among Muslims. But these were mostly unsuccessful and finally abandoned. In any case, such efforts were by peaceful persuasion.

The Crusades were wars, so it would be a mistake to characterise them as nothing but piety and good intentions. Like all warfare, the violence was brutal (although not as brutal as modern wars). There were mishaps, blunders, and crimes.

During the early days of the First Crusade in 1095, a ragtag band of Crusaders led by Count Emicho of Leiningen made its way down the Rhine, robbing and murdering all the Jews they could find. Without success, the local bishops attempted to stop the carnage. In the eyes of these warriors, the Jews, like the Muslims, were the enemies of Christ. Plundering and killing them, then, was no vice. But they were wrong, and the Church strongly condemned the anti-Jewish attacks.

Fifty years later, when the Second Crusade was gearing up, St Bernard frequently preached that the Jews were not to be persecuted: “Ask anyone who knows the Sacred Scriptures what he finds foretold of the Jews in the Psalm. ‘Not for their destruction do I pray,’ it says. The Jews are for us the living words of Scripture, for they remind us always of what our Lord suffered ... Under Christian princes they endure a hard captivity, but ‘they only wait for the time of their deliverance’.”

Nevertheless, a fellow Cistercian monk named Radulf stirred up people against the Rhineland Jews, despite numerous letters from Bernard demanding that he stop. At last Bernard was forced to travel to Germany himself, where he caught up with Radulf, sent him back to his convent, and ended the massacres.