



St Anthony's Parish

67-75 EXFORD ROAD, MELTON SOUTH, 3338.
P.O BOX 2152 MELTON SOUTH 3338
TEL: 9747 9692 FAX: 9746 0422



St Bernard's Parish

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph – Year B

27th December 2020

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Fabian Smith
ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint /Father Marcus Goulding

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Lesley Morffew
Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson
Parish Office Hours: (Office Closed till 4th Jan)
Monday /Wednesday/ Friday: 9.00am –4.00pm
Tuesday 9.00am-1.00pm Thursday 9.00am-5.30pm
Email: meltonsouth@cam.org.au
Website: www.stanthonyof padua.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 BERNARD'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Dolores Turcsan
Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson
Sacramental Coordinator/ Bookkeeper: Naim Chdid
Parish Office Hours: (Office Closed till 5th Jan)
Monday Closed
Tuesday-Friday 9.00am-1.00pm
Email: bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au
Website: www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au
St Bernard's School Principal: Emilio Scalzo
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
Website: www.crcmelton.com.au

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Sue Alexander	0400 171 843
Lillian Christian - Vice Chair	0400 441 257
Stephen Fernandes	0439 743 533
Amy Honrade	03 9747 0078
Natalie Howard - Chair	0492 947 201
Rose Ma'ae	0431 386 473
Sally Markulin	0405 814 490

EX-OFFICIO:
Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint, Fr Marcus Goulding
and Damien Schuster Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

EX-OFFICIO:
Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint, Fr Marcus Goulding
and Emilio Scalzo

CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

Coordinator: Godwin Barton (0425 734 449)

Officers: Karina Dunne & Lorraine Tellis

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.

If you need a Priest in the case of an emergency please call 0403 435 471

St Anthony's & St Bernard's Summer Prayer Schedule

Effective from 26/27 December 2020 to 30/31 January 2021

	ST ANTHONY'S	ST BERNARD'S
Monday	No Mass	No Mass
Tuesday	6.00pm Confession 6.30pm Mass	9.00am Confession 9.30am Mass 7.30pm Holy Hour No Holy Hour on 5/1 and 12/1
Wednesday	8.45am Confession 9.15am Mass	9.00am Confession 9.30am Mass
Thursday	8.45am Confession 9.15am Mass	9.00am Confession 9.30am Mass
Friday	8.45am Confession 9.15am Mass	9.00am Confession 9.30am Mass
Saturday	4.00pm Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass	9.00am Mass (1962 Latin) Resumes 16/1/2021
		4.00pm Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass 6.30pm Vigil Mass (Korobeit)
Sunday	8.00am Confession 8.30am Sunday Mass 10.00am Confession 10.30am Sunday Mass 4.30pm Confession 5.00pm Sunday Mass	8.00am Confession 8.30am Sunday Mass 10.00am Sunday Mass
Thursday, 31/12/2020 New Year's Eve	8.45am Confession 9.15am Mass 11.00pm Holy Hour	9.00am Confession 9.30am Mass
Friday, 1/1/2021 New Year's Day	Midnight Mass 8.45am Confession 9.15am Mass	9.00am Confession 9.30am Mass
Saturday, 2/1/2021 First Saturday	8.00am Confession 8.30am Mass	

PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

ST ANTHONY'S MASS BOOKINGS

St Anthony's can now accommodate 350 people at Mass indoors. Online registration is no longer required for any of our regularly scheduled Masses. Simply turn up and sign in upon arrival using our QR code or the paper registration forms provided.

ST BERNARD'S MASS BOOKINGS

St Bernard's can now accommodate 150 people at Mass indoors. Online registration is no longer required for any of our regularly scheduled Masses. Simply turn up and sign in upon arrival using our QR code or the paper registration forms provided.

FACE MASKS

Face Masks are no longer compulsory during Mass. However, people must carry a face covering at all times. If a distance of 1.5m cannot be maintained, either indoors or outdoors, then face coverings must be worn (unless they are people that live with each other, or have a lawful reason, or are children under 12 years of age).

ANointing OF THE SICK

Anointing of the sick can be organised with the Priests directly, please call them.

Father Fabian 0403 435 471 / Fr Lucas 0478 768 141 / Fr Marcus 0468 367 893

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be **closed** for the Christmas Holidays from **Thursday 24th December**. The Office will **reopen** from **Monday 4th January, 2021**.

The Office will be open Mon-Fri 9am-1.00pm

READER'S ROSTER WEEKEND 2nd & 3rd JANUARY

Saturday 2nd January

5.00pm: Liza Fernandes

Sunday 3rd January

8.30am: Leonia Jessop

10.30am: Susan Malinov

5.00pm: Michael Higgins

NEW YEAR'S EVE/NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

31st Dec 11.00pm—Adoration and Rosary

Midnight—New Year's Eve Mass

1st Jan —1st Friday of the month 9.15am

ST BERNARD'S

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be **closed** for the Christmas Holidays from **Thursday 24th December**. The Office will **reopen** from **Tuesday 5th January, 2021**.

The Office will be open Tue-Fri 9am-1.00pm

READER'S ROSTER

To Be Advised

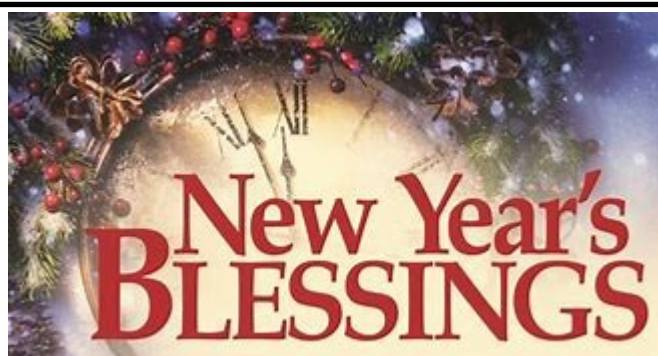
THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

Parishioners are able to collect their Thanksgiving envelopes for December 2020 to March 2021, in the Church foyer.

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

*Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.*

Author Unknown Source: New Year's Prayers-Xavier University



***Happy New Year to all our Parishioners, may 2021
be a year full of faith, love, peace and good health.***

**MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD,
SOLEMNITY –1ST JANUARY**

**Holy Mary,
Mother
of God,
and
our Mother,
please pray
for us!**



*Father, source of light in every age,
the virgin conceived and bore Your Son
Who is called Wonderful God,
Prince of Peace.
May her prayer,
the gift of a mother's love,
be Your people's joy through all ages.
May her response,
born of a humble heart,
draw Your Spirit to rest on Your people.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

Source: Catholic online

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

ST ANTHONY'S

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Emanuel Bonnici, Michael Angelo Gatt, Thomas Portelli & Leonard Sacco

Please pray for the Sick:

Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Chinnamma Joseph, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Reg Marslen, Damien Michael, Kevin Michael, Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Wanda Novak, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Peter Poole, Irene Rahilly, Catherine Roberts, Peter Roberts, Pat Roberts, Charlie Spiteri, Janko Stojanovic, Dolores Turcsan, Clint Abela Wadge, & John Xuereb and all those who have requested our prayers. **(PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST)**

FATIMA STATUE

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

Group 1: **Aloysious & Michelle DaCunha** **0469 863 253**

Group 2: **Seufatu Family** **0402 182 458**

Group 3: **Rohini Selvanayagam** **0425 868 967**



DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

1st Sunday of the Month-3.00pm

ST BERNARD'S

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Lisa Closter (Hadland), Raymond Anthony Hare, Michael Patrick Marshall, Imelda Pace, Vicki Riddell & Brian Shanahan.

Please pray for the Sick:

Noah Barlow, Chaiel Balcombe, Michael Barrett, Peter Bennett, Steven Braszel, Tina Bower, John Canty, Fred Capuano, Gary Ching, Josephine Cilia, Robyn Cola, Ted Cooling, Marianne Cuskelly, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, Judy Delahey, Jack DeLuca, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, 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, 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, Susan Trist, Dolores Turcsan, Stephen Van Eede, John Van Orsouw, Angela Vicum, Louis Vogels, Barry Walsh, Cath Wheelahan, Jayne Wilkins, Patricia Yazbek, & Betty Young.

(PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST)

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

Along the track

And so...

In the words of John Lennon:

And so this is Christmas,
And what have you done,
another year over
A new one just begun.

Another year over..... and what a year!

What will a Covid normal Christmas be like? Christmas is usually a wonderful time for most people, time with family and friends, gift giving and receiving, a break from work, the start of summer holidays for many. But for those moving out of lockdown, it will be a time of very mixed emotions, joy and apprehension, companionship and sadness for who can't yet join us or for lost ones whose passing has gone unsung. The Virus has changed even the most basic things, even the way we gather.

Christmas is a time of celebration and reconnection, not just with people but with this story and the timeless message it brings to every age and place.

This back-to-the-basics story about a baby born in a dirty cowshed without doctors or pain relief or hand sanitisers offers a powerful reminder of what is important in life. It is a story of poverty and powerlessness, about a family totally dependent on the kindness of others. Yet all over the world in all sorts of places, from freezing snow to blistering heat, all sorts of people in all sorts of languages sing about that event. It reminds us once again of the power and importance of love in its many forms and the joy it can bring, the gift of family and friendship, the importance of kindness, of giving and being gracious in receiving, the gift of being safe and secure. Christmas reminds us too of those who, in hard times, deserve to be treated with extra dignity and respect, with compassion. It is a reminder that for so many people, the homeless and hungry, the refugee and the prisoner, lockdown is still with them.

How will we prepare for Christmas? How will we celebrate it? Will it be all glitter and glam or will Christmas help each of us to reflect on this year with its, anxieties and challenges but also, in the middle of all that, its joys and blessings. Lennon poses a very good question- what have you done this year? What will I bring from my life journey this year to offer at this time? The Magi visited with gifts full of deep symbolism. All gifts are symbols, not the least our love and affection, gratitude and our desire to bring joy and happiness. Whether we have had a great year or a tough one, whatever we bring is welcome. What will our gift symbolise after this extraordinary year? Might we invite a stranger to our table or make a donation to the poor on each other's behalf or avoid giving each other gifts that use up unnecessary resources?

There are those who are alone, those estranged from family, the homeless, or those who may be ill who may not find it a time for joy and celebration. Either will those who are for whatever reason angry or disaffected with the Christian religion. Will we simply dismiss them from our thoughts or ask ourselves what we might do for them this Christmas, what we might show them in and by our actions?

This simple, timeless story of a poor family in difficult times is a stark reminder of the injustices of the world that they lived in and the injustices of the world we too live in. It is also a reminder of the spiritual emptiness of modern times. So many react to this season so full of mystery, joy and wonder with indifference, cynicism and at times ridicule and hostility. Perhaps we might be better to learn to take **Ebenezer Scrooge to heart: "I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."***

Christmas celebrations can help us grasp something of how deeply we are loved by God. We feel that in the love of our parents, our partner, our children, our brothers and sisters, we feel that love in our celebrations, in all those moments of joy, happiness and wonder in our life. We can feel it too in the most menial and ordinary, the everyday greetings and acts of kindness - in all these we are experiencing being loved by God.

A Christmas prayer:

Jesus, as I prepare to celebrate Christmas this year, I bring to you my family, my relatives, my neighbours, my friends and the people with whom I will spend Christmas day.

As I look at their faces and treasure their stories. I ask you to bless them with your love and grace and keep them safe.

I pray especially for those who are unable to be here with us this year. I pray that Your peace may be with them and that, in some way, they may feel the joy of Your presence and our love for them wherever they may be.

May God always be near to you and yours and you near to God.

* Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*

Regards
Jim Quillinan

Email: jquillinan@dcsi.net.au

And so...

15 December 2020

LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'. 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless.' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 104

Commentator: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

All: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works!

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose.

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac.

All: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

NEXT WEEK'S READING

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: Is 60:1-6;

Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3,5-6;

Gospel: Mt 2:1-12



SECOND READING Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the sea-shore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 2:22-40 (JB)

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord:

Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;

because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

The Psalms I

Like its neighbours (Egypt and Babylonia especially), ancient Israel had an ancient tradition of lyric poetry in all its forms. This treasure the Church has conserved in the Psalter, a collection of 150 psalms.

The word “psalter” derives from the Greek *psalterion*, which refers to the stringed instrument that was used to accompany these songs. In Hebrew, the book is called *Tehillim* (“Praises”), although this name only suits a certain number of the psalms — for example, Psalm 145, the most typical.

Although, as we have said, there are 150 psalms in all, the Hebrew version, which is the one the New Vulgate follows, is one ahead from Psalm 10 to Psalm 148 of the Greek version, the latter’s number being usually given in parentheses in the more recent editions of the Bible.

Efforts have been made to deduce the authors of the psalms from the titles which head them up. On this basis, 73 are attributed to King David, 12 to Asaph, 11 to the sons of Korah, two to Solomon, one to Moses, and others to Heman and Ethan. It was soon realised that the original titles contained a mere reference to particular people and that, in fact, something over a half should be attributed to David (which is what tradition does), even if they were given their final form in a later period. This is not surprising if one bears in mind King David’s policy of systematising the use of music and poetry in divine worship (cf. 2 Samuel 1:19-27; 3:33-34).

The Psalter is the most complete and most treasured collection of religious songs used by the people of Israel over a period of centuries. An uninterrupted tradition confirms that psalms, hymns, and canticles were sung in the synagogues. In the Gospel there is reference to the psalms and hymns which were sung after the paschal meal (cf. Matthew 26:30).

Some psalms were initially used outside the liturgy — for example, the *Miserere* (Psalm 51), composed by David to ask God’s forgiveness for his sin of having Uriah the Hittite killed and taking his wife Bathsheba. In time, and due to their symbolic beauty, these psalms were brought into the liturgy and used as prayers by the entire community of Israel.

Others, didactic in content, were originally a kind of popular catechism, made up of edifying narratives with prayer formulae added, aimed at preserving knowledge and worship of the true God. It is also known that these psalms gradually passed from private use to public use, since only a few were composed especially for use in the Temple liturgy.

Originally, many psalms were royal songs, composed in honour of the king, in the form of prayer and thanksgiving. The “anointed one” (*meshiyach*, in Hebrew, from which we get the word “messiah”) referred to in many of these psalms is the king, who at his coronation was anointed with oil.

The fact that there are various levels of meaning in the psalms should not confuse us. God’s promises to the Davidic dynasty clearly gave rise to expectation of an absolutely unique descendant of David, a Messiah, a son of David, who would reign forever.

This prophecy of Nathan was the first link in a string of prophecies about the Messiah and was interpreted in the psalms as a promise of stability for the house of David (psalms 89 and 132). If we associate with it certain clearly messianic psalms, such as 16 and 22, we discover a perfect profile of this unique person, the Anointed, Jesus Christ our Lord.

It must be said that these psalms, like many others, attain their full meaning in the light of the New Testament. Peter and Paul speak of Psalm 16 when referring to Jesus’ death and Resurrection and the salvation his sacrifice would bring to those who believe in him (Acts 2:25-32, 13:35-37). Our Lord himself, when he was dying on the cross, used the words of Psalm 22, giving it back its authentic meaning (Matthew 27:46).

Some of the old royal psalms, which were much used after the fall of the monarchy, were modified slightly and put into the Psalter and became what are known as messianic psalms in the strict sense. For example, this happened in the case of psalms 2, 72, and 110. This is also true of Psalm 45, which describes the union of the Messiah with the new Israel, following the line of the marriage allegories of the prophets: Hebrews (1:8) applies this psalm directly to Jesus Christ.