



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

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR C

6th November 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 9.00-4.00pm

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: 8099 6699

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 7/11/2022-13/11/2022

MASS TIMES:

Monday 7/11	6.30pm
Tuesday 8/11	9.30am & 6.30pm
Wednesday 9/11	7.30am & 9.30am
Thursday 10/11	9.30am
Friday 11/11	9.30am

Rosary 9.00am before 9.30am weekday Mass.



Sunday Masses

Saturday 12/11	5.00pm
Sunday 13/11	8.30am & 10.30am

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

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 7/11/2022-13/11/2022

MASS TIMES:

Monday 7/11	No Mass
Tuesday 8/11	7.30am
Holy Hour	7.30pm
Wednesday 9/11	9.30am
Thursday 10/11	7.30am
Friday 11/11	7.30am
Providence Mass	11.00am
Saturday 12/11	9.00am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 12/11	5.00pm
Sunday 13/11	8.30am & 10.30am

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

KOROBET

VIGIL MASS	12/11	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 32ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME-Sr Mary Fermio

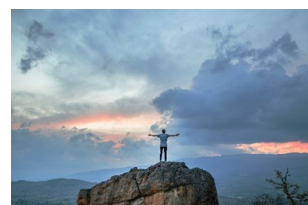
When we reflect on the past, we can see many changes have occurred in our lives – the foods we eat, means of transport, clothes we wear, type of houses we live in, the way we pray and worship at Mass, the use of Scripture and use of a Bible, our knowledge of the Universe.

The Church is also a living thing – the Body of Christ – and so changes occur in many aspects of our religious life. The Pharisees and Sadducees disagreed about Resurrection after death, a concept developed about 200BCE, and about other teachings. The Pharisees kept to the letter of the law and could not accept any development in theological understanding. Jesus often chided them on this and assures them that there is life after death – but the manner of living will be different.

The appearances of Saints, such as St Mary MacKillop, who has appeared in the lives of people, healing, and asking for prayers, acknowledges this. Just as our knowledge of the immensity and wonders of creation grows, so we need to realise we are still learning about God. God does not change, but our human knowledge and insights can and do develop.

Am I open to the idea that our knowledge of God can develop, grow and change?

Or do I still pray and think as I did as a child?



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

FAITH FORMATION

For information call our Catechist Naim Chdid 0437 004 790. Sessions begin at 7.00pm every Tuesday at St Anthony's Church of Padua, 67-75 Exford Road, Melton South (Age 16+) **Topic this week: the Church:** 'The church is the family of God that's been lovingly gathered through our entire story. It's the place we were meant to encounter His grace that prepares us for every step of life.'

LAMPS ALIGHT RETREAT FOR WOMEN, SATURDAY 12th NOVEMBER

Join the Dominican Sisters and Anima Women's Network for a one-day retreat at St Mary MacKillop Parish in Keilor Downs. Fr Paul Rowse, OP, Anna Krohn and Sr Mary Helen, OP, will present Pope St John Paul II's beautiful and profound thought on the dignity of women and the order of love. 9.00 am Mass followed by Adoration and an opportunity for confessions. Talks and presentations will begin around 10.00 am. Lunch is provided. Please register using the Trybooking link www.trybooking.com/CDCCQ for catering purposes. Donations gratefully accepted on the day. For more information, contact Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org. Bring a friend and we look forward to seeing you on the 12th!

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL'S FLOOD APPEAL

The Society of St Vincent de Paul's has organised a Flood Appeal for those who have been effected by the devastating floods particularly in the north of the State. Contributions can be made by:

- Calling 13 18 12
- visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>.
- making a monetary donation through any Vinnies Shops at point of purchase; or
- via your local IGA where the purchase of a token supports the recovery of Victorians devastated by these recent floods.

ST ANTHONY'S

MEMORIAL MASS

A Memorial Mass will be held at St Anthony's on Friday 18th November at 7.00pm. The Mass will remember our deceased family members, especially those that have passed in the last 12 months. Please feel free to bring a photo of your loved one.

A light supper will be served after Mass.

CHAPEL KEYS (FOBS)

We are currently experiencing problems in obtaining more Chapel keys (FOBS). If any Parishioner has a key they are not using and are willing to return it to the Parish Office it would be appreciated. We have had many enquiries about obtaining fobs for the Chapel. Please contact Lesley in the Parish Office .

ADVENT REFLECTION

Sessions will begin on Monday the 21st of November for five consecutive Mondays at St. Anthony's in the Mackillop room from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. We will reflect and acquire more understanding on the Advent Sunday readings. These sessions are open to everyone. Please enter your names on the clipboard provided in the foyer. For more information contact Stephen Fernandes on 0439 743 533.

WOMEN'S RECOLLECTION Our next Women's Recollection will be held **Thursday 10th November 6pm-8.30pm**. Theme for November: Being Part of the Kingdom of God. Contact Renee 0403 080 632 or f.r.prien@gmail.com. Flyers in church foyer .

TEAM GROUP LEADERS MORNING TEA

Fr Fabian and the Parish Pastoral Council would like to invite Team Group Leaders including spouses, to attend a Morning Tea on **Sunday the 13th November**, after the 10.30 Mass, in appreciation for your Ministry. Please add your name to the clipboard in the foyer .

PARISH PASTORAL MINUTES

Copies of the Minutes from the Parish Pastoral meeting on the 8th September are available for collection in the foyer.

ST BERNARD'S

MEMORIAL MASS

A memorial Mass will be held at St Bernard's on Friday 25th November at 6.00pm.

PROVIDENCE AND FRIENDS MASS

Parishioners are invited to the monthly Providence and Friends Mass on Friday 11th November at 11am.

Please bring a plate for morning tea/lunch.

If transport is required, please let the Parish Office know or call Margot Short 0419 507438.

FORMED

Just a reminder that we have a parish FORMED subscription

FORMED is a Catholic streaming service. We have purchased a parish subscription that you can access for free at home.

Please limit yourselves to one account per household.

To register under our subscription, follow these steps:

1. Visit <https://signup.formed.org/>
2. Input *St Anthony's & St Bernard's Catholic Parishes* in the "Find your Parish" box.
3. Input your name and email address.
4. Visit formed.org on your preferred device to begin watching.

If you enjoy using FORMED, consider making a donation to our parish to help us keep providing this service.

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: 12th & 13th November

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: Aloysious Dacunha

8.30am: Sefulu Seufatu

10.30am: Susan Malinov

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: Godwin & Coleen

8.30am: Ron & Natalie

10.30am: Annonika & Lillian

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the recently deceased:

Daniel Malek

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

Donald Abela, Regina Tolosa, Lily Wakefield & Patrick Woods

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: Vikki Benson

8.30am: Moira Ross

10.30am: Beatrice Younger

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: 12th & 13th November

5.00pm: Evana Miesen

8.30am: Peter Lafranchi

10.30am: Chloe Lindorff

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

November: John Thorne

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Patricia & John Daly, Lorna Hives, Tilly Nabben, James Tellis, Desmond Trask, and Mary Walsh.

Please pray for the Sick:

Sophie Allen (baby)
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: 12th & 13th November

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Kim Barton
8.30am: Mercy Seufatu
10.30am: Gilles Maitre

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS –26th & 27th November

5.00pm Vigil: Technica Sumarasinghe
8.30am: Scanlon & Agnes Faave
10.30am: Romeo & Maribel Sacres

CHURCH FLOWERS

October: 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 : 12th & 13th November

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday: 5.00pm Carmel Shea
Sunday: 8.30am Margot Short
10.30am Natalia Klenkowski

CHURCH FLOWERS

November: Natalia Klenkowski



PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

November: Stuart Robertson & Sean Giani

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: Theresa Anderson 0420 820 118

Group 2: Kim & Villy Nguyen 0403 751 343

Group 3: Santos & Liz Schembri 0466 854 476

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

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

FIRST READING 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

There were seven brothers who were arrested with their mother. The king tried to force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law forbids, by torturing them with whips and scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman for the others, said, 'What are you trying to find out from us? We are prepared to die rather than break the Law of our ancestors.'

With his last breath the second brother exclaimed, 'Inhuman fiend, you may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up, since it is for his laws that we die, to live again for ever.'

After him, they amused themselves with the third, who on being asked for his tongue promptly thrust it out and boldly held out his hands, with these honourable words, 'It was heaven that gave me these limbs; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again.' The king and his attendants were astounded at the young man's courage and his utter indifference to suffering.

When this one was dead they subjected the fourth to the same savage torture. When he neared his end he cried, 'Ours is the better choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet relying on God's promise that we shall be raised up by him; whereas for you there can be no resurrection, no new life.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 16

Commentator: Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

All: Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

Lord, hear a cause that is just,
pay heed to my cry.

Turn your ear to my prayer:
no deceit is on my lips.

I kept my feet firmly in your paths;
there was no faltering in my steps.
I am here and I call, you will hear me, O God.
Turn your ear to me; hear my words.

Guard me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me in the shadow of your wings.
As for me, in my justice I shall see your face
and be filled, when I awake, with the sight of your glory.

Lord, when your glory appears,
my joy will be full.

SECOND READING 2 Thessalonians 2:16 - 3:5

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who has given us his love and, through his grace, such inexhaustible comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and strengthen you in everything good that you do or say. Finally, brothers, pray for us; pray that the Lord's message may spread quickly, and be received with honour as it was among you; and pray that we may be preserved from the interference of bigoted and evil people, for faith is not given to everyone. But the Lord is faithful, and he will give you strength and guard you from the evil one, and we, in the Lord, have every confidence that you are doing and will go on doing all that we tell you. May the Lord turn your hearts towards the love of God and the fortitude of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead;
glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees - those who say that there is no resurrection - approached Jesus and they put this question to him, 'Master, we have it from Moses in writing, that if a man's married brother dies childless, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Well, then, there were seven brothers. The first, having married a wife, died childless. The second and then the third married the widow. And the same with all seven, they died leaving no children. Finally the woman herself died. Now, at the resurrection, to which of them will she be wife since she had been married to all seven?'

Jesus replied, 'The children of this world take wives and husbands, but those who are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection they are sons of God. And Moses himself implies that the dead rise again, in the passage about the bush where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all men are in fact alive.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS-

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Mal 3:19-20;
Second Reading: 2 Thess 3:7-12;
Gospel: Lk 21:5-19



The Feast of All Souls

Along with the Feast of All Saints developed the Feast of All Souls. The Church has consistently encouraged the offering of prayers and Mass for the souls of the faithful departed in Purgatory.

At the time of their death, these souls are not perfectly cleansed of venial sin or have not atoned for past transgressions, and thereby are deprived of the Beatific Vision. The faithful on earth can assist these souls in Purgatory in attaining the Beatific Vision through their prayers, good works and the offering of Mass.

In the early days of the Church, the names of the faithful departed were posted in Church so that the community would remember them in prayer. In the sixth century, the Benedictine monasteries held a solemn commemoration of deceased members at Whitsuntide, the days following Pentecost.

In Spain, St Isidore (died 636) attested to a celebration on the Saturday before Sexagesima Sunday (the second Sunday before Lent, the eighth before Easter in the old calendar). In Germany, Widukind, Abbot of Corvey (died 980) recorded a special ceremony for the faithful departed on October 1.

St Odilo, the Abbot of Cluny (died 1048), decreed for all of the Cluniac monasteries that special prayers be offered and the Office of the Dead sung for all of the souls in Purgatory on November 2, the day after All Saints. The Benedictines and Carthusians adopted that same devotion, and soon November 2 was adopted as the Feast of All Souls for the whole Church.

Other customs have arisen over time in the celebration of All Souls Day. The Dominicans in the 15th century instituted a custom of each priest offering three Masses on the Feast of All Souls. Pope Benedict XIV in 1748 approved this practice, and it rapidly spread throughout Spain, Portugal and Latin America.

By Father William Saunders www.catholiceducation.org

During World War I, Pope Benedict XV, recognising the number of war dead and the numerous Masses that could not be fulfilled because of destroyed Churches, granted all priests the privilege of offering three Masses on All Souls Day: one for the particular intention, one for all of the faithful departed, and one for the intentions of the Holy Father.

Other customs have developed regarding All Souls. In Mexico, relatives make garlands, wreathes and crosses of real and paper flowers of every colour to place on the graves of deceased relatives on the morning of All Souls.

The family will spend the entire day at the cemetery. The pastor will visit the cemetery, preach and offer prayers for the dead and then bless the individual graves. "skull" lollies are given to the children.

Similar practices occur in Louisiana, in the United States. The relatives whitewash and clean the tombstones and prepare garlands, wreathes and crosses of real and paper flowers to decorate them. In the afternoon of All Saints, the priest processes around the cemetery, blessing the graves and reciting the Rosary. Candles are lit near the graves at dusk, one for each of the deceased. On All Souls day, Mass is usually offered at the cemetery.

In the Middle Ages, superstitious belief, probably influenced from Celtic paganism, held that the souls in Purgatory appeared on All Souls Day as witches, toads, goblins, and so on to persons who committed wrongs against them during their lives on earth. For this reason, some ethnic groups also prepared food offerings to feed and to appease the spirits on this day. These practices are probably remnants of the Celtic *Samhain* festivities.

Nevertheless, All Souls Day as well as All Saints Day are rooted in Christian belief and arose in this life of the Church through a healthy spirituality, despite some pagan trappings that may have survived and have remained attached to their celebration.