



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR C

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

16th November 2025

— DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE —

This Sunday is the last in Ordinary Time. Next week is the Feast of Christ the King, and then we begin Advent. Our Lord in the Gospel speaks of the destruction of the Temple and the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time (In Luke 21 Our Lord also continues a bit further than we hear at Mass to speak of the Destruction of the Temple).

The destruction of the Temple in 70AD was a horrible catastrophe predicted by Christ. We learn a lot about it from the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus (37-100AD) in his work *The Jewish War* or *Wars of the Jews*. It is a tragic tale of factional infighting amongst Jewish groups who wanted the power to lead a war against the Romans. And the Romans then conquering. Of course it was the poor people who suffered. And who suffered such horrors it is impossible to summarise. These violent rebellious Jewish groups murdered and terrified their own people, descended into immorality, profaned the Temple, set up a mockery of a 'High Priest', and led the people to utter desperation and to ruin. And the Romans of course were ruthless in conquering and setting an example to never cross them.

In Luke 19, Our Lord, when approaching Jerusalem, wept over it. He wept because He loves His people, He saw their approaching disaster, and He wanted to offer them salvation from such a fate both in this life and the next, and to gather them safely to His Heart. In Luke and Matthew's Gospel we hear His heartfelt lament, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!"³⁸ Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate." (Mt 23:37,38)

In this calamity called the 'Destruction of the Temple', Josephus estimates 1.1 million of the Jewish people died, no doubt mostly from starvation, and 97,000 taken into captivity. And as Our Lord said, 'not one stone was left on another' of the Temple. This destruction also refers to the end of time and His Second Coming. Jesus will speak of both these events together, along with speaking of His own death. He intermingles speaking about all these because they are all linked together.

One interesting reference to link between the destruction of the Temple and the end of the world, is mentioned by the Scripture scholar John Bergsma who writes that the Temple is a representation of the whole cosmos or universe. Josephus writes, "For if anyone considers the fabric of the tabernacle, and take view of the garments of the high priest, and those vessels...they were every one made in way of imitation and representation of the universe." (*Jewish Antiquities* 3:180). So, "what happens to Jerusalem in 70AD is a type or sign of what will happen to the whole universe," says Bergsma.

Let us remember Christ is with us and 'not a hair on your head will be lost.' And let us remember that this happened to the Temple because it happened to the Temple who is Christ, and it will happen to us who are His Mystical Body the Church. But through the Cross is a glorious Resurrection.

Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1 st & 3 rd Saturday	
15 th Nov, 6 th Dec	6:30pm (Vigil)

— WEEKDAY MASSES —

Mon	no Mass
Tue, Thu, Fri	7:30am
Wed	9:30am
Sat	9:30am

— CONFESSION —

30 minutes prior to each Mass
& during Holy Hour

— DEVOTIONS —

Mon	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
Tue	7:00pm	Holy Hour
Fri	24 hours	First Friday Adoration
Sun	10:00am	Rosary (Chapel)

— DIARY —

November

Thu	20 th	Sacrament of Reconciliation & Liturgy in Church at 6:30pm
Sun	23 rd	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Morning Tea after 8:30am Mass
Thu	27 th	Enrol/Info for all Sacraments 2026 in Parish Centre at 6pm

December

Sun	7 th	Baptism Preparation Session
Tue	9 th	Young Adults Group
Thu	11 th	Whole School End of Year Mass in School Gym at 9am
Fri	12 th	Providence & Friends Mass
Sun	14 th	St Bernard's Christmas Family Day
Wed	16 th	Last day of School Term 4

— DONATE —

To support our Parish,
scan the QR code,
or contact the Parish Office
to set up recurring contributions.



ST. BERNARD'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH
61 Lerderberg Street
Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

PARISH OFFICE
Tuesday – Friday, 9:30am – 1:30pm
(03) 5367 2069
bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au
www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au

OUR LADY
HELP OF CHRISTIANS
309 Myrniong-Korobeit Road
Korobeit VIC 3341

— Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults. —

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who came to the Bush Dance on Saturday 1st November. It was wonderful to see the Parish coming together for a great evening of dancing and conversation.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who made the night possible.

Through your wonderful efforts, we raised \$1,970, which is fantastic. Thank you for your support and see you next year.

KSC RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are for sale in the Gathering Space following Masses over the next few weekends.

The Knights of the Southern Cross are raising money to continue their annual scholarships at our St Bernard's Primary School.

Four local prizes to be won. Tickets are \$2 each, or three for \$5.

Thank you for your support.

MORNING TEA

**Feast of Christ the King
– and –**

First Holy Communion Celebrations

There will be a morning tea in the Parish Centre after the 8:30am Mass on Sunday 23rd November to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King as well as the First Holy Communion of three children in our parish. Please bring a plate to share. All welcome.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAMILY DAY LUNCH

Sunday 14th December

Save the date for this year's Christmas Family Day.

PARISH DONATIONS

1st Collection: Presbytery – supports our Parish Priest and priests of the Archdiocese.

2nd Collection: Church – supports our Parish.

A 'Tap & Go' device for donating to the Church account is in the Gathering Space.

Direct transfers can also be made to the Church account:

Account Name: Archdiocese of Melbourne Catholic Development Fund
St Bernard's Parish Bacchus Marsh

BSB: 083 347 Account No.: 651663131

LET US PRAY

Recently Deceased

Rev Professor Francis Moloney SDB AM

Death Anniversaries

Antonio Battaglia, Arthur Bell, Anthony Giani,
Grace Green, Carmel Moore.

The Sick

Barry Anderson, Brendan Coburn, Kathleen Dally,
Dean Elms, Robert Elms, Nola Franklin,
Frances, Caleb Silas Ginger, Karen & Astrid
Karen Paula, Hannah & Molly, Michael Johnston,
John & Patricia Kelly, Michael Larkin,
Vivian Malubay, Joanne Mumford,
Chinenye Victoria Oriaku Nwalozie,
Peter Roberts, Anthony Tabone, Carmel Welsh,
and all those who need our prayers.

COMMUNITY

Soul Food

Soul Food provides a free meal each Wednesday (excluding school holidays). This community service is held in St Bernard's Parish Centre and is a free event. All are welcome. No need to book – just come along.

Bacchus Marsh

St Vincent de Paul Conference

We support people in need within our community by providing practical assistance such as food parcels, food vouchers, bill relief, clothing, furniture as well as offering person to person support.

Welfare assistance is available Monday - Friday,
10:00am - 3:00pm on 1800 305 330.

New members most welcome.

Contact Peter Kennedy on 0407 778 119.

The Neighbour's Place

The Neighbour's Place is a Christian not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to serve people of the Moorabool Shire who are disadvantaged, at risk, or temporarily unable to feed themselves or their family. They offer a No Interest Loans Scheme.

77 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh

(03) 5367 6222 office@neighboursplace.org.au

9:30am – 12:30pm, Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Infant Baptism

Baptisms are held on the second & fourth Saturdays of the month at 11:00am. Preparation sessions are facilitated on the second Sunday of the month at 11:30am. Application forms can be downloaded from our website.

Sacraments for Children

If your child does not attend a Catholic school but would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation, application forms are available on our website.

Becoming Catholic

For adults wishing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation, you can register your interest on our website or speak directly to Fr John Paul.

Children are to be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Vicki Benson
Jennifer Costin

Ron Geurts

Margaret Love
0437 247 779

Madeleine McManus
Peter Kennedy

REFLECTION

Some people seem to think that because they believe in God and practice their faith, that nothing bad should happen to them, that if it does, God is absent. How far from the truth that is. What is required is faith and endurance.

In the Gospel, Jesus is preparing his followers for what was to come. Their security and safety were not assured. They would endure hardship and struggles and must learn to live in this time of waiting. This does not mean God is absent, even though we feel that way. Remember the Footprints story: "When there was one set of footprints, it was then I was carrying you". When we read The Acts of the Apostles, we see how they suffered and endured hardship, persecution and death – and became Saints.

Let us put our trust in God, in the good times and in the bad times. Let us wait with joyful expectancy for the coming of Jesus to take us home to Heaven.

Sr. Mary Fermio

NOVEMBER MASSES FOR THE HOLY SOULS

As we approach November, we have the opportunity to honour our departed loved ones in a special way. There is a clipboard in the Gathering Space for parishioners to enter the names of their cherished departed family and friends.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Christmas appeal directly supports our conference to provide hampers to families in need in the local area. Our Parish is always greatly supportive, thank you all.

St Vincent de Paul is asking for your support through either cash donations to the poor box, gift vouchers to allow parents to buy presents, OR food items that can be added to hampers.

For more details, Peter Kennedy, our local St Vincent de Paul President, can be contacted on 0407 778 119.

PIETY STALL

2026 Columban Art Calendars are now available to purchase from the Piety Stall for \$11 each.

Christmas cards are also now in stock – \$4 for a pack of 5.

READING MINISTRY 2026

We are calling for parishioners to join the Reading Ministry for 2026. If you would like to volunteer to read at Mass, you are invited to record your name and contact details on the clipboard in the Gathering Space. You will then be contacted to discuss further. Thank you.

Liturgy Ministry

MINISTERS

22nd & 23rd November

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Sonia Smith	Jackie Tabone	Jan Farmelo
8:30am	Meg Kennedy	Volunteer please	Jan & Colm Carragher
10:30am	Shannon Harvie	Cheryl Stevens	Cheryl Stevens

CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
[all bow during the next line]
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified, who has
spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic
and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward
to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.

AMEN

ST. BERNARD'S PARISH CENTRE

The Parish Centre is available for hire
and can be booked through our Hall
Managers – Marie & Terry Casey.
All use must be authorised by the
Parish Office.

Phone: (03) 5367 3427

Mon - Fri, 9:00am - 6:00pm

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord said:
I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading *Malachi 3:19-20*

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 97:5-9*

R: The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp
with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord.

Response

Let the sea and all within it, thunder;
the world, and all its peoples.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord.

Response

For the Lord comes,
he comes to rule the earth.
He will rule the world with justice
and the people with fairness.

Response

Second Reading *2 Thessalonians 3:7-12*

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you; not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

Gospel Acclamation *Luke 21:38*

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lift up your heads and see;
your redemption is near at hand.
Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke 21:5-19*

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now - the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not so soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name - and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

Communion Antiphon

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

———— NEXT SUNDAY ————

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

First Reading	2 Samuel 5:1-3
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 121:1-5
Second Reading	Colossians 1:12-20
Gospel	Luke 23:35-43