



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18th January 2026

— 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME —

Last Sunday brought an end to the Christmas season and a beginning of 'Ordinary' time.

After Christmas and some holidays, it can be good to enter back into 'ordinary' life. We can desire to be back into a routine of life.

Living our Catholic faith is of course a life-long journey and takes the daily routines necessary in striving for virtue and holiness. Our Lord says, "if anyone is to be a follower of mine, let him take up his cross daily, and follow me." (Lk 9:23)

Do we have a daily routine that we keep to?

A common rule of life that many keep to is a daily rosary, weekly Mass and monthly Confession.

As we start the year, we can give some thought to our daily prayer. Do we have a routine? Perhaps we can take the initiative in our relationship with God and think of a daily habit of prayer to keep to. We can make a time in the morning, on the way to work, during lunch break, on the way home, or before bed. Recite some well known prayers perhaps, or read the Scriptures, pray in silence, or pray in your own words. Visit a Church and Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Strive to be aware of God's presence throughout the day and engage in conversation with Him.

Many Catholics pray the rosary. It's not an obligation, like Sunday Mass, but it's a time-tested part of the tradition of our faith, popular amongst many saints and sinners. All who pray the rosary attest to its benefits. Perhaps start with part of it and work your way up to praying a full rosary.

Each Sunday, the day of the Resurrection, we celebrate Mass. Sunday Mass, above all other times, is the time when we put God first. We benefit a lot from what God does for us at Mass, but primarily, Mass is something that we do for God. Each Sunday we say to Him, "I'm not so much here for what I benefit from it, but I'm here for You, because I love You, I'm thankful to You, I adore You, and You are my God." Keeping to this schedule and getting to Mass each Sunday can be tough, and perhaps it's rarely a prayerful experience for us, however, Jesus sees your efforts. It's an act of love of God just to be there.

Many Catholics try to get to Confession once a month if they can. In fact, many try to go once a week – which is not necessary but certainly commendable. The examination of conscience we make before going to Confession is like keeping accountable of our daily efforts to improve.

Keeping a daily routine in 'Ordinary' life helps us to consistently strive to improve in virtue. We are daily trying to overcome our bad habits - called vices - and build on good habits - called virtues. We strive to be holier, to be more like Christ. It's a difficult task. But again, Jesus sees that you're trying! Knowing that, let us persevere in following our Lord's words, "if anyone is to be a follower of mine, let him take up his cross daily, and follow me." (Lk 9:23)

Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1 st & 3 rd Saturday	
17 th Jan & 7 th Feb	6:30pm (Vigil)

— WEEKDAY MASSES —

*During school holidays,
weekday Masses will be held at 9:30am.*

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

— CONFESSION —

30 minutes prior to each Mass
& during Holy Hour

— DEVOTIONS —

Mon	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>resuming Feb 2026</i>
Tue	7:00pm	Holy Hour
Fri	24 hours	First Friday Adoration
Sun	10:00am	Rosary (Chapel)

— DIARY —

January 2026

Mon	26 th	Australia Day Public Holiday
Tue	27 th	School Teachers' Mass – 8:30am
Fri	30 th	Start of School Term 1 (<i>all students</i>)

February 2026

Tue	3 rd	Young Adults Group Gathering
Sun	8 th	Morning Tea after 8:30am Mass
Sun	8 th	Baptism Preparation
Fri	13 th	Providence & Friends Mass
Wed	18 th	Ash Wednesday
Thu	26 th	Sacrament of Confirmation Reflection Evening
Sat	28 th	Sacrament of Confirmation Family Commitment Mass

— 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

SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN 2026

Reconciliation

Reflection Evening – Thursday 15th October at 6:30pm
Family Commitment Mass – Saturday 17th October at 5:00pm
Preparation Day – Thursday 19th November, 9:30am-3:00pm
Celebration of Reconciliation – Thursday 26th November at 6:30pm

First Eucharist

Reflection Evening – Thursday 30th April at 6:30pm
Family Commitment Mass – Saturday 2nd May at 5:00pm
Retreat Day & Reconciliation – Thursday 11th June, 9:30am-3:00pm
Celebration of First Eucharist – Saturday 13th June, 9:30am & 11:30am

Confirmation

Reflection Evening – Thursday 26th February at 6:30pm
Family Commitment Mass – Saturday 28th February at 5:00pm
Retreat Day & Reconciliation – Thursday 14th May, 9:30am-3:00pm
Celebration of Confirmation – Tuesday 19th May, 5:00pm & 7:00pm

To obtain a list of all the preparation classes for the above Sacraments, please contact the Parish Office.

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

Barry Anderson, Doreen Burns.

Death Anniversaries

Mary Blood, Margaret Bolger, Keith Cleaver,
Bohdan Cywinski, Barry Dean, Frank Finn,
Jeanette Hurley, Catherine Hynes, Maree Maitland,
Sam Provenzano, Coral Sharpe, Leo Sizeland,
Elka Timmins, Lorraine Turner, Rene Tyquin,
Martin Vrbec.

The Sick

Charles, Brendan Coburn, Kathleen Dally, Dean Elms,
Robert Elms, Nola Franklin, Frances, Caleb Silas Ginger,
Karen & Astrid Karenpaula, Hannah & Molly,
Michael Johnston, John & Patricia Kelly, Michael Larkin,
Vivian Malubay, Joanne Mumford, Chinenye Victoria
Oriaku Nwalozie, Peter Roberts, Krystal Shea,
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 Holy 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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's world, there seems to be much competition between schools, parents, which and who is the best, the best sportsperson, kind of car you own, the kind of job and wage you have. We can end up measuring ourselves against others, as if they provide the standard.

For John the Baptist there was no competition, for he knew he was "the voice crying in the desert" there to "prepare a way for the Lord". John was not seeking fame or recognition, not trying to out-do Jesus, so when Jesus appears on the scene, he can easily say "There is the Lamb of God" directing his own disciples to Jesus. Having baptised Jesus and witnessed the dove that hovered above him, he knew Jesus was the one and that "he must increase, and I must decrease".

We have all received different gifts and my peace and happiness is in living MY life, keeping true to the life God has given me, seeking only what God wants me to do. I need to ask myself: What am I truly seeking? What will give me peace and happiness?

Sr. Mary Fermio

PIETY STALL

Our Piety Stall is seeking parishioners to join our roster manning the stall. The time commitment is about 15 minutes once a month after weekend Masses. If you would like to volunteer, please put your name on the clipboard in the gathering space. For more information, contact Margot Short at margotmshort@gmail.com

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen

FLOWERS

18th January to 15th February – Beatrice Younger & Tup Shea

MINISTERS

24th & 25th January

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Sonia Smith	Vicki Benson	Jan Farmelo
8:30am	Margaret Love	Colm Carragher	Jan & Colm Carragher
10:30am	Beatrice Younger	Jenny Kearney	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

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,
and shall sing to you,
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

First Reading *Isaiah 49:3, 5-6*

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the
survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of
the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 39:2, 4, 7-10*

R: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Response

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

Response

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

Response

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Response**Second Reading** *1 Corinthians 1:1-3*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together
with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the
church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of
Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place
among all the saints everywhere who pray to our
Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than
ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation *John 1:14, 12*

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.
He enabled those who accepted him
to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel *John 1:29-34*

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look,
there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of
the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A
man is coming after me who ranks before me
because he existed before me. I did not know him
myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I
came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I
saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like
a dove and resting on him. I did not know him
myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water
had said to me, "The man on whom you see the
Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to
baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I
am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Communion Antiphon

You have prepared a table before me,
and how precious is the chalice that quenches my
thirst.

————— **NEXT SUNDAY** —————

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading *Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3*

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 26:1, 4, 13-14*

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17*

Gospel *Matthew 4:12-23*