



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

1st March 2026

— STAINED GLASS WINDOWS —

Someone suggested to me during the week that I explain or comment on the various parts of our Church building, such as our stained glass windows. This is quite a good idea so I'm going to make a start.

Under the stairs that lead up to the choir loft, you will find two stained glass windows depicting St Ignatius of Loyola and St Camillus de Lellis.

You will see by the inscription that these windows were donated by soldiers in memory of their fellow fallen comrades. The windows were installed around the year 1919 and are in memory of soldiers who fought in the First World War. (You can learn more about the window at this website: vwma.org.au/explore/memorials/4036). Eight men are named on the window, God rest their souls, including a Thomas O'Leary.

Thomas O'Leary was the fifth of ten children. He enlisted for the war and was only 23 years old when he was shot and killed at the Gallipoli landing 25th April 1915. His prayerbook that he was carrying when he died was returned to the family whose descendants are still part of our Parish.

Why are the saints Ignatius of Loyola and Camillus of Lellis depicted in these windows? Both are patron saints of soldiers. They were soldiers living wayward lives who later turned their lives around to be soldiers of Christ. St Ignatius is well known as the founder of the Society of Jesus or 'Jesuits'. St Camillus is lesser known in our own times, but after being a soldier, then becoming destitute after wayward living, became a religious, cared for the sick, started hospitals, started a religious order – like St John of the Cross did – to care for the sick, and indeed St Camillus started the first field hospital for wounded soldiers.

— SACRAMENTS FOR ADULTS AT EASTER —

At St Bernard's, we have half a dozen adults receiving Sacraments at Easter. Please pray for them as they prepare for this wonderful moment in their relationship with God. We have others that are also preparing to receive Sacraments later in the year. In our world today, many are turning towards God and His Church. You may already know that in England, France, the USA, there is a drastic increase in adults coming to the faith. Last week at St Patrick's Cathedral was the Rite of Election. This is an optional ceremony that those being baptised or coming into the Catholic Church at Easter can come to. Last Sunday, 550 adult catechumens were at this ceremony (not including ours!). A similar number attended in St Mary's, Sydney. The grace of Jesus Christ is certainly at work in our world.

Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1 st & 3 rd Saturday	
7 th & 21 st Mar	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
Fri	7:00pm	First Friday Holy Hour
Fri	6:15pm	Soup & Stations
Sun	10:00am	Rosary (Chapel)

— DIARY —

February

Sat	28 th	Sacrament of Confirmation Family Commitment Mass
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March

Fri	6 th	Soup & Stations of the Cross
Sat	7 th	Cor Jesu – Women's Vocational Discernment Group Meeting
Sun	8 th	Morning Tea after 8:30am Mass
Sun	8 th	Baptism Preparation 12pm midday
Mon	9 th	Labour Day
Fri	13 th	Providence & Friends Anointing Mass
Sat	14 th	Parish Men's Retreat
Sat	21 st	Women's Lenten Retreat

— 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

SOUP AND STATIONS

Every Friday during the season of Lent, soup will be served at 6:15pm in the Parish Centre. This will be followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm in the church.

MORNING TEA

Morning tea this month will be held after the 8:30am Mass next Sunday 8th March. All welcome.

PARISH MEN'S RETREAT

Men of Bacchus Marsh, join us for a retreat on Saturday 14th March. Starting with 9:30am Mass at St Bernard's Catholic Church, we will then proceed to St Bernard's Primary School for the remainder of the retreat, led by Fr Nicholas Pearce — a gifted speaker and pastor. There will also be opportunities for Confession and Eucharistic Adoration as we seek to deepen our faith together.

Bookings can be made via the QR Code, or at

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1542567>



WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT

Saturday 21st March – By His Wounds we are Healed

What is the connection between the wounds we experience in this life and the wounds of Christ? How does Christ's humanity actually heal us and restore us to ourselves? Join Anna Krohn and the Dominican Sisters for a day of prayer and reflection on Saturday 21st March, 9am–4pm, in St Bernard's Parish Centre. Please book in for catering purposes at www.trybooking.com/DJDZT or for more information, contact Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org.

PARISH CENSUS

We are currently taking our Parish Census to update our database. This information is only used for Parish purposes. Thanks to those who filled out a census card last week. If you haven't filled out a census card, please fill one out and put in a collection basket or give it to Fr John Paul after Mass. Thank you.

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 into 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

Death Anniversaries

Mary Delahey, Peter Gavin, Bernie Jongeblood, Reginald Kirwan, Edward Kula, Margaret Linard, Kaylene Preston, Nell Shelly, Tom Vulic.

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 COMMITTEE

Vicki Benson - Officer
0448 966 120

Jennifer Costin

Ron Geurts

Madeleine McManus

Peter Kennedy

REFLECTION

Second Sunday of Lent

All of us would at some time, have had to make a decision that would have changed our lives - a new job, get married, move the family. Most of us probably consulted family or friends to help us decide what to do.

Matthew presents this as a time when Jesus is deciding what the future holds, and seeks and receives assurance from God. Moses and Elijah, two of Israel's great prophets, both received strength from God to fulfil their tasks determining the future of Israel. Thus, Jesus prays for strength and guidance to help him continue his journey, which ends in his death and they come to reassure him.

When we pray for help and guidance, may we be aware of the comforting presence of God, who always listens to us.

Sr. Mary Fermio

COR JESU

For women aged 18-35 who are considering a possible vocation to the consecrated life, **Cor Jesu** is a women's vocational discernment group that meets throughout the year to pray, discern and support one another. Our first meeting will be on Saturday 7th March at St Mary's Church in St Kilda, 9:00am-11:30am. Join us for morning of prayer, discussion and fellowship. For more information, contact Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org

EASTER RAFFLE

Parishioners are kindly asked to donate items for our upcoming Easter Raffle to help raise funds for our parish. Any items suitable for an Easter hamper are greatly appreciated. These can be placed in the baskets in the foyer.

Cash donations can be placed in the donation box (please use the envelopes labelled 'Easter Raffle'). Thank you for your generosity.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2026

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. You will meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza.

Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

Let us pray for all those who lack the basic necessities of life, especially food, water and security, that support for Project Compassion this Lent will enable Caritas to become a source of hope for them and for all those who hunger and thirst.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, or a single envelope (which covers six weeks of giving), or by scanning the QR code, or online at www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate, or by calling 1800 024 413.

JAM ON THE MAT

JAM on the Mat for little ones (babies, toddlers and preschoolers) held at St Bernard's Primary School on Thursdays at 10:45am. Cost \$15 per family. To find out more, contact darleyjamsession@gmail.com.

ROSTERS

Flowers – 18th February to 3rd April – no flowers during Lent

Ministers – 7th & 8th March

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Maureen Zahra	Vicki Benson	Nuala Beattie
8:30am	Meg Kennedy	Dominican Sisters	Denise O'Gorman
10:30am	Beatrice Younger	Adrian Alimic	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

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First Reading *Genesis 12:1-4*

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 32:4-5, 18-20, 22*

**R: Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

Response

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Response

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

Response

Second Reading *2 Timothy 1:8-10*

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy - not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 17:5*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel *Matthew 17:1-9*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him'. When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said, 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain, Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

Communion Antiphon

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.

————— NEXT SUNDAY —————
Third Sunday of Lent

<i>First Reading</i>	<i>Exodus 17:3-7</i>
<i>Responsorial Psalm</i>	<i>Psalms 94:1-2, 6-9</i>
<i>Second Reading</i>	<i>Romans 5:1-2, 5-8</i>
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>John 4:5-42</i>