



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

19th April 2026

— ST BLANDINA —

Over the Easter Triduum, I made a wonderful discovery in our Church.

Each altar should be made of stone and contain at least two first class relics. If the altar is not made of stone, such as ours, it should have built in to the centre, an altar stone. These altar stones, usually made of marble, have five crosses on them, referring to the five glorious wounds of Christ, and which are anointed at a ceremony of the dedication of an altar.

On Good Friday just past, when the altars were stripped of the altar cloths, I had a closer look at the altar stone in our free standing altar we sat Mass on each day. Attached to its underside is a note signed by Archbishop James Knox, saying 'hoc altare rite consecravi et Reliquias S. AElidori et S.Blandinae'.

In 1967, this altar stone was consecrated and within sealed these two saints. I had no idea who these saints were.

I and a couple of others tried to research who these saints were without much luck – certainly for the first one who remains a mystery.

Later that day, at the 3:00pm service, one of the children was looking at a children's book from our book box. And lo and behold the page was entitled 'St Blandina of Lyon, France (177AD).'

St Blandina of Lyon was young slave girl in Lyon who was arrested and Martyred for attending Mass in 177AD at the last stages of a persecution by Emperor Marcus Aurelius. During the persecution in Lyon at that time, St Irenaeus was a priest in Rome helping the Pope address a certain heresy. After this persecution which resulted in many martyrdoms, St Irenaeus was sent to Lyon as its Bishop. St Irenaeus of Lyon being perhaps the most well known saint of that time.

The bodies of the Apostles as well as many saints and martyrs remain with us as they await the Resurrection. It is quite remarkable that we at St Bernard's have the first class relics of a saint that lived some 1850 years ago. Another tangible link to with the Church of the past, showing that St Bernard's is indeed in that same Communion of Saints that we call the Catholic Church, that from the Apostles and Pentecost, has gone out to the whole world.

St Blandina, pray for us.

Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1 st & 3 rd Saturday	
18 th Apr & 2 nd May	6:15pm (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
Sun	10:00am	Rosary (Chapel)

— DIARY —

April		
Sat	18 th	Parish Outdoor Cinema at Korobeit
Mon	20 th	Term 2 commences
Thu	30 th	Eucharist Parent Child Reflection 6:30pm in the Parish Centre
May		
Sat	2 nd	Eucharist Commitment Mass
Fri	8 th	Providence & Friends Mass
Sun	10 th	Mother's Day
Sun	10 th	Morning Tea after 8:30am Mass
Sun	17 th	Baptism Preparation – 11:30am
Tue	19 th	Sacrament of Confirmation 5pm and 7pm Masses

— 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

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

As School Holidays are over, the morning weekday Masses have returned to the usual schedule:

7:30am on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

9:30am on Wednesday

PARISH OUTDOOR CINEMA

Saturday 18th April at 7:00pm

Our Lady Help of Christians Church

309 Myrniong-Korobeit Road, Korobeit

Join us under the stars on the grounds of the Korobeit church for an outdoor screening of 'The King of Kings' (2025), inspired by the children's book, 'The Life of Our Lord' (Charles Dickens).

BYO picnic rugs, chairs, blankets and snacks. Sausage sizzle, popcorn and a can of drink included with your ticket. 'eXpresso Alfresco' will be on site for coffee purchases.

Mass to be celebrated at 6:15pm with the movie following immediately afterwards (approximately 7:00pm).

Bookings essential for catering purposes: trybooking.com/DLCHA, or follow the QR code.

Adults – \$10.

Children – \$5.

Any questions, please reach out to Lucas Ekerbicer on 0418 465 892.



THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

If you have not received your Thanksgiving envelopes and/or your statement, 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 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

Thelma Aquilina

Death Anniversaries

Leslie Crowe, Val Dickson, Ray Rogers.

The Sick

Kathleen Brennan, 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

COUPLES FOR CHRIST

Christian Life Program

The Christian Life Program is a 6-week series designed to help individuals and families grow in their relationship with God, deepen their understanding of the Christian faith, and experience renewed spiritual life within a supportive community. Admissions free, and refreshments provided.

Dates: 11th April to 16th May 2026 (6 Saturday sessions)

Time: 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Venue: Padua Hall, St Anthony of Padua, Melton South

For more information, contact:

- Ruban & Heizyl – 0481 048 589
- Dikz & Sarah – 0478 143 534

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Next Sunday 26th April, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, pray for yourself to know if God is calling YOU to be a priest, Sister or Brother. Or, you might know of someone in the parish, in your family, or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them during this coming week? Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

PERMANENT DIACONATE INFORMATION SESSION

Saturday 2nd May 2025, 10:00am–11:30am

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and the 50s, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The annual May information session is open to everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. Wives are most welcome.

The session will be held in person at Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. If you are interested, email Deacon Kevin Pattison at Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, or just turn up on Saturday morning.

CATHOLICCARE VICTORIA

Sunday Appeal – 2nd & 3rd May 2026

"For I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35)

Next month is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria is the Church's mission in action – empowering communities and building strength and resilience, to enable everyone to reach their full potential and live life to the full. This year, the appeal focuses on homelessness. Our faith calls us to welcome the stranger and care for those most in need. Your kindness and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community.

You can donate using the appeal envelopes available in the Gathering Space, by donating online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au, or by calling 9967 2515.

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. 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.

ROSTERS

Flowers : April – Rosabella

Ministers : 25th & 26th April

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Sonia Smith	Henry Gasior	Nuala Beatie
8:30am	Gerard O'Shea	Moir Ross	Jan & Colm Carragher
10:30am	Rosabella Tuala	Jenny Kearney	Neida Funina

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

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 2:14, 22-33

On the day of Pentecost Peter, stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.
So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy:
my body, too, will rest in the hope
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.
You have made known the way of life to me,
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.'

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: its tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witness to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalms 15:1-2, 5, 7-11

R: Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.'

Response

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

Response

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay.

Response

You will show me the path of life,
and the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever.

Response

NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Reading	Acts 2:14, 36-41
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 22:1-6
Second Reading	1 Peter 2:20-25
Gospel	John 10:1-10

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 24:13-35

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes it is true, the Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.