



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10th May 2026

— MOTHER'S DAY —

Happy Mother's Day. We thank all our mothers and those who have had a mother's role in our life. We thank God for the gift of motherhood. Today we especially take the time to remember and appreciate the love that our mothers have given us over our lives. For those whose mothers have already gone to God, we pray for them and look forward to seeing them again.

When Cyril of Alexandria defended the motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary leading up to the Council of Ephesus in 431AD, he also defended motherhood generally, and gave us a profound insight into our relationship with our mothers.

The Bishop of Constantinople at this time with Nestorius. (It is worth noting that from the early 300's, Constantinople was the capital of the Roman Empire. Yet, it was still Rome that was home to the successor of St Peter and therefore home for the Church. And the See of Constantinople was not spared from falling into heresy as opposed to the See of Rome thanks to Our Lord's promise to St Peter.) Nestorius claimed that Mary should not have the title 'Mother of God' – known now as the heresy called 'Nestorianism'.

To cut a long story short, St Cyril defended the title 'Mother of God' since Jesus is God and Mary is His mother. Therefore, Mary is truly 'Mother of God.'

The insight we gain into motherhood generally is that motherhood is a *personal* relationship. Which means our conception and birth establishes a real relationship between *persons*. Nestorius' claim reduces Mary's motherhood to being a 'chosen vessel' and reduces motherhood generally to a functionality.

God's plan for how we are brought into this world establishes a permanent relationship between two persons, a relationship of mother and son/daughter. This relationship does not end after birth but is permanent. (Of course the nature of that relationship changes over time, and the role of motherhood changes, as the child grows to adulthood, lives their own life, then makes their own family – God willing.)

We can be quite forgetful. We can be consumed with our current affairs. So, it is important to take a chance like today to reflect on how our mothers have cared for us over our lifetime and been a part of our lives. Night and day they cared for us as infants; as children of primary school age; all they did for us while growing up to adolescence; becoming adults; how they have been in our lives perhaps now as we have become parents ourselves; even as we have cared for them in their old age. And lastly, many of us have been there as they prepare to go to God and have prayed requiem prayers for them. Motherhood, in God's plan, is a wonderful part of the building up of the eternal Kingdom of God.

Our Blessed Mother Mary is our spiritual mother. Our baptism is our eighth day of creation. Baptism is our spiritual rebirth. By her espousal to the Holy Spirit, Mary became our mother at our baptism. This too is a true and permanent *personal* relationship. Happy Mother's Day to all.

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— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1 st & 3 rd Saturday	
16 th May & 6 th June	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
Sun	10:00am	Rosary (Chapel)

— DIARY —

May		
Sun	10 th	Mother's Day
Sun	10 th	Morning Tea after 8:30am Mass
Sun	17 th	The Ascension of the Lord
Sun	17 th	Baptism Preparation – 11:30am
Tue	19 th	Sacrament of Confirmation 5pm and 7pm Masses
Sun	24 th	Pentecost Sunday
Mon	25 th	Our Lady, Help of Christians
Sun	31 st	The Most Holy Trinity

June

Fri	5 th	First Friday Holy Hour
Sun	7 th	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
Mon	8 th	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Thu	11 th	Eucharist Preparation Day
Sat	13 th	Sacrament of Eucharist 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

PARISH NEWS

MORNING TEA

This Sunday 10th May, morning tea will be held after the 8:30am Mass. All welcome.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

On Tuesday 19th May, many children will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

As a community, let us pray that they may give witness to Christ by their faith and love of the Gospel. Let us ask God to send the Spirit to renew the face of the earth so that the Church and its members may use their different gifts and works of service to build a better world.

MASS COUNT : WEEKEND 2

The National Count of Attendance at Mass for 2026 is now underway. This year marks a significant milestone — 25 years of national attendance data, beginning with the first count in 2001. The 2026 results will provide valuable insights into long-term trends, particularly in understanding the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which influenced attendance patterns in 2021.

During the Masses this weekend, counters will be in the church counting the number of attendees.

As in 2021, parishes will again be asked to provide estimates of the age and sex of attendees. This will occur during weekends 3 & 4.

Thank you for your patience.

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

Brendan Coburn

Death Anniversaries

David Barry, Gus Baselmans, Patricia Coates-Richardson, Ernest Cosgrove, George Freeman, Billy Gleeson, Bill Grogan, Kevin Heap, Edward Hehir, Helen Lennox, Neil Loughlin, Carmel Monaghan, Dianne Sargent, Trish Shelly, Mary Walta, Peter Wouters,

The Sick

Kathleen Brennan, Charles, 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, Rosanna Tejedor, 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

Thomas Tallis

Thomas Tallis was a Sacred Composer in England before and during the English Reformation. He and William Byrd were Catholic in these troubling times, though they managed for the most part to avoid controversies over this. One of my favourite pieces of music composed by Thomas Tallis is 'If Ye Love Me' taken from today's Gospel. I can't read this Gospel with this music in my mind. It is very powerful and I recommend listening to it!

Fr. John Paul Mount

ANNUAL SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY
Corpus Christi College – Saturday 23rd May 2026

Corpus Christi is the place where young men discern and study for the priesthood. You may or may not be considering a vocation, however, you are invited to join us and hear more about a vocation and enjoy lunch with current Seminarians.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by Tuesday 19th May via vocations@cam.org.au

If you have questions, the Vocation Director, Father Dishan Candappa, would be pleased to assist you. Please be in touch via vocations@cam.org.au

More details are available on the noticeboard in the Gathering Space.

ST MICHAEL'S TROOPS
Saturday 23rd May 2026

Do you long for authentic brotherhood and a space to grow deeper in faith alongside other men? St Michael's Troops is an event for men aged 18-35 seeking strength, discipline, and purpose rooted in Christ. This morning event in Melbourne includes Holy Mass, physical activity, a talk, and a shared BBQ. Join us, and bring a mate.

Register now at <https://fitforthe kingdom.com.au/events/st-michaels-troops--096fdddc>

CATHOLIC MARRIAGE RETREAT
Beyond the Vows – Saturday 30th May 2026

A practical, faith-grounded day with real insights, communication tools, and quality couple time. All married couples welcome! This one-day retreat will be led by Byron & Francine Perola from SmartLoving. See the TryBooking link for more information.

Time: 9:45am – 5:00pm

Where: Catholic Regional College, 10 College Street, Caroline Springs

Cost: \$80 per couple

Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/DLAGK>, or scan the QR code on the poster.

ROSTERS

Flowers : May – Tup Shea

Ministers : 16th & 17th May

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Maureen Zahra	Colin Remedios	Nuala Beatie
8:30am	Dominican Sisters	Colm Carragher	Jan & Colm Carragher
10:30am	Allan McManus	Cheryl Stevens	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 Manager – Marie Casey.

Phone: (03) 5367 3427
Mon - Fri, 9:00am – 6:00pm

Entrance Antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Psalms 65:1-7, 16, 20

R: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

Response

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men.

Response

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.

Response

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me.

Response

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:
'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave your orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them
will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord,
and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete,
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

————— NEXT SUNDAY —————

The Ascension of the Lord

First Reading	Acts 1:1-11
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 46:2-3, 6-9
Second Reading	Ephesians 1:17-23
Gospel	Matthew 28:16-20