



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

PENTECOST SUNDAY

24th May 2026

— PENTECOST —

Today we celebrate Pentecost and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. The Holy Spirit is like the living soul of the Church, and so today we celebrate the birthday of the Church as life Himself is breathed into her.

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you." (Acts 1:8) Even at the Lord's Ascension, as we heard last week, when the Apostles worshipped the Lord, "some hesitated/doubted" (Mt 28:17). The Apostles and disciples have spent the last three years alongside Jesus, have heard His words, witnessed many miracles, and then witnessed His death and resurrection. And yet they are still hiding in the upper room (Jn 20:19), hesitating and doubting, and being scolded by the Lord for their unbelief and hardness of heart (Mk 16:14). When the Holy Spirit descends upon them however, the Apostles are totally transformed.

After praying the first *novena*, nine days of prayer, the Holy Spirit descends upon the Apostles and disciples. There was a mighty wind from heaven that filled the house, and tongues as of fire rested on each of them, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:2,3) The very breath of God, the life-giving Spirit Himself, filled them, and so they were enflamed with the very power of God Himself. Meaningfully the Holy Spirit appeared as tongues of fire. And from there the Apostles courageously and convincingly preached to the world.

This transformation of the Apostles shows how the work of the Church, even today, is truly a work of God. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Church began her mission. The Church is made up of human beings, as flawed as the Apostle Peter himself. However, the work of the Church is truly a work of God, a work of the Holy Spirit. Immediately, with no delay, after receiving the Holy Spirit the Apostles begin the work and mission of the Church. Peter, filled with wisdom, preaches to the masses and by his words, the hearts of many are moved to conversion. From his teaching, many receive the Sacrament of Baptism, and then enter the life of the Church: And "they held steadfastly to the apostles teaching, and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers." (Acts 2:42) (*breaking of the bread*, meaning the Mass/Eucharist)

Peter and the Apostles start working miracles, are courageous and steadfast in the face of imprisonment and persecutions, and begin to travel far and wide to be witnesses of Christ. Yes, Pentecost is the powerful moment that they are transformed into the great Apostles that we know and revere. I encourage you to take up reading the Acts of the Apostles with a mind to meditate on the transformative effect of Pentecost on the Church.

Fittingly, on Tuesday we welcomed Bishop Martin Ashe who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation is like our own personal Pentecost where we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit anew to strengthen us with His sevenfold gifts of wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, courage, piety and fear of the Lord.

We pray that those children who received the Sacrament of Baptism, as well as all of us, the Lord's disciples at St Bernard's, may be empowered and transformed by the Holy Spirit just as the Apostles were.

Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1st & 3rd Saturday
6th & 20th 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 24th Pentecost Sunday
Mon 25th Our Lady, Help of Christians
Patron of Australia
Sun 31st The Most Holy Trinity

June

Fri 5th First Friday Holy Hour
Sun 7th The Most Holy Body and Blood
of Christ (Corpus Christi)
Mon 8th King's Birthday Public Holiday
Thu 11th Eucharist Preparation Day
Sat 13th Sacrament of Eucharist
9:30am and 11:30am Masses
Sun 14th Morning Tea after 8:30am Mass
Sun 14th Baptism Preparation – 11:30am

— 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

MASS COUNT : WEEKEND 4

The National Count of Attendance at Mass for 2026 continues. During the Masses this weekend, counters will be in the church counting the number of attendees.

As in 2021, parishes have been asked to provide estimates of the age and sex of attendees. This weekend, the counters will be noting the ages of those in attendance.

This is the final Mass count. Thank you for your patience.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL 2026

Special Collection – 30th & 31st May 2026

As winter approaches, the St Vincent de Paul Society is calling for support for our Winter Appeal 2026. New data is showing the increased depth of financial pressure now facing households that were already struggling to get by. Your generosity can provide people facing hunger with healthy, nutritious food. Your kindness can help people keep the lights on, the car running, and pay for vital essentials like clothing.

Contributions can be made through our Special Collection on the weekend of 30th & 31st May.

LADIES MORNING TEA ROSARY

Ladies young and old and their children (of all ages) are warmly invited to come to a casual get together in the Parish Centre on Tuesday 26th May from 9:15am onward. We will aim to pray the Rosary around 9:30am (amid many playing toddlers) followed by morning tea. Bring a plate if you like. Come along for a time of fellowship and fun!

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

Colin O'Hehir, Catherine Sadhai.

Death Anniversaries

Kay Cowman, Stan Douglas, Isabel Fitzpatrick,
"Sos" Selvidge, Aldo Vescovi, Elaine Wooller.

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,
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

— ARCHDIOCESAN CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION —

Sunday 7th June 2026

Parishioners are warmly invited to participate in the annual Corpus Christi Procession to be held on Sunday 7th June 2026, commencing at 2:00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne.

Following a time of Eucharistic adoration within the Cathedral, the procession with the Blessed Sacrament will make its way through the streets of the city to Federation Square for Benediction.

— PROCLAIM26 —

Friday 26th – Saturday 27th June 2026

Parishioners are invited to join world-renowned Catholic author Sherry Weddell and Archbishop Peter A Comensoli to Proclaim26, an inspiring two-day gathering to equip, form and send clergy, lay leaders and all who want to share Jesus Christ into their community.

Before his Ascension, which we celebrated last Sunday, Jesus entrusted us with this mission: *'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Gospel to all creation.'* How will we respond to his invitation and to this moment?

With keynote presentations exploring discipleship and practical workshops covering a range of topics from RCIA, real-life stories of parish renewal, youth and young adults, music and more, you will be equipped with the heart and tools to begin the journey.

— MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND —

St Dominic's Parish, Melton – 26th-28th June 2026

Marriage Encounter is a world-wide volunteer movement of married couples and priests who provide special weekends for couples and priest to nurture their sacraments. It has been active in Australia for more than 50 years. The encounter commences on Friday night at 7:00pm and finishes on Sunday at approximately 4:30pm.

Contact: Mercy and James Bvirakare on 0409 183 676.

— LADIES' NIGHT AT HANDEL'S MESSIAH —

Friday 4th December 2026 – Geelong

We are making plans for anyone wanting to attend Handel's Messiah on Friday 4th December at 7:30pm, Costa Hall in Geelong with dinner beforehand at a nearby restaurant. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org

— ROSTERS —

Church Cleaning Team

Saturday 30th May – Adrian, Allan, Veronica, Brendan, Yenny

Flowers

May – Tup Shea

June – Jenn Costin

Ministers : 30th & 31st May

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Sonia Smith	Vicki Benson	Margot Short
8:30am	Nathan Costin	Moira Ross	Jan Farmelo
10:30am	Rosabella Tuala	Adrian Alimic	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

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

First Reading *Acts 2:1-11*

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34*

R: *Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.*

Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches.

Response

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

Response

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

Response**Second Reading** *1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13*

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Gospel Acclamation**Sequence**

Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow.

Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew
On our dryness pour thy dew
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will
Melt the frozen, warm the chill
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die
Give us life with thee on high
Give us joys that never end.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!**Gospel** *John 20:19-23*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Communion Antiphon

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.