



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26th July 2026

— ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA (1491–1556) —

This coming Friday is the feast day of St Ignatius of Loyola. He one of the greatest saints of the 'counter reformation'. St Ignatius began a religious order called the 'Jesuits'. Some great saints have been Jesuits: St Francis Xavier, St Robert Bellarmine, St Edmund Campion and many Jesuit martyrs of the English Reformation, Ss Isaac Jogues and John de Brebeuf, St Peter Calver, St Stanislaw Koska, St Aloysius Gonzaga, St Paul Miki (Japan), and so many martyrs such as in Japan on in the Americas.

Ignatius was born in Spain. He was a soldier and at the age of 30 was wounded in a battle at Pamplona against the French. He was, like any young man I guess, inspired by stories of victories in battle and glorious adventures, and dreamt of himself becoming a great personage. However, during his recovery from his battle wounds, Ignatius read a life of Christ and lives of the saints. From reading these, he had a notable experience. He found that when he read about Our Lord and the saints, and meditated on their lives, and envisaged doing similar things himself, he was inspired and consoled and happy. And furthermore, after such reading and reflections, he found that his contentment and happiness remained and endured. Ignatius noted that this was in contrast to when he dreamt of becoming a splendid knight and noble, winning victories and glories for himself. When he thought of these things and such stories, he would initially be invigorated and inspired, but then soon after he would be left feeling desolate and empty and depressed. This was for him a clear discernment to pursue the things of God. From there, he was singularly devoted to being a soldier for Christ and to do all for the greater glory of God (Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam).

One popular method of prayer that St Ignatius practised and instructed was meditation using the imagination. For Catholics, 'meditation' means mental prayer. Prayer is always a relationship between persons – me and God – and meditative prayer is simply thinking about the things of God and of our Catholic faith as a way of deepening our knowledge, our love and our relationship with God.

Meditative prayer using the imagination as St Ignatius instructs it, is not only powerful, but also quite enjoyable and, I dare say...fun. In this way of praying, we open the Gospels, choose a Gospel scene and, using our imagination, we place ourselves in that scene. Indeed, using our imagination, we immerse ourselves in that scene. For example, we might meditate on the scene of the storm on the Sea of Galilee when Jesus beckons Peter to come to Him across the water (Mt 14:28). We find a place with no distractions, and we take our time to immerse our mind and heart and all our five senses in the Gospel scene. We close our eyes. We imagine we are Peter. We are sitting on the wood of the boat. We feel the wood. We feel the cold chill of the wind. We smell the sea, and the fisherman's boat. The darkness of a storm. Then, the waves of the storm, the splash of the water hitting the boat, the rocking of the boat. We see and hear the other Apostles. And when we are immersed in the scene, we play out the scene and encounter the Lord Jesus as Peter did. And let the Lord enlighten your mind and enkindle your heart as you pray in this way.

So, we meditate by thinking about Our Lord Jesus and His life, all that He did and accomplished. And, through that, we ask God to enlighten us, so we can know Him better, to enkindle love in us for Him and neighbour, and by His grace increase His virtues in us.

Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1 st & 3 rd Saturday	
1 st & 15 th Aug	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 —

July

Sat	25 th	St James, Apostle, Feast Day
Tue	28 th	Holy Hour – spend time with Jesus!
Fri	31 st	St Ignatius of Loyola, Feast Day
Fri	31 st	Catechesis by Fr John Paul Mount

August

Thu	6 th	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Fri	7 th	St Mary MacKillop Feast Day whole school Mass – 9:30am
Fri	7 th	Catechesis by Fr John Paul Mount
Fri	7 th	First Friday Holy Hour
Sat	8 th	Parish Trivia Night
Sun	9 th	Baptism Preparation Session
Fri	14 th	Providence & Friends Anointing Mass
Sat	15 th	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun	23 rd	St Bernard's Feast Day celebration

September

Sun	6 th	Father's Day
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— 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

THANK YOU

Once again, thanks to Maria and Lucas from “eXpresso alfresco” for offering hot drinks after both Masses last Sunday.

They have kindly donated back the total of \$415 which was successfully raised on that day. Thank you for your generous contribution to our Parish. We looove the coffee van!

‘IN THE BEGINNING’

Catechesis with Fr John Paul Mount

Friday 3rd July – Friday 7th August 2026

Each Friday evening in July, Fr John Paul is holding Catechesis commencing at 6:15pm in the Parish Centre. The final session will be held on Friday 7th August. All welcome.

Involving both Philosophy and Theology, this will cover the introductory first lessons in coming to know the Catholic faith, looking at the first three chapters of Genesis.

ST BERNARD’S PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 8th August 2026 at 6:30pm

Dust off your thinking caps and enjoy the fun and excitement of our annual parish trivia night. Bring your friends, form a team, and win some prizes! BYO food and drinks.

Tickets now available via the QR code.

\$20 – Adults

\$10 – Youth (13-17 years)

Free – Children 12 years & under

Contact person: Thomas Halloran – 0431 504 402



trybooking.com/DNMTV

PARISH DONATIONS

To make a donation, scan the QR code:

1st Collection: Presbytery – supports our Parish Priest and priests of the Archdiocese.

Direct transfers can also be made into the Presbytery account.

Account Name: St Bernards Parish Presbytery Account
BSB: 083 347 Account No. 909353145

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 Bernards Parish Bacchus Marsh
BSB: 083 347 Account No. 651663131



LET US PRAY

Recently Deceased

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Death Anniversaries

Joseph “Tony” Dickinson, Bill Griffith,
Bronwyn Kays, Robin “Bob” Pope, Fr Chris Riley,
Nadia Vescovi.

The Sick

Kathleen Brennan, Charles, Kathleen Dally, Daniel,
Dean Elms, Robert Elms, Reg Farnell, Frances,
Nola Franklin, Caleb Silas Ginger, Hannah & Molly,
Michael Johnston, Karen & Astrid Karenpaula,
John & Patricia Kelly, Bernice Light, Vivian Malubay,
Joanne Mumford, Chinenye Victoria Oriaku Nwalozie,
Peter Roberts, Krystal Shea, Rosanna Tejedor,
Carmel Welsh,
and all those who need our prayers.

Home Communion

If parishioners know of anyone who has expressed a wish to receive communion because of the inability to attend Mass, please contact the Parish Office.

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

Christian Bergmann

Jennifer Costin

Ron Geurts

Peter Kennedy

Sharing this article to all parishioners, in case you haven't seen it. Many of you would be interested – *"Repaid a thousandfold: Fr Brian Glasheen on the people who formed him"*.

To view this story, click on the following link:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/repaid-a-thousandfold-fr-brian-glasheen-on-the-people-who-formed-him>

CHURCH CLEANING BEE

Next Saturday 1st August from 10am-1pm, we will be holding a church cleaning bee. No need to register, just come ready to clean! There will be a variety of jobs for all abilities, and a sausage sizzle will be provided for volunteers.

If you have any questions, please contact Madeleine on 0434 945 598.

SYCAMORE FAITH FORMATION

Monday 17th August 2026, 2:00pm

Fr Stephen Wang, Rector of the Venerable English College in Rome and founder of the Sycamore Faith Formation Program, will visit St Bernard's Primary School on Monday 17th August. Fr Stephen will host a parent session, 2-3pm in the school staff room. Parishioners are all welcome to join. For more information, please contact Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org.

SPIRITUAL DAY RETREAT

St Peter's Daylesford, Saturday 12th September 2026

You are invited to a day of prayer, formation, and fellowship in the beautiful setting of St Peter's Catholic Church, Daylesford. Led by Fr John Corrigan and Fiona Bradley, the retreat day, *"A Pierced Heart: The Path of Our Lady of Sorrows"*, will include Mass and Eucharistic Adoration (with Confession available). Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided. The retreat is open to all men and women.

When: Saturday 12th September 2026, 9.30am-4:00pm

Cost: \$30

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/DNJOM

Contact: Fiona 0402 474 074, fiona.bradley@ballarat.catholic.org.au

CHRISTUS REX PILGRIMAGE

Ballarat to Bendigo, 22nd-25th October 2026

The Christus Rex Pilgrimage usually takes place each year on the last weekend of October in honour of the Kingship of Christ. This year, the pilgrimage begins with morning Mass on Friday 23rd October at St Patrick's Cathedral in Ballarat, and concludes with Solemn Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bendigo on Sunday 25th October. During the pilgrimage, participants walk approximately 90 kilometers, engaging in prayer, song, sharing meals, with reflection and fellowship along the way.

Registration includes meals, accommodation, resources and support.

For more information, see <https://crex.org/>

ROSTERS

Church Cleaning Teams

Monday 10th August – Anne, Paul, Denise, Maddie, Lisa D, Nuala (if available)

Flowers

July – Tup Shea

August - Rosabella

Ministers : 1st & 2nd August

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Vicki Benson	Colin Remedios	Jackie Tabone
8:30am	Nathan Costin	Moir Ross	Denise O'Gorman
10:30am	Beatrice Younger	Shannon Harvie	Cheryl Stevens

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

Nicene 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 by any parishioners and Parish Groups. All bookings through Marie Casey, Hall Manager.

Phone: (03) 5367 3427

Mon - Fri, 9:00am – 6:00pm

Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalms 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130

R: Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold.

Response

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight.

Response

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways.

Response

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple.

Response

Second Reading Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation cf Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

Next Sunday

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

First Reading	Isaiah 55:1-3
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 144:8-9, 15-18
Second Reading	Romans 8:35, 37-39
Gospel	Matthew 14:13-21