



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

30th August 2026

— ST AUGUSTINE —

St Augustine was born in 354AD in Thagaste, Numidia (modern day Algeria). He did not grow up as a Christian, though his saintly mother, St Monica, prayed tirelessly for his conversion. The story of his youth and his conversion is recorded in his autobiography called "Confessions". This is still a classic for anyone coming to the faith.

St Augustine was a very intelligent young man, growing up to be a philosopher, a lawyer and orator. It wasn't until he met St Ambrose of Milan that he found someone who could dialogue with him seriously about Christianity. It was St Ambrose who would eventually baptise him.

St Augustine was ordained a priest at about the age of 36, and at 40 he was made the Bishop of Hippo (modern day Algeria). In his own diocese he met so many difficulties, but also the major city of Carthage was not far from him and so he was invested in the controversies of this city. And perhaps this was a way that St Augustine was involved in matters concerning the whole Church such as the heresies we now know as Donatism and Pelagianism. And with the sacking of Rome in 410, even the future of civilisation was of great concern for him.

Donatism was named after Bishop Donatus in Carthage. In summary, Donatism was an error that demanded the Church to admit only perfect and sinless people. In particular, it claimed that clergy must be sinless to validly celebrate the Sacraments and practice their priesthood. St Augustine fought strenuously against this. When a priest celebrates baptism for instance, the validity of the baptism does not depend on the priest being sinless. It is good to mention here that the holiness of St Augustine's own clergy was an emphasis of his. He gathered much of his clergy to live a kind of religious life around him as they ministered to the diocese.

After the Donatist heresy, there arose a figure named Pelagius. Pelagius' concern was to empathise people's responsibility over their own life. God made everyone thoroughly good, he claimed, with natural strengths and should courageously take control of one's destiny to be holy and perfect. If you don't achieve this, it's your own fault, no excuses!

In some ways, Pelagius' teachings sound like a modern day inspirational speaker, trying to inspire people to not blame their failings on others and take up the challenge of life. There's much to admire in this attitude. However, after battling with the Donatists, St Augustine was not going to allow another 'perfectionist' heresy (my own words) spread through the Church. St Augustine again fought strenuously against Pelagius' errors.

The error in Pelagianism is that it denies Original Sin and its effects, and denied our need of God's grace. The Church teaches that we are in fact not all perfect, we are sinners in need of God's mercy, and we need God's grace, God's help, in all things. We need Christ, the Good Samaritan, to bandage our wounds, to lift us up, and carry us to the Inn (Lk 10:25-37). We can do none of this on our own efforts. Yes, we commit ourselves with all our strength, but all begins with God's grace, and it is God's grace that brings all to completion.

St Augustine is a towering figure in the Church and the history of our world. I recommend reading his "Confessions", you might like to even try his "The City of God". If looking for a biography, Peter Brown's "Augustine of Hippo: A Biography" is considered something of a classic. *St Augustine, pray for us.*

Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1st & 3rd Saturday

5th & 19th Sept 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 —

September

Fri	4 th	First Friday Holy Hour
Sun	6 th	Father's Day
Tue	8 th	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri	11 th	Providence & Friends Mass
Sun	13 th	Baptism Preparation Session
Fri	18 th	Last Day of School Term 3
Fri	25 th	Men's Poker Night

October

Mon	5 th	School Term 4 commences
Thu	15 th	Sacrament of Reconciliation Reflection Evening – 6:30pm
Sat	17 th	Sacrament of Reconciliation Commitment Mass – 5:00pm
22 nd - 25 th		Christus Rex Pilgrimage Ballarat to Bendigo

November

Sat	7 th	St Bernard's Parish Bush Dance
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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

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

Friday 4th September

On the First Friday of each month, there will be Holy Hour at 7:00pm in St Bernard's Church. Confession will be offered until 7:40pm when we pray Night Prayer/Compline and Benediction.

SAVE THESE DATES

Friday 25th September – Men's Poker Night

Saturday 7th November – Parish Bush Dance

More details to follow soon.

COMBINED CHURCHES

Prayer Meeting – Wednesday 14th October

Together with St Bernard's, this prayer meeting is a gathering of the local Christian churches in Bacchus Marsh – Catalyst Baptist Church, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, and Bacchus Marsh Christian Church.

When: Wednesday 14th October at 7:30pm

Where: Bacchus Marsh Christian Church
222 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh

Like the parable of the Good Samaritan, let us come together in solidarity to prayerfully participate in recognising others in our community, and understanding how we live and interact with our neighbours, and giving them equal dignity.

All parishioners are invited to attend and most welcome.

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

Sr Mary Frances Coburn RSJ, Vittoria de Bortoli,
Ashley Hine, Joan Kervin, Denis Leahy,
Kathleen Martin, Noreen Matthews, Rosa Pollino,
Nathan Prince, Robert Taylor.

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, 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

— 2026 ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN —

Thank you to everyone who so generously already made a pledge or gift to the 2026 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so.

This campaign supports the vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese.

Online donations (via direct debit or credit card) are the most secure and preferred method of donating and can be made using the QR code provided. You can also donate through the campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards.

— PERMANENT DIACONATE —

Online Information Meeting via ZOOM

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged from 30 into their 50's, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session via ZOOM is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

When: Tuesday 22nd September 2026, 7:00pm-8:00pm

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison at Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

In the week before the session, the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.

— 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/>

— EUCHARIST28 —

In 2028, Sydney will host the 54th International Eucharistic Congress – one of the largest Christian gatherings in the world which began in the 1880s to promote reverence for Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. It is coming to Australia after the Congress was first hosted here a century ago.

With the Pope expected to visit and hundreds of thousands of pilgrims anticipated from around the globe, it will be an historic moment of Christian witness, uniting people in faith, worship and reflection to deepen their understanding of the Eucharist.

Sign up to follow the journey and be part of the story. Go to www.eucharist28.org

— ROSTERS —

Church Cleaning Teams

Monday 7th September – Anne, Paul, Denise, Lisa D, Nuala

Saturday 19th September – Adrian, Allan, Veronica, Brendan, Yenny

Flowers

September – Jenn Costin

Ministers : 5th & 6th September

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Vicki Benson	Colin Remedios	Jackie Tabone
8:30am	Meg Kennedy	Colm Carragher	Jennifer Taylor
10:30am	Rosabella Tuala	Shannon Harvie	Neida Funina

— PRAYERS —

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 Procession

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading *Jeremiah 20:7-9*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.'
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalms 62:2-6, 8-9*

R: *My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

Response

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

Response

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

Response

For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Response

Second Reading *Romans 12:1-2*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation *cf Ephesians 1:17, 18*

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 16:21-27*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

Next Sunday

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

First Reading	Ezekiel 33:7-9
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 94:1-2, 6-9
Second Reading	Romans 13:8-10
Gospel	Matthew 18:15-20