



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9th August 2026

— FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION —

The Feast of the Assumption celebrates Mary being assumed into heaven body and soul. Our Lord Jesus 'ascended' into heaven by His own power, but we say Our Lady was 'assumed' into heaven by the power of God. This occasion is also called the 'Dormition' as one could say that Mary's death was like falling asleep, only to rise once more without her body suffering corruption, and to be assumed into heaven. This Assumption and entry into heaven is a glorious occasion where she takes up her Queenship of heaven.

I was reading a reflection by Dom Prosper Guéranger, O.S.B. (1805-1875), in his famous daily reflections on the liturgical year. I thought I would share it this week:

"Mary stayed on earth after her Son's Ascension, in order to give birth to his Church; but she could not remain forever in exile. Yet she was not to take her flight to heaven until this new fruit of her maternity had acquired the growth and strength which it belongs to a mother to give. How sweet to the Church was this dependence! — a privilege given to her members by our Lord in imitation of Himself. As we saw, at Christmas time, the God-Man carried first in the arms of His Mother, gathering His strength and nourishing His life at her virginal breast; so the mystical body of the Man-God, the Holy Church, received, in its first years, the same care from Mary as the divine Child our Emmanuel....

"No wonder that in Jerusalem, favoured with so august a presence, the first group of the faithful rose unanimously above the observance of the precepts to the perfection of the counsels; they persevered in prayer, praising God in gladness and simplicity of heart, having favour with all the people; and they were of one heart and one soul. This happy community could not but be an image of heaven on earth, since the Queen of heaven was a member of it; the example of her life, her all-powerful intercession, her merits more vast than all the united treasurers of all created sanctities, was Mary's contribution to this blessed family where all things were common to all.

"From the hill of Sion, however, the Church had spread its branches over every mountain and every sea; the vineyard of the King of Peace was extended among all nations; it was time to let it out to the keepers appointed to guard it for the Spouse. It was a solemn moment; a new phase in the history of our salvation was about to begin: Thou that dwellest in the gardens, the friends hearken: make me hear Thy voice [Cant. 8:13]. The Spouse, the Church on earth, the Church in heaven: all were waiting for her, who had tended the vine and strengthened its roots, to utter a word such as that which had heretofore brought down the Spouse to earth. But today heaven, not earth, was to be the gainer."

Commentary from The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger, O.S.B. (1805-1875).

Although Dom Guéranger says here that it was "heaven, not earth, was to be the gainer", we know that Our Mother Mary, as Queen of Heaven, is looking over us as our helper and guide in our journey through this life.

Mary, Assumed into Heaven, pray for us.

Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1st & 3rd Saturday
15th Aug & 5th Sept 6:30pm (Vigil)

— WEEKDAY MASSES —

Mon no Mass
Tue-Thu 11th-13th Aug no Masses
Fri 14th Aug 7:30am
Sat 9:30am

— CONFESSION —

30 minutes prior to each Mass
& during Holy Hour

— DEVOTIONS —

Mon 3:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Tue 7:00pm no Holy Hour 11th Aug
Fri 24 hours First Friday Adoration
Fri 7:00pm First Friday Holy Hour
Sun 10:00am Rosary (Chapel)

— DIARY —

August

Sat 8th Parish Trivia Night
Sun 9th Baptism Preparation Session
Fri 14th Feast of the Assumption
School Mass – 9:30am
Fri 14th Providence & Friends Anointing Mass
Sat 15th Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun 16th "eXpresso alfresco" coffee van
Thu 20th St Bernard of Clairvaux Feast Day
Sun 23rd St Bernard's Feast Day celebration

September

Fri 4th First Friday Holy Hour
Sun 6th Father's Day
Mon 17th Fr Stephen Wang
Parent & Carer School Session

October

22nd – 25th Christus Rex Pilgrimage
Ballarat to Bendigo

— 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 MASSES CANCELLED

As Fr John Paul will be attending the Clergy Conference next week, there will be no morning weekday Masses on Tuesday 11th to Thursday 13th, and Holy Hour on Tuesday evening is also cancelled.

Fr will be back to celebrate 7:30am Mass on Friday 14th August.

PROVIDENCE & FRIENDS MASS

Friday 14th August 2026

Parishioners are invited to the monthly Providence & Friends Mass on Friday 14th August, 11am at Providence Village.

This will be an Anointing Mass. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea/lunch.

If transport is required, please let the Parish Office know or call Margot Short on 0419 507 438.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Saturday 15th August

Dear God, on this Feast of the Assumption, I seek Your grace and blessings. May the celebration of Mary's Assumption into Heaven inspire me to live a life of purity and devotion. Help me to embrace the virtues of humility and faith, reflecting the holiness of Mary in my actions. Guide me to walk in Your light and strengthen my commitment to follow Your will. May I also be mindful of Your guidance and blessings in my life. Amen.

EXPRESSO ALFRESCO

Sunday 16th August 2026

Next Sunday, we look forward to hot drinks being served by Maria and Lucas from their coffee van after the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses.

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

Susan Lau

Death Anniversaries

Leonard Condon, Jack Dannatt, Judith Delahey,
Maggie Gomez, Eileen Hutchinson,
Milos Kratochvil, Moya McGonegal, Liz Shelly,
Edward Tudball.

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

— 2026 ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN —

Sunday 9th, 16th & 23rd August 2026

The 2026 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and everyone is asked to consider a one-time or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. Information brochures can be found around the church.

Online (via direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating and can be made using the QR code provided. You can also donate through the supplied campaign envelopes, or anonymously with cash directly into the collection plate during the campaign weekends.

— "WALKING WITH OUR CHILDREN TOWARD CHRIST" —

Monday 17th August 2026, 2:00-3:00pm

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 & Carer session, 2-3pm in the school's staff room. Parishioners are all welcome to join.

For more information, please contact Sr Mary Sarah at melbourne@op-tn.org.

— AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL CENSUS —

Shape the Future: Be Counted as Catholic this Census

Australia's national Census will be held this Tuesday 11th August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.

— 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

August - Rosabella

Ministers : 15th & 16th August

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Sonia Smith	Colin Remedios	Jan Farmelo
8:30am	Peter Kennedy	Margot Short	Jennifer Taylor
10:30am	Allan McManus	Vanina Isah	Cheryl Stevens

— 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

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Responsorial Psalm Psalms 84:9-14

R: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Response

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

Response

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Response

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation Psalms 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

Communion Antiphon

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

— Next Sunday —

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

First Reading	Isaiah 56:1, 6-7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 66:2-3, 5-6, 8
Second Reading	Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
Gospel	Matthew 15:21-28