



ST. BERNARD'S

— BACCHUS MARSH PARISH —

Parish Priest | Rev. Fr. John Paul Mount



YEAR A

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

27th September 2026

— COMPENDIUM PRAYER : WEEK 1 —

Prayer is "helplessness casting itself on Power, infirmity leaning on Strength, misery reaching to Mercy, and a prisoner clamouring for Relief." (Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen). You will find many such beautiful descriptions of prayer amongst the saints. While I'm on holidays, the front page of the newsletter will have selections of what the Compendium of the Catholic Church writes on prayer. The *Compendium* is a summary of the *Catechism* in a 'question and answer' form.

Compendium of the Catholic Church: PRAYER. *"I love you, Lord, and the only grace I ask is to love you eternally. ... My God, if my tongue cannot say in every moment that I love you, I want my heart to repeat it to you as often as I draw breath."* (The Curé of Ars, Saint John Mary Vianney)

534. What is prayer? Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God, or the petition of good things from him in accord with his will. It is always the gift of God who comes to encounter man. Christian prayer is the personal and living relationship of the children of God with their Father who is infinitely good, with his Son Jesus Christ, and with the Holy Spirit who dwells in their hearts.

CHAPTER ONE The Revelation of Prayer

535. Why is there a universal call to prayer? Because through creation God first calls every being from nothingness. Even after the Fall man continues to be capable of recognizing his Creator and retains a desire for the One who has called him into existence. All religions, and the whole history of salvation in particular, bear witness to this human desire for God. It is God first of all, however, who ceaselessly draws every person to the mysterious encounter known as prayer.

540. What is the importance of the Psalms in prayer? The Psalms are the summit of prayer in the Old Testament: the Word of God become the prayer of man. Inseparably both personal and communal, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, this prayer sings of God's marvelous deeds in creation and in the history of salvation. Christ prayed the Psalms and brought them to fulfillment. Thus they remain an essential and permanent element of the prayer of the Church suited to people of every condition and time.

542. When did Jesus pray? The Gospel often shows Jesus at prayer. We see him draw apart to pray in solitude, even at night. He prays before the decisive moments of his mission or that of his apostles. In fact, all his life is a prayer because he is in a constant communion of love with the Father.

543. How did Jesus pray during his passion? The prayer of Jesus during his agony in the garden of Gethsemani and his last words on the cross reveal the depth of his filial prayer. Jesus brings to completion the loving plan of the Father and takes upon himself all the anguish of humanity and all the petitions and intercessions of the history of salvation. He presents them to the Father who accepts them and answers them beyond all hope by raising his Son from the dead.

546. How did the Virgin Mary pray? Mary's prayer was characterized by faith and by the generous offering of her whole being to God. The Mother of Jesus is also the new Eve, the "Mother of all the living". She prays to Jesus for the needs of all people.

— SUNDAY MASSES —

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

OLHC, Korobeit

1st & 3rd Saturday

Sat 3 rd Oct	6:30pm Mass cancelled
17 th Oct	6:30pm (Vigil)

— WEEKDAY MASSES —

Mon	no Mass
Tue 22 nd Sept	9:30am
to Fri 2 nd Oct	during school holidays
Sat 26 th Sept & 3 rd Oct	9:30am cancelled

— CONFESSION —

30 minutes prior to each Mass
& during Holy Hour

— DEVOTIONS —

Mon	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
Tue	7:00pm	Holy Hour cancelled 29 th Sept & 6 th Oct
Fri	24 hours	First Friday Adoration
Fri	7:00pm	First Friday Holy Hour 2 nd Oct cancelled
Sun	10:00am	Rosary (Chapel)

— DIARY —

October

Mon	5 th	School Term 4 commences
Sun	11 th	Morning Tea after 8:30am Mass
Sun	11 th	Baptism Preparation Session
Wed	14 th	Combined Churches prayer meeting
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

Sun	1 st	All Saints
Mon	2 nd	All Souls Day
Tue	3 rd	Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday

— 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

AMENDMENT TO SERVICES

21st September to 12th October

Weekday Masses during the school holidays will be held at 9:30am, Tuesday-Friday, 22nd September to 2nd October.

9:30am Masses on Saturday 26th September and 3rd October are cancelled.

Also, 6:30pm Mass at Korobeit on Saturday 3rd October is cancelled.

Holy Hour on the Tuesday evenings of 29th September and 6th October are both cancelled.

First Friday Holy Hour on Friday 2nd October is also cancelled.

EXPRESSO ALFRESCO

Thanks again to Maria and Lucas, who served hot drinks from their coffee van after the morning Masses last Sunday. \$426 was raised and generously donated back to the Parish.

DEFIBRILLATOR UNITS

The two defibrillator units have now been installed – one in the Parish Centre and one in the Church.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

The Thanksgiving Envelopes for the next six months, October 2026 to March 2027, are currently being prepared, and should be available to collect by next weekend.

DAYLIGHT SAVING

Daylight Savings in Victoria commences on Sunday 4th October 2026. Don't forget to move your analogue clocks forward by one hour from 2:00am next Sunday.

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

Giuliano Di Benedetto

Death Anniversaries

Domenica Amato, Mark Densley, Frank McMahon,
Alma Trask, Edward Wilkison.

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

— ST BERNARD'S BUSH DANCE —

Saturday 7th November 2026

St Bernard's Bush Dance will be held on Saturday 7th November at 6:00pm in the St Bernard's Primary School Recreation Centre. Bring your family and friends to enjoy traditional Australian Bush tunes and guided dances by the Slip Slide Bush Band. No skills needed!

Please bring a plate to share for supper. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided.

Book by scanning the QR code, or by going to <https://www.trybooking.com/DQCUS>

Adults (18+) - \$30

Teens (13-17) - \$10

Child (6-12) - \$5

Child under 6 - Free



Donations for Bush Dance Raffle

The Social & Fundraising Committee would like to ask for donations to help create wonderful raffle prizes to be won at the upcoming bush dance. The proceeds will go towards supporting our parish.

Donations can be left in the Gathering Space of the church after each Mass until Sunday 1st November.

— 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/>

— CATHOLIC SUMMER FAMILY CAMP —

Dromana, 23rd - 25th January 2027

Parishioners at St Bernard are warmly invited to join a Catholic Summer Family Camp for families in the west, 23rd-25th January 2027 at Don Bosco Camp in Dromana. Join us for a relaxed weekend with daily Mass, fellowship with families and lots of time at the beach!

For more information, contact Leeanne and Osta Surjadi or Meg Kennedy via the parish office.

— ROSTERS —

Church Cleaning Teams

Monday 28th September – Anne, Paul, Denise, Maddie, Lisa D, Nuala

Saturday 17th October – Adrian, Allan, Veronica, Brendan, Yenny

Flowers

September – Jenn Costin

October – Rosabella Tuala

Ministers : 3rd & 4th October

Mass	Reader	Holy Communion	Piety Stall
5:00pm	Maureen Zahra	Vicki Benson	Jackie Tabone
8:30am	Moir Ross	Colm Carraghar	Jennifer Taylor
10:30am	Shannon Harvie	Adrian Alimic	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

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalms 24:4-9

R: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Response

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

Response

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.

Response

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling to his equality with God
but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name which is above all other names
so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

Communion Antiphon

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

— Next Sunday —

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

First Reading	Isaiah 5:1-7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 79:9, 12-16, 19-20
Second Reading	Philippians 4:6-9
Gospel	Matthew 21:33-43