



St Anthony's Parish



St Bernard's Parish

67-75 EXFORD ROAD, MELTON SOUTH, 3338.
P.O BOX 2152 MELTON SOUTH 3338
TEL: 9747 9692

61 LERDERBERG STREET, BACCHUS MARSH 3340
TEL: 5367 2069
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, KOROBET
309 MYRNIONG-KOROBET ROAD 3341

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B

11th July 2021

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Fabian Smith
ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint /Father Marcus Goulding

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Lesley Morffew

Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson

Parish Office Hours:

Mon 9.00-1.00pm Tuesday 9.00am-4.00pm
Wednesday 9.00am-5.30pm Thu-Friday 9.00am-4.00pm

Email: meltonsouth@cam.org.au

Website: www.stanthonyofpadua.com.au

St Anthony's School Principal: Damien Schuster

Wilson Road, Melton South 3338

Phone: 8099 7800

Email: principal@sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.sameltonsth.catholic.edu.au

ST BERNARD'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Dolores Turcsan

Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson

Sacramental Coordinator/ Bookkeeper: Naim Chdid

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday 9.00am-1.00pm

Email: bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au

Website: www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au

St Bernard's School Principal: Emilio Scalzo

19a Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Phone: (03) 5366 5800

Email: principal@sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Regional College - Melton (Years 7-12)

Principal: Marlene Jorgensen **Phone:** 8099 6000

Website: www.crcmelton.com.au

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Sue Alexander	0400 171 843
Naim Chdid	0437 004 790
Lillian Christian - Vice Chair	0400 441 257
Stephen Fernandes	0439 743 533
Amy Honrade	9747 0078
Rose Ma'ae	0460 672 571

EX-OFFICIO:

Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint, Fr Marcus Goulding
and Damien Schuster Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Shane Cook -School Advisory Board	0419 999 052
Peter Farren	0418 594 501
Peter Kennedy	0407 778 119
Maira Ross	0400 675 056
Aaron Russell - Chair	0401 927 502

EX-OFFICIO:

Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint, Fr Marcus Goulding
and Emilio Scalzo

CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

Coordinator: Godwin Barton (0425 734 449) **Officers:** St Anthony's -Karina Dunne, Lorraine Tellis & Geetha Vincent
St Bernard's -Dolores Turcsan



St Anthony's
QR code

Location code E2B Y8D



St Bernard's
QR code

Location code C7N T6M

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S 12/7-18/7 MELTON SOUTH

MASS TIMES:

Monday 12th July	6.30pm
Tuesday 13th July	9.30am
Adoration & Confessions	5:30pm
Novena to St Anthony followed by Benediction	6.15pm
Mass	6.30pm
Wednesday 14th July	7.30am (Chapel) & 9.30am
Thursday 15th July St Bonaventure	9.30am
Friday 16th July	7.30am (Chapel) & 9.30am

**PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION
REGARDING WEEKEND MASS BOOKINGS**
St Anthony of Padua Catholic Parish | Melton South

Saturday Vigil 17th July:	5.00pm
Sunday 18th July:	8.30am
	10.30am
	5.00pm

Attendees at all Masses must wear masks and check-in with the QR code upon arrival.

Confession

Monday—No Confession
 Tuesday-Sunday-Confession available 30 minutes prior to Mass

ST BERNARD'S 12/7-18/7 BACCHUS MARSH

MASS TIMES:

Monday 12th July*	No Mass
Tuesday 13th July **	7.30am
Wednesday 14th July	9.30am
Thursday 15th July St Bonaventure	7.30am
Friday 16th July	9.30am
Saturday Vigil 17th July	5.00pm
Sunday 18th July	8.30am
	10.30am

* Rosary and Adoration every Monday evening 7.30pm
 ** A Holy Hour of Eucharist Adoration will be held every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm

Attendees at all Masses must wear masks and check-in with the QR code upon arrival.

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

KOROBET

MASS TIME

Saturday Vigil	6.30pm
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PARISHIONER'S FIRST COLLECTION/SECOND COLLECTION

Parishioners who normally give cash each weekend for the collections, if they wish to donate, are now able to go to the link below and make their payments online.

The link to the St Anthony's Parish is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMeltonSouth>

The link to the St Bernard's Parish is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayBacchusMarsh>

Please put your name and thanksgiving number if you know it as a reference.

If you need a Priest in the case of an emergency please call 0403 435 471

REFLECTION ON THE PAST

We can all remember something we regretted in the past, a time when we wished we had acted in another way, not hurt that person, said those angry words and this can often haunt us and keep returning to our minds. Even more so, we remember the hurts we experienced from others.

Jesus sent the apostles off on a mission, giving instructions how to act, what to do if they were not welcome. They must have been fearful, feeling quite inadequate to the task. The humble fishermen had little training, yet off they went. One instruction of Jesus was to "shake the dust off your feet if not welcome". Maybe they felt angry, when this happened, a failure, not wanted and carried their anger with them.

At a seminar once we were told that carrying these regrets, angers etc. with us, was like dragging a black bag behind us all the time. They slowed us down, affected our reactions and our relationships with others.

In 1888 St Mary MacKillop wrote to her Sisters: "Help one another on and forgive and forget anything painful in the past".
 Easier said than done? But brings health and healing.

Sr Mary Fermi rsj

PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

ST BERNARD'S

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL 2021-GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS- MOTHER AND BABIES HOME

NEXT WEEKEND 17th & 18th July

Next weekend we will invite parishioners to support the essential work of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand. The Good Shepherd Sisters have a mission to build partnerships that promote the dignity and human rights of all, especially women and children. In doing so, the Sisters run a variety of projects, including a Mother and Babies Home, which offers pregnant women and young mothers support, community, and training.

Through this appeal, parishioners are given the opportunity to help continue this vital work in Thailand.

MARY MACKILLOP HERITAGE CENTRE- OPEN DAY- CELEBRATING ST MARY MACKILLOP FEAST DAY

Saturday 7th August 10.00am-4.00pm

Mass at 12.30pm in the Chapel -celebrant Fr Peter Malone

Morning tea and light lunch options available for purchase

362 Albert St, East Melbourne

Please check website for updates including links to virtual tours mmhc.org.au



ARCHBISHOP PETER'S VISIT

Archbishop Peter will visit our Parish on **Sunday 25th July (10.30am Mass)** to bless our newly renovated Church.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Donations are most welcome non perishable items within the use by date can be left in the 'drop box' in the Church foyer.

We cannot accept re-packaged food. Thank you.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE WORKING BEE

There will be a Thanksgiving Envelope Working Bee this Tuesday after 9.30am Mass. Any help would be appreciated. Morning tea will be provided.

St Bonaventure-Feast Day 15th July

The legend is told that in the early decades of the 13th Century, a mother was grieving terribly that her young son, John, was becoming increasingly sick and looked as though he were going to die. Desperate for a miracle, she turned to the most saintly man in all of Christendom—in fact, one of the most saintly men that the world had ever known: Saint Francis of Assisi.

When his mother arrived in the company of Francis, the saint raised John's little body to Heaven, asking God for a miracle. After his prayer, Francis was assured that the young boy had been healed, but then something quite unexpected happened. As Francis handed John back to his mother, Francis received a flash of prophecy about the enormously holy and wonderful life that this child would live. Francis stared into John's eyes and exclaimed: "O buona ventura!" ("Oh, good fortune!") The name stuck. From then on, the child was no longer named "John," but "Bonaventure."

Though some historians doubt the precise validity of this story, Bonaventure himself writes that he was deathly ill as a child, but through the intercession of Saint Francis, he was completely restored to health. Bonaventure goes so far as to write that he was "snatched from the jaws of death" through Francis' intercession.

Source: Seton Magazine

LATIN MASS

Latin Mass will not be held on 10th and 17th July. Latin Mass will resume on 24th July.

PIETY STALL

The Piety Stall will open on Sundays 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after 10.30am Mass.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Last weekend we had a special collection for Peter's Pence. We collected \$300.00. Thank you for your generosity.

WANTED: EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST.

During the last months we have lost Ministers for Sunday Masses. If you feel called to be part of this Ministry, to serve the people of God in our parish, please contact Sr Mary Fermio PH 53672078 and training can be provided. Thank you



St Bonaventure

WORSHIP NEWS

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT AND VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 17th & 18th July
Please present yourself to the Mass Coordinator 15 minutes before the scheduled Mass time or a replacement will be found. Thank you.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm Vigil: Stephen Fernandes

8.30am: John Brewis

10.30am: Faustina Ma'ae

5.00pm: Dolores Turcsan

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm Vigil: Philip Anyayahan & Ann Tennakoon

8.30am: Geoff Sutton & Lois Brewis

10.30am: Richard Tuala & Elaine Lacey

5.00pm Not rostered

If you are unavailable for these dates please contact Lesley at the Parish Office Thank you

MASS COORDINATORS

5.00pm Vigil: Annonica & Godwin

8.30am: Lina & Julie

10.30am: Deepa & Godwin

5.00pm: Godwin & Olen

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time:

John Burton, Clive La Rose, Fonoti Sepelini Ma'ae, Charlie Magri, Mabel McShane, William Mullins, Estanislao Sanchez, Grace Vella & Mary Abela Wadge.

Please pray for the Sick: Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Melanie Fue Bruce Hynes, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Reg Marslen, Damien Michael, Kevin Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Maiava Kuno Nickol, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Sherine Pereira, Peter Poole, Irene Rahilly, Catherine Roberts, Peter Roberts, Pat Roberts, Charlie Spiteri, Janko Stojanovic, Uatoa Tuigamala, Dolores Turcsan, Clint Abela Wadge, Wai Walsh & John Xuereb and all those who have requested our prayers. (PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST)

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father we lift up all those who are facing illness. We ask that You bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of your love. Amen



ST BERNARD'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 17th & 18th July

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm: Trish Davine

8.30am: Gerard Harrington

10.30am: Beatrice Younger

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm: Colin Remedios

8.30am: Carol Jones

10.30am: Volunteer needed

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

July: Josephite Associates
c/- Carmel Shea

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time:

Kevin Barry, Victor Carter, Brother Jason Duck, Kitty Marshall, John Spice, & Leonard Trask.

Please pray for the Sick:

Patricia Allison, Noah Barlow, Chaiel Balcombe, Michael Barrett, Peter Bennett, Steven Braszel, Tina Bower, John Canty, Fred Capuano, Gary Ching, Chris, Josephine Cilia, Robyn Cola, Ted Cooling, Marianne Cuskelly, Lindsay & Kathleen Dally, Judy Delahey, Jack DeLuca, Theresa Dockter, Allison Evans, Helen Evans, Justin Fernandez, Pasquale Gagliarbi, Mario Galea, Cynthia Goodyear, Gwen Green, Joe Gristi, Adam Hillier, Leonie Kervin, Elle Hillman, Kiahni Holamotutama, Alicia Holborn, Chaiel Jackson, Matthew Jansen, David Kasprzak, Michael Larkin, Marie Maloney, Patricia Marechal, Brian Marshall, Debbie Marshall, Jordanis Mary Pauline McDonald, Ian McKechnie, Marcus Meno, Paul Mullin, Arthur Pape, Michael Paterson, Georgia Peacock, Mitchell Prendergast, Peter Roberts, Ken Shaw, Terry Sims, Marian Smith, Elizabeth Stehmann, Catherine Time, Susan Trist, Dolores Turcsan, Stephen Van Eede, John Van Orsouw, Angela Vicum, Louis Vogels, Barry Walsh, Cath Wheelahan, Jayne Wilkins, Patricia Yazbek, & Betty Young.

(PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED ON THIS LIST)

SERVICE / COMMUNITY

ALL VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PARISH MUST HAVE A CURRENT AND VALID WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

ST ANTHONY'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS: 17th & 18th July

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Liza Fernandes
8.30am: Judy Johnson
10.30am: Geetha Vincent

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS 24th & 25th July

5.00pm Vigil: Julie Sequiera & Cristal D'Souza
8.30am: Scanlon & Agnes Faave
10.30am: Archbishop Peter's Visit

CHURCH FLOWERS

July: Rosabella



CHURCH CLEANING

Lorelle Porter and a Team of Volunteers.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Welfare Number: 1800 305 330

The Melton South Conference meet every 3rd Tuesday morning in the Meeting Room 10.30am.

New members most welcome, training provided. Non perishable items within the use by date can be left in the 'drop box' in the Church foyer.

We cannot accept re-packaged food. Thank you.

COMBINED CHURCHES CARING MELTON INC

We're here to support City of Melton residents get ahead through access to our foodbank and other community programs. It's never just about the food or the budget help, it's about recognising the beauty that is in the person and bringing it out so they can be their best.

Address: 100 Coburn Road Melton South 9747 6811

ST BERNARD'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS : 17th & 18th July

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Sunday: Carmel Shea

CHURCH FLOWERS

July: Tup Shea



PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-

Front Garden:

Back/Side Garden:

Parish Centre: Roster Pending

Carpark/Pines:

Back Paddock:

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Welfare Number is 1800 305 330.

The Vinnies Store is located at 8 Grant Street, Bacchus Marsh. The store is open 7 days a week. If you are able to volunteer and would like some more information, please contact the Store Manager on 8199 4205.

THE NEIGHBOURS PLACE

The Neighbours' Place is a Christian not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to serve people of the **Moorabool Shire**, west of Melbourne Australia, who are disadvantaged, at risk or temporarily unable to feed themselves or their family and who are in need of emergency food relief.

NILS is a **No Interest Loans Scheme** for assistance of up \$1500 for things like white goods, furniture and minor car repairs to keep life going.

We are located at [77 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh](#)

Phone: 03 5367 6222

Email: neighbourspl@iinet.net.au

Hours of Operation: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-12.30pm. Closed on public holidays.

SOUL FOOD

Soul Food provides a free community meal each Wednesday (excluding school holidays), in the Uniting Church Hall, Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh. Meals are served up at 12noon. All are welcome and this is a free event. No need to book, just come along.

PARISH CENTRE BOOKING

Tel: 5367 3427 Mon—Fri 9.00am to 6.00pm

Hall Managers: Marie & Terry Casey

God, strengthen and sustain all those who volunteer in our Churches; that with patience and understanding they may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow with Jesus Christ offering to you their gifts and talents.

Amen



FAITH FORMATION

ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM– ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S

The Baptism Preparation Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Time: **6.30pm-7.45pm.**

Next preparation meeting : **Thursday 22nd July 2021**

Location: **The MacKillop Room, St Anthony's Church**

Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

Both parents are required to attend these meetings. **We kindly request adults only** and a copy of the birth certificate. **Please be advised that Baptism applications must be submitted 2 months in advance.**

Visit our website for detailed information and application forms.

Please contact the Parish Office if you have any queries.

BAPTISM TEAM: St Anthony's: **Judy Johnson** St Bernard's: **Dolores Turcsan**

ADULT PREPARATION Adult preparation for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation are through the R.C.I.A Program. Please see Fr Fabian, Fr Marcus or Fr Lucas .



FATIMA STATUE—ST ANTHONY'S

These families are praying together for the mission of the Parish:



Group 1: Stephen & Liza Fernandes 0439 743 533

Group 2: Anna Taunnu 0406 503 363

Group 3: Nirmala Meegama 0452 200 344

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

1st Sunday of the Month-3.00pm

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



NEO-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN 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,

[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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

FIRST READING Amos 7:12-15

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 84

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

All: 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,
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

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

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

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

NEXT WEEK'S READING

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jer 23:1-6;

Second Reading: Eph 2:13-18;

Gospel: Mk 6:30-34



SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.
Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ,
to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence,
determined that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus
Christ

for his own kind purposes,
to make us praise the glory of his grace,
his free gift to us in the Beloved
in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of
our sins.

Such is the richness of the grace
which he has showered on us
in all wisdom and insight.

He has let us know the mystery of his purpose,
the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning
to act upon when the times had run their course to the end:
that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head,
everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own,
chosen from the beginning,
under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things
as he decides by his own will;
chosen to be,

for his greater glory,
the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came.
Now you too, in him,
have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your sal-
vation,
and have believed it:

and you have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the
Promise,
the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom
God has taken for his own,
to make his glory praised.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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 Mark 6:7-13

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in
pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he
instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff -
no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were
to wear sandals, but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And
he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until
you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you
and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off
the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off
to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and
anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year of Saint Joseph XVIII

Theological reflections on Saint Joseph (7)

Prayer to Saint Joseph

It goes without saying that the surest sign of personal devotion to Saint Joseph is manifested by praying to him frequently. His good friends have always called upon him in time of need, when in doubt or discouraged.

We are not only speaking of the prayer of petition. We should of course ask the saints to help us in our material needs, such as finding a job or succeeding in our work. But here we are thinking of prayer on a deeper level. In this perspective, we should pray to Joseph in order to have a greater appreciation of the meaning of religion and the practice of virtue. More important still, we should pray to him to gain a better understanding of a genuine, authentic *Christian life* — that is, of a life that is lived in Christ and with Christ and for Christ.

Saint Teresa of Avila, the great apostle of devotion to Saint Joseph, is truly outstanding in explaining the manner in which we should pray to Joseph. She writes in her *Autobiography*:

“I took the glorious Saint Joseph for my advocate and protector, and commended myself earnestly to him; and it was clearly he who both healed me of this sickness and delivered me from great dangers that threatened my good name and the salvation of my soul. His aid has brought me more good than I could ever hope for from him, I do not remember once having asked anything of him that was not granted ... God seems to have given other saints power to help us in particular circumstances, but *I know from experience* that this glorious Saint Joseph helps in each and every need. Our Lord would have us understand that, since on earth He was subject to this man who was called His father, whom as His guardian He had to obey, so now in heaven *He still does all that Joseph asks*. Others, who have turned to Joseph on my advice, have had the like experience; and today there are many people who honour him *and keep on finding out the truth of what I say.*”

By Michael D. Griffin OCD, www.catholicculture.org

Teresa discovered this from her own personal experience. And she assures us that those who follow her example have learned that she was telling them the truth. Teresa grew in devotion to Saint Joseph through her meditation on the infancy scenes of the Gospels. As she reflected on the perfect obedience that Christ practised towards Joseph on earth, she concluded that Our Lord would refuse him no request. That is why she reasoned that Joseph was able to obtain a favourable answer to all his petitions, whereas other saints can only help in particular circumstances. Pope Pius XI was later to confirm this intuition of Teresa when he spoke of “an almost omnipotent power” that Joseph still has over the heart of Christ.

Teresa continues: “Of all the people I have known with a true devotion and particular veneration for Saint Joseph, not one has failed to advance in virtue; he helps those who turn to him to make real progress. For several years now, I believe, I have always made some request to him on his feast day, and it was always been granted; and when my request is not quite what it ought to be, he puts it right for my greater benefit.”

Then Teresa reminds us: “I do not know how anyone can think of the Queen of angels, at the time when she was undergoing so much with the Child Jesus, without giving thanks to Saint Joseph for looking after them in the way he did. If anyone has not a guide to teach him how to pray, let him take this glorious saint as his master and he will not go astray.”

For Teresa, Saint Joseph was truly *the patron and master of the interior life*; and those interested in cultivating the interior life of personal intimacy with Jesus and Mary should take him as their master and guide. She asserts that those who complain that they do not understand how to pray properly, or who feel that they are not making progress in the art of genuinely and sincerely conversing with Christ, need not despair — even if they can find no director to help them. If they turn to Joseph and take him as a father they will never go astray or fail to make real spiritual progress.