



# 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 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-YEAR B

29th August 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:

Closed during lockdown

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:

Closed during lockdown

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 30/8- 5/9 MELTON SOUTH

ST BERNARD'S 30/8-5/9 BACCHUS MARSH

### MASS TIMES:

**PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ON THE CURRENT LOCKDOWN, RESTRICTIONS AND THE RETURN OF MASS BOOKINGS**

[St Anthony of Padua Catholic Parish | Melton South](#)

### MASS TIMES:

**PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ON THE CURRENT LOCKDOWN & RESTRICTIONS**

[St Bernard's Catholic Parish | Bacchus Marsh](#)  
([stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au](http://stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au))

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

KOROBEIT

### MASS TIME

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

### 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.

### **REFLECTION SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**

Sometimes we perform actions automatically – particularly pertaining to our faith practice. Maybe we should ask ourselves Why? At this time? In this place? Outward show?

Jesus does not want lip service, but our hearts - not obedience to human regulations, but to live the commandment of love, which is giving justice to the needs of others. Jesus said we would be called to account for feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, clothing the naked, taking in the homeless. When we look at what is happening in Afghanistan, we see little social justice for their future. By rescuing them we are fulfilling what Jesus has asked us to do.

As we continue our journey of faith, may we be open to listening with our hearts as to whether we are honouring God with lip-service or do our hearts lead us into the way of Jesus. Let us pray for those denied justice, for refugees, for those without hope. There is a silent rally taking place across the world – each day, one minutes silence at Noon, (or any other time) to listen to God, for an end to this pandemic and for those in need. A beautiful story of hope is **THE FOUR CANDLES** found on Google or Internet.

Sr Mary Fermio rsj



# PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

ST ANTHONY'S

ST BERNARD'S

### THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Get to know the love of the Lord Jesus and the joy of His Gospel! Our parish will be starting the next cycle of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) soon! RCIA is the formation course for people who are thinking about becoming Catholic. Join us for an inquiry session: 7.30pm Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 St Anthony's Church Meeting Room  
Find out more and register at:

[www.stanthonyofpadua.com.au/rcia](http://www.stanthonyofpadua.com.au/rcia)

[www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au/rcia](http://www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au/rcia)

### VARIOUS ITEMS FREE TO GOOD HOME

The following items are free to a good home: a new single fold-up bed, single blow-up mattress, and new single quilt and bedding set, as well as a used reclining armchair. If you would like any of these items, please contact Fr Marcus at [marcus.goulding@cam.org.au](mailto:marcus.goulding@cam.org.au)

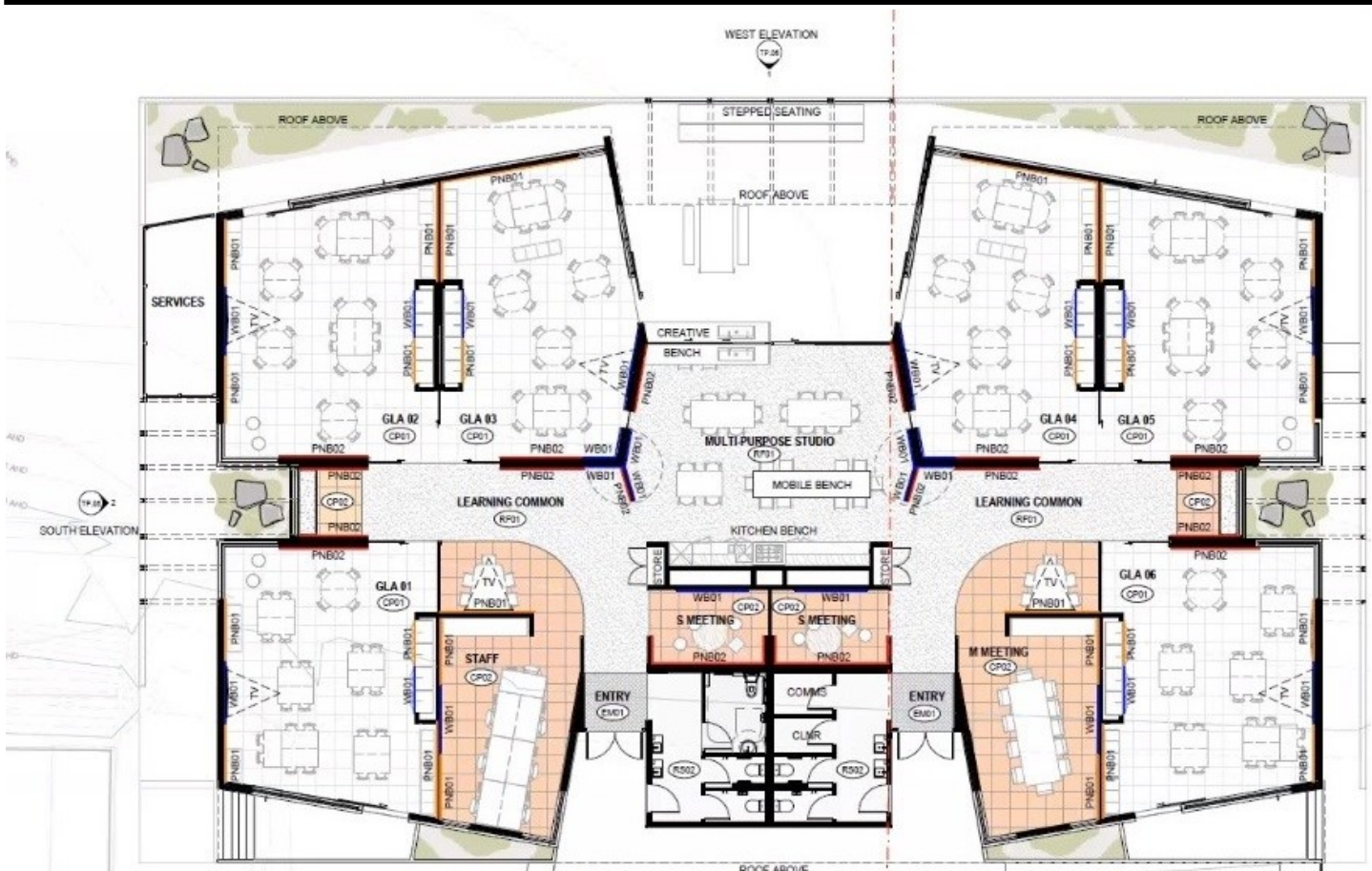
### MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 107th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters! In the Encyclical Fratelli Tutti, I expressed a concern and a hope that remain uppermost in my thoughts: "Once this health crisis passes, our worst response would be to plunge even more deeply into feverish consumerism and new forms of egotistic self-preservation. God willing, after all this, we will think no longer in terms of 'them' and 'those', but only 'us'" (No. 35). For this reason, I have wished to devote the Message for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees to the theme, Towards An Ever Wider "We", in order to indicate a clear horizon for our common journey in this world.

Source: <https://migrants-refugees.va/resource-center/world-day-of-migrants-refugees-2021/>

### St BERNARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Bernard's Primary School is pleased to announce the commencement of a six classroom building. It is anticipated that the building will be completed early in 2022. See plans below.



## WORSHIP NEWS

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

### ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

**NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER:** 4th & 5th September  
**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:**  
**8.30am:** To be advised  
**10.30am:**  
**5.00pm:**

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**5.00pm Vigil:**  
**8.30am:** To be advised  
**10.30am:**  
**5.00pm**

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

#### **MASS COORDINATORS**

**5.00pm Vigil:**  
**8.30am:** To be advised  
**10.30am:**  
**5.00pm:**

### ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Gloria Ainsworth, Alvin-John Bugeja, Dorette Turcsan & Giovanni Viscosi

**Please pray for the Sick:** Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Melanie Fue Bruce Hynes, Judy Layton, Peter Manicaro, Reg Marslen, Lisa Melia, Damien Michael, Tony Michael, Veronica Michael, Maiava Kuno Nickol, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Peter Poole, Irene Rahilly, Catherine Roberts, Peter Roberts, Pat Roberts, Charlie Spiteri, Janko Stojanovic, Uatoa Tuigamala, Dolores Turcsan, Clint Abela Wadge & Wai Walsh 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:** 4th & 5th September

#### **MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

**5.00pm:** John Thorne  
**8.30am:** Margaret Love  
**10.30am:** Lindorff Family

#### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**5.00pm:** Stuart Robertson  
**8.30am:** Peter Lafranchi  
**10.30am:** Tup Shea

#### **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**September:** Sr Mary Fermio

### ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Gilly Gleeson, Ashley Hine, Joan Kervin, Denis Leahy, Phillip Lennox, Kathleen Martin, Nathan Prince & Robert Taylor.

**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: 4th & 5th September

#### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Lorraine Tellis  
8.30am: Pat Chiles  
10.30am: Elizabeth Underwood

#### CUPPA VOLUNTEERS 25th & 26th September

5.00pm Vigil: Kalolaine Fonua & Ann Tennakoon  
8.30am: Sosefo and Vaioleti Finau  
10.30am: Gladys Clarke & Judy Van Hoos

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

September: Ropeta



#### 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 : 4th & 5th September

#### PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Sunday: Jan & Colm

#### CHURCH FLOWERS

September: Francis McDaid



#### PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

September: Colm Carragher

#### 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](mailto: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**

Next preparation meeting :**Thursday 23rd September**

Location: **Mary 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: Wayne & Marian Muller 0400 007 286

Group 2: David & Anne Leheny 0405 621 232

Group 3: Anthony & Mary Saliba 0418 358 090

### 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**

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** Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 14**

**Commentator:** The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

**All:** The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart.

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

### **NEXT WEEK'S READING**

#### **23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B**

**First Reading:** Is 35:4-7;

**Second Reading:** James 2:1-5;

**Gospel:** Mk 7:31-37



### **SECOND READING** James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoil religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,  
that we might be as the first fruit of his creation.

Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL** Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,  
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,  
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these things come from within and make a man unclean.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

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

# Saint Anthony of Padua I

## One of the Church's most popular saints

Saint Anthony of Padua, patron saint of lost and stolen articles, was a powerful Franciscan preacher and teacher. He's typically portrayed holding the child Jesus — or a lily — or a book — or all three — in his arms.

St Anthony of Padua's life is what every Christian's life is meant to be: a steady courage to face the ups and downs of life, the call to love and forgive, to be concerned for the needs of others, to deal with crises great and small, and to have our feet solidly on the ground of total trusting love and dependence on God.

St Anthony is beloved throughout the world and is responsive to all people and all needs. His intercessory powers before our God are awesome.

Legends about Anthony abound. But let's turn to the known facts about him. Anthony was born in 1195 (13 years after St Francis) in Lisbon, Portugal, and given the name of Fernando at Baptism. His parents, Martin and Mary Bulhom, apparently belonged to one of the prominent families of the city.

At the age of 15 he entered the religious order of St Augustine. Monastery life was hardly peaceful for young Fernando, nor conducive to prayer and study, as his old friends came to visit frequently and engaged in vehement political discussions. After two years he was sent to Coimbra. There he began nine years of intense study, learning the Augustinian theology that he would later combine with the Franciscan vision. Fernando was probably ordained a priest during this time.

The life of the young priest took a crucial turn when the bodies of the first five Franciscan martyrs were returned from Morocco. They had preached in the mosque in Seville, almost being martyred at the outset, but the sultan allowed them to pass on to Morocco, where, after continuing to preach Christ despite repeated warnings, they were tortured and beheaded. Now, in the presence of the queen and a huge crowd, their remains were carried in solemn procession to Fernando's monastery.

He was overjoyed and inspired to a

momentous decision. He went to the little friary in Coimbra and said: "Brother, I would gladly put on the habit of your Order if you would promise to send me as soon as possible to the land of the Saracens, that I may gain the crown of the holy martyrs." After some challenges from the prior of the Augustinians, he was allowed to leave that priory and receive the Franciscan habit, taking the name Anthony.

True to their promise, the Franciscans allowed Anthony to go to Morocco, to be a witness for Christ, and a martyr as well. But, as often happens, the gift he wanted to give was not the gift that was to be asked of him. He became seriously ill, and after several months realised he had to go home.

He never arrived. His ship ran into storms and high winds and was blown east across the Mediterranean. Months later he arrived on the east coast of Sicily. The friars at nearby Messina welcomed him and began nursing him back to health. Still ailing, he wanted to attend the great Pentecost Chapter of Mats (so called because the 3,000 friars could not be housed and slept on mats). Francis was there, also sick. But history does not reveal any meeting between Francis and Anthony.

He received no assignment at the meeting, so he asked to go with a provincial superior from northern Italy. "Instruct me in the Franciscan life," he asked. Now, like Francis, he had his first choice — a life of seclusion and prayer in a hermitage near Montepaolo.

Perhaps we would never have heard of Anthony if he hadn't gone to an ordination of Dominicans and Franciscans in 1222. As they gathered for a meal afterward, the provincial suggested that one of the friars give a short sermon. Typically, everybody ducked. So, Anthony was asked to give "just something simple" since he presumably had no education.

Anthony too demurred, but finally began to speak in a simple, artless way. The fire within him became evident. His knowledge was unmistakable, but his holiness was what really impressed everyone there.

To be continued