



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

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

30th JANUARY 2022

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: Monday 9.00am-1.00pm
Tue 9am-4pm Wed 9am-5.30pm Thu /Fri 9am-4pm
Email: meltonsouth@cam.org.au
Website: www.stanthonyof padua.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 Lawrence of Brindisi School **Principal:** Bill Hill
31 Waterway Boulevard, Weir Views, 3338
Phone: 0477 155 210
Email: principal@slweirviews.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.slweirviews.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Regional College - Melton (Years 7-12)
Principal: Marlene Jorgensen **Phone:** 8099 6000
109-141 Bulmans Rd, West Melton, 3337 **Website:** www.crcmelton.com.au

ST BERNARD'S PARISH

Parish Secretary: Dolores Turcsan
Admin Assistant: Judy Johnson
Sacramental Coordinator/ Bookkeeper:
Naim Chdid
Parish Office Hours:
Tue-Thu 9am-1pm
Email: bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au
Website: www.stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au

St Bernard's School **Principal:**
19a Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340
Phone: (03) 5366 5800
Email: principal@sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.sbbacchusmarsh.catholic.edu.au

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Natalie Howard - Chair	
Lillian Christian - Vice Chair	0400 441 257
Stephen Fernandes	0439 743 533
Amy Honrade	9747 0078
Natalie Howard - Chair	0492 947 201
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
Moir Ross	0400 675 056
Aaron Russell - Chair	0401 927 502

EX-OFFICIO:
Fr Fabian Smith PP, Fr Lucas Kyaw Myint and Fr Marcus Goulding

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Coordinator: Godwin Barton (0425 734 449) **Officers:** St Anthony's -Karina Dunne, Lorraine Tellis & Geetha Vincent
St Bernard's - Margaret Love (0437 247 779)

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 31/1/22 - 6/2/22

MASS TIMES:

Monday 31/1	6.30pm
Tuesday 1/2	9.30am
5.30pm Holy Hour followed by Mass at	6.30pm
Wednesday 2/2	7.30am & 9.30am
Thursday 3/2	9.30am
Friday 4/2	7.30am & 9.30am
First Friday Devotion	7.30pm & Midnight
First Saturday Devotion 5/2	8.30am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 5/2	5.00pm
Sunday 6/2	8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.
No Confession on Monday

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 31/1/22 - 6/2/22

MASS TIMES:

Monday 31/1	*Rosary 7.30pm
Tuesday 1/2	7.30am
	Holy Hour 7.30pm
Wednesday 2/2	9.30am
Thursday 3/2	7.30am
Friday 4/2	9.30am
Saturday 5/2	9.00am

*Rosary - Prayed every Monday at 7:30pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for one hour.

Sunday Masses

Saturday 5/2	5.00pm
Sunday 6/2	8.30am & 10.30am

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

KOROBEIT

VIGIL MASS

6.30pm

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.

A REFLECTION FROM SR MARY FERMIO

In the past history of our Church, our view of salvation was very narrow-minded. Thank God, Vatican II enlightened us to the fact God loves all people and all are called to share God's life.

The Jewish Leaders decided when and whom God could heal, believing sickness was a punishment from God, so when Jesus pointed out that, in their history, two non-Jews were healed, they could not accept that. They tried to bind God to their strict rules, whereas God is free to choose whoever. Jesus himself healed and forgave anyone who asked, Jew or non-Jew and his teaching reveal this openness to all.

The Ecumenical Movement has been marvellous in opening our lives and hearts to all those good people who pray and are faithful to their culture and beliefs. Churches have worked together to help those in need and to pray together.

In his exhortation *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis speaks of "an attitude of openness in truth and in love".

Let us pray that we may always have this attitude towards those of other faiths.

This picture shows leaders of 12 different faiths praying together.
How wonderful!



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

Take the Way of the Gospel focusses specifically on the realities of our local Church here in the Archdiocese of Melbourne at a pastoral, spiritual and practical level. It's about how we might work together co-operatively with the priests and people of the Archdiocese in strengthening and reinvigorating our parish communities as well as more effectively reaching out with missionary enthusiasm to the communities in which we live.

I trust that the information presented to you has been helpful in understanding the vision of our Archbishop for Melbourne. There were a series of meetings in the Archdiocese since May 2021 where information was presented. I have attended all of the four required meetings. Our parish representatives at these meetings for St Anthony's were Godwin Barton and Naim Chdid; for St Bernard's were Aaron Russell and Margot Short. Each have attended at least two of these meetings. *Take the Way of the Gospel* was presented at these meetings with data and analysis that had been very professionally put together. COVID circumstances meant that it was not possible to gather in person earlier to pass on this information to each of you in parishes. This information will be presented at our parish forums in the parish halls for discussion and discernment with each of the communities in the month of February 2022 (the same information will be presented at all sessions):

St Anthony's Saturday 12th at 6pm & Sunday 20th at 11:30am;

St Bernard's Sunday 6th at 11:30am and Saturday 26th at 6pm with Parish AGM.

ST ANTHONY'S

THANKSGIVING

Dear Parishioners, we are quickly moving towards a cashless Society and our bank is restricting the way we can deposit our collection monies and cheques. **With this in mind we would like you to consider changing your Thanksgiving cash donation to a direct debit.** Your details are entered via a very secure online platform so are very safe. If you would like to or have any questions please call Lesley at the Parish Office Tuesday thru Friday.



St Anthony's Bingo is back! Start time: 7.00pm Finish time 9.45pm. We have 3 sessions per evening with a cost of \$9.00 a set (45 games).

Come and have a great social evening with your fellow parishioners and friends. Coffee and tea is provided and there are canteen services available.

ST BERNARD'S

SAVE THE DATE - FATHER GLASHEEN MASS

A Mass to celebrate Father Glasheen's 50th Anniversary of his Ordination will be held on Sunday May 15, 2022 at 10.30am Mass. More details to follow.

QR CODE FOR DONATIONS

You may have noticed a new QR poster for CDFpay in the foyer .This enables you to quickly scan the QR code with your smart phone and in a few easy steps you can quickly and securely give to your Parish.

One thing we do ask is that you quote what your payment is for in the reference line. If it is for Thanksgiving please put your name or Thanksgiving number in the reference, if you know it. This will make it easier for us to allocate your donation to the right account.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

FORMED

We now have a parish FORMED subscription

FORMED is a Catholic streaming service. We have purchased a parish subscription that you can access for free at home. Please limit yourselves to one account per household. To register under our subscription, follow these steps:

1. Visit <https://signup.formed.org/>
2. Input *St Anthony's & St Bernard's Catholic Parishes* in the "Find your Parish" box.
3. Input your name and email address.
4. Visit formed.org on your preferred device to begin watching.

If you enjoy using FORMED, consider making a donation to our parish to help us keep providing this service.

WORSHIP NEWS

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

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 5th & 6th February

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: Mercy Seufatu

10.30am: Anastasia Mavaega

5.00pm: Rosabella Tuala

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm Vigil: Ann Tennakoon

8.30am: Naim Chdid

10.30am: Doris Bonello

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: Coleen and Godwin

8.30am: Julie and Lillian

10.30am: Annonika and Olen

5.00pm: Leonia and Godwin

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Eunice McRoberts, Rosa Portelli, Andrew Waleryszlek, Mary Winifred Cochrane, Ellen Dodemaide, Stephania Kwiatek and Krystyna Kwiatek

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, Paul Nowak, Caleb O'Brien, John Osborne, Catherine Roberts, Peter Roberts, Pat Roberts, Charlie Spiteri, Janko Stojanovic, Uatoa Tuigamala, Dolores Turcsan, Clint Abela Wadge, Tony Birch and Wai Walsh
and all those who have requested our prayers.

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: 5th & 6th February

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

5.00pm:

8.30am: To be advised

10.30am:

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm:

8.30am: To be advised

10.30am:

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

February: Sr Mary Fermio

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the recently deceased:

Cynthia Camilleri, Zoe Egan, Lorraine Halliwell, and Yvonne Kelekis.

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur

at this time: Olive Andrews, Rodney Arnold, Mary Blood, Nina Cassar, Thelma Crowley, Gary Dodd, Alan Doveston, Richard Evans, Denis Lennox, Jane Reilly, Betty Tregurtha and Martin Vrbec.

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, Bill Shea, 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.

SERVICE / COMMUNITY

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

ST ANTHONY'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS: 5th & 6th February

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Kim Barton

8.30am: Ineke Allen

10.30am: Elizabeth Underwood

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil:

8.30am: To be advised

10.30am:

CHURCH FLOWERS

February: Ana



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

***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



ST BERNARD'S

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS : 5th & 6th February

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Sunday: Sean Giani

CHURCH FLOWERS

February: Deborah Hosking



PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

February: Stephen Millington

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

FAITH FORMATION

ST ANTHONY'S AND ST BERNARD'S

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

Dear Parishioners

Keeping in line with the Archbishop's vision for Mission, the Parishes of St Anthony's and St Bernard's going forward will put together a new Baptism Preparation Program, for any parents who wish to have their child Baptised.



Preparations for Baptisms will take place on Saturdays alternating between both Parishes.

Baptisms will be held on Saturday mornings at 10.30am.

Parents must attend two sessions. Sessions will run from 12.00pm-3.30pm. The new program will begin in

February 2022. Bookings must be made to attend these sessions. More information will be provided in the coming weeks. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

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: John & Rose Ma'ae

0431 386 473

Group 2: Naim Chdid

0437 004 790

Group 3: Josephine German

0478 288 761

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

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

FIRST READING *Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 (JB)*

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me,
saying,

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;
before you came to birth I consecrated you;
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.
So now brace yourself for action.

Stand up and tell them
all I command you.

Do not be dismayed at their presence,
or in their presence I will make you dismayed.

I, for my part, today will make you
into a fortified city,

a pillar of iron,
and a wall of bronze

to confront all this land:

the kings of Judah, its princes,
its priests and the country people.

They will fight against you
but shall not overcome you,

for I am with you to deliver you -
it is the Lord who speaks.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 70

Commentator: I will sing of your salvation.

All: I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
in your justice rescue me, free me:
pay heed to me and save me.

Be a rock where I can take refuge,
a mighty stronghold to save me;
for you are my rock, my stronghold.
Free me from the hand of the wicked.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.
On you I have leaned from my birth,
from my mother's womb you have been my help.

My lips will tell of your justice
and day by day of your help.
O God, you have taught me from my youth
and I proclaim your wonders still.

I will sing of your salvation.

NEWST WEEKEND'S READINGS- FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Is 6:1-8;
Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:1-11;
Gospel: Lk 5:1-11



SECOND READING *1 Corinthians 12:31 - 13:13 (JB)*

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way
that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without
love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the
gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and
knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move
mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away
all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my
body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.
Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never
boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take
offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other peo-
ple's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to
trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the
time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will
not continue for ever; and knowledge - for this, too, the time will
come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our
prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect
things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child,
and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all
childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflec-
tion in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The
knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as
fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and
the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Luke 4:21-30 (JB)*

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, 'This text is being fulfilled
today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they
were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, 'This is Joseph's son surely?' But he replied, 'No doubt
you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me,
"We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here
in your own countryside."' And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no
prophet is ever accepted in his own country.'

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day,
when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a
great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to
any one of these: he was sent to the widow at Zarephath, a Sidoni-
an town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in
Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged.
They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they
took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending
to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and
walked away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your merciful love.

O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Saint Bernard II

St Bernard on pride, Part One

Perhaps you think that AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) invented the idea of the 12 Steps. Well, go back and see how the Medieval Latin scholars used it. In the 12th century, St Bernard of Clairvaux identified 12 steps up the mountain of pride, and another 12 steps down. These are detailed in his work, *Steps of Humility and Pride*.

Today, we focus on the 12 steps up the mountain of pride.

The 12 steps of pride grow more serious as we go along them and lead, ultimately, to the slavery of sin. The steps tend to build on one another, beginning in the mind, moving to outward behaviour, then deepening into an attitude of presumption, and ultimately revolt and a slavery to sin. For, if one does not serve God, one will serve Satan.

Think of these as escalating symptoms:

(1) Curiosity: There is such a thing as healthy curiosity. But curiosity can also lead to sin if we delve into things we should not, either because they are other people's private affairs or because they are not good for us to know. Curiosity becomes tainted with pride when we cast all caution aside, and with a certain indiscreet and privileged sense, we pry, meddle, and look into things we ought not as if we had a right to do so. This is sinful curiosity.

(2) Levity of mind: The tendency to occupy the mind with inappropriate things can grow and lead to a tendency to become superficial in wider matters. Here, too, there is certainly a valid sense of humour and a kind of recreational diversion that has a place in a balanced life. A little light banter about sports or pop culture is perfectly healthy and appropriate. But this can become all we do, and we may be tempted to cast aside matters about which we should be serious. Hours of watching sitcoms and "reality TV" but no time for prayer, instruction in the faith, and wider cultural things of beauty and truth shows a lack of seriousness. When we lightly brush aside what is important to God and substitute our own foolish and trivial interests, we act in pride.

(3) Giddiness: With giddiness, we move from levity of

mind to the frivolous behaviours produced by it, behaviours in which we routinely over-emphasise lightweight experiences and situations at the expense of more meaningful and godly things. We maximise the minimum and minimise the maximum. We find plenty of time for trivia, but little or no time for prayer, works of mercy, or the study of truth and the enjoyment of real beauty.

(4) Boasting: Increasingly locked into our little world of idle thinking and foolish behaviour, we may begin to exult in banal activities and consider such behaviours to be a sign of greatness. We begin to boast of foolish things. The boaster thinks too highly of himself, and either claims qualities he does not really have, or forgets that what genuine good he does have is a grace and a gift. St Paul says: "What have you that you have not received? And if you have received it, why do you boast as though you had not?" (1 Corinthians 4:7). Boasting springs from pride.

(5) Singularity: Ironically, as our world contracts, we think ourselves ever greater. As our pride grows, we easily forget our dependence on God and others for who and what we are. There is no such thing as a self-made man. We are all contingent beings, very dependent on God and others. By relying only on our own counsel, we discount reality and stop seeking information and counsel from others. The man who seeks only his own counsel has a fool for an adviser. Singularity springs from pride.

(6) Self-conceit: Self-conceit means an unduly high opinion of our own abilities or worth. As our world gets ever smaller and our pride ever greater, our self-focus grows ever stronger and we become increasingly self-referential. A thing is now considered true merely because we say it is true. Similarly, we consider ourselves fine because we say we are fine. We deny that all of us are a mixture of strengths and weaknesses, sanctity and sinfulness. We find faults in others but fail to see them in ourselves. We compare ourselves to others whom we look down on and give way to pride.

To be continued