



St Anthony's Parish

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



St Bernard's Parish

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER-YEAR C

8th May 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-12noon
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 10.30am-1.00pm Wed & Thu 9.00am-1.00pm
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

Naim Chid	0437 004 790
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, Damien Schuster and Bill Hill
Council Secretary: Judy Johnson

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Shane Cook -School Advisory Board	0419 999 052
Peter Farren	0418 594 501
Peter Kennedy - Secretary	0407 778 119
Moira 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) Evana Miesen & Ron Geurts

Items for the newsletter must be submitted by Wednesday 1.00pm. Please email judyparishnews@gmail.com or call 0414 007 009

MASS AND DEVOTIONS

ST ANTHONY'S MELTON SOUTH 9/5/22-15/5/22

MASS TIMES:

Monday 9/5	6.30pm
Tuesday 10/5	9.30am
Holy Hour	5.30pm
Week 9 of the St Antony's Novena	6.15pm
followed by Mass at	6.30pm
Wednesday 11/5	7.30am & 9.30am
Thursday 12/5	9.30am
Friday 13/5	7.30am & 9.30am

Sunday Masses

Saturday 14/5	5.00pm
Sunday 15/5	8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

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

ST BERNARD'S BACCHUS MARSH 9/5/22-15/5/22

MASS TIMES:

Monday 9/5	No Mass	Rosary	7.30pm
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for one hour.			
Tuesday 10/5			7.30am
Holy Hour			7.30pm
Wednesday 11/5			9.30am
Thursday 12/5			7.30am
Friday 13/5			9.30am
Saturday 14/5			No Mass
<u>Sunday Masses</u>			
Saturday 14/5			5.00pm
Sunday 15/5			8.30am & 10.30am

Confession available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

KOROBET

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.

REFLECTION 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER-MARY FERMIO rsj

A strong memory I have is of being in hospital the night before a major operation, a first time experience. Feeling fearful and anxious, I read Psalm 23 from Psalms Now and found all my fear evaporated, as I placed myself in the arms of my shepherd.

Flocks in Israel may have been as few as seven, all had names, at times lived with the family and kept them warm in winter. The sheep followed the shepherd, who found feed and water for them.

Today's Gospel is such a beautiful image of the closeness and intimacy between us and Jesus, who knows us by name and who leads us to the Bread of Life, himself. Jesus uses this image of a Shepherd to help us understand the relationship with him. His listeners would have understood exactly the concepts he was teaching – love, familiarity, nourishment, care, protection, dependence – all provided by the Shepherd.

We could put ourselves in the place of a sheep in those times to know and understand all Jesus is offering us today. Nothing else can give us the security Jesus offers. Nothing else is worth striving for. Read Ps 23 slowly and reflectively and listen to your Shepherd.



PARISH & EVENTS NOTICES

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICES

GUILD OF ST STEPHEN ANNUAL MASS 2022- ALTAR SERVERS

The diocesan Committee of the Guild of St Stephen warmly invites all Altar Servers to participate in the Guild of St Stephen Annual Mass. Friday 20th May 2022 7.30pm St Patricks Cathedral, Melbourne. Servers will be admitted into the Guild of St Stephen (servers need to be in Year 7 or above to be eligible). Please contact the Parish Office by Wednesday 11th May if you wish to attend.

MASS COUNT

Our Mass count will begin this weekend. The count maintains an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese. This year, the four weekends of **7-8 May, 14-15 May, 21-22 May and 28-29 May** have been selected for the count.

Corpus Christi College and Catholic Theological College Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal

Support the training of priests for tomorrow's Church

Your (tax deductible) donation will support the living arrangements and education for the Corpus Christi College seminarians.

Donate via our website: <https://ctc.edu.au/community/good-shepherd-sunday-appeal/>

ST ANTHONY'S

MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT STALL

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the Mother's Day Craft Stall. Many bargains and beautiful items were purchased. A total of \$389.00 was raised for the church. Thanks again for your support.

PARISH OFFICE

Parishioners please note the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday 12th May.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

The Parish Pastoral Minutes dated 17th February 2022, are available for collection in the Church foyer.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen.



Source: lordcalls.com

ST BERNARD'S

ST BERNARD'S CHURCH

The church will be closed on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th May due to the installation of new lighting. Masses on those days will be celebrated in the hall.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed from 10th May and will reopen 18th May. If you need to contact the office please call Judy Johnson 0414 007 009 and leave a message or email judyparishnews@gmail.com

FATHER GLASHEEN'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION SUNDAY 15TH MAY 10.30AM MASS

Father Glasheen (Glash) will be the Celebrant at 10.30am Mass on Sunday 15th May to commemorate his Golden Anniversary of Ordination. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre following Mass. To assist with catering, if you are attending, please put your name on the clipboard in the church foyer, or contact either Margot Short margotmshort@gmail.com or the Parish Office bacchusmarsh@cam.org.au or call 5367 2069.

PIETY STALL

We would like to open the Piety Stall after all weekend Masses but to do so we need more volunteers. The time commitment is about 20 minutes. If you would like to help please let the Parish Office know or Margot Short margotmshort@gmail.com

MORNING TEA-THIS SUNDAY

Please join us for morning tea in the foyer after the 8.30am Mass on the second Sunday of each month at St Bernard's parish. The next morning tea will be held this Sunday. Enquires: Meg Kennedy, 0403 696 645

PARISH POTLUCK LUNCH: SAVE THE DATE!

After 10.30am Mass Sunday, 5th June 2022

All parishioners are invited to a potluck lunch in St Bernard's Parish Centre on Sunday 5th June following the 10.30am Mass. Bring a plate to share - preferably with something on it! Food can be left in the Parish Centre prior to Mass. BYO drinks - alcohol permitted. Tea & coffee provided.

WORSHIP NEWS

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

ST ANTHONY'S MINISTRIES

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER: 14th & 15th May

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: Liza Fernandes
8.30am: John Brewis
10.30am: Romeo Sacris
5.00pm: Rebecca Comini

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

5.00pm Vigil: Ann Tennakoon
8.30am: Lois Brewis
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: Coleen & Godwin
8.30am: Godwin & Lillian
10.30am: Godwin & Olen
5.00pm: Leonia & Noni

ST ANTHONY'S PASTORAL CARE

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

Karen Austin, WM Campbell, Lance Finn, Evelyn Galea & Peter Jones.

Please pray for the Sick: Nickolia & Klara Butkovic, Maria Caruana, Mary Caruana, Jamie Coghlan, 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, Clint Abela Wadge, and 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

MINISTERS OF THE WORD : THIS WEEKEND

5.00pm: Sonia Smith
8.30am: Gerard O'Shea
10.30am: Charlotte Lindorff

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: 14th & 15th May

5.00pm: Vikki Benson
8.30am: Dominican Sisters
10.30am: Ivana Miesen & Gerard Shelly

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

May: Maureen Zahra

ST BERNARD'S PASTORAL CARE

We pray for the recently deceased:

Theresa Gibson, Jay Lawless, and John Scott Massey (Girlie's brother).

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

Gus Baselmans, Josephine Calleja, Patricia Coats-Richardson, Ernest Cosgrove, George Freeman, Bill Grogan, Kevin Heap, Edward Hehir, Neil Loughlin, Val Ratkowski, Dianne Sargent, Mary Walta, Irene West, & Peter Wouters.

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, 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, 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: 14th & 15th May

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

5.00pm Vigil: Kim Barton
8.30am: Edwina La Rose
10.30am: Judy Van Hoos

CUPPA VOLUNTEERS

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

CHURCH FLOWERS

May: Anna Samy & Doris



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 : 14th & 15th May

PIETY STALL VOLUNTEERS

Sunday: To be advised

CHURCH FLOWERS

May: Rita Marshall



PRESBYTERY & CHURCH GROUNDS-MOWING

May: Stuart Robertson

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 have 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.

A welcome Mass must be attended prior to the Baptism. Baptisms will be held on

Saturday mornings at 11.00am. Parents must attend two sessions.

Sessions will run from 12.00pm-4.00pm. Godparents must attend the 2nd session.

Bookings must be made to attend these sessions. Please visit our website for a detailed

description of the new program. Contact the Parish Office to book your Baptism Preparation and Baptism.



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: Jojo & Wilma Chua 0423 953 843

Group 2: Gregory McCutcheon 0455 457 645

Group 3: Vilma Pinto 0400 070 263



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.



Lord, we ask you to continue
to be with us as we
' TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL '
together in prayer.
May we open ourselves to you
with a new depth of trust and conviction
in your guiding hand,
so that we may discern our journey
with compassionate and humble hearts
and come to know your Holy Spirit
Moving within and amongst us,
And so be transformed 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

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to the synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God has given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly. 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations,
so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 99

Commentator: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

All: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age.

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

SECOND READING Revelation 7:9, 14-17

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 10:27-30

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,
and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS-

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 14:21-27

Second Reading: Rev 21:1-5

Gospel: Jn 13:31-35



St Bernard VIII

St Bernard's life, Part 2

Notwithstanding the growth and prosperity that the Abbey of Clairvaux had under St Bernard as Abbot, he has his trials. During an absence of Bernard from Clairvaux, the Grand Prior of Cluny, Bernard of Uxells, went to Clairvaux and enticed away the Abbot's cousin, Robert of Chatillon. This was the occasion of the longest, and most touching of Bernard's letters.

In the year 1119, Bernard was present at the first general chapter of the order convoked by Stephen of Citeaux. Though not yet 30 years old, Bernard was listened to with the greatest attention and respect, especially when he developed his thoughts upon the revival of the primitive spirit in the monastic orders.

It was this general chapter that gave definitive form to the constitutions of the order and the regulations of the "Charter of Charity". In 1120, Bernard composed his first work, *De Gradibus Superbiae et Humilitatis*, ("On the Steps to Pride and Humility"; see Bulletins of January 30 to February 27) and his homilies, which he entitles *De Laudibus Mariae* ("Of the Praises of Mary").

The monks of Cluny had not seen, with satisfaction, those of Citeaux take the first place among the religious orders for regularity and fervour. For this reason there was a temptation on the part of the "Black Monks" to make it seem that the rules of the new order were impracticable. At the solicitation of William of St Thierry, Bernard defended himself by publishing his "Apology", which is divided into two parts.

In the first part, he proves himself innocent of the invectives against Cluny that had been attributed to him, and in the second he gives his reasons for his attack upon averred abuses. He protests his profound esteem for the Benedictines of Cluny, whom he declares he loves equally as well as the other religious orders. Peter the Venerable, Abbot of Cluny, answered the Abbot of Clairvaux without wounding charity in the least, and assured him of his great admiration and sincere friendship.

In the meantime Cluny established a reform, and Suger himself, the minister of Louis le Gros, and Abbot of St Denis as well as an

historian, was converted by the apology of Bernard. He hastened to terminate his worldly life and restore discipline in his monastery.

The zeal of Bernard did not stop here; it extended to the bishops, the clergy, and the faithful, and remarkable conversions of persons engaged in worldly pursuits were among the fruits of his labours. Bernard's letter to the Archbishop of Sens is a real treatise, *De Officiis Episcoporum*. ("On the Tasks of the Bishops"). About the same time he wrote his work on grace and free will.

In the year 1128, Bernard assisted at the Council of Troyes, which had been convoked by Pope Honorius II. The purpose of this council was to settle certain disputes of the bishops of Paris, and regulate other matters of the Church of France. The bishops made Bernard secretary of the council, and charged him with drawing up the synodal statutes. After the council, the Bishop of Verdun was deposed.

There then arose against Bernard unjust reproaches and he was denounced even in Rome, as a monk who meddled with matters that did not concern him. Cardinal Harmeric, on behalf of the Pope, wrote Bernard a sharp letter of remonstrance. "It is not fitting," he said "that noisy and troublesome frogs should come out of their marshes to trouble the Holy See and the cardinals."

Bernard answered the letter by saying that, if he had assisted at the council, it was because he had been dragged to it, as it were, by force. "Now, illustrious Harmeric," he added, "if you so wished, who would have been more capable of freeing me from the necessity of assisting at the council than yourself? Forbid those noisy troublesome frogs to come out of their holes, to leave their marshes ... Then your friend will no longer be exposed to the accusations of pride and presumption."

This letter made a great impression upon the Cardinal, and justified its author both in his eyes and before the Holy See. It was at this council that Bernard traced the outlines of the Rule of the Knights Templars who soon became the ideal of the French nobility. Bernard praises it in his *De Laudibus Novae Militiae* ("In Praise of the New Militia").