



St Bernard's Parish

74 Fryers Rd Belmont 3216 belmont@cam.org.au www.stbernards.org.au

Parish Team

Fr Sang Ho (Parish Priest)

Marina Dias (Admin Officer - Mon, Wed & Fri)

Chrissie Puls (Sacramental Coordinator - Tues)

Karen Marshall (Finance Officer - Wed)

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12th May 2024

The Ascension of the Lord Year B

Mother's Day Prayer

Good and Gentle God, we pray in gratitude for our mothers and for all women who nurture life and love in the children you place with them.

Grant to all mothers, the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings.

Give them the strength to live, love and inspire, and to be loved in return.

Give them the faithful support of husband, partner, family and friends, as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children.

Give them joy and delight in their children to sustain them through the trials of motherhood.

Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most, and help them know that they are important and valued.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Our community prays :

For those who recently deceased

Cyril Maurer

For those who are unwell:

Paul Shanahan

Sofia Sulisty

Joan Hepworth

Riley Swander

Christie Raj

David Butler

Iris Appleton

Rita Croft

John Orders

Frank Whyte

Frances Butler

Marion Andrew

Katherine D'Arcy

George Koch

Melissa Bann

Lila Moorfoot

Josephine Mariah

Vanessa Eldridge

Judy Robertson

Colin & Linda Boyd

Lynette Stott

Margaret Walker

Maria Pereira

Gerry O'Donoghue

Brittany Schultz

Rev Alan Ansell

We welcome for baptism

Isabel Kayler Thompson

Leo Peh

Sidney Robinson

Welcome into Catholic Faith

Cloe Spicer



St Bernard's Church Annual Book Fair - A Fabulous Success

The total raised from the Book Fair & Cake/Scone Stall was **\$8,459.67** - a huge effort but it could only be done with the incredible work of Peter & Marg Wills for the whole year as well as on the day. Thanks to Helen and Karen who did an enormous amount of work in the leadup as well as the day. Also, thanks to Felicity and Kate who baked the scones, and the students from Scared Heart who provided all the slices and biscuits. All the planning and preparation helped make the day run smoothly.

Thank you to the Volunteers who helped throughout the day and those who helped with the pack up.

As there is a considerable amount of maintenance work coming up on the church building, these funds will be put to very good use.



May Mass Count Each Sunday in May, the archdiocese requests that we count every person attending mass. These figures help with pastoral planning.



First Eucharist

On Saturday night at 6pm mass, St Bernard’s welcomes children who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist and their families.

We pray for these children:-

May God bless you, May God keep you, May God’s goodness shine on you, May we see God’s face in everything you do. Amen.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Special Collections over the past weeks.

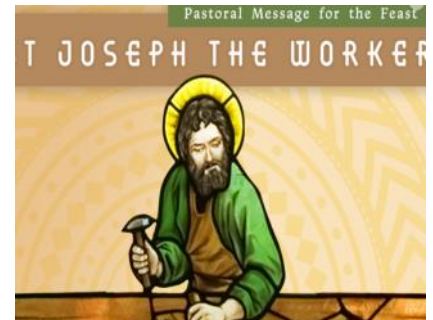
Good Friday Holy Land	\$ 1,917.70
Project Compassion 2024	\$ 5,991.55
CatholiCare Appeal	\$ 2,186.95.



The Feast of St Joseph the Worker 1st May

The Feast of St. Joseph the Worker emphasizes the dignity of labor and the importance of work in the life of an individual, as exemplified by Saint Joseph’s dedication to his craft as a carpenter.

Following the Australian Catholics Bishops’ 2023 Social Justice Statement, this years message for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker highlights the ongoing disparity and discrimination facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the workforce.



We pray for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in remote and regional areas who find it difficult to get rewarding work.

We pray that governments, business leaders and local communities will work with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations to find ways to improve their skills and to increase their chances of finding good and lasting work. Amen
ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace

Real Deal Update

After six months of behind the scenes meetings and advocacy with Councilors and Council staff, questions submitted over several Council meetings and our recent Public Forum on the Housing crisis, we were very excited to see the City of Greater Geelong voted unanimously at its last Council meeting to get started on the Social Housing designated for Purnell Rd, Corio as part of its Social Housing Plan. This is part of the Secure Housing policy solutions we are advocating for together in Real Deal Geelong. We were also pleased to see that this land will be retained in Council’s ownership and that it will be 100% social housing.



The City will also be supporting motions at the upcoming Municipals Association of Victoria meeting regarding Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning for social housing, which is required to ensure sufficient social housing is delivered throughout Geelong in new housing developments in order to meet the need for over 7000 social housing dwellings in our region.

This shows the power of civil society organisations using our power together, building relationships with our political representatives and knowing policy, including where its being implemented and not and how it could be best implemented for the common good.

Thank you to everyone who has helped achieve this win !
Sally Fisher, Community Organiser, Real Deal Geelong



International Day of Families—Wednesday 15th May

While the scourge of domestic violence is in our daily news bulletins, we pray that all families become havens of stability and care.

Reflection

Pope Francis encourages us to contemplate two aspects of the Ascension. 'On the one hand it directs our gaze towards heaven,' he says. 'On the other, it reminds us of the mission of the Church.'

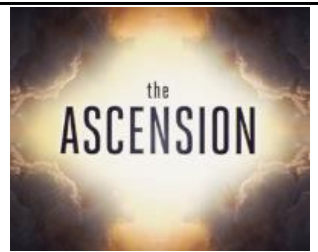
The Pope points out that these two aspects are interconnected. In this feast we do not remember Jesus' bodily departure so much as celebrate his continuing presence in the world through the Christian community.

The Pope suggests that 'the Ascension exhorts us to lift our gaze toward heaven, in order to return it immediately to the earth, to implement the tasks that the Risen Lord entrusts to us.' As today's Gospel declares, Jesus is in heaven. Yet, by 'working with' his disciples, he is also still present in the world.

In a particular way in his encyclical *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis draws out the importance for Christians of proclaiming 'the Good News to all creation'. Picking up scriptural teaching, he highlights how 'all creation is bound up with the mystery of Christ' and reminds us that the Eucharist should motivate us 'to be stewards of all creation.'

People of the Ascension, therefore, do not just tell other people about Jesus. Rather, People of the Ascension, as the Pope puts it, 'seek Christ along the paths of our time'. We are called to serve the poor and the needy and the world in which they live. We are called to become 'visible signs of hope' for the whole of creation.

Nick Brodie, Liturgy Help



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity,

(12-19 May in the southern hemisphere) is an opportunity for Catholics to take up Pope Francis' challenge to go out to the edges of the Catholic Church and engage with all to whom Christ came.

Pope Francis has challenged that inwards-turned vision of Church. He has encouraged Catholics to go out to the edges of the Catholic Church to engage with disengaged members of the church, Christians in other churches, people of all churches and none, who suffer from poverty and discrimination, and to all to whom Christ came.

This broad sense of mission invites an ecumenism in which members and congregations of different churches reach out beyond their doors into the world around them and its needs. That mission will lead to the building of friendships, the enrichment of faith and the moving beyond old prejudices. All these things, of course, are based in faith and prayer.

Edited extract Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ



2024 World Day of Social Communications, 12th May.

Pope Francis has released his message focusing on the theme: *Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication*.

AI is "radically affecting the world of information and communication, and through it, certain foundations of life in society," says the Pope, adding that "these changes affect everyone."

Pope Francis recalls that "it is up to us to decide whether we will become fodder for algorithms or will nourish our hearts with that freedom without which we cannot grow in wisdom."

Only together, he concludes, can we increase our capacity for discernment and vigilance and for seeing things in the light of their fulfilment.

Edited extract Vatican News

Living the Gospel – Proclaim Good News

Francis of Assisi is credited with saying, 'Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary, use words!' In every interaction we have we say so much about who we are, what we think of the other person and what we believe – even without opening our mouth.

Our actions and attitudes proclaim our beliefs more powerfully than our words ever do. If we claim to be concerned about justice and yet behave unjustly then it is our actions, not our words, that will be heard! When we are called to 'proclaim the Good News' we are called to do this first and foremost in action.

Liturgy Help



We pray for Mohammad

We pray for Mohammad that he be comforted while he awaits a decision on his application for a visa.

For the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine & other war torn countries.
May there be peaceful resolutions.



St Bernard's community ...



Mill Market donation and Book Fair drop off

Peter will be back at Clairvaux Hall, to welcome your donations for the Book Fair or Mill Market, **on Saturday 8th June 9-10am.** He is having a

well-deserved break following another very successful Book Fair.

Invitation to Volunteers

Are you on any rosters for the parish?

Do you help in ways unseen and unsung in the church or grounds?

You are invited to a **THANK YOU** luncheon on Sunday 26th May in the Big Space at 11.45am.

RSVP by Monday 13th May (essential for catering).

Please indicate special dietary requirements.

Phone the Parish Office on 5243 2739 or email belmont@cam.org.au

Anniversaries to be remembered : Please contact the Office, if you would like an anniversary remembered in the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass.
*We check the Parish records on the **first** anniversary only. Please phone, to be included in all subsequent years.*

Wider Community

www.carmelite.com is primarily intended to share the Carmelite tradition with the 'everyday' Catholic looking for spiritual refreshment.

Wanted Singers to join a Male singing group that sing Golden Oldies to Elderly citizens. Would suit retired singers. Enquiries Les 0414442471

Faith and Light Geelong A Christian community for people with **Disability**, their carers, families and friends. You are welcome to come to our next monthly meeting on Saturday 18th May. We have a Sharing news time, Gospel reflection with songs and prayers, and a Fiesta afternoon tea. Its our 5th anniversary

The theme will be: The gifts of Pentecost. Gathering is from 2pm to 4.30pm. Hall open 1.00 for preparation Our Venue is St Mary's parish, Pioneer Room, Level 1 (by lift) @ 150 Yarra Street. Enter by Little Myers Street. RSVP SVP by Thursday 22nd. If you would like to know more, please contact the Joint Coordinator : Tricia O'Keefe on 0414672267. Faith and Light Is a worldwide organisation, began in Lourdes, in 1971. www.faithandlight.org

'In the spirit of reconciliation, St Bernard's Parish acknowledges the Wadawurrung People, the Traditional Custodians of country and their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.'

Mass Times this week

Saturday: **6pm**
Sunday: **9am & 10.30am**
Tue & Fri: **12 noon**
Wed & Thurs : **9.30am**

*The **Rosary** is prayed after each weekday Mass*
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament held **First Friday** of each month after 12pm mass

To receive the **bulletin** by **email** please subscribe via the parish website:

<https://stbernards.org.au/>

Contact the Office - 52 432 739 to arrange :

**** Communion at home (Friday am)**

New volunteers welcome to assist with this ministry.

**** To receive an email link to the Passionist Fathers recorded Mass each weekend.**

**** To receive an emailed worksheet for children**, linked to the Sunday readings.

Sunday Mass on Radio :

7.00am Light FM 89.9

10.00am Pulse 94.7 FM (*St Mary's*)

Sunday Mass on TV :

Channel 10 6-6.30am

Channel 31 or 44 11am *St Patrick's Cathedral*

Parish Office hours

Mon: 9am—4pm

Tues: 10am—3pm

Wed: 9am—4pm

Thurs: 10am—1pm

Fri: 9am—4pm

*** St Bernard's Play Group** Every Tuesday of school term 9-10.30am Gold coin donation

*** St Vincent De Paul** Membership enquiries : through Parish Office

*** Men's Group - 2nd Tues** of the month 10.30am Church cafe

*** Charismatic Prayer** - next meeting will be on 16 April 2024

*** Ladies Coffee and Chat Group, 3rd Mon** of the month, 10.30am at **FULL Circle**, Belmont opposite Car Wash, cnr Roslyn Rd.

*** Mill Market donation & Book Fair drop off Will resume on 8th June**



To assist the Manny communities :

direct bank trf to :

BSB : **BSB 083347**

ACC# **358514559**

Ref : **surname & support project**

i.e *Hall or education or General needs.*

Please note new account details

Readings this week : Acts 1:1-11 ; Ps 46:2-3.6-9. ; Ephesians 1:17-23 or Ephesians 4:1-13 or Ephesians 4:1-7. 11-13 ; Mark 16:15-20

Next Week's Readings : Acts 2:1-11 ; Ps 103:1.24.29-31.34 ; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13 or Galatians 5:16-25 ; John 20:19-23 or John 15:26-27; 16:12-15