

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

Parish Centre: 14 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park, 2147

Tel: 9672.4037

Parish Church: 10 Gardenia Grove, Lalor Park 2147



(Established 1961)

PARISH BULLETIN

Email: admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au
 Parish Administrator: Fr John Paul Escarlan
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Bev Baxter
 Sacramental Coordinator: Mrs Madge Miranda (Thursday/Friday)
 Parish Assistant: Mr Joel Agius
 Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm
 Parish School: St Bernadette's, 18 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park
 Principal: Mr Phillip Kapitanow, Tel: 8869 6400

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH VISION STATEMENT

The Parish of St Bernadette's strives to be a vibrant, active, Catholic community, that is welcoming and nurturing to all and celebrates being a people of God, with Christ as the model.

29th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

16 OCTOBER 2022

PRAYER & HANGIN' OUT

Gospel in Life

Pray always!

Some scholars translate this as praying without ceasing. Sounds pretty impossible. But maybe it depends on how you look at it. Here's how I pictured prayer when I was young. Kneeling at church. Reciting memorised prayers. Lying in bed, asking for help on a test or with a friend. Prayer took time set aside. So you could never pray always, unless you never ate, studied or worked.

Over the years I've come to see God as my friend, a constant companion, always there to support and guide me. So my understanding of prayer has changed. I still think it's important to set aside special time for prayer, but I've learned that I don't need to wait for those times. God's hangin' out with me all day long. And that's pretty critical for me. Because several times each day I need divine help. It happens like this. Here's that person who irritates me. *God, give me patience.* Here's someone asking for help. *God, what do I do? I feel like an idiot. God, help me believe in myself.* What a beautiful day. *God, help me be grateful.*

God surrounds us each moment of our lives. Jesus, in this week's Gospel, told his disciples to recognise that and rejoice. We all want close friends willing to hang out with us. Some of us have them. Some don't. But we all have a best friend in God, who is always there trying to shape us, help us, respond to us.

Here's a challenge. Pray always, or without ceasing, this week. Make an effort to remember that God walks with you at all times, down every school corridor, across every practice field, through every shopping centre, and across every street. Talk and listen to God throughout the day. In other words, just hang out together.

What insights about prayer does this reflection offer you?

(Weekly Parable from e-News)

PARISH GROUPS & MINISTRIES

<p>Administration Office Counters Cleaners Grounds/Gardeners</p> <p>Faith Formation Baptism Preparation Children's Church R.C.I.A. Sacramental Team SRE Teachers Faith Reflection Days Parish Retreats Men's Group</p> <p>Finance Committee</p>	<p>Family Life & Social Senior's Group Netball Club Playgroup Parish School Band Craft Group</p> <p>Spirituality Friends of Mary Immaculate Schoenstatt Mothers Assoc. of the Srs. of St Joseph Lenten Groups Bible Study Piety Stall Parish Lending Library</p>	<p>Liturgy Minister at the Altar Altar Servers Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Flowers Ministers of the Word Worship Environment Music Ministry Money Collectors Welcomers Sacristy Helpers</p> <p>Young Adults Program</p> <p>Pastoral Council</p>	<p>Pastoral Outreach Pastoral Care of the Sick St Vincent de Paul Society Vinnie's Pantry Home Visitation</p> <p>Parish School Parent Groups: Community Education Social Fundraising</p> <hr/> <p>For enquiries about these groups please contact the Parish Centre on 9672.4037 or visit our web site www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au</p>
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RESPONSE TO THE PSALM: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia! The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. Alleluia!

Today's Readings:*Exodus 17: 8-13**2 Timothy 3: 14—4: 2**Luke 18: 1-8**Persistent prayer**Learn wisdom**Never lose heart***Next Week:***At right with God**Sirach 35: 12-14, 16-19; Psalm 32**2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18; Luke 18: 9-14***GOSPEL**

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart.

‘There was a judge in a certain town’ he said ‘who had neither fear of God nor respect for

man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, “I want justice from you against my enemy!” For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, “Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.”’

And the Lord said ‘You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?’

EXPLORING THE WORD

It is unusual for an evangelist to be so explicit about the meaning of a parable, but here Luke tells us that this parable is ‘about the need to pray continually and never lose heart’. It is quite likely that those who listened to Jesus tell this story were very familiar with judges who were a law unto themselves and who did not dispense justice according to the demands of God and of Jewish Law. Yet even these will be persuaded to act in the face of persistence. As ever with Luke, it is not the rich and powerful who prevail but the poor or the weak—in this case a widow. How much more, then, will God act? He is not like the wicked judge. He will hear the persistent cry, especially of the poor, and will not delay in answering. The real test of our faith in all this is to accept that God may answer our prayers in ways we do not expect or even desire. Prayer does not equate with making demands of God. Instead it is openness to the presence of God in our lives and a willingness to accept his demands of us, whatever they may be.

- What things are you persistent in?
- What does this indicate about what is important to you?
- Is prayer important to you? How do you pray?

MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Greetings with the love and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

One of the famous saints in our times is St Therese of Lisieux who was described by Pope Pius X as "the greatest saint of modern times". St Therese's life is known through her autobiography, *The Story Of A Soul*. Her parents, Louis and Zelie Martin were canonised by Pope Francis on 18 October 2015 as the first-ever married couple to be canonised in the same ceremony. St Louis Martin was born in Bordeaux, France, on August 22, 1823 and St Marie-Azélie (Zélie) Guerin was born at Gandelain, France, on December 23, 1831. They had nine children, four of whom died at a young age, while the other five all became nuns.

Pope Francis said in his homily at the Mass of their Canonisation that "The holy spouses Louis Martin and Marie-Azelie Guerin practised Christian service in the family, creating day by day an environment of faith and love which nurtured the vocations of their daughters."

As we commemorate the anniversary of their canonisation as saints, we especially celebrate and pray for all married couples as they faithfully live out their vocation of married life. In relation to this, the Diocese of Parramatta is organising a Holy Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Vincent for couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, 30 October 2022 at 11:00am.

On behalf of the Diocese and Bishop Vincent, I want to specially invite all married couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary to attend this annual Wedding Anniversary Mass and receive a special blessing from our Bishop. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending at marriage@parracatholic.org by 21 October. Family and friends are welcome.

St Bernadette; pray for us!

May God bless us always!

Fr John Paul

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING

If you or someone close to you has suffered any abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic Groups) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us. Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options. Phone (02) 9933 0233. Web: safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au. For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact NSW Police on 1800 333 000.

VINNIES PANTRY

During the month of October, you are invited to donate **1 pack of nuts, biscuits, lollies, or chips, or 1 bottle of soft drink** in preparation for Christmas. Thank you for all your continued support.

FLOWER MINISTRY

The Parish Flower Ministry is looking for more people to join to help decorate the church each week and make it look beautiful for our Lord. You do not need any experience, as a workshop will be provided for you to learn how to arrange flowers.

If you are interested, please contact Vicki Sant, the coordinator of the Flower Ministry on 0452 399 924. Thank you.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

There will be no Young Adults Group meeting this month. Instead, we will be attending the LIFTED Live in the Forecourt event at St Patrick's Cathedral. We will meet again in November.

LIFTED Live in the Forecourt is back for 2022!

All are welcome to St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on 22 October from 7pm to 10pm for LIFTED Live. Encounter the vibrancy and dynamism of young people of our Church. Live performances, games, activities, art exhibition, and adoration. Share your gifts and talent with our Diocesan community by visiting www.parracatholic.org/liftedeoi. If you have questions email qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

DIOCESAN CLERGY RETREAT

Fr John Paul & Fr Ed Kenny will be attending the Diocesan Clergy Retreat from Monday 17th October—Friday 21st October at St Joseph's Centre Baulkham Hills.

On Monday, Thursday & Friday, there will be no Mass. Instead, there will be a Communion Service.

The Wednesday evening Devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette at 6:30pm and Mass at 7:30pm will be celebrated by Fr Julius Anave.

DAILY MASS BOOKS

If you would like to purchase a Daily Mass Book, please write your details on the clipboard at the back of the church or see Joe Formosa.



Office for Safeguarding Spring Training Opportunities

The Office for Safeguarding is offering a range of opportunities to complete your Safeguarding training this spring.

- Full-day training session on Monday 17 October from 9.30am to 2.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown
- Weekly training sessions on Monday October 24, October 31 and November 7 from 10am to 11.30am at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong.
- Full-day training session on Saturday 29 October from 10am to 3pm at St Matthew's Windsor.

To register for one of these options, please email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org If you would prefer to undertake the course online, you can do so at <https://safeguarding.org.au/safeguarding-points-training/>

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Parents who are presenting their children for First Reconciliation are reminded that at least one Parent is required to attend a Meeting for Parents Only on Thursday October 20 at either 9:15 am or 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room (not in the church as earlier advertised) on 14 Wheeler St. Non-attendance will indicate your decision to defer or withdraw from the Process.

Parents who wish to present their children for their First Reconciliation but have not as yet registered their intention, may ring Madge on 9672 4037 and get the necessary information and registration form as soon as possible. Children with learning difficulties or special needs are most welcome.

The Reconciliation Process will begin on Thursday October 20.

Thank You.

Madge Miranda - Sacramental Coordinator.

Masterclass for Sponsor Married Couples: 28 October

The Diocese is looking to more deeply accompany couples preparing to be married. Have you been married for more than 5 years? Committed to living the sacrament of Marriage? Willing to give time limited assistance to couples preparing for marriage? Join us for a Masterclass on Friday 28 October at 7.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Sponsoring engaged couples in your Parish using the SmartLoving Engaged Online program. To book your attendance or to ask further questions, please email marriage@parracatholic.org or phone Marisa on (02) 8838 3460.

PARISH PRIVACY POLICY

Following proclamation of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) at the end of 2001, the parish has reviewed its records and methods for holding and collecting information about parishioners. A Privacy Policy has been developed and approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Pastoral Council, in accordance with Diocesan norms, and a copy can be obtained from the Parish Centre during office hours.

Many Faces One Voice Building The Future - Fundraising Concert

There will be a fundraising concert for social justice initiatives held at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong in the School Hall from 7:00pm on Saturday November 26. Tickets are \$10. To purchase tickets, please visit St Andrews parish or call Rose on 0402 086 715.

The Diocese of Parramatta is heading to WYD23 in Lisbon

Bishop Vincent has announced a pilgrimage to the next World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal from July 21 – August 11, 2023. Young people 16-35 and their families are encouraged to learn more at www.parrawyd.org. Express your interest in coming to Lisbon today! For all enquiries, contact James Camden, Head Mission Engagement – james.camden@parracatholic.org

MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm,
Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am

YOUTH MASS
6.00pm Vigil Mass on the 4th Saturday of the month

WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday @ 9.15am
(Rosary and Exposition before Mass @ 8.30am)

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 9.45 - 10.15am & 4.30pm - 5.30pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8.30am—9.15am
Wednesday 6.30pm
(Devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes & St Bernadette)
Sat: 4.30pm— 5.30pm

BAPTISMS

At 11.30am by appointment only.
A Preparation Evening will be held before the Baptism for parents and godparents at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

MARRIAGES

By Appointment—Please contact Parish Office for details.

FUNERALS

By Appointment—Please contact Parish Office for details

For the following sick parishioners, relatives and friends:

Sandra McShane, Gwen Gunderson, Phoebe Mae Lasmarias, Ailsia McDonald, Ann Thompson, Sr M. Teresa, Glenn Mowbray, Julie Daly, Annette McKenzie, Brendan Doran, Paul Mowbray, Ivy Deguzman, Karan Moloney, Joe Calabria, Carmen Sammit, Margaret Duff, John Roch, Trish Mowbray, Ginette Sharrock, Professor Keith Kennet, Jossie Thompson, Neven Vuleta, Joseph Leslie, Angie Delara, Gerard Leslie, David Smythe, Beryl Foster, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Sue James, Myra Sessions, David Ward, Brian Sloane, David Williams, Roy Afflick, Nathan Weaver.

For our deceased brothers and sisters:

Recently deceased:

Anniversary: Lavina Sloane, John Dobbie, Michael Agius

Deceased: Deceased members & benefactors of the St Vincent de Paul Society. May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace and rise in glory.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

22nd & 23rd OF OCTOBER 2022

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Liam Agius Noah Bonello	Justin Spiteri Andrew Spiteri	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo
Minister at the Altar	Aidan Villadolid	Mario Spiteri	Joe Formosa
Minister of the Word	Joel Agius @ 1 Anastasia Leutogi @ 2 Raia Uri @	Sue Gilmore @ 1 Matthew Kenyon @ 2 Va Amosa @	Perla Billedo @ 1 Kate Fardouly @ 2 Karina Marafioti @
Eucharistic Minister	Kim McDonald	Catherine Peregrina	Sarah Key
Welcomer	Youth Ministry	Wendy Walsh	Cindy Astillo
Music	Lawrence Del Prado Group	CDs—Rodrigo Medina	Parish Choir
Flowers	Myrna Baterna		
Counters	Kevin Sloane, Bill Gregory & Tom Lara (Fortnightly)		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Dennis & Helen Gonzales		