

## ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: [www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](http://www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)

Parish Centre: 14 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park, 2147

Tel: 9672.4037

Parish Church: 10 Gardenia Grove, Lalor Park 2147

### PARISH BULLETIN

Email: [admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)

Parish Administrator: Fr John Paul Escarlan

Parish Secretary: Mrs Bev Baxter

Sacramental Coordinator: Mrs Madge Miranda (Thursday/Friday)

Assistant Secretary: Mr Joel Agius

Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm

Parish School: St Bernadette's, 18 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park

Principal: Mrs Lisa Samojlowicz Tel: 8869 6400



(Established 1961)

### 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.

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

## FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD - YEAR A 25 DECEMBER 2022

### 6PM Children's Mass:

#### Responsorial Psalm:

A child is born for us today, alleluia! He is our Saviour and our God, alleluia!

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: The Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

### 8:30PM Youth-Led Mass:

#### Responsorial Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed: The Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

### Midnight Mass:

#### Responsorial Psalm:

Today, today a Saviour has been born; A Saviour has been born to us.

He is Christ the Lord, Christ the Lord, Jesus Christ the Lord

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

### 8:30AM & 10AM:

#### Responsorial Psalm:

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!



## **A Christmas 2022 Message from the Bishop**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We live in an increasingly dangerous world where a spiral of violence seems to be out of control. Violence and selfishness dominate our daily news, as the 'answer' the world offers to us. The horrors unfolding in Ukraine and the scandal of the arms race, and even more the danger of nuclear war frightens us all. Our planet continues to be exploited and the beauty of God's creation plundered for profit. And the ongoing tragedy of refugees continues with many people closing their hearts to compassion.

Instead of sharing, many are choosing exclusion as the solution. Only the other day Pope Francis issued a new, scathing warning against the exclusion of migrants. For him, "The exclusion of migrants is scandalous. Actually, the exclusion of migrants is criminal. They are dying right in front of us, as the Mediterranean is the largest cemetery in the world..." Not opening doors to them "is revolting, sinful and criminal," he added, off the cuff. Even worse: "We do not exclude them, we send them away to camps, where they are exploited and sold like slaves."

This Christmas then, let's all pledge to become committed peacemakers – as we remember the birth of the Prince of Peace amongst us. Jesus of Nazareth built his entire Gospel message on peace, and nowhere in His words or deeds did He even hint that war was actually the way of achieving it. Indeed, peace is the stuff of the four Gospels; a constant theme of the New Testament and the ultimate goal of two thousand years of Christian vision and witness.

This Christmas, where violence and war seem so close to us on our television screens, let's remember one of the great witnesses to peace in our Catholic tradition – St Francis of Assisi. While many people associate St Francis with nature, not as many know the story of his voyage and witness to the Muslim world as a peacemaker. It was the time of the Fifth Crusade, shortly after a Crusader victory at the port city of Damietta – modern Dumyat – on the Nile Delta. Francis, who opposed all killing no matter what the cause, sought the blessing of the cardinal who was chaplain to the Crusader forces to go and preach the Gospel to the Sultan. At last, the cardinal stood aside, certain that Francis and Illuminato, the brother travelling with him, were being led to die as martyrs. The two left the Crusader encampment singing the psalm, 'The Lord is my shepherd'. For a month, Francis and the Sultan met daily. Though neither converted the other, the sultan had such warmth for his guests that he not only spared their lives but gave them a passport allowing them to visit Christian holy places under Muslim control, and presented Francis with a beautifully carved ivory horn which is now among the relics of the saint kept in the Basilica of Assisi. The two (Francis and Malik-al- Kamil, the Sultan) parted as brothers.

During this holy season of Christmas, we too are especially called to be witnesses to peace like St Francis of Assisi, in our daily lives. For in many ways, we too are living in 'war'. Often, we can be at 'war' with ourselves, at 'war' with others, especially when we 'crusade' against people and see them as rivals and enemies. A life of peace, however, means daily trying to make peace with ourselves and to cultivate a daily practice of 'nonviolence'. I speak to you today in the peace and beauty of our chapel here at our Diocesan Chancery. Let's make that peace a reality in the lives of all those we encounter. This Christmas, as we contemplate the Christ child in the manger, who was born, died and rose from the dead to give us peace – let's commit ourselves here in Parramatta to pray and work for justice and peace so that the Kingdom will come! In the prophetic words of St Paul VI: "If you want peace, work for justice!"

A blessed Christmas to you all.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta

### **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](mailto: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**

The St Vincent De Paul members would like to thank all parishioners for their continued generous support for Vinnies Pantry and the Poor Box throughout the year.

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## **BREAK OPEN THE WORD 2023**

The 2023 Edition of Break Open The Word is now available for Ministers of the Word. Please take one from the box in the Sacristy.

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## **CRAFT GROUP**

The ladies craft group has raised a total of \$1802 for our Parish.

A huge thankyou to all the ladies involved: Anne, Jan, Lorraine, Lorna, Miriana, Jenny and Anne.

Thankyou also to our generous parishioners for your support during our sales.

If you would like to join our craft group next year, we meet every Wednesday from 10 to 12 at the St Joseph Centre (bring your own craft along or learn something new).

Thanks,  
Bridget

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## **PARISH OFFICE HOURS DURING CHRISTMAS**

The Parish Office will close on Friday 23/12/22 and reopen on Wednesday 11/1/23.

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## **St Bernadette's Lalor Park Wednesday Evening Devotions**

Our parish is hosting weekly devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette every Wednesday evening at 6.30pm with Adoration and Rosary and special prayers, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. You are very welcome.

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## **Synod of Bishops Continental Stage**

The Church around the world has entered the Continental Stage for the Synod of Bishops on Synodality. Groups around the country are praying with and responding to the Document for the Continental Stage, which was published recently. Download prayer resources, including for use in liturgies, read the document and access the submission portal at: [www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch](http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch)

## **Diocese of Parramatta WYD23 Pilgrimage Registrations Open!**

Registration for WYD23 in Lisbon has now opened. Young people aged 16-35 can now view our itinerary, inclusions, indicative pricing, register and pay their \$800 deposit to secure their place. Limited spaces still available to join our team of 170 pilgrims with Bishop Vincent. Visit [www.parrawyd.org](http://www.parrawyd.org)

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## **Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2023**

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or

[mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>.

Enrolment forms are also available from the Parish Office.

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## **Summer 2022 Catholic Outlook Magazine out now!**

The Summer 2022 version of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is out now!

This edition, discover how our multicultural families across the Diocese are celebrating Christmas, learn about using Christmas to deepen your marriage and read Bishop Vincent's Christmas message. Pick up your free copy from our church or read it online via [catholicoutlook.org/magazine](http://catholicoutlook.org/magazine)

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## **Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass: 11 February 2023**

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday, 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2022 to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

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### **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.

## Faith and formation session for Catholic Healthcare professionals: 11 February 2023

You are invited to a faith and formation session for those who work and volunteer in the health care ministries of the Church on Saturday 11 February, from 9am to 10.30am at the All Saints of Africa Centre, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown. Join us afterwards for the World Day of the Sick Mass at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. Please RSVP for catering purposes by 6 February to [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org). For enquiries, please contact [Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org](mailto:Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org)

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## Summer School of Evangelisation Sydney: 8 – 15 January

Summer School is a week-long, live in life-changing retreat featuring live music, incredible worship, inspiring talks, engaging liturgy, time to chill & learn...and more...in the midst of a community of 150+ young people aged 16-35. Summer School will be held at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville NSW from 8 to 15 January. More info & bookings: [summerschool.org.au](http://summerschool.org.au)

### 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)  
Wednesday evening @ 7:30pm

### 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:

Victoria Herzig, Sandra McShane, Gwen Gunderson, Phoebe Mae Lasmarias, 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, Nathan Weaver.

### For our deceased brothers and sisters:

#### Recently deceased:

#### Anniversary:

**Deceased:** Gabriel Faddoul & deceased members of the Faddoul & Tawa families. 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:

## 31st DECEMBER & 1st JANUARY

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Joshua Vaz Rachel Vaz	Justin Spiteri Andrew Spiteri Jess Barbin	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo Liam Agius
Minister at the Altar	Zaldy Pamintuan	Jose (Mari) Tomas	Fernando Gallegos
Minister of the Word	Ella Martirez @ 1 Minda Vuleta @ 2 Kim McDonald @	Lynne Tolhurst @ 1 Matthew Kenyon @ 2 Alex De Vega @	Reginald Vibar @ 1 Kate Fardouly @ 2 Perla Billedo @
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Simpson	Sue Gilmore	Rosa Watson
Welcomer	Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required
Music			
Flowers	Michele Brohier		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Frank Rowland		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Bing Money / Ricardo Serrado		