

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

PARISH BULLETIN

Email: admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

Parish Administrator: Fr John Paul Escarlan

Parish Deacon: Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

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

Principal: Mrs Lisa Samojlowicz Tel: 8869 6400

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



(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.

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

30 APRIL 2023

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER

Dear brothers and sisters, dear young people!

This is now the sixtieth time that we are celebrating the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, established by Saint Paul VI in 1964, during the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. This providential initiative seeks to assist the members of the People of God, as individuals and as communities, to respond to the call and mission that the Lord entrusts to each of us in today's world, amid its afflictions and its hopes, its challenges and its achievements.

This year I would ask you, in your reflection and prayer, to take as your guide the theme "Vocation: Grace and Mission". This Day is a precious opportunity for recalling with wonder that the Lord's call is grace, complete gift, and at the same time a commitment to bring the Gospel to others. We are called to a faith that bears witness, one that closely connects the life of grace, as experienced in the sacraments and ecclesial communion, to our apostolate in the world. Led by the Spirit, Christians are challenged to respond to existential peripheries and human dramas, ever conscious that the mission is God's work; it is not carried out by us alone, but always in ecclesial communion, together with our brothers and sisters, and under the guidance of the Church's pastors. For this has always been God's dream: that we should live with him in a communion of love.

"Chosen before the creation of the world"

The apostle Paul opens before us a remarkable horizon: in Christ, God the Father "chose us before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will" (*Eph 1:4-5*). These words allow us to glimpse life at its fullest: God has "conceived" us in his image and likeness and desires us to be his sons and daughters. We were created by love, for love and with love, and we are made for love.

In the course of our lives, this call, which is part of the fibre of our being and the secret of our happiness, comes to us by the work of the Holy Spirit in ever new ways. It enlightens our minds, strengthens our wills, fills us with amazement and sets our hearts afire. At times, the Spirit comes to us in completely unexpected ways. So it was for me when, on 21 September 1953, as I was on my way to an annual school celebration, I was led to stop by a church and go to confession. That day changed my life and left a mark that has endured to the present day. God's call to the gift of self tends to make itself known gradually: in our encounter with situations of poverty, in moments of prayer, when we see a clear witness to the Gospel, or read something that opens our minds. When we hear God's word and sense that it is spoken directly to us, in the advice given by a fellow brother or sister, in moments of sickness or sorrow... In all the ways he calls us, God shows infinite creativity.

The Lord's initiative and his gracious gift call for a response on our part. Vocation is "the interplay between divine choice and human freedom", a dynamic and exciting relationship between God and the human heart. The gift of vocation is like a divine seed that springs up in the soil of our existence, opens our hearts to God and to others, so that we can share with them the treasure we ourselves have found. This is the fundamental structure of what we mean by vocation: God calls us in love and we, in gratitude, respond to him in love. We realize that we are beloved sons and daughters of the one Father, and we come to see ourselves as brothers and sisters of one another. Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, when at last she "saw" this clearly, exclaimed, "At last I have found my calling: my call is love. Indeed, I have found my proper place in the Church... In the heart of the Church, my Mother, I will be love".

Called together and convened

The evangelist Mark relates the moment when Jesus called to himself twelve disciples, each by name. He appointed them to be with him and to be sent out to proclaim the message, to heal infirmities and to cast out demons (cf. *Mk 3:13-15*). The Lord thus laid the foundations of his new community. The Twelve were people from different social classes and trades; none of them was a person of influence. The Gospels speak too of other callings, like that of the 72 disciples whom Jesus sent out two by two (cf. *Lk 10:1*). (continued on next page)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!



GOSPEL

John 10: 1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Church is an *Ecclesia*, the Greek word for an *assembly of persons called and convened*, in order to form the community of missionary disciples of Jesus Christ committed to sharing love among themselves (cf. *Jn* 13:34; 15:12) and spreading that love to all others, so that God's kingdom may come. Within the Church, all of us are servants, in accordance with the variety of our vocations, charisms and ministries. Our common vocation to give ourselves in love develops and finds concrete expression in the life of lay men and women, devoted to raising a family as a small *domestic church* and working as a leaven of the Gospel to renew the different sectors of society; in the testimony of consecrated women and men who are completely committed to God for the sake of their brothers and sisters as a prophetic sign of the kingdom of God; in ordained ministers – deacons, priests and bishops – placed at the service of preaching, prayer and fostering the communion of the holy People of God. Only in relation with all the others, does any particular vocation in the Church fully disclose its true nature and richness. Viewed in this light, the Church is a vocational "symphony", with every vocation united yet distinct, in harmony and joined together in "going forth" to radiate throughout the world the new life of the kingdom of God.

Grace and mission: a gift and a task

Dear brothers and sisters, vocation is a gift and a task, a source of new life and true joy. May the initiatives of prayer and of activity associated with this Day strengthen an awareness of vocation within our families, our parish communities, our communities of consecrated life, and our ecclesial associations and movements. The Spirit of the risen Lord dispels our apathy and grants us the gifts of sympathy and empathy. In this way, he enables us to live each day born anew as children of the God who is love (cf. *Jn* 4:16) and in turn to offer that love to others. To bring life everywhere, especially in places of exclusion and exploitation, poverty and death, in order to enlarge the spaces of love,^[4] so that God may reign ever more fully in this world. May the prayer that Saint Paul VI composed for the first World Day of Vocations, 11 April 1964, accompany us on our journey: "O Jesus, divine Shepherd of souls, you called the apostles and made them fishers of men. Continue to draw to yourself ardent and generous souls from among the young, in order to make them your followers and your ministers. Give them a share in your thirst for the redemption of all... Open before them the horizons of the entire world... By responding to your call, may they prolong your mission here on earth, build up your Mystical Body which is the Church, and be 'the salt of the earth' and 'the light of the world' (*Mt* 5:13)". May the Virgin Mary watch over you and protect you. With my blessing.
Pope Francis

MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

"Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!"

As announced last Palm Sunday, Bishop Vincent has appointed Fr Clifford D'Souza, currently the Parish Administrator of St Matthew's Parish, Windsor, as the new Parish Priest of St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park. Similarly, Bishop Vincent has appointed me as the new Parish Priest of St Paul the Apostle Parish, Winston Hills.

The date of effectivity of the parish appointments is still being finalised. I will communicate this with you as soon as I have this information.

Let us pray for each other as we continue to fulfil our different ministries in the Kingdom of God.

St Bernadette, pray for us.
May God bless 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 April, you are invited to donate **1 Litre of Long Life Full Cream Milk** to help Vinnies with their parcels for the needy. Thank you for your continued support.

Craft Stall

The craft ladies will be holding a stall next Saturday & Sunday the 6th & 7th of May (the weekend before Mother's Day) after each Mass.



There will be many craft items for sale, including handmade cards, tea towels, scarves, beanies and much, much more.

Bring your cash with you.

Funeral Mass

The funeral Mass for Yvonne Anstee will be held on Monday 1st May at St Bernadette's. All are welcome to attend.

Young Adult Faith Formation: 7 May

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 7 May at The Hustle, 4-6 Purdy Rd, Minchinbury, at 7pm. Tim O'Shea will be discussing 'What is a human being?'. We encourage all adults 18-35 to come along and enjoy some faith formation and fellowship! Call Mark on 0477 004 678 for more information.

Faith in Marriage Seminar: 19 May

The annual Diocesan Faith in Marriage Seminar returns in 2023 with Chris Padgett, American Speaker, Musician, Author and Professor of Theology. This free event will be held on Friday 19 May at 7:30pm at St Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills. Please register your attendance at marriage@parracatholic.org

Mission: One Heart, Many Voices Conference: 3-5 May

Catholic Mission and Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) invite you to save the date for the sixth biennial national Mission Conference. Three days of professional and personal development focused on mission.

Date: Wednesday 3 May to Friday 5 May 2023.

Venue: SMC Conference & Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney.

For more information, visit www.mohmv.com.au.

Monday Night Bible Study

Come and join us on our Monthly Monday nights Bible Study for a deep dive into the scriptures set for proclamation on each Sunday from the churches' Lectionary. A typical bible study session includes: an opening prayer, a review of the Sunday Scripture Readings, followed by open discussion points and a closing prayer. All bible studies are free.

No registration is required: you can just contact one of the co-ordinators, either Patrick or Cyril, for information and let either one of them know of your interest to join the friendly group. All are Welcome. So why not bring a friend or a family member.

**WHERE: St Bernadette's Parish Centre,
14 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park**

TIME: 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm

WHEN: Monday Night on 1 May 2023

For further information, contact PATRICK on 0416 240 298

(Patrick.cagney@optusnet.com.au)

The FaithFeed On The Move: 7 May

Have questions about life & faith? Join with others on the search at The FaithFeed live studio audience - hosted by Glenbrook in the Mountains Deanery - all are welcome! The FaithFeed will be on Sunday 7 May at the parish hall after the 6PM mass. Doors open 7:00PM for a 7:30PM start. The night will feature faith stories + live music + activities + great conversation. Book now:

<https://tinyurl.com/tffrego>

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Parents who have registered their children for Confirmation are reminded of the upcoming Meeting to be held on May 4 at 9:15 or 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room (under the Parish Centre).

Non attendance at this **ONLY** Meeting for Parents will be considered as a decision to withdraw from the Process or postpone it.

The Commitment Weekend will be Saturday, May 6 at the 6:00pm Mass **OR** Sunday May 7 at the 8:30am **OR** 10:00am Mass.

God Bless You

Madge Miranda (Sacramental Coordinator)

HOLY LAND (GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION)

Parish Collection: \$1540.00

Through this collection, you join Catholics around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. When you contribute to the Holy Land Collection, you become an instrument of peace in the land where Jesus walked.

Thank you for your continued support.

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.

MET FaithLIFE Scripture Course: Starting 2 May

Want to learn more about different ways to pray? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on "Prayer" with Br Barry Donaghue, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 2 + 9 + 16 May. Downstairs at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faithlife/>

Diocesan Synod 2023 – The Time is Now!

Join the Diocese of Parramatta as we listen and respond to the Holy Spirit through the People of God in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Let us go forwards towards the horizon that awaits us. Learn more at parracatholic.org/synod2023

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 & FUNERALS

By Appointment—Please contact Parish Office for details.

For the following sick parishioners, relatives and friends:

Tony Walsh, 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, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Sue James, Myra Sessions, David Ward, Brian Sloane, David Williams, Nathan Weaver.

For our deceased brothers and sisters:

Recently deceased: Delia Camat Higoy, Yvonne Anstee, Ellen D'Abreo

Anniversary: Nicanor Pascual, Ester Razo, Consuelo Mangola, Evelyn & Youssef Brais, Bill McQueen

Deceased: Chahady, Pascual Perez Sr, Felicula Perez, Jose Suarez, Esperanza Suarez, Zoraida Munford, Trevor Correy, Ailsia McDonald, Bruce McDonald

Deceased members & benefactors of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

We pray for all those from St Bernadette's who have died.

May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace and rise in glory.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

6th & 7th MAY 2023

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Noah Bonello Rachel Vaz	Justin Spiteri Andrew Spiteri Jess Barbin	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo Liam Agius
Minister at the Altar	Aidan Villadolid	Rey Baterna	Michael Webster
Minister of the Word	Michael Hord © 1 Albert Agius © 2 Wendy Hord ©	Carmen Bonello © 1 Reginald Vibar © 2 Ana Vlatko ©	Karina Marafioti © 1 Eva Narajos © 2 Kate Fardouly ©
Eucharistic Minister	Kim McDonald	Sue Gilmore	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Lorraine Stirton	Louise Bruni	Volunteer Required
Music	Mordini Family	Parish Choir	
Flowers	Michelle Brohier		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Rose Townsend		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Bing Money / Ricardo Serrado		