

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.

CORPUS CHRISTI - YEAR A

11 JUNE 2023

'I am the living bread - anyone who eat of this bread will live forever.'

There are two experiences that lie behind the images used in this Gospel. The first was the experience of the Israelites when they escaped from Egypt and were fed by the manna in the wilderness. The second is the experience of Eucharist in the early Christian communities. Remember that this Gospel was written long after Jesus' death and Christians have been gathering for Eucharist for about sixty years. The evangelist affirms in very strong and vivid language the reality of Jesus' presence when Christians gather to eat and drink at the table of the Eucharist. Just as food nourishes ordinary human life, the bread and wine of the Eucharist nourishes the life of Christ in the believer.

By the first century, the gift of the manna was being linked to both Wisdom and the Law. So to speak of eating the manna/bread was a way of speaking about being nourished by God's wisdom and by the Law. Wisdom speaks: 'Come to me, you who desire me, and eat your fill of my produce... those who eat me will hunger for more, and those who drink me will thirst for more. Whoever obeys me will not be put to shame and those who work with my help will not sin. All this is the book of the Covenant of the Most High God, the law which Moses commanded us as an inheritance for the congregation of Jacob.' (Sirach 24: 19-23)

Even within Judaism, the story of the Manna in the wilderness was being spiritualised so that later generations could still think of themselves as the recipients of this gift. Eating the bread of Wisdom was a metaphorical way of speaking about living according to the Law.

'Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. She has sent out her servant girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, "You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed, Leave simpleness and walk in the way of insight.'" (Proverbs 9:1-6)

John's Gospel continues this Jewish tradition of 'spiritualising' the manna, but takes it much further. Now, it is not the Law that provides the path to Wisdom, or can provide nourishment, but Jesus. Where the nourishment offered by Wisdom was such that people hungered for more, the nourishment Jesus offers is for eternity life since belief in Jesus draws the believer into Jesus' own life - 'whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in them.' Many in John's community were Jews who had come to faith in Jesus. As Jews they had a long tradition of celebrating Passover and recalling the gift of the manna. Now, as believers in Jesus, these Jews are no longer welcome in the Synagogue and so can no longer celebrate the Jewish Passover. The Gospel offers reassurance to them that they no longer need look to their past traditions, that they still have 'bread come down from heaven' in Jesus and this bread will offer life forever.

The Gospel makes no attempt to explain *how* this happens, even though the Jews want to know this. The Gospel simply affirms *that* it happens, that this is what the Johannine community experience. When Christians gather together in prayer and thanksgiving Jesus is present. Each Eucharist is a recommitment, a restatement of our faith that Jesus is our way of life.

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord: whoever eats this bread will live forever. Alleluia!



GOSPEL

John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the Jews: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'



Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, and drink his blood, Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

Fr John Paul's Mass of Thanksgiving & Farewell

There will be a Holy Mass of Thanksgiving at our parish on Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 7:00pm. Adoration and Devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette with the Holy Rosary will take place at 6:30pm. After the Mass, there will be a light supper in the parish hall. You are all very welcome to come and join in thanking God for the time Fr JP has served as our parish administrator.

If you can, please bring a small plate of ready to eat food to share. A clipboard will be outside the church this weekend for you to write down anything that you will be bringing. As we can't heat the food could you please bring it hot and covered, ready to eat and drop it off at the Hall on your way to the Church..

This weekend there will also be a bucket collection for a farewell gift Fr John Paul. This will be our gift to him in thanks for all he has done for this Parish over the last 17 months. If you would like to contribute, there will be a basket at the back of the church.

Thanks & God Bless,
The Parish Team

MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Dear parishioners:

I hope and pray that you and your family are well.

Let us welcome Fr Abraham Kunnatholy, and Fr Raymond Ugwu to our parish this weekend. We thank them for the generosity of their time to celebrate this weekend's Holy Masses.

Fr Abraham Kunnatholy is rostered to celebrate the 6:00pm Vigil Mass. He is the Assistant Priest at St Paul the Apostle Parish in Winston Hills.

Fr Raymond Ugwu is rostered to celebrate the 8:30am Mass. He is the Assistant Priest of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Greystanes.

St Bernadette, pray for us.
May God bless us always.

Fr John Paul

Thank You Fr John Paul

The parishioners, staff, and everyone in the Parish community of St Bernadette's Lalor Park would like to thank Fr John Paul for all he has done for our Parish over the last 17 months as our Parish Administrator. We all feel truly blessed to have been a part of your journey of priestly ministry, and to have had you as part of our own faith journey. When one journey ends, another begins, and while we will miss you greatly, we wish you all the best in your new role as Parish Priest of St Paul the Apostle Parish, Winston Hills. May God Bless you and Our Blessed Mother watch over you and protect you always as you continue to live out your ministry.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you Fr JP.

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parishioners,
I am the new guy in town, the new kid on the block. Permit me to introduce myself. I am Clifford D'souza. A priest belonging to the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, (msfs) - A Fransalian (not a Salesian). Born in India, in the city of Mumbai to my late parents Cyril and Matilda D'souza. I have two siblings.

I was ordained a priest on the 4th of May 1991. After a decade in the missions and teaching in schools in India, I was requested by my provincial superior to serve the diocese of Parramatta in 2000. Ever since I have been assisting in various parishes in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, the last one being at Windsor.

Currently, we are 17 members of the Order in Australia, assisting the archdiocese of Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide and the Diocese of Toowoomba (QLD) and Broken Bay and Parramatta. Bishop Vincent has appointed me to join your parish community. So, I will be with you very shortly. In the days to come, we will get to know each other and thus continue to build on the parish faith community.

With Peace in God's mission

Fr. Clifford Msfs

Morning Mass Day Change

Beginning on Monday 19th June, morning Mass will be held on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. There will be no morning Mass on Mondays as this will be Fr Clifford's day off. Morning Mass times will remain the same.

Choir For Fr JP's Farewell Mass

The Magnificat Choir invites anyone who is interested to join them in singing for Fr John Paul's Mass of Thanksgiving and Farewell.

VINNIES PANTRY

During the month of June, you are invited to donate **any Toiletry item of your choice** to help Vinnies with their parcels for the needy.

The St Vincent De Paul Society is also in need of any used and clean blankets. If you are able to help, please place blankets in the Vinnies Pantry Box at the back of the church.

Thank you for your continued support.

Diocesan Synod

Submissions for the Diocesan Synod are now open. If you would like to make a submission and have your say, you can do so by going to <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>.

You are also invited to register to attend our Deanery Consultation, which will be taking place on Saturday 17th June from 6:30pm-9:30pm at St Andrew the Apostle Primary School Hall, Marayong. It would be ideal to have at least 20-30 parishioners from the Parish attend this Consultation if possible. If you would like to attend, you can register here: https://parracatholic.org/synod2023_deaneryreg/.

Save Calvary Hospital

There is a petition to the Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly to reverse a decision of the ACT government to compulsorily acquire Calvary Hospital in Canberra. This removes the ownership and management from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator – and gives the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead. To find out more about the implications of this decision and to sign the petition please visit: www.savecalvary.com.au

St Bernadette's Primary School

St Bernadette's Primary School is now enrolling for K-6 for 2024. To enrol, or to enquire about enrolling, please call 8869 6400 or visit www.stbernadetteslalorpark.catholic.edu.au

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.

Diocesan Liturgical Conference: 15 July

The Diocesan Liturgy Conference is on again in 2023! Save the date for Saturday 15 July at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong. Fr Peter Williams AM VG will be the Keynote speaker as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Constitution on Sacred Liturgy. The conference will include a variety of workshops such as nourishing faith in children and discovering sacred art. To register, please visit www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1041495, or contact mary.gale@parracatholic.org.

MET Worship RCIA Teams Formation Seminars: Beginning 3 August

MET Worship's Formation Seminar for RCIA Teams will be commencing on Thursday 3 August throughout August from 7pm to 9pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. New topics will be covered each week throughout the Seminar including Using Rituals, Mystagogia and more! To RSVP and to learn more about the seminar topics, please contact hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037 795.

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:

Laura Vecchiet, 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. Maria Posa, Angelo Posa.

For our deceased brothers and sisters:

Recently deceased: Cettina Cuschieri

Anniversary: Betty Toomey, Anacleto Cordero

Deceased: Tony Zec, 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:

17th & 18th JUNE 2023

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Rachel Vaz Noah Bonello	Justin Spiteri Andrew Spiteri Zoe Kenyon	Anthony Pilayre Joshua Davison Jess Barbin
Minister at the Altar	Zaldy Pamintuan	Mario Spiteri	Jose (Mari) Tomas
Minister of the Word	Michael Muranty © 1 Jem Dalay © 2 Minda Vuleta ©	Matthew Kenyon © 1 Lynne Tolhurst © 2 Sue Gilmore ©	Ephpheta © 1 Ephpheta © 2 Josephine Baracz ©
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Walsh	Helen Gonzales	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Agius Family	Louise Bruni	Volunteer Required
Music	Couples for Christ	St Francis Choir	Parish Choir
Flowers	Amabel Keelty		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Rose Townsend		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Jenny Agius / Sue Gilmore / Sheila Magallanes		