

## 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 Priest: Fr Clifford D'Souza

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.

**19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**13 AUGUST 2023**

The Gospel passage invites us to become aware of the power of God at work in the life of the church and in our lives besides challenging us to deepen our faith. Disciples experience a manifestation of God's presence and mighty power. As the boat is being tossed about by a severe storm, the disciples see Jesus walking on the water. The wind calms down when Jesus gets into the boat after pulling Peter out of the water. The disciples realise that they are in the presence of the Almighty and worship Jesus saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The presence of God is manifested in many ways in our lives, usually in ways and times that we least expect. Sometimes we survive an accident and then realise that it has been God's protective hand that saves us. Sometimes, God's voice is the tiny whispering sound of our conscience that moves us into action. Sometimes they are providential storms that obligate us to push our little boat on by any means just so that it does not smash up in the shoals of hopelessness.

Saint Augustine imagines life as a voyage on the ocean, on which people are like sailors that have one desire in their hearts. Some of them are never able to leave the shore. Others go on the journey recklessly and end up losing their way. Finally others are blown off course by providential storms and risk forgetting their desired goal but manage to bring their ships back, though battered, to the peace of its desired port:

*"Others, because of fog or because they are gazing at some waning star or enticed by something, leave the straight path and postpone ever setting sail." – Augustine*

In this passage from the Gospel, the disciples did not decide to go on a voyage. It was Jesus who obligates them to go on and confront their fears. Jesus forces the disciples to confront their fear because it is then that they will see what they carry in their hearts, what they are truly made of.

There are times in life when it seems like the Lord has really forgotten about us and hope starts to fade. There is an inexplicable silence that obligates us to use everything we have got to stay afloat. The disciples ought to get to work; they are called to discover how to face the unexpected storms of life; they are forced to learn to save the ship. When we are confronted by fear and discouragement, we struggle to even recognize the presence of God when He finally does manifest himself.

If we look only at ourselves, we become dependent on the winds and can no longer pass through storms on the waters of life. The great thinker Romano Guardini wrote that the Lord "is always close, being at the root of our being. Yet we must experience our relationship with God between the poles of distance and closeness. By closeness we are strengthened, by distance we are put to the test" (*Accettare se stessi*, Brescia 1992, 71).

Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

### Pope's Intention for the Month of August

For World Youth Day - We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.


**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia! Alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia!



## GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

 Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

### Upcoming Feast Days

13th August - Sts Pontian and Hippolytus

14th August - St Maximilian Mary Kolbe

15th August - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

16th August - St Stephen of Hungary

19th August - St John Eudes

20th August - St Bernard

## FR CLIFFORD'S HOLIDAYS

Please note that I will be on leave beginning 24th July until 19th August. During this period, I thank Fr Ed Kenny for celebrating the weekday Masses and the Saturday Vigil Masses. I also thank Fr. Bob Anderson for kindly celebrating the Sunday Masses at 8.30am and 10am.

## SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Tuesday August 15th is The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is one of the only Feast days outside of Christmas and all Sundays of the year to be decreed a Holy Day of Obligation by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. There will be only **ONE** Mass at St Bernadette's at 9.15am.

### JOIN OUR 11TH ANNUAL ASSUMPTION WALK FROM KELLYVILLE TO PARRAMATTA CATHEDRAL

On Tuesday 15 August there will be Mass at 11.30am at the Shrine of the Holy Innocents followed at 1pm sharp with a 14km walk to Parramatta Cathedral. There will be two stops along the way for refreshments: 2.30pm at St. Michael's, Baulkham Hills; and 4.30pm at St. Monica's, North Parramatta. Arrival at the Cathedral for prayer and readings will be at approximately 6pm. Banners and statues are welcome. You may join the Walk at any point or time of the day. Please register your interest with the parish office for catering purposes (9629-2595).

### DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA TRIBUNAL AVAILABLE FOR IN-PERSON, VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm for enquiries regarding marriage annulments. Interviews are being conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews available for those unable to attend the office. Please contact the Tribunal office on (02) 8838 3480 or email [tribunal@parracatholic.org](mailto:tribunal@parracatholic.org).

#### 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**

During the month of August, you are invited to donate **one of either Men's Handkerchiefs, Socks or Shaving needs** to give the men who are struggling a small Father's Day gift.

Thank you for your continued support.

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## **Volunteers Needed**

Our Parish is looking for more volunteers. We currently need more volunteers in the following Ministries:

- Cleaners: Clean the Church on one Saturday of the month
- Readers to read at the Sunday morning Masses (We currently have enough Readers for the Saturday Vigil Mass)
- Altar Servers: Young people can join this Ministry after receiving their First Holy Communion. Training will be provided.
- Welcomers
- CD Operators for the Saturday Vigil Mass and 8:30am Sunday Mass

If you are interested in joining one of these Ministries, please contact the Parish Office on 9672 4037 or email [liturgy@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](mailto:liturgy@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)

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## **SREs Needed**

If you are interested in joining this Ministry in our Parish, please feel free to contact Joel either via the Parish Office or at [joel.agius@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](mailto:joel.agius@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)

This Ministry is in need of more volunteers. It is incredibly important and rewarding. We'd love to have you on board.

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**TAX RECEIPTS** are available on the table outside the Church. Caritas and Catholic Foundation collections are tax deductible but **Planned Giving is not a tax deduction.**

Thank you for your generous giving in the last financial year.

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## **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](http://www.stbernadetteslalorpark.catholic.edu.au)

## **Liturgical Ministry Formation Course**

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying or 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/>

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## **Diocesan Adult Confirmation: 5 September**

Adult Confirmation 2023 will be held on Tuesday 5 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day to be held on Saturday 2 September at 9:30am – 2pm at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown (formerly known as the IFM). Adult Confirmation is a community celebration for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist but are yet to receive the Confirmation. If you would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org).

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## **Nominations open for Papal, Civil and Diocesan Awards**

From today until Thursday 7 September 2023, you can nominate an outstanding individual who has contributed to the Catholic Church and society for a Papal Honours Award, Civil Award or Diocesan Award. Please visit [parracatholic.org/awards](http://parracatholic.org/awards). The Awards Ceremony will be held in November. More details to come.

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## **WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

You are warmly invited to save the date for this family-friendly event.

WHEN: 16 September 2023

TIME: 2pm to 5:30pm

WHERE: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills

For more information, please contact [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@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.

## Castle Hill Parish an Evening of Sacred Music: 25 August

St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill, will be hosting an evening of Sacred Music on Friday 25 August at 7:30pm. The event will be a night of performances by choirs, music groups and soloists from around the Diocese, performing a selection of hymns and choral music. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at <https://www.trybooking.com/CJISM>. Entry includes light refreshments during intermission. For more information, please contact the parish office on (02) 9634 2622 or email [admin@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadette.org.au)

## MET Marriage Retrouvaille Program Information Session: 25 August

The Diocese of Parramatta aims to offer the Retrouvaille program for couples who are having difficulties in their marriage. We are looking for married couples who are committed to helping others heal their marriage relationships. You will be trained to facilitate this program. An information evening will be held on 25 August at 7.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Contact Karin on (02) 8838 3460 or register at [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@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

Tuesday, 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

Tues, 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:

Mick Toomey, Dean McDonald, Dennis Tracey, Harry Tracey, Rachel Surdich, 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, David Williams, Nathan Weaver. Maria Posa, Angelo Posa.

## For our deceased brothers and sisters:

**Recently deceased:** John Rourke, Vicko Perkov

**Anniversary:** Carol Sprogis, Don Menardo, Joseph McKenzie

**Deceased:** 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:

19th & 20th AUGUST

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Rachel Vaz		Anthony Pilayre Joshua Davison Jess Barbin
Minister at the Altar	Francis Sultana	Mario Spiteri	Joe Formosa
Minister of the Word	Michael Hord @ 1 Wendy Hord @ 2 David Smyth @	Lynne Tolhurst @ 1 Volunteer Required @ 2 Alex De Vega @	Jenny Agius @ 1 Karina Marafioti @ 2 Kate Fardouly @
Eucharistic Minister	Ella Martirez	Helen Gonzales	Sarah Key
Welcomer	Agius Family	Jan Weaver	Volunteer Required
Music	Couples for Christ	St Francis Choir	Parish Choir
Flowers	Amabel Keelty		
Counters	Tom Lara, Epy Lara & Orlando Abarca		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Jenny Agius / Sue Gilmore / Sheila Magallanes / Saydie Chakty		