

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 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.

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

20 AUGUST 2023

Matthew's Gospel passage signifies the opening of the doors to the Gentiles and their inclusion in the community of faith. The Canaanite woman had the handicap of not being a Jew. She belonged to a nation that was not only pagan, but a long-time enemy of the chosen people of God. Yet she is crying out to Christ to save her daughter possessed by a devil. Totally convinced that Jesus can be of assistance in her hopeless situation she comes forward, kneels at his feet, and asks for her daughter to be cured, crying out: 'Take pity on me, Son of David.'

The woman's plea and the silence of Jesus speak powerfully to the contemporary audience. The liturgical language she employs teaches us how to speak in worship, while Jesus' silence addresses our own experience of suffering and the seeming deafness of God. In the end, the narrative is a powerful story of communion and the gracious response of God. As Christians we need to recover the depths of our own speech, grounded in Scripture as expressions of the grace of an inclusive God who teaches us how to speak and how to wait in faith.

This passage confronts us with our own tendency to cause conflict by promoting exclusiveness. Many of us are biased against people because their political or religious outlook differs from our own. This encounter between Christ and the Canaanite woman indicates that God has no favourites, and nobody is excluded from his company. His message was not the exclusive property of the Jewish people but the Good News to be shared among all peoples and nationalities. His whole mission is to break down barriers and to remove walls of division and prejudice between Jew and Gentile. God does not discriminate but welcomes all who believe in him, who ask for his mercy and seek to do his will.

Saint Mother Teresa said in an interview, "I see somebody dying, I pick him up. I find somebody hungry; I give him food. He can love and be loved. I do not look at his colour, I do not look at his religion. I do not look at anything. Every person whether he is Hindu, Muslim, or Buddhist, he is my brother, my sister."

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: O God, let all the nations praise you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!



GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

 Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

Upcoming Feast Days

21st August - St Pius X

22nd August - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

23rd August - St Rose of Lima

24th August - St Bartholomew

25th August - St Louis, St Joseph Calasanz

27th August - St Monica

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONS AND MASS

Please note that, beginning September, there will be a slight change with the Wednesday devotions which begin at 6:30pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the recitation of the Rosary and the novena prayers to St Bernadette, and Holy Mass thereafter at 7pm and not 7:30pm.

Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod

All are invited to pray a Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. The Novena will begin the week of Sunday 13 August and conclude the week of Sunday 8 October in the lead-up to the Synod Assembly: Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October. You are invited to pray once a week as a parish community, with your family, ministry groups or during personal prayer. More information: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

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.

The Awards Ceremony will be held in November. More details to come.



WELCOME

We especially welcome to our Christian faith community: Tiberius Aoun-Padovan, Elijah Reyes & Olivia Burgess. They will be baptised this Sunday. Congratulations to their parents and family. May you have a joyous and blessed day.

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.

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

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

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

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.

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 or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

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.

World Day of Migrant and Refugees celebration

You're warmly invited to a family-friendly event with Bishop Vincent and our migrant communities for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees on Saturday 16 September, 2pm – 5.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills. Come hear stories, enjoy free entertainment and activities. RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-world-day-of-refugees-and-migrants-tickets-675662363317?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

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.

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/CJJSJ>. Entry includes light refreshments during intermission. For more information, please contact the parish office on (02) 9634 2622 or email 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

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

Anniversary: Carol Sprogis, Don Menardo

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:

27th & 28th AUGUST

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Arielle McDonald Lucie McDonald	Noah Bonello	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo
Minister at the Altar	Zaldy Pamintuan	Reymund Rillera	Michael Webster
Minister of the Word	Jessie Pranadjaja @ 1 Joel Agius @ 2 Raia Uri @	Carmen Bonello @ 1 Matthew Kenyon @ 2 Sue Gilmore @	Perla Billedo @ 1 Josephine Baracz @ 2 Eva Narajos @
Eucharistic Minister	Bernadette Nolan	Catherine Peregrina	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Volunteer Required	Louise Bruni	Cindy Astillo
Music		CDs - Rodrigo Medina	Parish Choir
Flowers	Myrna Baterna		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Rose Townsend		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Dennis & Helen Gonzales / Ria Rillera / Chloe Stevens		