

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.

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

3 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Discipleship equates Suffering



Suffering is part of our human existence. St. Peter found it difficult that the mission of Jesus would end with the cross and crucifixion. He did not see why pain and suffering were necessary for discipleship and was anxious that the Lord avoid this course of action. He is outraged at the idea that such happenings should take place. Like most of us, he failed to grasp the role of suffering in God's plan. He thought that being part of the kingdom means power and success. Peter had yet to learn that the standards of Christ were not those of

prosperity and privilege. He was reprimanded by Jesus who cautioned him from adopting the standards of the world. 'The way you think are not God's way but man's.' This Sunday's gospel ends with a challenge from Jesus to welcome hardship and to embrace pain and personal suffering, for to hold on to this life is to lose eternal life and everlasting values.

The road is never a straight one and suffering is a reality of human life. In the world where love and service are present, greed, cruelty and sickness are order of the day. Our earthly pilgrimage is beset with trials and tribulations, and we all experience our share of hardship in the form of sickness, loss of job or death in the family. When things go wrong, and affliction comes our way we cry out and protest in bitter rebellion. It's a natural tendency to turn one's back on trouble but running away from pain can never bring joy, for to hide from it is to pretend that it does not exist.

For a Christian God's way of doing things is contrary to human expectations. Christ tells us that discipleship involves denying ourselves and taking up our cross in trust and confidence and following his footsteps. It is a hard teaching but the measure of greatness in the kingdom of heaven is the standard of the cross.

This is an occasion to reflect on our own commitment to Christ because our hearts are tempted to seek comfort in material things and to avoid hardship. God gives us the grace to accept pain and suffering. Let us stay close to Him.

With Peace in God's mission

Fr. Clifford msfs

Pope's Intention for the Month of September

For those people on the margins of society in subhuman living conditions, that they may not be neglected by institutions and never be cast out.

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9
The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2
May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon
How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who hear you.

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

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/>

Catholic Foundation Father's Day Appeal

THIS WEEKEND, our parish is proud to support the Clergy Support Foundation's Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. Your gifts will support our retired clergy and those who are in ill-health. Your donations will enable our Clergy Health and Wellbeing team to provide our ageing clergy with the personal, professional, and practical care and guidance needed to transition to a dignified and well-deserved retirement. Ongoing assistance includes independent retirement living, aged care, or nursing home accommodation for frail priests; meals, transport and medical care as needed. Please care for those who have cared for you and give generously via the giving envelopes and place them in the **third collection basket** for the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. Let us keep our retired priests in our prayers, just as they keep us in theirs. Thank you.

Upcoming Feast Days

5th September - St Teresa of Calcutta

8th September - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9th September - St Peter Claver

Fr Ed's Pilgrimage

Fr Ed will be going on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Italy from Tuesday 5th September.

We wish him a safe and blessed journey and look forward to his safe return on 23rd September.

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 September, you are invited to donate **1 of the following: Coffee, Biscuits, or Breakfast Cereal** to help with food parcels for the needy.

Thank you for your continued support.

Saturday Evening Adoration

A reminder that each Saturday evening from 4:30pm-5:30pm our Parish provides the opportunity for you to come and spend time with Jesus in Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith in which Jesus Christ is Truly Present. We should do our best to give up even a little of our time to adore Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist so that we can make every effort to deepen our faith. It would be great to see more people attending Adoration, especially on Saturday afternoons.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available at this time. I encourage everyone to foster a great devotion to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in their lives.

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

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

We currently teach for half-hour periods on the following days:

Tuesdays at Lynwood Park Public School and Kings Langley Public School

Wednesdays at Lalor Park Public School

Thursdays at Seven Hills West Public School

Training is provided for all new SREs.

For more information or 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

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.

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.

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.

World Day of Migrant and Refugees celebration: 16 September

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>

Rydalmere Parish Perpetual Adoration Chapel now open

Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere, has a new Adoration Chapel that is open to the public 24/7 located at 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere. Fr Chadi welcomes everyone to the Chapel. For after-hours access please contact the Parish Office or Blake on (02) 9684 1541 or admin@holymary.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

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday @ 9.15am
(Rosary and Exposition before Mass @ 8.30am)
Wednesday evening @ 7:00pm

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:

Baby Walsh, Gerard Leslie, 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, 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: Maureen Reed, Nora Bateman, Peter Sultana.

Anniversary: Livia & Sam Kaider, Lila Heard, Antonio & Dinko Desanti, Dominic Zec

Deceased: Frank & Maria, 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:

9th & 10th SEPTEMBER 2023

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Arielle McDonald Lucie McDonald	Noah Bonello	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo
Minister at the Altar	Leonides Martirez	Mario Spiteri	Joe Formosa
Minister of the Word	Bernadette Nolan @ 1 Tina Uri @ 2 Minda Vuleta @	Volunteer Required @ 1 Carmen Bonello @ 2 Ana Vlatko @	Thelma Islip @ 1 Kate Fardouly @ 2 Eva Narajos @
Eucharistic Minister	Kim McDonald	Catherine Peregrina	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Agius Family	Jan Weaver	Cindy Astillo
Music	Magnificat Choir	St Pedro Calungsod Choir	Parish Choir
Flowers	Vicky Sant		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Frank Rowland		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Couples for Christ / Nick Soon		