

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 msfs

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



(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.

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

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

17 SEPTEMBER 2023

Remembering to Forgive

The basic commandment of our Christian teaching is to love God and to love one another. Apart from this commandment, there is no obligation which Christ taught more forcefully than that of showing forgiveness. In actual circumstances of everyday life, forgiveness is more often talked about than put into practice because it is difficult and demanding and it takes great deal out of us. In any community differences brought about by thoughtless words, selfish actions and jealousy inevitably provoke clashes. As a nation we prefer to nurse old scores rather than reach out the hand of reconciliation.

In the light of eternity and the shortness of our span of life, harbouring old grudges is pointless. The great Christian cry of forgiveness which comes from the heart was first echoed on the hill of Calvary. What Jesus proclaimed in words from the cross, he had lived out in deeds. The purpose of his life and death was to win forgiveness for all people.

The forgiveness that we offer others is the indispensable condition which makes it possible to receive God's forgiveness and to meaningfully pray: 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. Our failure to offer pardon means that we have forgotten God's goodness or have not fully appreciated the unconditional forgiveness we have received from him.

What is required is limitless forgiving and the ability to keep on loving even in the face of insults. If we are to be true channels of God's grace then Christ must be the standard by which we measure and shape our conduct.

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: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

First Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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/>

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35



Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Catholic Foundation Father's Day Appeal

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you so much for your generous support of our Clergy Support Foundation's Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. 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.

For those who haven't had a chance to support our retired clergy, please complete the giving envelope and place your gift in the receptacle provided at the back of the Church. Donations over \$2 are tax

deductible and will be receipted.

Your generous gift provides personalised and compassionate care when our priests need it most. Thank you.

Upcoming Feast Days

19th September - St Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

20th September - Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Priest, and Paul Chõng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

21st September - St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

23rd September - St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

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.

Soul Sisters

The Soul Sisters women's group will be meeting again for coffee and a chat on Monday 18th September at 8pm. Kindly hosted by Jenny Agius, at 13 Andaman Street, Kings Park. All women over 18 are very welcome to join us!

Ordination to the Presbyterate: 21 September

Bishop Vincent Long and the Diocese of Parramatta invite you to the Ordination to the Presbyterate of Tom Green on Thursday 21 September at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

Please RSVP to hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org if you can attend. We hope you will be able to join us at this joyous event for our Diocese and our faith community.

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

Pamphlets with further information are also available at the back of the Church.

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



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.

Blacktown Parish Golf Day 2023: 29 September

The parish community of Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, is inviting golfers to join their Parish Golf Day, which will take place on Friday 29 September from 7am at Stonecutter Ridge Golf Course - 86 Stonecutters Drive Colebee NSW 2761. All funds raised at this event will go towards the repair of our church roof at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. For further information and/or to register to participate, please click onto the following website:

<https://www.mqofblacktown.org/golfday2023> or contact the parish office: (02) 9622 1125 or admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Rydalmeire Parish Perpetual Adoration Chapel now open

Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmeire, has a new Adoration Chapel that is open to the public 24/7 located at 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmeire. 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:

Dean McDonald, Baby Walsh, Gerard Leslie, Mick Toomey, 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:

Anniversary:

Deceased: Abigail DeVega, 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:

23rd & 24th 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	Francis Sultana	Reymund Rillera	Michael Webster
Minister of the Word	Raia Uri @ 1 Jessie Pranadjaja @ 2 Joel Agius @	Ana Vlatko @ 1 Michele Brohier @ 2 Carmen Bonello @	Jenny Agius @ 1 Thelma Islip @ 2 Karina Marafioti @
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Simpson	Sue Gilmore	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Volunteer Required	Wendy Walsh	Volunteer Required
Music	Mordini Family	CDs - Eva Narajos	Parish Choir
Flowers	Myrna Baterna		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Rose Townsend		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Dennis & Helen Gonzales / Ria Rillera / Chloe Stevens		