

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

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.

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

1 OCTOBER 2023

“Late have I loved Thee”



Humans have the freedom to say ‘yes’ or ‘no’ to one another (and those who follow a religion, to God). One way or the other, we are responsible for our conduct and accountable for our behaviour. One day we will stand before the judgement seat of God answerable for our goodness and our failings. The good news is that with the help of God’s grace we can change the direction of our lives for the better. In the parable told by Jesus of the two sons, where one said yes to his father’s assignment but did not do it and the other son’s initial refusal, but the change of mind got the better of him to complete the task tells us that actions speak louder than words. The varying attitudes of the two sons makes us to think carefully because whether we like it or not, there is a mixture of both personalities in our makeup.

If regular Sunday church-going, does not match an upright Christian living, what we profess to believe has no value and amounts to mere lip service or idle promises which are worthless. We are uttering words but not changing our hearts. The liturgy points out that there must be a connection between what we say and do. Jesus criticized the religious leaders of his day because they shirked their responsibility of helping the widows and orphans and focused on reciting long prayers. In denouncing such an attitude, Christ stated that their observance of the law was an outward show and that there was more honesty and a greater readiness to accept the call for repentance among sinners.

This is a story for all ages. The trail of broken promises that each of us leaves behind points to the inconsistency between what we promise and what we do. The lesson that the gospel offers us is that we may be saying ‘yes’ to God on Sunday and turning our back on what we profess during the rest of the week. Many of us who say ‘yes’ to the body of Christ don’t realize that we are saying ‘no’ to the community of Christ when at the church door, an age-old difference between families prevents us from speaking to a neighbour. Married couples have no problems in saying ‘yes’ on their wedding day but find it increasingly difficult to keep their promises through the ups and downs of life.

The gospel story (Mt. 28-32) is best summed up in the life of St. Augustine whose early life was a blunt refusal to follow Christ when his mother St. Monica held out to him the gospel but prayed unceasingly for many years in silent tears. The son who eventually said ‘yes’ reflected on his late decision when he wrote in his book *Confession* : “Late have I loved Thee, O beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved thee! Thou didst touch me, and I was inflamed with desire for Thy peace.”

With Peace in God’s mission
Fr. Clifford msfs

Pope’s Intention for the Month of October

For the Synod - We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to your mercy.

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28
The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

Responsorial Psalm: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11
In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon
Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28-32



Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, ‘My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not go,’ but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, ‘Certainly, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’

DAYLIGHT SAVING

Don't forget to put your clocks forward one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

2023 CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL

HEARTS ON FIRE FEET ON THE MOVE



Next weekend we invite you to contribute to the missionary movement, as Pope Francis has called us to, by accepting the invitation to partner with the Salesian Sisters and Church in Timor-Leste as they provide life-changing health care and foster autonomy for families in need in rural communities.

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.

Week 8 of the Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod

This Sunday 1 October is the beginning of Week 8 of the Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. Join the whole Diocesan community in continuing to pray for our first Diocesan Synod in the -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/>

Daily Mass Book 2024

If you would like a copy of the 2024 Daily Mass Book ordered on your behalf at a cost of \$26, please record your name and phone number on the clipboard located at the back of the church. For more information, please refer to the notice displayed at the back of the church.”

THANK YOU to all the parishioners that contributed to the Catholic Foundation Father’s Day Appeal.

We raised \$1905.00 which will go towards helping our retired and sick priests.

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.

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS OF INITIATION

Fr Clifford and the Sacramental Team would like to congratulate the children of our Parish who received their First Holy Communion over the last two weekends. Congratulations and Thank You to the Parents and families for encouraging and accompanying your children on their journey in faith to this momentous occasion. A special word of Thanks to the Staff of St Bernadette's, the SREs and our Parishioners, for their prayerful support of the children. May our young parishioners grow deeper in their love of Jesus and their relationship with Him.

Madge Miranda Sacramental CoOrdinator

VINNIES PANTRY

During the month of October, you are invited to donate **1 of the following items: Christmas Biscuits, Sweets, Nuts, Christmas Cake or Pudding** to help St Vincent De Paul with their Christmas Hampers to help 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.



Caritas Australia's Emergency Appeals Morocco / Libya

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died, and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water, and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals. Donate at www.caritas.org.au

World Rosary Hour



Friday 13th October is the 106th Anniversary of The Miracle of The Sun, which occurred on this day in Fatima, Portugal in 1917.

As per Our Lady of Fatima's request of prayer, penance and devotion to her

Immaculate Heart, all are encouraged to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries at 3pm on this day.

For more information, go to worldrosaryhour.com

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.

Diocesan Food Drives

Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by Jesuit Refugee Services and the House of Welcome, which operate thanks to donations from community food drives. All parishes and schools are encouraged to run a food drive for those seeking safety in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Find out more information about how you can help at parracatholic.org/fooddrive or emailing james.atanasious@parracatholic.org

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:

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: Jill Smyth

Anniversary: Consuelo Y Brautista

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:

7th & 8th OCTOBER 2023

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Arielle McDonald Lucie McDonald	Noah Bonello	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo
Minister at the Altar	Rey Baterna	Mario Spiteri	Jose (Mari) Tomas
Minister of the Word	Tina Uri © 1 Bernadette Nolan © 2 Michael Muranty ©	Carmen Bonello © 1 Ana Vlatko © 2 Alex De Vega ©	Karina Marafioti © 1 Jenny Agius © 2 Jem Dalay ©
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Walsh	Sue Gilmore	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Lorraine Stirton	Louise Bruni	Cindy Astillo
Music	CDs - Tony Walsh	St Pedro Calungsod Choir	Parish Choir
Flowers	Vicky Sant		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Frank Rowland		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Bing Money / Ricardo Serrado / Michael Muranty		