

## 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 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.

**32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**12 NOVEMBER 2023**

### Be Ready and Prepared

In the parable of the foolish bridesmaids (Mt. 25:1-13) who were unprepared and were left out of the wedding feast, having the banquet door slammed in their face, may seem to be too severe. At worst they deserved a reprimand for their last-minute rush. However, the gospel story is not about forgetting to bring along extra oil for the lamp, but about how we view the invitation extended to us to take our place in the kingdom of God. We have only ourselves to blame if we fail to arrive or are unprepared when the time comes. Being ready beforehand is what matters most and a last-minute hurry to get ourselves into spiritual shape is not to be recommended. If we are to have an eternity of joy, we shall have to prepare for it wholeheartedly. Admittance into the joys of God's kingdom simply cannot be taken for granted. Christ teaches this parable as a warning because the day of the Lord will come with startling suddenness like a thief in the night.

An essential part of Christian life is to cultivate a personal relationship with God, which each one must possess, work at and live because it cannot be borrowed at the last minute. We do this by developing a calm and believing attitude as we go about our normal work. There is no better way of achieving this than by using those spare moments during the day to share our thoughts, plans and worries with Christ in prayer, telling him what's on our mind and asking him to guide us. Christ is always prepared to meet us, so we on our part, must be prepared to meet him.

The gospel brings home the importance of being ready and prepared while we wait, by loving God and neighbour. We cannot take the chance of going through life relying on the minimum of holiness. Staying alert must be the axis around which our whole being, and life rotate.

With Peace in God's mission

Fr. Clifford msfs

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

For the Pope - We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

**First Reading:** Wisdom 6:12-16  
Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

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

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**  
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

## GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13



Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

## 2024 Columban Calendar

The 2024 Columban Calendar is now on sale in the Piety Store at \$10 each.

## INVITATION TO REUNION

Dear parents of children who were confirmed, received First Communion or made First Reconciliation,  
We would be very happy to have your children all attend the 10:00am Mass together on Sunday December 3.  
Light refreshments after Mass.

### Exploring the Catholic Faith (RCIA)

Has anyone spoken to you or do you know of any non Christian or non Catholic who wants to know the Catholic faith and who lives within the local area? If so, please see me and we can further the interest of the person/s by inviting them to our parish community and initiating them into the teaching and practices of the Catholic church.  
Fr. Clifford.

### Upcoming Feast Days

15th November - St Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

16th November - St Margaret of Scotland, St Gertrude, Virgin

17th November - St Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

18th November - The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

### November - Month of the Holy Souls

November is the month of the Holy Souls. This is traditionally a time when we remember those who have died. We are invited to pray for our deceased loved ones and visit them where they have been laid to rest. This is also a time when we pray especially for the souls in purgatory who have not yet attained the joys of the Kingdom of Heaven.

November Mass Offering envelopes are placed in the church. You may place the Mass offerings in a box which will be placed in front of the altar and celebrated through the month.

### Youth Mass Round the Diocese: 11 November

Looking for some young adults to worship with? Hunting for an excuse to catch up with Jesus and friends? Wondering what goes on around our Diocese? Mass

Round the Diocese is just that! Our young people are visiting different churches around the Diocese for Mass and fellowship afterwards with new and known friends. The first Mass will be at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville, on Saturday 11 November for 6pm Mass.

For more information, please contact:  
[youthgroupolor@gmail.com](mailto:youthgroupolor@gmail.com)

#### 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](http://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.

## FAREWELL MIKE KENDALL

Mike Kendall a former parishioner passed away recently and his funeral will be held at John XXIII Stanhope Gardens, 11am Friday 17th November.

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## VINNIES PANTRY

During the month of November, you are invited to donate **any one of the following items: Long Life Custard, Chips, Nuts, Drinks or any other Christmas food item of your choice.**



**Thank you to everyone** who has contributed to the St Vincent De Paul (Vinnies) through the Pantry or The Poor Box throughout the year.

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## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



Come and pray and spend quiet time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament before mass on weekdays and on Saturday before the vigil mass. Please note, every Saturday beginning Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the chapel from 4.30 until 5.30pm.

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## Craft Stall



The Parish Craft Group will be having a craft stall at the School Market Day on Friday 1st December in front of the Hall on Wheeler St, starting at 3:30pm.

Come along and bring your cash and do your Christmas shopping. All beautiful handmade gifts by ladies from our Parish.

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## Mass and prayers for deceased clergy: 17 November

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to its second annual Mass for our deceased clergy on Friday 17 November at 10.30am at St Aidan's Parish, Rooty Hill, followed by prayers at the gravesites of clergy buried in Pinegrove Cemetery. All are welcome to attend and give your gift of prayer to those whose lives were dedicated to bringing us all closer to Christ.

We encourage each parish to offer a Mass for the deceased priests who have served in your own parish on the same day, to unite in prayer for this special intention.

## 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.agus@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](mailto:joel.agus@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)

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

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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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## Donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal

Following a series of surprise attacks against Israel by Hamas in early October, Caritas Australia is supporting partner agencies on the ground to provide emergency cash, shelter, and psychosocial support to those affected by the violence. The efforts of these partner agencies are expected to support 17,000 displaced families, representing around 100,000 of the 1 million people displaced. To support Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal, visit [www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/](http://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/) or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

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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.

## Diocesan Food Drives

Many vulnerable people in our community rely on the 'food banks' run by the 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](http://parracatholic.org/fooddrive) or emailing [james.atanasious@parracatholic.org](mailto:james.atanasious@parracatholic.org)

## World Day of the Poor – A Message of Hope: 19 November

The World Day of the Poor, established by Pope Francis, serves as a direct call to action inspired by the Gospel's message of compassion and service to those less fortunate. It is a reminder of our Christian duty to reach out to the poor and marginalized and engage in acts of charity, love, and inclusion. Read the Pope Francis' message for the World Day of the Poor here:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20230613-messaggio-vii-giornatamondiale-poveri-2023.html>

## MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm,  
Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am

### 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:

Bruce Flemming, Rachel Surdich, Mabel Green, Dean McDonald, Baby Walsh, Gerard Leslie, Mick Toomey, Dennis Tracey, Harry Tracey, Rachel Surdich, Laura Vecchiet, 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:** Ken Norris, Mike Kendall

### Anniversary:

**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:

18th & 19th NOVEMBER 2023

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Arielle McDonald Lucie McDonald Flora Madeni	Noah Bonello Charlotte Bonello Patrick Vlatko	Jess Barbin Alyssa Barbin Madeline Chakti
Minister at the Altar	Leonides Martirez	Mario Spiteri	Joe Formosa
Minister of the Word	Michael Hord © 1 Wendy Hord © 2 Kim McDonald ©	Carmen Bonello © 1 Ana Vlatko © 2 Alex De Vega ©	Jenny Agius © 1 Karina Marafioti © 2 Kate Fardouly ©
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Simpson	Helen Gonzales	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Lorraine Stirton	Louise Bruni	Volunteer Required
Music	Couples for Christ		Parish Choir
Flowers	Amabel Keelty		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Frank Rowland		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Jenny Agius / Sue Gilmore / Saydie Chakty / Margaret Smith		