

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

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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.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - YEAR B

31 DECEMBER 2023

A Family of All sorts

Christmas is above all a family feast and while our thoughts are still centered on Bethlehem and the Holy Family, the readings this Sunday deal with various aspects of family life. Our own families may be far from this loving Holy family. Yet, let us not forget that Mary and Joseph, like other parents, had their own problems to face. The shadow of the cross was already beginning to form over the crib at Bethlehem when they heard Simeon's chill prophecy, that the child Jesus was destined for the rise and fall of many in Israel and that Mary's own soul would be pierced with a sword. From the very beginning, the child they loved and cherished was a mystery to Mary and Joseph and as he grew up under their protection all they could do was to place their trust in God. We must do the same. The family is as old as humankind and has survived because it is built on the strong foundation of love. We may not be able to change many things in the world, but our influence does extend over our homes and our own family.

Family members need to give time to each other. Love, harmony and mutual respect, which are the basic ingredients of a happy family, must be witnessed in action. Attitudes of loving and caring, which are encouraged in the earliest days, have a deep and lasting influence. Children become, in later life, what their homes have made them, and when they have learned to give as well as receive, they develop a growing awareness of others.

There is an opportunity for young adults to reflect on the love and respect which they ought to show to their parents because kindness is precious in the eyes of God. Sadly, they may have not always lived up to the gospel values in this respect. Parents are often left bewildered and wondering as what is happening as they watch their children grow up and express values and beliefs different to their generation. Grandparents must also be shown sensitive respect and should not be condemned to end their days in isolation and loneliness. More than anything else, emphasis is to be a peace within our family circle. While a well-furnished home and a decent standard of living are important, it is good to remember that, unless the family keeps prayer and spiritual concerns in mind, things are bound to go wrong.

Family life never runs smoothly and today it is more difficult and trying than before. On this feast of the Holy Family, we ask Mary and Joseph to make our families more pleasing to God, to be the heart and center of every home throughout the world and to put a new spirit into this basic unit of all society.

With Peace in God's mission
Fr Clifford msfs

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY - For the Gift of Diversity in the Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Entrance Antiphon: The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3
Your own son shall be your heir.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
The faith of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!
In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon
Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

For sick parishioners, relatives and friends.

For our deceased brothers and sisters:

Bruce Flemming, Rachel Surdich, Mabel Green, Dean McDonald, Baby Walsh, Gerard Leslie, Mick Toomey, Dennis Tracey, Harry Tracey, 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.

Recently deceased: Jose Egidio Da Silva, Baby Maximilian Epondulan

Anniversary: Caina Russell, Malcolm Speers

Deceased: Norman Hanson, 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.

Mass Times:

Monday 1st January - New Year's Day Mass at 9:15am
Weekday Masses until 27th January - 8:15am with 7:30am Exposition
No Mass on Mondays or Wednesday Evenings

GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-24

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.' There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:

6th & 7th JANUARY 2024

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Arielle McDonald Lucie McDonald	Jess Barbin Alyssa Barbin	Anthony Pilayre Joshua Davison Lachlan Money
Minister at the Altar	Zaldy Pamintuan	Alexander De Vega	Aidan Villadolid
Minister of the Word	Tina Uri © 1 Ella Martirez © 2 David Smyth ©	Lynne Tolhurst © 1 Matthew Kenyon © 2 Michele Brohier ©	Karina Marafioti © 1 Jem Dalay © 2 Perla Billedo ©
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Walsh	Sue Gilmore	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Agius Family	Wendy Walsh	Rosa Watson
Music	Mordini Family	CDs - Judith Pineda	Couples for Christ
Flowers	Michele Brohier		
Counters	Tom Lara, Epay Lara & Orlando Abarca		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Bing Money / Ricardo Serrado / Michael Muranty		