

## 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.

## 1st SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

## 18 FEBRUARY 2024

### Pope Francis: Lent is a time of conversion and freedom.

In his message for Lent 2024, Pope Francis invites the faithful to “pause” for prayer and to assist our brothers and sisters in need, in order to change our own lives and the lives of our communities. “When our God reveals Himself, His message is always one of freedom,”. Recalling the Exodus of the Hebrew people from Egypt, the Holy Father explains that our journey through the desert can be a season of grace – not an abstract journey, but a concrete path that involves seeing the world as it is and hearing the cries of our oppressed brothers and sisters.

### Countering a globalization of indifference

The Pope insisted on the need to counter a “globalization of indifference.” “Our Lenten journey will be concrete if... we realize that even today we remain under the rule of Pharaoh. A rule that makes us weary and indifferent. A model of growth that divides us and robs us of our future.” At the same time, Pope Francis reminded us that it is God who takes the initiative. Too often, he said, there remains within us “an inexplicable longing for slavery,” a desire to cling to idols that paralyse us, as Israel was paralysed in the desert. Lent, however, is a “season of grace, a time of conversion,” where the desert can become “a place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery,” where “we find new criteria of justice and a community with which we can press forward on a road not yet taken.”

### Pausing for prayer and to help our neighbour.

He added that the Lenten journey involves a struggle. It is a time for action, the Pope said, but also a time “to pause” – to pause in prayer and to pause “in the presence of a wounded brother or sister.” “Love of God and love of neighbour are one love,” Pope Francis continued, explaining that “the contemplative dimension” of Lent can help us “release new energies,” to be “more sensitive to one another: in the place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers.”

### 'A flash of new hope'

Pope Francis concluded his Lenten message on a hopeful note: “To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope.” Calling on the faithful to “be ready to take risks,” he invited them “to find the courage to see our world, not as in its death throes, but in a process of giving birth; not at the end, but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history.” “Faith and charity,” he said, “take hope, this small child, by the hand. They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward.

By Christopher Wells [www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va)

### POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY - For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

**Entrance Antiphon:** When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**First Reading:** Genesis 9:8-15

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Communion Antiphon:** One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

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## GOSPEL

Mark 1:12-15



The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'



## WEEKLY PLANNED GIVING

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for your generosity towards the Sunday Collections which assist the Clergy and the parish.

May I request those who have pledged to the Weekly Planned Giving Envelopes and are not using them, to kindly consider the Direct Debit Facility and return the unused envelopes. To move to this, you would need to fill out a Blue Card at the back of the church with your credit card details and put it into any of the collection baskets. This would reduce the cost of printing envelopes.

To assist the smooth transactions of the Direct Debit Facility, kindly Inform the Parish if you change your credit card number for any reason.

Some of you use the Tap-n-Go facility even though you have the Box of Planned Giving Envelopes. In that case, the Parish Office is unaware of your giving and can cause a discrepancy with the receipts issued.

Please contact Fr. Clifford or Bev at the Parish office if you have any questions.

Thank you  
Fr. Clifford

## Catholic Youth Parramatta 2024 LIFT-ED Launch: 29 February

LIFTED Launch 2024 is here! Join young people from across our Diocese for an evening of faith, live music, formation, and announcements. Learn about ways you can meet, connect and 'walk with' other young people | West HQ Rooty Hill, 29 February 2024, 7pm to 9:30pm. Register [www.parracatholic.org/liftedlaunch](http://www.parracatholic.org/liftedlaunch)

### 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](mailto: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 February you are asked to donate 1 of the following: **School Snacks (PLEASE NO STATIONERY ITEMS)** or a **small jar of Coffee** or a **Packet of Breakfast Cereal**. Thank you.

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### **Light to the Nations (LTTN) Easter Youth Pilgrimage: 28 – 31 March**

LTTN is an Easter Pilgrimage event held biannually for Catholics (singles and families) aged 16+. Camp under the open skies with up to 1,000+ as we celebrate the Easter Triduum. The event will be held on the grounds of Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville from 28 – 31 March 2024. Visit [www.ltnn.org.au](http://www.ltnn.org.au) for more information and register today. Contact [rego@ltnn.org.au](mailto:rego@ltnn.org.au) or ring Therese MGL on 0432 228 250.

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### **Projector Operators**

We are currently looking for some projector operators, particularly for the 6pm Vigil Mass. If you are interested, please speak to Father Clifford or contact the Parish Office.

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### **Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2024**

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February 2024. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and/or Ministers at the Altar.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or

[mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) or visit our website to enrol: [www.parracatholic.org/contribute/volunteer/liturgical-ministry](http://www.parracatholic.org/contribute/volunteer/liturgical-ministry)



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women from three different corners of the world. They are facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow for all future generations. Ronita from the Philippines is a mother of two young boys living in a slum in Quezon City. She went back to school to finish her education so that she could earn income to support her children. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia from Samoa and her family. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions. Memory, the eldest daughter from a rural Malawian family, trained to become a carpenter and is now a trailblazer for future generations of women in her village.

Throughout Project Compassion, you will get to know the stories of Ronita, Leaia and Memory. Journey with them as they forge a path to a brighter future for all generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

### **Celebrating Holy Week: Formation for Ministers of the Altar: 9 March**

The Office for Worship presents 'Celebrating Holy Week' – a workshop for current Acolytes and Ministers at the Altar presented by Chris Ohlsen. It will be held on Saturday 9 March from 9:30am to 3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. To register or for more information, please contact [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org) or call (02) 8838 3456 by 5 March 2024.

### **MET The FaithFeed: 15 March**

Interested in live music + curious conversations + life & faith stories from those in their 20s, 30s 40s? Sign up for The FaithFeed, Friday 15 March 2024 – Doors open 7PM w/ live music for 7:30PM. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via QR or get in touch with the team via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

#### **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)

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES IN 2024

Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare.

Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

## 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 sick parishioners, relatives and friends.

Sam Cassar, Jim Buckley, Garth Warne, Bruce Flemming, Joe B, Joshua Sessions, Rachel Surdich, Mabel Green, Dean McDonald, Baby Walsh, Gerard Leslie, Mick Toomey, Dennis Tracey, Harry Tracey, 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:** Fr Kevin Bates SM, David Kitney

**Anniversary:** Bruce McDonald, Fay Roch

**Deceased:** Laura Vecchiet Lino Delulia, Maria Micelotta, Elipidia Morcilla Lauzon, Ailsia 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:

## 24th & 25th FEBRUARY 2024

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Rachel Vaz Bianca Whittaker	Noah Bonello Charlotte Bonello Patrick Vlatko	Cate Astillo Zara Astillo Madeline Chakti
Minister at the Altar	Zaldy Pamintuan	Fernando Gallegos	Reymund Rillera
Minister of the Word	Jessie Pranadjaja ® 1 Joel Agius ® 2 Raia Uri ®	Ana Vlatko ® 1 Carmen Bonello ® 2 Alex De Vega ®	Josephine Baracz ® 1 Eva Narajos ® 2 Jem Dalay ®
Eucharistic Minister	Joanne Digwood	Catherine Peregrina	Sarah Key
Welcomer	Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required	Cindy Astillo
Music	Magnificat Choir	CDs - Sue Gilmore	Parish Choir
Flowers	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Frank Rowland		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Ria Rillera / Gillian / Chloe Stevens		