

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.

4th SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

10 MARCH 2024



Reflection on John 3:14-21 (Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday)

One of the favorite parts of the text is “*God so loved the world so much that he gave his only begotten Son*”. St. Augustine said, “God loves each of us as if we were His only child.”

If you can you imagine a mother who has many children – say ten for example, “Each one is precious to her.” A mother’s love does not operate on the principle of division. Her heart is not divided into ten ways. Rather, her love operates by the law of multiplication: one heart multiplied ten times. So, if you take a mother’s love and multiply it by infinity, you will get a glimpse of the overwhelming love God has for each person on planet Earth. “*For God so loved the world.*”

Yahweh is not the God of condemnation and destruction but the God of forgiveness, mercy and reconciliation. God is motivated by a love so great that he gives the world his only Son, not to destroy but to transform the world. Redemption begins with God; reconciliation and healing are God’s work, filled with possibilities that are as limitless as they are undeserved. God’s Messiah is the “Light” in which humankind sees the great love and mercy of God in their midst.

Jesus reveals a God of life and restoration, a God who seeks not our punishment or humiliation but our healing and reconciliation with Him and with one another. Too often, we approach faith as a series of “thou shall nots”- religion is equated with guilt, spirituality with that nagging little conscience in the depths of our souls that serves as a safety valve to stop us from becoming the wicked people we know we can become. Jesus challenges limited concept of faith: God is not a cosmic tyrant that revels in seeing us suffer; God has revealed himself as a loving Father of a perfect creation that has made itself imperfect in so many ways through sin.

Let us then look at Jesus lifted up on the cross and in glory. Let us see the unconditional abundant love of God for us shown there. Let us open our hearts to that love and let it flow right through us to bring life and hope to those with whom we come in contact – a friend or a foe.

Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

POPE’S INTENTIONS FOR MARCH - For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

Responsorial Psalm: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10
When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

GOSPEL

John 3:14-21



Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.’

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

SUNDAY 24 MARCH - Palm Sunday
Blessing of the Palms - Saturday 6pm Mass
Sunday 8.30am & 10am Masses

WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH - Chrism Mass
Parramatta Cathedral.

NO EVENING MASS

THURSDAY 28 MARCH - Mass of the
Lords Supper 7.30pm Mass

NO MORNING MASS

GOOD FRIDAY 29 MARCH - Stations of
the Cross 10am
Passion of the Lord 3pm

SATURDAY 30 MARCH - Easter Vigil
Mass 6pm

EASTER SUNDAY 31 March - 8.30am &
10am Masses

RECONCILIATION TIMES

TUESDAY 26 MARCH 9.45am – 10.30am
FRIDAY 29 MARCH - 11am - 12 noon

Filipino Chaplaincy's Feast of St Joseph – 16 March

The Filipino Chaplaincy of the Diocese of Parramatta invites you to come and join the Holy Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph, the Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on Saturday, 16 March at 10:30AM at St Patrick's church, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown NSW 2148.

There will be Novena Masses in preparation for the Feast from March 6 to 14 at 7:30PM (except Mar 6 and 13 at 8:00PM) at St Michael's church, 58 Orwell Street, Blacktown NSW 2148.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS

on the 50th Wedding Anniversary of
Lynne & Rocco Fania this Saturday 9th March.

THANK YOU

from Fr. Clifford

Thank you to the volunteers at the Working Bee.
Steve & Jenny Malizija, Joe Serg, Joe Barbuto and
Alex de Vega.

VINNIES PANTRY

During the month of March, you are invited to donate
1 packet of biscuits of your choice. Thank you.

CAR FOR SALE

Anyone interested in purchasing a car, please contact
Fr Clifford.

Seniors Meeting

The next Seniors Meeting will be held next Thursday
14th March at 9:45am in the Hall. All Welcome.

Music for Easter Triduum Workshop: 12 March

Join us for another Music Workshop led by Eric Grella to learn more about Music for the Easter Triduum. This event will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown on 12 March from 7-9pm. This workshop is for all who are involved in the music ministry of their parish and anyone interested in diving deeper into the world of liturgical music! RSVP to lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795 by 8 March.

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

Positions Vacant:

Administration Assistant (part-time) - Sacred Heart Parish, Mt Druitt South and Permanent Diaconate community – **Applications close 10pm Monday 11 March**

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/



Memory is 26 years old and lives in rural Malawi. As the eldest child in a low-income farming family, Memory had to take on many household chores and farming activities to support her parents. They struggled to pay for Memory's school fees and school supplies, and Memory often had to walk to school barefooted.

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt technical skills in carpentry. She undertook a three-year carpentry course, with CADECOM supporting part of her tuition and boarding fees.

Memory became the first female carpenter from her village. Today, she works as a carpenter at one of Malawi's largest hydroelectric power stations. With the income from her job, she can provide financial support to her family and inspire other young women in her community so that they may have the opportunity to succeed in a male-dominated industry.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

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 for more information and register today. Contact rego@ltnn.org.au or ring Therese MGL on 0432 228 250.

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.

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 or emailing

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 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 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.

Wendy Hord, Thelma Islip, John El-Samra, Glory Ivanfy, Dean McDonald, 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: Gladys Connor

Anniversary: Gaetano (Guy) Mordini, Gertrudes Carrasco-Gaca, Anthony C. Javier,

Deceased: Nirvana Zec, Mira Zec, Irene Dundas, James Giffney, Laura Vecchiet, Lino Delulia, Maria Micelotta, Elipidia Morcilla Lauzon, Ailsia & 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:

16th & 17th MARCH 2024

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
Minister at the Altar	Joel Agius	Fernando Gallegos	Aidan Villadolid
Minister of the Word	Kim McDonald © 1 David Smyth © 2 Michael Muranty ©	Carmen Bonello © 1 Ana Vlatko © 2 Lynne Tolhurst ©	Eva Narajos © 1 Perla Billedo © 2 Volunteer Required ©
Eucharistic Minister	Bernadette Nolan	Helen Gonzales	Jocelyn Bade
Welcomer	Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required	Rosa Watson
Music	Couples for Christ	CDs - Amale Hourani	CDs - Eva Narajos
Flowers	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		
Counters	Tom Lara, Epay Lara & Orlando Abarca		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Jenny Agius / Sue Gilmore / Saydie Chakty / Margaret Smith		