

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)

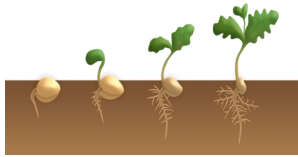
ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH VISION STATEMENT

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.

5th SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

17 MARCH 2024

No Gain Without Pain



All the readings this Sunday point in their different ways towards the passion and death of Christ. Jeremiah tells a shattered Jewish people, going into exile as a punishment, that God will not forsake them. He is optimistic that God will form a new relationship with his people based on love and personal respect. God will put a new heart and a new spirit into his people.

The second reading in the letter to the Hebrews, Ch 5, v 7-9, we are reminded how Jesus suffered and prayed with tears to be saved from death but he learnt obedience and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

In the gospel, Jn 12:20-30, Christ speaks his thoughts loud and expresses that his soul is troubled at the prospect of Calvary and is tempted to pray for deliverance from it. However, he cannot ask to be spared his agony as God's kingdom will only come through crucifixion and death. Christ lifted high on the cross shows the depth of evil we humans are capable of and the heights of love to which we are called. Every Christian is called to live out the passion of Jesus Christ in one's life. No one is excused or spared its agony. Following Christ means travelling the same road, laying down our lives, and leaving everything completely in the hands of God the Father.

To drive home the point, Jesus takes the example from the world of nature. Our lives, like Christ's must resemble the grain of wheat which goes into the ground to produce new life. We are invited to die to selfishness to start living the life of Christ. One comes to a greater life only after dying to a lesser one. We are God's grain of wheat, part of his eternal harvest. Christ shows us that life and death have a place in God's plan for us. In every place and in every heart the struggle with good and evil is still with us.

The way of the cross begins at our own doorstep, and we are challenged to follow its path. Let us remember, that there are no crown-bearers in heaven who were not cross-bearers on earth.

With Peace in God's mission

Fr Clifford msfs

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: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

Responsorial Psalm: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!' A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.'

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.' By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

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

Disciples School of Mission Live-in Course: 1 – 4 April

Are you aged between 18-40 and searching for an adventure in 2024? If so, then join us for the Disciples School of Mission. This 4-day live-in course, held at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, calls people from across Australia and beyond to be equipped for youth ministry and evangelisation. Be renewed in your own journey, equipped for mission/youth ministry, and formed in the Catholic faith. You won't regret it – it's an adventure!

For more information, visit discipleschoolofmission.com.au or ring Judy MGL on 0479 059 183.

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.

ADVERTISEMENT IN THE PARISH BULLETIN

The Parish is willing to advertise any local business in our bulletin. For more details kindly contact Fr. Clifford.

VINNIES PANTRY

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

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.

Pontifical Holy Land Good Friday Collection: 29 March



Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in every Catholic church to support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique

responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land. Your donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of people who are keeping alive the Christian presence in the land of Jesus, often in the face of great difficulty in recent years. Make your donation this Holy Week via the envelopes in your parish or donate directly via Commissariat of the Holy Land, 47 Victoria St. Waverley NSW 2024 or holyland@franciscans.org.au.

Mount Schoenstatt Shrine Time Holy Hour for Youth and Young Adults

The Mount Schoenstatt community invite young and young adults for Holy Hour every fourth Sunday of the month from 7pm to 8pm at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, followed by a social gathering afterwards. There will be opportunities for praise and worship, prayer, reflection, confession and benediction. For more information, please contact Sr M Rita on 0493 026 628 or srrita@schoenstatt.org.au

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS

Parents are reminded that registration forms for Confirmation, Communion & Reconciliation need to be submitted to the Parish Office before March 23rd.



Partnership in action

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground, working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to support communities living in urban slums in the Philippines. FCJ runs a number of programs that include house renovating, food processing, basic literacy skills, urban gardening, upcycling and income generating activities. They also have a clinic visited weekly by a doctor and community nurse.

Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Samoa to assist communities to have increased access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene to ensure human health and well-being by providing water tanks and sanitation facilities.

Caritas Australia partners with the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi through the A+ program. Since 2016, the A+ program has helped 7,397 families across Malawi improve their food security, access to basic water and sanitation, boost women's income generation and strengthen child protection.

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.

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.

Judy Phillips, Virginia Vardy, 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, 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: Sandra McShane, Gladys Connor, Josefina S Bergonio

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

Deceased: Abigail B. Devega, 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:

23rd & 24th MARCH 2024

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Rachel Vaz Bianca Whittaker	Noah Bonello Charlotte Bonello Patrick Vlatko	Anthony Pilayre Joshua Davison Lachlan Money
Minister at the Altar	Zaldy Pamintuan	Mario Spiteri	Reymund Rillera
Minister of the Word	Please see Holy Week Roster	Please see Holy Week Roster	Please see Holy Week Roster
Eucharistic Minister	Jessica Anderson	Catherine Peregrina	Sarah Key
Welcomer	Lorraine Stirton	Louise Bruni	Volunteer Required
Music	Magnificat Choir	CDs - Judith Pineda	Parish Choir
Flowers	NO FLOWERS DURING LENT		
Counters	Kevin Sloane & Frank Rowland		
Church Cleaners	Rosa Watson / Ria Rillera / Chloe Stevens / Gillian		