

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 (Thursday / Friday)
Sacramental Coordinator: Mrs Madge Miranda (Thursday/Friday)
Assistant Secretary: Chantal Weir (Wednesday)
Office Hours: Wednesday 9am—3.30pm, Thursday & Friday 9am - 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.

Sunday 3rd November 2024, 31st in Ordinary Time - YEAR B

Reflection, 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

One of the Scribes asked Jesus, "*Which commandment is the first of all?*" – what lies behind this question? The Jewish bible is a collection of twenty-four scrolls consisting of The Torah, Prophets, and the Writings. The five scrolls of the Torah are the heart and soul of God's revelation to his people. If we go through the Torah one thing becomes very obvious is that there are 613 Commandments consisting of prohibitions (don'ts) and prescriptions (dos). These commandments cover virtually every aspect of life. The religious teachers debated which were "rigorous" commandments and which were "light." So, in religious circles a point of discussion would be which of these commandments was "first," or most important. This is the setting for the question the scribe asks of Jesus.

Which Commandment is first of all? It is asking what is most central? What does loyalty to God mean? This was not an unusual question for Jew to ask? The Talmud recalls an unusual request made by a Gentile to two of the best-known Rabbis in the first century – Rabbi Shammai and Rabbi Hillel. The Gentile asked the Rabbi to teach him the whole of the Torah, but whilst standing on one foot. In other words, he did not want any long-winded answers. Rabbi Shammai seemed to take offense of the question and drove the man away with a stick, because he said that the Torah cannot be crystallised. But Rabbi Hillel accepted the challenge and replied, "***What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbour. That is the whole Torah; the rest is commentary; go and learn it.***" Like Rabbi Hillel, Jesus does not refuse the request either. He quotes two passages from the Jewish Bible, Torah, and these texts every Jew would have known by heart. Jesus takes one text from the Book of Deuteronomy – "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength." Jesus then adds a further text from the book of Leviticus – The second commandment, from Leviticus (19:18), assumes that people love themselves; that they protect, care for, and tend to their own concerns. Jesus challenges the scribe by saying; "you must love your neighbour as yourself." The two whole Commandments to love God and love thy neighbour are Jesus' summary of his message. The scribe not only agrees with Jesus' answer but adds this powerful affirmation, 'Love of God and neighbour as yourself is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.' Jesus confirms this answer, yet adds, "You are not far from the kingdom of God" ...

Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

Gospel Mark 12 :28b-34

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?"

Jesus replied, "The first is this:

Hear, O Israel!

The Lord our God is Lord alone!

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,

with all your soul,

with all your mind,

and with all your strength.

The second is this:

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these."

The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher.

You are right in saying,

'He is One and there is no other than he.'

And 'to love him with all your heart,

with all your understanding,

with all your strength,

and to love your neighbour as yourself

is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding,

he said to him,

"You are not far from the kingdom of God."

And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Pope's Intention;

For anyone who has lost a child

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

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.

Entrance Antiphon:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong
salvation.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God with all your
heart.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 17:2-4, 47,51

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal
priesthood.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will
love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Cf Psalm 15:11

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your
presence, O Lord.

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
5.00 - 5.30pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8.30am - 9.15am
Wednesday 6.30pm

BAPTISMS

At 11.30am by appointment only (Sundays).
A Preparation Evening -7.30pm in the Parish Centre, on the
4th Tuesday of the month.

MARRIAGES & FUNERALS

By Appointment - Please contact the Parish Office for details

*** VINNIES PANTRY ***

During this month please donate the following: **Christmas
lollies, nuts, biscuits, mince pies, chips and pretzels**
This enables St Vincent de Paul with their Christmas
Hampers
**Thankyou all so much for the great response of items
requested each month**

PARISH YOUTH GROUP

A monthly parish youth group for ages 11-14 years (or Yr 6 -
8 at school). Our first get together will be on Saturday the 9th
of November from 7-8pm in the Parish Hall. There'll be
music, games, some time for sharing, and food! Please contact
Leanne Mordini on 0413047373

**COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL
DEPARTED**

(All Souls Day)

During the month of November, masses will be
offered for the departed souls. November mass
intention envelopes can be placed in the box at the
entrance to the church.

For sick parishioners, relatives and friends.

David Smythe, Catrina McGhee, Melanie Sant, Sarah Davenport, Maria Mihic, Maureen Wood, Dean McDonald, Judy Phillips,
Thelma Islip, Wendy Hord, Rachel Surdich, Mabel Green, Tycho Walsh, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Nathan Weaver, Paul Tonissoo,
Julie Daly, Jim Buckley

For our recently deceased brothers and sisters: Rocco Fania, Carina Magat, Samuel Cassar,

Deceased: Nita Newnham, Vicente Gallegos, Francis Vassallo, Anka-Pero Pejasinovic, Alois Mihic, Nirvana Zec, Mira Zec, Laura
Vecchiet, Lino Delulia, Maria Micelotta, Elipidia Morcilla Lauzon, Ailsia & Bruce McDonald, Joan & Stanley Bartle, Garrick Family.
Deceased members & benefactors of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Anniversary: Patricia Clayton, Vicenta Vitocruz, Anthony Harris, Ethan Harris.

We pray for all those from St Bernadette's who are sick, or have died.
May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace and rise in glory.

**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.

WELCOME

We especially welcome to our faith community:
Sienna Austin.
She will be baptised into our community this
Sunday. Congratulations to her parents and family
and may you have a joyous and blessed day.

**SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE
TRAINING OPPORTUNITES**

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory
Safeguarding Training will be held on 9
November at St Margaret Mary's Parish,
Merrylands for Modules 4-5. Please register
directly for this training or for other convenient
dates and locations by clicking on the training
event at:
[https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?
series=safeguarding-training](https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training). For information,
please email: [safeguardingtrain-
ing@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)