

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

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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 15th December 2024, 3rd Sunday of Advent, Ordinary Time - YEAR C

Reflection, 3rd Sunday of Advent, Ordinary Time, Year C—Advent Candle,

This third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, is a time to share what we have with the less fortunate through selfless service. The word Gaudete is Latin for "rejoice". This Sunday is a joyful reminder that salvation is near.

Let us focus on the question asked of John three separate times in this Sunday's Gospel passage. First crowds, then tax collectors, and finally soldiers ask John, "What should we do?" John's advice to all of them is very practical and pointed. His answers reflect his knowledge of the vocations and values of those who asks the questions, and his answers all involve acts of mercy and justice. In response to the question, "what should we do?" John is clearly saying, share, keep no more than you need, be fair, treat others with care, and be honest.

The story of Saint Martin of Tours is a powerful tale of sharing and conversion that has captured the imaginations of Christians for centuries. Martin, a dashing young soldier, was confronted by a poor beggar who pleaded for Martin's assistance. Martin's heart was moved with compassion for the frail, sickly man, shivering in the cold and clothed only in tattered rags. He removed his magnificent military cloak from his broad shoulders, drew his sword, and divided the garment in two, placing half of his cloak around the impoverished beggar. That night, Martin stirred uncomfortably in his sleep. He was graced with what appeared in his dreams to be a vision of the Lord Jesus who stood before Martin clothed in half of his cloak. He awoke from this dream, resolved to complete his instruction in the Faith, later becoming a priest and then a bishop.

Celebrating and sharing the Christmas 'JOY,' begins with seeing Jesus in the poor and needy as we see in the story of Martin of Tours.

Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

Gospel: Luke 3: 10—18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages."

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

Pope's Intention;

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



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:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice.
Indeed the Lord is near.

First Reading: Year C Zephaniah 3:14-18
With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Responsorial Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6
Cry out with joy and gladness:
For among you is the great and Holy One of Israel

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7
The Lord is near.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!
The spirit of the Lord is upon me
He sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Isaiah 35:4
Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

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 6:30pm-Exposition & 7:00pm Mass.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.45-10.15am , 5.00 - 5.30pm

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL
for Catholic Care's Houses to Homes

Thank You for Supporting our Catholic Care's Houses to Homes . Fr Fernando Montano, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your generous support of homeless mothers and children. Our Bishop's Christmas Appeal has raised over \$2000 ensuring Catholic Care can continue to provide homeless mothers and children safety, support, and a place to call home. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MASS AND RECONCILIATION TIMES**RECONCILIATION**

Thursday 19 December 9.45-10.15 am
Friday 20 December 9.45-10.15am
Saturday 21 December 9.45-10.15am, 5.00-5.30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS**• no morning mass on the 24th December**

24 December vigil 5.30 pm (Children's Mass)
* Children are welcome to dress as angels and shepherds.
8.00 pm
12.00 midnight
25 December 9.00 am

Youth Group Christmas Party!

Our Youth Group Christmas Party, for ages 11-14 (Year 6-8) will be held in the parish hall on Thursday the 19th of December from 7-8pm. Come and celebrate with games, food and fellowship. Contact Leanne Mordini on 0413047373 for further information.

Post Christmas Weekday Mass times

26 December	Thursday	No mass
27 December	Friday	No mass
28 December	Saturday morning	No mass
31 December	Tuesday	8.15 am
1 January	Wednesday	9.15 am

(New Years Day)

Weekday masses from 2 January until Saturday 25 January at 8.15am with exposition and rosary at 7.45am

LITURGY FORMATION MINISTRY COURSES

Please consider being a Reader, Eucharistic Minister or a Senor Server to assist with weekend masses. Course begins in February 2025. Please contact Fr. Clifford for more details..

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

We would like to acknowledge Mick Toomey on reaching 100 years of age on 18th December 2024. Congratulations on this wonderful milestone.

**For sick parishioners, relatives and friends.**

Consuelo Fonseca, 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 Tonisoo, Julie Daly, Jim Buckley

For our recently deceased brothers and sisters: John Breed, Francis Johnson

Anniversary: Fr. Hugh Leonard (1st Parish Priest of St Bernadette's 1961 - 1979) Jose Egidio Da Silva.

Deceased: Seanie Cronin, Margie Rose. Francesco Marafioti, Rocco Marafioti, Loreto Zec, Waddad Hourani-Honeineh el-Samra, Rocco Fania, Carina Magat, Samuel Cassar, Nita Newnham, Vicente Gallegos, Abigail B. DeVega, 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.

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.