

# ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: [www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](http://www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)  
Parish Centre: 14 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park NSW 2147  
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## 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 (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.

## 18th Sunday in ordinary time, 3rd August 2025 - YEAR C

### Reflection; 18th Sunday in Ordinary time

The centrepiece of this Sunday's Gospel is not about inheritance, but on greed – the accumulation of wealth. The farmer in the parable is not a bad person. He is rich, but that is not a sin; but as the story unfolds, we discover the man's true spirit – he is greedy and isolated from others. The human propensity toward greed stands in striking contrast to God's providential care for rich and poor alike, as well as to the Lucan theme of appropriate stewardship of one's possessions.

Those who read and hear the parable might ask, what is so wrong with storing the overrun of crops? Frugal-minded folk have long stashed excess food in silos, pantries, and basement shelves; they have saved for rainy days, squirreled away funds for retirement, and even some dollar notes under the mattress. Is this not a prudent hedge against future economic uncertainty? After all, this is precisely what the young Joseph advises Pharaoh after interpreting a dream to mean seven years of plenty and seven years of famine (Gen 41: 17-36): store up the excess in the fat years so that there will be enough for every year in the lean ones.

The key issues at stake are; first is the reminder that God is the author of life and death, as well as the creator of a land that produces food for its inhabitants. In other words, it is divine providence that has made possible the excess crops. Secondly, the man seems to have forgotten that all created life is bounded by death, a reality that comes to bear whatever the quantity of one's possessions. In the end, and sooner rather than later, death will separate him from his overflowing barns. "You cannot take it with you," so as the popular saying goes, "There are no storage facilities in heaven."

The parable calls on all, rich and poor alike, to reflect carefully about what we want and why we want it. Are our desires and standards for what is enough driven by a determination to store up treasures for our own pleasure, or by our understanding of God's blessings and our true purpose in life? Will we measure our lives by the standards of the media, seducing us to want more and more, or by the call of the Gospel to be rich toward God? In truth, all of us are poor before God. Let us reflect on this for a moment. It is only God who can truly enrich us.

Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

### Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me." He replied to him, "Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?" Then he said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."

Then he told them a parable.

"There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest.

He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?'

And he said, 'This is what I shall do:

I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones.

There I shall store all my grain and other goods

and I shall say to myself, "Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!"

But God said to him,

'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?'

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God."

### Registrations now open Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

The diocese is hosting three retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take the time to step away from your usual routine to experience a Diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the options of retreats below:

16 August: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>

### Pope's Intention for August:

#### For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

#### 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.

**First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23**

What do people gain by all their work?

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89:3-6, 12-14, 17**

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11**

Seek the things that are above where Christ is.

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!**

**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION**

The feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on the 15th August. There will be two masses on this Holy Day of obligation. Morning mass at 9.15am, and in the evening at 7pm

**VINNIES COLLECTION**

During August, you are invited to donate 1 small item to make up Fathers Day gifts (for September) e.g. socks, shaving items, Deodorant.

*Thank you for your continued generous donations.*

**RCIA**

Do you know someone who has expressed interest in learning about our Catholic faith? Perhaps you know someone who was never fully initiated into the life of the Church. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey of immersion in the faith, leading to Baptism at Easter. If you would like to know more about being involved, please contact Fr. Clifford as our next group will be commencing soon.

**DEMENTIA WORKSHOP**

A free community workshop to deepen your understanding of dementia. Hear from an expert about the behaviours associated with this condition and how to support a loved one living with dementia. Learn about available resources, services and how to plan for the future. It is tailored for community members experiencing dementia within their family or network. Guardian Funerals, 1 First Ave, Blacktown NSW 2148 12th August, 10am – 11am RSVP 10th August, 02 9622 1284

**ST BERNADETTE'S BANK DETAILS**

**EFT details:** BSB: 067 950      **Account number:** 00000404  
Lalor Park Catholic Church,      **Reference:** Your full name

**MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES**

**Saturday Vigil 5.30pm,  
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**

Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8.30am—9.15am  
Wednesday 6.30pm  
(Devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes & St Bernadette)

**BAPTISMS**

At 11.30am on Sunday (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.

**ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Our primary school is now enrolling for 2026. The open day is August 6th, 9.30am-10.30am & 6pm-7pm. For more details, 18 Wheeler St, Lalor Park, 8869 6400 or stbernadetteslalorpark.catholic.edu.au

**CATHOLIC MISSION**

The Catholic Mission Appeal will be held next weekend, 9th and 10 August. We will be supporting the Church in Zambia, where two incredible programmes are changing lives.

The Women's Cooperative (empowering women with sustainable farming skills) and the Chilonga Mission Hospital (ensuring mothers and babies receive a safe and dignified beginning to life). Please join us in supporting this worthwhile cause.

**CRAFT GROUP**

Special thanks to our amazing craft group, who recently donated another \$190 from their scarf and piety store sales.

If you are feeling crafty and would like to make new friends, they meet each Wednesday (10-12) in the St Joseph's centre.



**For sick parishioners, relatives and friends:** Adi Santoso, Owen O'Reilly, Kylie Baffico, Jodie McClellan, Bernard Wallace, Adam Calabria, John el-Samra, Bill Calabria, Sal Russo, Palmira Rourke, Lucia Vecchiet, Consuelo Fonseca, David Smythe, Catrina McGhee, Melanie Sant, Sarah Davenport, Maria Mihic, Maureen Wood, Dean McDonald, Judy Phillips, Rachel Surdich, Tycho Walsh, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Nathan Weaver, Paul Tonissoo, Julie Daly, Jim Buckley.

**Anniversary:** Ivan and Antonia Zec

**Deceased:** E & M Zabeth, Jenny Williams, M. Kiniawi, M & A Sabbagh, Therese & Jannette Zabeth, Glenn Mowbray, Fr David Catterall, Mary Collings, Michael McQuade, Senza Bon, Father Tim Hogan, Maria Thi Nguyen, The Most Holy Father Pope Francis, John Leonard Duncan, Alan Burgess, Claire Dobbie, Gwen Gunderson, Craig Tonissoo, Ortheo Manketi, Tina Saketano, Dennis Jodson, Frank & Elizabeth Calabria, Peter & Tina Muriniti, Friar Fabian Adkins O.F.M, Lorraine Buckley, Thelma Islip, Rocco Fania, Samuel Cassar, Nita Newnham, Vicente Gallegos, Abigail B. DeVega, Francis Vassallo, Anka-Pero Pejasinovic, Alois Mihic, Nirvana Zec, Mira Zec, Lino Delulia, Ailsia & Bruce McDonald, Joan & Stanley Bartle, Garrick Family, Dabbous 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.