

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au
Parish Centre: 14 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park NSW 2147
Tel: 9672 4037

Parish Church: 10 Gardenia Grove, Lalor Park NSW 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 (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.

23rd Sunday in ordinary time, 7th September 2025 - YEAR C

Gospel: [Luke 14:25-33](#)

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

FOR OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CANDIDATES

Dear God, as they prepare for their First Communion, we ask for Your guidance in their spiritual growth. Help them deepen their relationship with You, strengthen their faith, and increase their understanding of Your love. Teach them to walk in Your ways and to live a life that reflects Your truth and love. Amen.

POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER:

For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

Reflection: 23rd Sunday

Cost of Discipleship

The world is full of wishful thinkers who dream and talk but never succeed because they are unprepared to make the effort. In the gospel, we see how Jesus bluntly dampens the enthusiasm of a large crowd wanting to follow him and be his disciples. He is not interested in gaining a large following by softening his words and watering down the requirements needed, so he leaves his listeners under no illusion about the cost of discipleship. Nothing short of total commitment, even life itself, is required. In fact, he is saying something like this: 'If you want to be disciples of mine, you have got to think seriously. Do not act on the spur of the moment or on impulse because it is not for the starry-eyed. Give careful consideration to what is going to cost because I have no time for half-hearted recruits. The invitation to walk is not for a day, a month or even a year but for a lifetime. What's more I am looking for followers who will measure up to my expectations.'

The demand of discipleship involves suffering and self-sacrifice. The life to be lead and the conditions laid down are anything but easy: you give to God everything and hold back nothing. It involves a wholehearted service, and it means parting of company with close friends, stripping down our lifestyles to the bare essentials and the heavy burden of cross-carrying. Discipleship is more important than acquiring possessions.

Putting God first in our lives is a choice we must make every day. When the cross is absent in our lives then Christ is not present either. At the moment when the struggle becomes too great, it is good to remember we are not alone, Christ walks every step of the way. We are called to be disciples at home, in our workplace, in our dealings with our neighbour, treating them as our friends and appreciating their true worth. To follow Christ through time into eternity costs nothing less than everything.

With peace in God's mission,
Father Clifford D'Souza msfs

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.

First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18

Who can comprehend the will of God?

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

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

Second Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws. Alleluia!

VINNIES COLLECTION

During September you are invited to donate any packet of pet food (of your choice).

Thank you for your continued generous donations.

THE BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

To help support our senior priests as they continue to serve. This Father's Day weekend (6th/7th), as we thank the father figures in our lives, let's also honour our spiritual fathers — the priests who nurture our faith. Even after stepping back from administration, they continue to serve in faithful ways: offering sacraments, celebrating masses, hearing confessions, assisting at services, and serving as chaplains in aged care. Your generosity helps ensure our ageing priests receive the care, comfort, and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. Please use the envelopes supplied today, or go to parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal

2026 COLUMBAN CALENDAR

You are invited to place your order for the 2026 Columban calendar. Each calendar is \$10. Please order at the piety stall.

SENIORS GROUP

Our seniors group will meet next Thursday on the 11th September, in the parish meeting room at 9.45am. The \$20 for our next outing is now due. All are welcome.

FREE LEGAL EDUCATION

Toongabbie legal centre will be holding free legal education seminars for the community. Ten Saturday's (6 Sept - 22 Nov 2025, 2-4 PM) Register: <https://shorturl.at/Eoeko> | tlc.asn.au

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 COMMUNION SERVICES

Tuesday and Friday @ 9.15am
(Rosary and Exposition before communion service.
8.30am Tuesday & Friday)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.00-5.30pm

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.

PRAY FOR OUR PILGRAMS

Please keep in your prayers, Father Clifford and his group of pilgrims as they set off on a wonderful journey. May God bless their journey, deepen their faith, and guide their steps as they trace the footsteps of the early Church and some of our saints. Let's ask the Holy Spirit to inspire and protect them throughout this transformative experience.

YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Young adults from 18-35 are invited to come along on Sunday 14th Sept and learn about the truly remarkable life of **St Joan of Arc**, and why she is as relevant today as ever. Speaker **Mark Buhagiar** will lead the faith formation session at Sacred Heart Parish Hall (9 Ropes Creek Rd, Mt Druitt) at 7pm, followed by **free** pizza, lucky door prize, and fellowship! Call Mark with any questions on 0477 004 678.

**SEASON OF CREATION MASS,
20TH SEPTEMBER**

St Patrick's Cathedral and the Diocesan *Laudato Si'* Action Team invite you to the annual Season of Creation Mass with Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv. The entire universe speaks of God's love (Pope Francis) and all of creation praises our God (Psalm 148). Let us join in this praise and in Jesus' own mission to care for creation (Pope Leo) at 10am, St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta. Morning tea will be served in the Cloister Hall after Mass.

For sick parishioners, relatives and friends: Mary Theu, 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.

Recently deceased: Greg Whitby AM, Vinc Matani

Deceased: Vilbina D'Souza, Raquel Morales, Alma Valdez, Father Chris Riley, 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.