

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



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.

PARISH BULLETIN

(Established 1961)

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
School Principal: Mrs Lisa Samojlowicz Tel: 8869 6400

1st Sunday of Advent, 30th November 2025 - YEAR C

Gospel; [Matthew 24:37-44](#)

Jesus said to his disciples:
"As it was in the days of Noah,
so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.
In those days before the flood,
they were eating and drinking,
marrying and giving in marriage,
up to the day that Noah entered the ark.
They did not know until the flood came and carried them all
away.
So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.
Two men will be out in the field;
one will be taken, and one will be left.
Two women will be grinding at the mill;
one will be taken, and one will be left.
Therefore, stay awake!
For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.
Be sure of this: if the master of the house
had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,
he would have stayed awake
and not let his house be broken into.
So too, you also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

CHRISTMAS MASSES

If you are available for any of our other Christmas masses (8.00pm, midnight, 9.00am) please email the parish office: admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au (our regular readers, welcomers, eucharistic ministers, Altar servers and acolytes)
Thankyou.



POPE'S INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER;

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Reflection; 1st Sunday of Advent 2025

Advent – A time of Spiritual Preparation

The new church year is ushered in with the season of Advent. It is primarily a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas. It is a blessed time which calls us to stay awake and to prepare in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour. Advent is an invitation to renew our Christian commitment and to start living the life made possible at Christ's first coming in order to prepare for his final coming at the end of time. To keep the real meaning of Christmas, a conscious decision must be made to enter into the proper spirit of Advent. At the beginning of this season a call to conversion is addressed to all of us because God wants us to grow closer to him and an invitation to receive his warmth more deeply. We do so by opening our hearts to welcome him into our lives. His presence can be seen in the people we meet and in the situations that come our way each day. He is around to be seen and welcomed in the poor and needy. Any behaviour that is unworthy of our Christian calling demands a rooting out. Casting out the deeds of darkness affords us the opportunity to live in the light of the gospel. Our thoughts are all too often centered on the earthly material aspects of Christmas because our senses are bombarded by the glitter of the commercial advertisements encouraging us to greed and selfishness.

The eternal Son of God seeks an entry into our inner most being to share his life with us. He stands at the door and knocks. This is our opportunity to welcome him and advance on our spiritual journey by walking in the light of the Lord.

With peace in God's mission
Fr Clifford D'Souza msfs

ST BERNADETTE'S BANK DETAILS

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

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The new sets of envelopes for the next 7 months are available for pickup at the back of the church.

Please begin using these on **7th December and not before.**

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: Isaiah 2:1-5
The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 121:1-2,4-5,6-9
Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14
The time has come, our salvation is near.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

supporting Catholic Care Grief and Loss Counselling

Christmas is drawing near, and with it, the promise that God is with us. Many individuals and families are carrying grief, stress and uncertainty. Your generosity is the way to open the doors of hope for the broken-hearted ensuring that no one in our community grieves alone.

Please use the envelopes provided, alternatively, please give generously at parracatholic.org/appeal. Thankyou

CARITAS - GLOBAL GIFTS WITH A PURPOSE !

Each card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for a Global Gift you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card. View the range of Global Gifts www.globalgifts.org.au

MT SCHOENSTATT ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CAROLS



Come and prepare your hearts for the coming of Christ at the Advent and Christmas Carols at Mt Schonstatt Family Hall, 230 Fairlight Road Mulgoa on Saturday 13 December from 7pm. All children are encouraged to arrive by 6.45pm dressed as angels or

shepherds

Sr. M. Rita for more details: 0493 026 628 srrita@schoenstatt.org.au

THANKYOU

Our Vinnies pantry and the Vinnie's collection poor box have felt the love from all your wonderful donations through 2025. Thankyou to everyone for your generosity throughout the year. The Vinnies pantry will return in February 2026.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations and welcome to Jemellee Dalay, Cate Astillo, Ilena Alemao, William and Tiffany Schweikert and Peter Gnanasekaran. They have recently joined our ministry here at St Bernadette's. The next intake will be early in 2026, if you are interested, please see Father Clifford to be put on the wait list.

For sick parishioners, relatives and friends: Vince Lopresti, Betty Clark, Kendal McDonald, Adi Santoso, Kylie Baffico, Jodie McClellan, 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, Nathan Weaver, Jim Buckley, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Paul Tonissoo, Julie Daly.

Recently Deceased: Audrey Da Luz

Anniversary: Ailsia McDonald

Deceased: Allan Sloane, Bernard Frank & Elizabeth Calabria, Richard Lopresti, Wallace, Luciana P Pili, Flora Carmelita da la Cruz, Ruth Eyers, Owen O'Reilly, Maria Zedrerich, Mary Theew, Greg Whitby AM, Vinc Matani, Raquel Morales, Alma Valdez, E & M Zabeth, Jenny Williams, M. Kiniawi, M & A Sabbagh, Therese & Jannette Zabeth, Glenn Mowbray, Fr David Catterall, Mary Collings, Alan Burgess, Michael McQuade, Senza Bon, Peter & Tina Muriniti, Lorraine Buckley, Thelma Islip, Vicente Gallegos, Alois Mihic, Abigail de Vega, Francis Vassallo, Anka-Pero Pejasinovic, Nirvana 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.

MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES

**Saturday Vigil 5.30pm,
Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am**

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday @ 9.15am
(Rosary and Exposition before mass @ 8.30am)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.45—10.15am & 5.00-5.30pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 8.30-9.15am
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.

PIETY STALL

We have Daily Bible Diaries for 2026 as well as Rosaries from Lourdes available for sale in the Peity Stall. They can be the perfect Christmas gift for your loved ones.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

We invite all children who would like to be part of our Christmas mass (5.30pm Christmas eve) to complete a form and return it to the Parish office, or Father Clifford. We need readers, welcomers, actors, angels, shepherds. Please collect a form from the back of the church.

LATEST TEACHINGS FROM THE POPE ON MARY

Pope Leo XIV has emphasized the importance of Mary's role in the spiritual journey of Catholics. His teachings include:

Mary's intercession: Pope Leo XIV has stated that Mary always wants to help us with her intercession, highlighting her constant prayers for humanity before the throne of God.

Mary as a guide:

Pope Leo described Mary as a loving guide who "always wants to walk with us, be close to us" underscoring her maternal care.

Mary's role in salvation history: Pope Leo XIV has affirmed Mary's pivotal role in salvation history, emphasizing her cooperation in God's redemptive plan.

Mary's humility:

Pope Leo has noted Mary's humble 'yes' to God, which shows us how to surrender to His plan, essential for entering heaven.

Mary as a shield of love:

Pope Leo has described Mary as a "shield of love" who protects the faithful from evil.

These teachings reflect Pope Leo XIV's commitment to honouring Mary and her unique role in the Church and the lives of believers