

# 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  
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](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  
School Principal: Mrs Lisa Samojlowicz Tel: 8869 6400

2nd Sunday in Ordinary time, 18th January 2026 - YEAR A

### Gospel: John 1:29-34

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'

I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel."

John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him.

I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain,

he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'

Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

### LENTEN BOOKS

Anyone wanting to order a Lenten book, please put your name down at the Piety Stall so we can get an order done as soon as possible.

### SAFEGUARDING

**Did you know?** The Diocese of Parramatta's Statement of Commitment to Safeguarding outlines our commitment to being a community of safeguarding that actively promotes the dignity and rights of children and of all other persons, particularly those who may be at risk.

### POPE'S INTENTION FOR JANUARY:

#### **For Prayer With The Word Of God**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

### Reflection:

Today's Gospel speaks about Jesus being baptised by John the Baptist. As Jesus approaches, John announces to some of his own disciples:

*Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*

This is John's favourite title for Jesus which brings together three images that would have been familiar to the Jews of that time, and by being applied to Christ indicates that in him those images find their full meaning.

It refers back to the origins of the great Jewish feast of the Passover. God required the Jews to sacrifice a lamb twice a day to expiate the sins of the people. Therefore, the lamb symbolized the price to be paid for sin.

In the Passover ritual, each family sacrifices and eats a lamb to recall their liberation from Egypt in the days of Moses. Therefore, the Passover lamb then becomes the sign and symbol of the liberation of God's people from slavery and oppression.

Also, the Messiah announced by the Prophets was described as a lamb who went silently to the slaughter, to take the sins of his people upon himself and wipe them away.

What does it mean for us? Jesus is the new Lamb who brings freedom and liberation from the oppression of evil and sin. Through his death he liberates us. It is his blood poured out that is the sign of our salvation.

St. Augustine writes, "The lamb is innocent, yet it is slain; Christ is innocent, yet he is sacrificed for the guilty." In Jesus, sacrifice and mercy meet. On the cross, Jesus bridges the distance created by sin, making the love of God visible and tangible.

As we begin this season of Ordinary Time, let us ponder and behold the Lamb of God, each time when the Holy Mass is celebrated so as to remain with him, and through him, to touch the lives of others with hope.

Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

#### 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:** Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia! The Word of God become flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God. Alleluia!

### DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on 11 February 2026 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. To register, please visit [parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/](http://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-world-day-of-the-sick-mass/)

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE 2026

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Course will be returning in February 2026. To avoid missing enrolment, send signed forms to [ofw@parracatholic.org](mailto:ofw@parracatholic.org) before Friday 23 January. Please visit [parracatholic.org/liturgical-ministry-course](http://parracatholic.org/liturgical-ministry-course) for more information about this course.

### MUSIC WORKSHOP

All children in Year 4-12 are invited to come along to our 'Sing A New Song Holiday Music Workshop', for a fun day of singing and exploration of sacred music. The workshop will be held on Wednesday 21 January from 9:30am to 2pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. Morning tea and lunch provided.

Student participants will form a choir that will sing at the Solemn Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta on Sunday 25 January at 11am. To register, please visit <https://forms.office.com/r/0URuFAeThA>

### BLACKTOWN PARISH PRESENTS 'THE WITNESS'

The community of Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, are bringing to life the musical "The Witness" – telling the story of the life of Jesus through the eyes of St Peter. They are currently looking for a variety of roles to be filled for the production, including director, choreographer, singers and dancers. To learn more, or express your interest, please visit <https://www.privyr.com/form/5W7hISmG#the-witness-musical-cast-crew>

**For sick parishioners, relatives and friends:** Elizabeth Calabria, 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:** Paul Mowbray, Kristina Lewis.

**Deceased:** Marcello Gatto, Frank & Elizabeth Calabria & family, Renato Zec, Dolores Feliciano, Audrey Da Luz, Allan Sloane, Bernard Frank, Richard Lopresti, Wallace, Luciana P Pili, Flora Carmelita da la Cruz, Ruth Eyers, Owen O'Reilly, Mary Theew, Alma Valdez, E & M Zabeth, Jenny Williams, M. Kiniawi, M & A Sabbagh, Therese & Jannette Zabeth, Glenn Mowbray, Mary Collings, Alan Burgess, 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 & Saturday 9.15am  
Rosary and exposition @8.30am  
Wednesday 7.00pm (Rosary and exposition @ 6.30pm)

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.45—10.15am & 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.

#### THANKYOU

Thankyou to everyone who continually help each week through our various ministries.

If you would like to be part of any ministry, please collect a form from Father Clifford after mass, or the Parish office.

Thankyou to everyone that participated in our Christmas masses for 2025.

Thank you for helping and your dedication in each mass. Through your service and presence, we were able to celebrate the birth of Jesus in a truly beautiful and prayerful way.

#### CRAFT GROUP

Would you like to learn new skills?

Are you feeling creative?

Why not join our Parish Craft Group!

They meet each Wednesday from **10am–12pm** in the St Joseph's Centre (Wheeler St). Everyone is welcome.

#### SENIORS GROUP

The St Bernadette's Seniors Group meets each month in the parish meeting room for friendship, fun, and community connection.

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend - and to take part in our enjoyable outings and activities.

#### VOLUNTEER COMMUNICATORS NETWORK

Are you savvy with a camera, writing or social media? We want to hear from you! Share your interest with us to support our storytelling in *Catholic Outlook*, our websites and social media.

Name/contact details are required:

[parracatholic.org/communicators](http://parracatholic.org/communicators)