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

(*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

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.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. 28th December 2025 - YEAR A

Gospel; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,
"Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt,
and stay there until I tell you.
Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him."
Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night
and departed for Egypt.
He stayed there until the death of Herod,
that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled,
Out of Egypt I called my son.

When Herod had died, behold,
the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream
to Joseph in Egypt and said,
"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,
for those who sought the child's life are dead."
He rose, took the child and his mother,
and went to the land of Israel.
But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea
in place of his father Herod,
he was afraid to go back there.
And because he had been warned in a dream,
he departed for the region of Galilee.
He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth,
so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled,
He shall be called a Nazorean.

POPE'S INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Reflection; Feast of the Holy Family

Anyone who reads the gospels will see that after the great Christmas feast; the Holy Family had their share of troubles and difficulties which caused them great worry. Joseph showed a father's courageous and protective instinct as he did his best to shield the Holy Family from hostility and evil forces. Upon learning of danger in a dream, Joseph quickly took Mary and the baby Jesus and left that night for Egypt.
The purpose of this feast is to show the importance and sacredness of the family as the basic unit of church life. The most elementary Christian community of our lives is the family into which we are born. The parish community provides an opportunity to reflect on the quality of our home and family life mirroring the values of the Holy Family. Family life is a full time job which is not so much as parents and children living under one roof as about their hearts beating together in harmony and love. This will happen if the message of Christ in all its richness is found within the four walls. Parents teach their children by word and example. Almost inevitably, conflicts, tensions and misunderstandings emerge when people live in such close confines, so patience and forgiveness are virtues that need to be stressed.
No matter what age young people are at , home is the place where they ought to feel free to talk about their visions and dreams, troubles and difficulties. Parents ought to spend time listening to them and encouraging them in their endeavors to excel in life. They ought to leave no room for complacency in matters of faith and religion as they are the first teachers in the ways of faith and morals. One of the great challenges facing our families today is the time to pray and make time for God. The age-old wisdom is true even now, namely, the family that prays together stays together.
May this feast give the grace and blessings of peaceful living and loving in our families.

In peace and God's Mission

Father Clifford D'Souza

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: **Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14**
Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 127:1-5**
Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Second Reading: **Colossians 3:12-21**
Concerning the Christian life in the world.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

PARISH OFFICE

Our parish office will be closed from 4.00pm, 19th December and will re open at 9.00an on the 14th January 2026.
We wish you all a blessed and holy Christmas

POST CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY TIMETABLE

Please note; as Fr. Clifford will be on leave until the 14th of January 2026, there will be no weekday masses from 26th - 31st December , and 2nd- 14 January 2026.
There will be Mass on 1st January at 9.15am being New Year's Day and the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.
The weekend Masses are at normal times.

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/

LOW COST COUNSELLING SERVICES.

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. General guidance or assistance with specific challenges, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.

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

MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm,
Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am

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.

MIGRANT JUBILEE CROSS

To mark the end of the Jubilee Year, the Vatican's Migrant Jubilee Cross will be visiting several parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta from 5-11 January. For one week, the Diocese of Parramatta will come alive with celebrations that recognise the faith, gifts and resilience of migrant communities who have enriched our parishes, schools and communities. Bring your friends and family to experience the Migrant Jubilee Cross Pilgrimage at a parish near you. Learn more at:
parracatholic.org/migrant-jubilee-cross

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE 2026

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Course will be returning in February 2026. To avoid disappointment, please send signed enrolment forms to ofw@parracatholic.org before Friday 23 January.

Please visit parracatholic.org/liturgical-ministry-course for more information about this course.

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

ST BERNADETTE'S BANK DETAILS

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

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.

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.