

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

2nd Sunday of Lent, 1st March 2026 - YEAR A

Gospel; Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

VINNIES HAMPER DONATION

NB – please only donate small containers of these items. For the month of March, you are invited to donate any of the following: Drinking chocolate or Easter eggs. *Thankyou for your continued generosity.*

POPE'S INTENTION FOR MARCH

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



Reflection; 2nd Sunday of Lent

Peter, James, and John accompany Jesus up the mountain after hearing the news of Jerusalem and Jesus' imminent death. It is only human that in their minds they play out the next few days and weeks. They begin to look for alternatives, desperate for a second opinion, a way to stop time. They want to build a safe sanctuary away from the world, to be content in the moment, saving Jesus and themselves from the heartache to come. They cannot, nor can we. We glimpse that moment in a hospital room as we sit with two people who have just heard the worst news of their lives and watch the patient reach out to assure the companion, the healthy one, that all will be well. We glimpse that moment when the evening news reflects nothing but chaos, and then there is one story of a person's graceful act of healing a broken world by caring for another person the world would rather forget. The moment when Syrian born Arab Muslim, Ahmed Al Ahmed disarmed the gunman during the Bondi Beach shooting of Jewish community celebrating the first night of Hanukkah. These are the moments when people begin to understand that where there is suffering, there is Sacred Space. These are the moments when we realise God is present in suffering and sacrifice, just as God is present in the promise and potential of our lives. This moment of transfiguration is just such a moment. On one hand, the transfiguration affirms Jesus' divinity; on the other, it begins to give the disciples eyes to see God's light in the chaos to come: death, loss, fear, and resurrection. The challenge to the disciples is to live in a world without Jesus' bodily presence. The transfiguration anticipates this challenge, inviting us to live in "the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor.4:6). As that light shines in our hearts, the incarnate God is made real in our daily lives. God prepares the people in the transcendent encounter of our lives to endure the world below, the world of the cross, the world that has the ability to break us and yet is never beyond God's redemption.

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. For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact NSW Police on 1800 333 000.

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 32:4-5, 18-20, 22

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

FEAST OF ST JOSEPH

The Filipino Chaplaincy invites you to the Novena mass, this will be celebrated at St Bernadette's Lalor Park on March 6, at 7.00pm. +The feast of St Joseph will be Saturday 14 March 2026 Mass at 10.30am at St Patrick's Church Mary Queen of the Family Parish 51-59 Allawah St. Blacktown. The theme for this year is "St Joseph: Guardian of the Holy Family, United in the Mission of Christ."

LENT

So, what are you giving up for Lent? It doesn't matter if you slip up, you can always begin again. Remember, God never gives up on you.

Stations of the Cross will be each Friday after the 9.15am Mass.

Project Compassion Boxes are now available at the back of the church.

CREATIVE DAY RETREAT

Will be held on Saturday 21st March, 10am-3pm in the St Bernadette's Parish Hall.

Put aside this Saturday in Lent to share Scripture and prayer with your fellow parishioners. There is an opportunity for reflection around the Stations of the Cross, and times of personal and communal prayer. Participate in this day which provides reflective and enriching insights and discussion on Lent and the Sunday Gospel.

Morning tea will be provided, please bring your own lunch.

Please bring your family and friends.

There is a sheet at the back of the church to indicate your attendance.

Merrilyn Hancock from the Mission Enhancement Team will be facilitating this retreat.

TUTORING

Private Tutoring for Yr 1-Yr 12 students in English, Maths, French, Sciences by a team of tutors. Email Dr Gerry (ex Patrician Brothers College Teacher) for a free 30 minute meeting, fsgadolphe@gmail.com
Home schooling and learning Disabilities also available.

For sick parishioners, relatives and friends: Rosa Watson, Madeline Weir, 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, Tycho Walsh, Nathan Weaver, Jim Buckley, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Paul Tonissoo, Julie Daly.

Anniversary: Gaetano Mordini

Recently Deceased: Calogero Occhuito

Deceased: Mary Leeder, Kristina Lewis, Mirella Gentile, Paul Mowbray, Sr Jeane, Dinko Surdich, Julia Loxley, Gerard Courtney, Anselem Jehenthiren, Carla & Marcello Gatto, Abigail de Vega, 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, 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.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

All women are warmly invited to a special community breakfast celebrating the Feast of St Joseph and honouring the legacy of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph. Guest speaker: Sr Virginia Bourke rsj. Saturday 21 March 8:00am – 10:00am, Mary MacKillop Spirituality Ministry, 33 Barina Downs Rd, Baulkham Hills. Cost: \$20 per person (breakfast included). Bookings essential: register <https://tinyurl.com/4pejv9ef>

EASTER RAFFLE

Raffle tickets will go on sale this Saturday 28th February. Tickets are \$5.00 each, sold from the piety stall. More information will come, about the amazing prizes. All proceeds will go towards the repair of the church roof.

SHALOM

Evangelisation: A team from Shalom World will be speaking next weekend at our masses on Lenten programmes with access to portals on topics of Passion reflections, sacred stories and prayerful music with family friendly spiritual content.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION PROCESS 2026

The Sacraments of Initiation Process for 2026 is due to begin in St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park. Registration packs are being sent home with the children who attend St Bernadette's school and the four State schools in the Parish. Parents please check your child's bag. If you do not receive a pack, please collect one from the Parish Centre, 14 Wheeler St, Lalor Park, on Wednesdays 9.00am-3.30pm, Thursdays or Fridays 9.00-4.00pm. Madge Miranda, Sacramental Coordinator.