

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

5th Sunday of Lent, 27th March 2026 - YEAR A

Palm Sunday

1st Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me
a well-trained tongue,
that I might know how to speak to the weary
a word that will rouse them.
Morning after morning
he opens my ear that I may hear;
and I have not rebelled,
have not turned back.
I gave my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;
my face I did not shield
from buffets and spitting.
The Lord GOD is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced;
I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

2nd Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
something to be grasped.
Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness;
and found human in appearance,
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
which is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel: The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew (26:14-27:66)

Reflection: Palm Sunday

Passion Sunday - What A Week for Jesus!

Holy week, the most important time in the Church year, begins today with the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The joyous mood of the throng of people gathered in the city for the religious festival of Tabernacles, waving palm branches and spreading their cloaks, proclaiming 'Hosanna to the Son of David' will soon turn into jeers of treachery calling for his death, 'Crucify him! His blood be upon us and our children'. The passion presents the ultimate humbling of Jesus involving far more than the physical cruelty of the crucifixion. There was terror and agony of mind to be endured and his pain was so intense that his sweat became like drops of blood long before the nails were driven into his body on the cross. The loneliness and isolation which he felt when friends deserted the hill of calvary was nothing to the experience of being abandoned by the Father: 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

It would be a mistake to comfort ourselves with the thought that it was a group of Jews who killed Jesus. The people involved in Christ's death are like us. The rejection and crucifixion continue daily. We must never forget that each of us has got a hand in Jesus' death when we hurt others through gossip and slander. Jesus is crucified every time a human being is degraded, treated unjustly and deprived of freedom. This final week of Lent is a great opportunity to celebrate the death and resurrection of the Lord in a way that will change our lives.

The cross is lifted up as a sign of Christ taking the sins of humanity upon himself in order to soften our hearts, by revealing the depth of his perfect love. The fact that God thought that we were all worth that pain and suffering should reduce us to silence. We must never forget that Jesus died on the cross so that we might have new life. We should try in our own simple way to imitate him 'for by his cross and resurrection, He has set us free.'

With peace in God's Blessing

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

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

HOLY WEEK EASTER MASS TIMES

- Holy Thursday 7.30pm & Adoration until 10pm
- Good Friday (Stations of the Cross) 9.30am
Commemoration of the Lords Passion 3.00pm
- Easter Vigil 5.30pm
- Easter Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

- Saturday 28th March 4.30pm -5.30pm
- Tuesday 31st March 9.45am - 10.45am
- Thursday 2nd April 9.45am - 10.45am
- Friday 3rd April 10.30am - 11.30am

POPE’S INTENTION FOR APRIL

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.



POST EASTER WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Fr Clifford will be on leave after Easter, hence there will be no **weekday** Masses..

Weekday Masses will resume Tuesday 28th April.

ANZAC DAY MASS on Saturday 25th April will be at 9.15am.

THE WITNESS

The Witness musical has been endorsed by the Bishop of Parramatta. Jon-Claire Lee has now been appointed Director, bringing his strong experience in theatre locally as a screen-play writer, Director and actor of repute.

Advanced discussions with the Parramatta Riverside Theatre have progressed, with performance dates now locked in for September 10th to 16th 2026.

VINNIES COLLECTION

For the month of April, you are invited to bring a small Mothers’ Day gift. *We are grateful for your continued generosity*

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.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Boxes are still available at the back of the church. **Please return by Good Friday.**

ADULT CONFIRMATIONS

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. Saturday 29th August 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the day.

The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral. Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August 2026. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795

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 Teacher) for a free 30 minute meeting Home schooling and learning disabilities also available. Please contact fsgadolphe@gmail.com

EASTER RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are now on sale for our Easter Raffle. Tickets are \$5.00 each, available from the piety stall. Our amazing prizes include; wine, chocolates, Easter eggs, Easter buns and pantry fillers.
All proceeds will go towards the repair of our church roof.

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, 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.

Recently deceased; Clara Sohn, William (Bill) Gregory.

Anniversary; Patrick Daly, Rey Astillo, George Manshay.

Deceased: George Kitney, Anne Donovan, Paloma Escarlan, Calogero Occhuito Mary Leeder, Kristina Lewis, Mirella Gentile, Paul Mowbray, Sr Jeane, Dinko Surdich, Julia Loxley, Gerard Courtney, Anselm Jehenthiren, Carla & Marcello Gatto, Abigail de Vega, Frank & Elizabeth Calabria & Family, Owen O’Reilly, Thelma Islip, Lorraine Buckley, Vicente Gallegos, Ailsia & Bruce McDonald. 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.