

# 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

### The Ascension of the Lord 17th May 2026 - YEAR A

#### Reflection; The Ascension of the Lord

##### Ascension of the Lord

Bidding farewell to a loved one is not easy, and it is something we will never fully grow accustomed to doing. The Ascension marks the end of Christ's earthly mission and his glorious return to the Father. He had achieved the work he was sent to do. While the trumpets were sounding in heaven to greet the arrival of the ascending Lord, the apostles must have been experiencing a deep sadness in their hearts at his departure. However, his final words, 'I am with you always. Go make disciples of all nations', while full of comfort, were urgent in meaning. Jesus was not abandoning them nor depriving them of his presence. He was entrusting them with a mission, of making the love of God known, through joyful and selfless lives in the service of others. They were not to remain inactive but move into the future with courage.

This great feast invites us to grasp something of the confidence which God has in us because the Ascension focuses on what we must do to be with Christ forever. Where he has gone, we hope to follow. We are to continue the work of those who have gone before us and help build up Christ's kingdom. In a world full of homeless and jobless people, we can turn sorrow to joy through our comfort, presence and practical help. Our lives may be the only book of the gospel for people to read.

Our prayer is that He will renew within us the work of the Spirit so that we may know what is true and have the strength to do it right.

With peace in God's mission

Father Clifford D'Souza msfs

#### POPE'S INTENTION FOR MAY

##### *That everyone might have food*

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

#### The Ascension of the Lord

Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

#### VINNIES COLLECTION

For the month of May, you are invited to bring a pasta sauce (no pasta), plain or savoury biscuits, or tins of tuna / salmon to contribute to our donations.

*We are grateful for your continued generosity.*

#### THANK YOU

The craft group would like to thank everyone who supported their stall last weekend. Together we raised \$500, to go towards the repairs of our church roof.

#### LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE 2026

Would you like to become a Liturgical Minister in our church? The next course will be in September, and is now accepting enrolments. Please complete a form (at the back of the church), and hand in to parish office or Father Clifford.

#### \*\* DIOCESE 40TH ANNIVERSARY \*\*

The Parramatta Diocese will celebrate its 40th Anniversary of foundation with a Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 31 May 2026, commencing at 2.00pm. There will be a reception following the Eucharist in the Cloister. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Father Clifford by 22nd May 2026.

#### ENGAGING YOUR FAITH CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Join the Engaging Your Faith workshop in May 2026, offering practical formation and reflection to help participants deepen their relationship with God and live their faith more fully in daily life. To learn more and register visit <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

#### 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: Acts 1: 1-11**

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 46:2-3, 6-9**

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23**

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia! Go and teach all my people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. them. Alleluia!

**BLESSING OF THE GROTTO**

On the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, our newly built grotto in the front garden of our church will be blessed.

This will be held on **Sunday 24th May** after the 10am Mass.

There will be a morning tea after each Sunday mass that weekend, please bring a plate to share.

*All are welcome to attend*



**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES**

O God, we pray that you give our candidates a right heart, that they may come to know you in Jesus.

Lead them to know the sinfulness of their own heart, and your great love for them, in Christ Jesus. Amen

**BISHOPS GOOD WORKS APPEAL**

Across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, people turn to the Church for care, hope, guidance and belonging.

The Bishop's Good Works Appeal helps our Diocese support vital ministries including Holy Spirit Seminary, Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Over the coming weeks, this Appeal will support Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead.

Your generosity provides education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation for seminarians as they answer God's call. Please give generously at [parracatholic.org/appeal](http://parracatholic.org/appeal). *Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church.*

**MINISTRY OF CARE COURSES**

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course. The course will be each Wednesday in June at 7pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Please register via [parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses](http://parracatholic.org/ministry-of-care-courses) to reserve your spot or 0460 037 795.

**UPDATE:** We no longer have a Vinnies bin on the premises. Due to high costs, St Vincent de Paul decided to remove it from our grounds.

**MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES**

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

**NO WEEKDAY MASSES until 28th APRIL**

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.

**SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH**

**\*\* ALL VOLUNTEERS \*\***

*All clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to complete mandatory Safeguarding Training and have current up to date certifications.*

The below Safeguarding Online Training Modules can be accessed and completed via

<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/courses>

**IF YOU ARE NEW TO MINISTRY:**

**Complete Safeguarding Training Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1).**

6 May 2026, 10:15 am - 3:15 pm

St John Vianney Catholic Church Doonside

**IF YOU COMPLETED CYCLE 1 MODULES TWO YEARS AGO:**

**Complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2).**

13 June 2026, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

Mary Immaculate Catholic Church Quakers Hill

**IF YOU RENEWED YOUR CYCLE 2 MODULES 4 & 5 TWO YEARS AGO:**

**Complete Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3).**

Mandatory Safeguarding Training – 2 May 2026, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

St Joseph's Catholic Church Kingswood

Please register directly for safeguarding training and locations by going to

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

For more information, please contact:

[safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

**Please email a copy of your certificates ASAP to the Parish office via email:**

**[admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au)**

**For sick parishioners, relatives and friends:** Jan Weaver, Shubert S. Baluyot, Luisa Lenore, Franchette Ayson, Bienvenido Legaspi Jr, Rosa Watson, Madeline Weir, Elizabeth Calabria, Vince Lopresti, Betty Clark, 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.

**Deceased:** Orelha Dias, Thomas Griffith, Kendal McDonald, Francis Sergi, Gabriel Policarpio, Peter & Tina Muriniti Clara Sohn, William (Bill) Gregory, George Kitney, Anne Donovan, Paloma Escarlan, Calogero Occhuito 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, 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.