

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au
Parish Centre: 14 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park NSW 2147
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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.

13th Sunday in ordinary time, 28th June 2026 - YEAR A

Reflection

When the Irish writer, Oscar Wilde, was sent to prison for "gross indecency", it brought a devastating end to his glittering literary career. Stripped of his celebrity status, he suffered horrific conditions and hard labour in Prison. As Wilde was being brought by two policemen from prison to court, a noisy hostile crowd has gathered. But then a friend of his appeared, who made a simple gesture of friendship and respect that silenced the crowd. As Wilde passed by, handcuffed and with bowed head, this man raised his hat to him. It was a very small thing, yet it meant a great deal to Wilde at the time. Reflecting on that simple gesture Wilde later wrote:

"Men have gone to heaven for smaller thing than that. I do not know to the present moment whether my friend is aware that I was even conscious of his action. It is not a thing for which one can render formal thanks in formal words. I store it in the treasure-house of my heart. I kept it there as secret debt that I can never possibly repay....."

The spirit in which a deed is done, the person to whom it is done, and the circumstances, can magnify a small deed. It is not how much we do that matters, but how much love we put into it. Some of us are given the chance to perform great deeds. But the chance to give a cup of water can come our way several times in the course of a day. When late Cardinal George Pell was imprisoned in solitary confinement, the support he received from nuns and strangers mirrored the teachings in this Sunday's Gospel, "*Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.*" Welcoming the persecuted and offering "a cup of cold water" is recognized by Christ as a profound gesture of grace. The actions of Sister Mary O'Shannassy, a Good Samaritan nun who served as the prison chaplain, and the strangers who wrote to the late Cardinal were expressions of radical Christian hospitality, offering dignity, comfort, and solidarity to someone who had been stripped of his status and cast into solitary confinement.

Deeds do not have to be extraordinary in order to be of help and comfort to the person for whom they are done. They just have to have a certain quality, which is warmth. All deeds which come from the heart have this warmth, which has the power to briefly turn winter into summer for another person.

Deacon Jerome Emmanuel

Gospel

Matthew 10:37-42

Jesus said to his apostles:

"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me,
and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;
and whoever does not take up his cross
and follow after me is not worthy of me.
Whoever finds his life will lose it,
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."
"Whoever receives you receives me,
and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.
Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet
will receive a prophet's reward,
and whoever receives a righteous man
because he is a righteous man
will receive a righteous man's reward.
And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of
these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple
amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward."

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES are available at the back of the church for those still using them. The new ones begin on **5th July**.
PLEASE DO NOT USE THEM BEFORE THAT DATE AS SOME NUMBERS HAVE BEEN CHANGED.

**** VINNIES COLLECTION ****

For the month of July, you are invited to bring **cans or packets of soup**, to contribute to our donations. *We are grateful for your Continued generosity*

POPE'S INTENTION FOR JUNE

For the values of sports

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.



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: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 88:2-3, 16-19

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

EUCHARIST28 UPDATE – HEARTS SET ABLAZE

The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation. For more information and regular updates, please register on the website: eucharist28.org

DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR WOMEN BY THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH

Women, 18-35, are invited for a one-day discernment retreat on Saturday, 4 July 2026, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at 116–132 Quakers Road, Marayong. This retreat offers Mass, adoration, inspiring talks, small group sharing, and quiet reflection time. Bring your questions, your hopes, and an open heart as we listen to God together. Cost is free

BE THE WITNESS

An ancient message, a timeless calling, a musical not to be missed! From 10-13 September, Parramatta Riverside Theatre will be ablaze with Be The Witness, the powerhouse Gospel musical, produced by *Mary, Queen of the Family* Parish, and **TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!**

It is so much more than a musical. It's a movement!

Andrew brought his brother Peter to Christ.

Who will you bring?

10 - 13 September RIVERSIDE THEATRES, Parramatta.

Bethewitness.com.au

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK MAGAZINE

The latest magazine is out now, keeping you connected with news and events across our Diocese. Inside this edition, you'll find:

- ◇ Celebrating 40 years as a Diocese
- ◇ Catholic entrepreneurs providing hospitality and welcome
- ◇ Giving thanks for our new Deacons
- ◇ Hospitality in our Parishes, and more

For sick parishioners, relatives and friends: Members of Zabeth Family, Dereck Mulligan, Maura Mulligan, Shubert S. Baluyot, Luisa Lenore, Franchette Ayson, Bienvenido Legaspi Jr, Rosa Watson, Elizabeth Calabria, Vince Lopresti, 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: Fulvio Luis Pineda

Deceased: Fr. Lorenzo Loria OP, Salvatore Loria, Betty Clark, Father Emile Zabeth, Mother Mary, Members of the Dabbous, Jawish, Michael, Kinani Families, Mary & Attalla Sabbath, Sr. Myree Harris rsj, Richard Lopresti, Dedi Maisetti, 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, Ailsa & 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.

MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES

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

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).

IF YOU COMPLETED CYCLE 1 MODULES TWO YEARS AGO:

Complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2).

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

Complete Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3)

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

Please email a copy of your certificates ASAP to the

Parish office via email: admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION - Reminder

Parents who have registered their children in the First Communion Process are reminded that they need to attend the meeting for Parents Only on:

- ⇒ Thursday 6th August
- ⇒ 9.15am OR 7.30pm (need to attend only one of these)
- ⇒ Parish Meeting Room (below the Parish Office)

Non attendance at this meeting would indicate your decision to withdraw from or postpone participation in the process this year. Thank you. Madge Miranda, Sacramental Coordinator.