

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

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

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."'"

**** 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*

'BE THE WITNESS' musical 10-13 September

Arrives soon at Riverside Theatres Parramatta. Presented by Mary Queen of the Family Parish, with a full cast and chorus now in place and rehearsals already in play, excitement is building. Gather your parish and book bethewitness.com.au

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES Please **ONLY** use the new envelopes now.

POPE'S INTENTION FOR JULY

For respect for human life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.



16th Sunday in ordinary time, 19th July 2026 - YEAR A

Reflection

A Patient and Generous God

Why does God who is good allow evil to flourish? This is an age-old question asked by many upright and impatient believers. They want to see vice rooted out immediately. Such an attitude readily forgets that every human heart contains a mixture of good and evil. We as humans tend to fail and make the choices that adversely affect others and even ourselves. Life is more complicated than drawing clear cut lines between saints and sinners.

The church is not an exclusive community of the virtuous. It is here because we are sinners and in need of salvation. The patience and tolerance extended by God to our personal sinful situation is to be shown to those whose faults are known to us.

In the parable Jesus compares the church, the people of God to a field where the wheat and the weeds grow side by side until harvest. This gospel story gives us an insight into the life of God whose power is best displayed in leniency and endless patience. He is at all times concerned with the conversion of people but never with their destruction. With him no one ever is written off or considered beyond redemption. God's mercy is more urgent than his judgement and his nature is best revealed in his tolerance towards the wayward in our midst. God cares for everybody specially those whose lives are choked by sin. The Pharisees were highly critical of Jesus choosing to break bread and share the company of people who were weak. We need to remind ourselves that it is God's world and people are answerable before the judgement seat of God. The emphasis in this gospel is on exercising patience and showing tolerance until God makes his great gathering on judgement day. In the meantime, we as a church are to reveal the patience of God by bearing and being patient with one another. This does not mean being indifferent towards evil.

While we detest sin, we must not stop loving the sinner. The good news is that it is never too late for a sinner to turn back to God and be accepted. Weeds can never become wheat, but by the power of God a sinner can turn back to God. Let us be thankful that on the last day we shall be judged by God and not by one another.

With peace in God's mission

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 conduct we encourage you to contact NSW Police on 1800 333 000.

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Can you **help** us? We need *volunteers* for welcomers, CD's and Power Points ~ all training provided
Please see Father Clifford or Chantal in the Parish Office.

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL

This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home. Through projects like St Peter's Nyamikuta Primary School, the Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourished, and grow with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs.

As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Day, we are reminded by Pope Leo XIV that we are 'One in Christ, United in Mission'. Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelope, or visit catholicmission.org.au/united to make a difference today

WORLD YOUTH DAY, SEOUL 2027 LAUNCH

Come and discover the pilgrimage to the 17th International World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea (26 July – 11 August 2027), themed "Take courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Join us for an inspiring evening to learn about the pilgrimage, hear testimonies from past pilgrims, explore the faith and culture of the Korean Church, and enjoy fellowship with other young people. 12 August, doors open at 6:30pm. At Nagle College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown. Register today at parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/ We look forward to welcoming you!

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 (you 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.*

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.

Deceased: Abigail de Vega, Fulvio Luis Pineda, Tristan Sampang, Julito Soniano Ailsia & Bruce McDonald, 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, Anselm Jehenthiren, Carla & Marcello Gatto, Frank & Elizabeth Calabria & Family, Owen O'Reilly, Thelma Islip, Lorraine Buckley, Vicente Gallegos. 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

TOONGABBIE LEGAL CENTRE (TLC)

Toongabbie Legal Centre (TLC) would like to thank the Parish for their generous support of the raffle tickets sale last week. All proceeds directly support their free legal Clinic which provides free legal advice to the disadvantaged and vulnerable members of Western Sydney.