

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

World day of Grandparents and the Elderly ~ 17th Sunday in ordinary time, 26th July 2026 - YEAR A

Reflection

Faith: Our Greatest Treasure

People have different values in life. Some crave for popularity, some pursue status and respectability in society. Some measure success with having a luxury home, a top of the range car or a huge bank balance. But this weekend's readings issue a direct challenge to all types of worldly lifestyles and tell us to get our priorities right. Many married couples find out the hard way that is more important for a family to be happy than to live in plush surroundings. Time spent with children is of more value than money spent on toys or expensive gifts. Experience teaches us that there are no short cuts in these important matters because anything that is worthwhile cannot be achieved without a lot of effort. The treasure the gospel is referring to, is our faith which tells us that we are heirs to the kingdom of God. It is so important and valuable that everyone must give it absolute priority. Our search should not be for superficial happiness but to develop a good relationship with God. One of the encouraging aspects of the gospel story is that such a treasure can be found in ordinary places. God is constantly speaking to us in the simplicity of our lives. We need to open our eyes to his presence and search for him in the bits and pieces of everyday happenings even in the most trying circumstances of our lives. How many can honestly say that nothing else matters but this precious gift of faith in Jesus handed down by our parents? Does it mean anything to us that Jesus died on the cross for our sins so that we could share in his glory? If we really want happiness there is no point in turning to the passing things of life hoping that they will fill our emptiness and loneliness. Let us not spend time and energy in investing in the superficiality of life. Our great destiny is to share in God's glory to go to any extent to find him and to stake everything for Christ and his kingdom.

With peace in God's mission
Father Clifford D'Souza msfs

Wishing all our elderly and grandparents a very happy day

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind.

When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets.

What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age.

The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

"Do you understand all these things?"

They answered, "Yes."

And he replied, "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old."

'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

There will be a MORNING TEA after each Sunday mass next weekend (2nd August). Please bring a plate and join us.

Can you help us? We need *volunteers* for welcomers, CD's and Power Points ~

Training will be provided. Please see Father Clifford or Chantal in the Parish Office.



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.

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: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

You have asked for wisdom

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130

Lord, I love your commands

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

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!

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL

Thank you for your generous support of the Church in Malawi and the communities it serves.

Because of your kindness, children like Yamikani* will have greater access to education, nourishment, and the opportunity to build a hopeful future.

And if you chose to become a Mission Partner with a monthly gift - thank you so much for your ongoing commitment.

To learn more about the work of Catholic Mission in Malawi and around the world, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work.

Thank you again for your compassion, and please keep this impactful work in your prayers.

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!

** 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

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

ST CARLO ACUTIS'S EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION

Designed by St Carlo Acutis, our first millennial saint, this exhibition documents reported Eucharistic miracles from around the world, and it is touring parishes right across our Diocese. It will be at Our Lady of the Angels, Rouse Hill, from 9-23 August. Everyone is invited, entry is free and no bookings are required. To see where the exhibition is heading next across the Diocese, visit <https://parracatholic.org/iec2028/>