



Today's Readings

First Reading: *Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Second Reading: *Philippians 3:17-4:1*

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel: *Luke 9:28-36*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

FIRST COMMUNION REGISTRATION: Children in Year 4 and above who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation but not Holy Communion (and are not enrolled in the current program) are invited to register after all Masses next weekend, 23rd and 24th March in the Marian Centre.

HOLY HOUR: Parishioners and visitors are invited to Eucharistic Adoration with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday evening from 8.00 to 9.00pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be celebrated on Friday evenings during Lent at 7.30pm in the Church followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and silent prayer. Reconciliation will be available during this time.



Feast Days this Week

Monday 18 March - St Patrick
Tuesday 19 March - St Joseph

RETIREMENT VILLAGES SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Warrina - Mass & Anointing of the Sick on **Monday 18 March at 4pm** in the chapel.

Nuffield & Hopetoun - Mass & Anointing of the Sick on Wednesday 20 March at 4pm in the chapel at Farrer Brown Court.

Nordby - Mass & Anointing of the Sick on Thursday 21 March at 4pm.

Wirreanda - Communion Service & Anointing of the Sick on Thursday 21 March at 11am.

Reflection

The Second Sunday of Lent celebrates the epiphanies of God, the ways in which God's divine presence is revealed. The first divine epiphany is the manifestation of God as one who initiates a covenant, an intimate relationship with human beings. Not only does God initiate this agreement, but he also seals it with blood, making it official. Although we ritualise our relationship with God in a religious setting, the call to enter into the covenant can come in the ordinary events of life. The important thing to remember about this covenant is that God enters into our lives and initiates the relationship. No life is too simple; no life is too busy. Human history in all of its contours is the setting for the encounter with God.

The glory of God is revealed in the transfigured Jesus, the one who discussed his suffering and death with Moses and Elijah. Lent is a time for us to enter into this suffering, not merely through reflection, prayer and penance, but concretely, by sharing in the suffering of the body of Christ. We see this suffering all around us.

God is revealed through women and men who live lives of Christian commitment. In those whose integrity strengthens us, in those whose religious sentiments inspire us, in those whose endurance gives us confidence. God is revealed in those who get involved in bettering the lives of others. God is revealed in very ordinary ways, if we but open our eyes to see.

Dianne Bergant

Readings Next Weekend

Third Sunday of Lent - Year C

Exodus 3:1-8,13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12;
Luke 13:1-9

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP: All men are welcome. Come along to share your journey, pray together and grow in the Faith with fellow like-minded men. Mondays 8.00 to 9.00pm in the parish basement. Contact Jason on 0451 651 995 or email jason.irawan@hotmail.com.

POSITIONS VACANT:

Parish Secretary for St Margaret Mary's Parish, Merrylands. 24 hrs per week. Details can be found on catholicoutlook.org. Applications close 29th March.

Director of Communications - Diocese of Broken Bay. More details at bbcatholic.org.au.

Transition Housing Worker - CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. More details at: ccss.org.au

TOONGABBIE LEGAL CENTRE would like to thank all who donated to their raffle last weekend.

LENTEN PROGRAM: Please join Fr Shinto in a Lenten Discussion Group on Thursday evenings in Lent at 7.00pm in the Marian Centre. The program is from the Wollongong Diocese and is called 'Trust'. Books are available on the night for \$10 and include daily reflection. All welcome.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2019: A reminder to all families that Session 5 will be held this Tuesday 19th March at 7.00pm or Saturday 23rd March at 4.30pm in the Parish Hall. This session will be for both parent and child. First Reconciliation ceremonies will take place on Wednesday 3rd April. Please keep all our parish families in your prayers during this time.

ST PATRICK'S DAY PICNIC IN THE NORTHERN DEANERY ON TODAY: Parishes of the Northern Deanery, which includes Castle Hill, are invited to a picnic for St Patrick's Day today, Sunday 17th March from midday to 4.00pm at St Madeleine's Primary School, 28 Annangrove Rd, Kenthurst. Bring your own picnic and enjoy entertainment and children's activities provided by the youth ministries of the deanery. Enquiries to Wendy on deanerypc@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au or 0427 863 149.

SEWING SKILLS NEEDED: We are looking to update and repair the costumes for this year's Good Friday Passion Play. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Laura Burton on 0433 259 234 or ym@stbernadette.org.au.



SAFEGUARDING SUPERHEROES: Ensuring a safe environment for young people is an essential requirement of any ministry initiative. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. The Diocese of Parramatta is hosting an evening for 'on the ground' volunteers who are predominantly present at activities or ministries that involve young people. Let's build a network of safeguarding officers for the future! 28th March from 6.30 - 9.00pm at the Novotel Hotel, Norwest. More details at parracatholic.org/cyp-keeping-our-young-people-safe/.

CATECHISTS ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED TO TEACH IN OUR STATE SCHOOLS: If you can spare an hour once a week, Christine Jenneke would love to hear from you. She can be contacted on 0433 183 322. More details can be found on the brochures in the Church foyer.

DR AUSTEN IVEREIGH: You are warmly invited to a public conversation between papal biographer and UK Catholic journalist, Dr Austen Ivereigh and Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv as they discuss Pope Francis and becoming a humble, listening and learning Church. Wednesday 20th March at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. RSVP by 13th March to Br Mark O'Connor on mark.oconnor@parracatholic.org.

CREDIT CARD DETAILS

Have you changed your credit card or been given a new expiry date? Please phone the parish office on 9634 2622 to update our records.



PROJECT COMPASSION: This year's Project Compassion showcases the many ways Caritas Australia works around the world to offer hope to people most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. They work with communities providing hope for a just and fair world regardless of their ethnicity, political beliefs, gender or religion. Project Compassion boxes are available today at the church doors. Please take one home and return it with your donation at Easter.

TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP: Want to do something extra for Lent? Come and join in every Tuesday morning at 10.00am in the Marian Centre to look at and discuss Sunday Mass Gospels during Lent, finishing with Stations of the Cross. All welcome. For Information call Pauline: 0407417039.

CARDS & MAHJONG: All ages are welcome to come to the Marian Centre on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at 1.30pm to join the 'Beyond 60' group for an enjoyable few hours of games. The next afternoon will be this Friday 22nd March. For information phone Carmen on 9634 4014.

THE YOUNG BEREAVED SPOUSES SUPPORT GROUP offers monthly support to men and women whose spouse or partner has died. Age guideline of under 55 years old. This group is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month commencing 19th March at 13 Buller St, North Parramatta from 7pm to 9pm. Cost: \$5. Registration Essential. Contact Rita on 8843 2575 or email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au.

ST GABRIEL'S SCHOOL in Castle Hill is K-Yr 7 for children with an intellectual disability as well as Autism. The Open Day for K-Yr 6 enrolments will be held on Tuesday, 19th March at 9.30am. There will be an additional Open Day for Years 7-8 enrolments on Wednesday, 27th March at 6.30pm. For enquiries and to RSVP please contact Mrs Jo Biggs on reception@stgabriels.nsw.edu.au or 9634-2367.

JOIN ST PATRICK'S CHOIR: St Patrick's Cathedral Choir, Parramatta is recruiting singers! This is an exciting opportunity to join a group of highly talented musicians. Choral scholarships are also available to singers who demonstrate advanced vocal skills and musical leadership qualities. For further information: <http://www.stpatscathedral.com.au/musicministry/index.htm> or contact the Music Director, Bernard Kirkpatrick on 0430 431 884.



ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: Leaflets with information about ordering digital editions are available in the foyer. Entertainment Books will be available early April. \$70 for this year's combined Sydney/ Greater West edition.

MIND, BODY & SOUL RETREAT at Mt Schoenstatt for Mature Catholic Women who feel on the Fringe of the Church. Facilitator: Andrea Dean. Where: Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. Time: 5 pm 22nd March to 2 pm 24 March. Cost: \$230 includes two nights private, ensuite accommodation and all meals. For more information or to book: manager@schoenstatt.org.au or phone Ann-Maree: 02 4773 8338



IntoLife: Years 5-8. Friday 22nd March from 7:00-8:30pm. Bart and the Oobleck: The importance of humility in all that we do, and the willingness to say we are sorry when we are at fault. Bring a friend and a gold coin donation

Life NIGHT: Years 9-12. Sunday 17th March from 7:00 to 8:45 pm. Social: Around the world in 80 days. Please bring a gold coin donation.

More information? Please contact Laura Burton on 0433 259 234 or ym@stbernadette.org.au.



GOOD FRIDAY PASSION PLAY: Calling all young adults and high school students to get involved in this year's Good Friday events. We are looking for the youth of the parish to be involved in the Good Friday Passion Plays. You do not need to be

a member of the youth groups, or have any previous experience. Roles range from non-speaking crowd members to main roles. Rehearsal will be held on Palm Sunday after 6pm mass. If you are interested, please speak to Laura Burton or contact her on 0433 259 234 or at ym@stbernadette.org.au.

THE REPARATION PRAYER GROUP meets on Tuesdays in the Parish Basement from 8:00 to 9:00pm for Rosary and prayer. All welcome.

THE CHAT AND CRAFT GROUP meets in the Marian Centre on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month with the next meeting on this Friday, 22nd March from 10.00am. You are welcome to join them for an enjoyable few hours of conversation and craft. For information phone Ellen on 9634 7276.

TANGARA & REDFIELD COLLEGE OPEN DAY on Wednesday 20 March.

Tangara School for Girls on Franklin Road, Cherrybrook (K-12) from 10.00am to 12.30pm.

Redfield College (Boys) on Old Northern Road, Dural (Years 2-12) from 9.00am to 2.30pm.

Contact www.tangara.nsw.edu.au or 9680 4844; www.redfield.nsw.edu.au or 9651 4066.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK AT BLACKTOWN HOSPITAL: People are urgently required to take Holy Communion to patients in Blacktown Hospital on Sundays. Volunteers are currently rostered on every second month. Distribution of Communion takes about 2 to 3 hours. Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist who can help with this important ministry please contact Deacon George Bryan at Blacktown Parish either through their parish office or via George.Bryan@parracatholic.org.

PALMS AUSTRALIA: Discover how sharing your skills in a community abroad can make a difference. Sydney Information Session: Thursday 21st March from 5.30 to 7pm at Aquinas Academy, 141 Harrington Street, Sydney or see palms.org.au and apply today.

St Bernadette's Parish Community
Parish House, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Telephone 9634 2622 Fax 9899 3511 Email: admin@stbernadette.org.au
 Web page: <http://www.stbernadette.org.au>

Parish Staff

Rev Fernando Montano, Parish Priest
 Rev Shinto Francis, Assistant Priest
 Mr Adam Carlow, Seminarian
 Mrs Nancy Eberhaut, Pastoral Associate
 Ms Laura Burton, Youth Minister
 Mrs Alice Bradshaw JP, Sacramental Co-ordinator
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 Mr Darren Edwards, Groundsman

Mass Times for this Week

Sunday	Sat	6.00pm
	Sun	7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am (incense) 6.00pm Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass
Weekdays	Mon	6.45am
	Tue	6.45am
	Wed	6.45, 9.15am
	Thurs	6.45am
	Fri	6.45am
	Sat	8.00am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am - 9.00am, 4.30pm - 5.00pm

Mass on Public Holidays at 8.00am

Baptisms: By appointment only. Contact Frances Gallagher at the Parish Office. Please note the Church law: Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised in the first few weeks. As soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867 §1]

St Bernadette's Parish School: Mrs Leanne Nettleton (Principal) 9407 6600

Please pray for Susan Alchin and Patrick O'Neil who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Patricia Collins, Mathai Kurian, Sammy Formosa, Tim Ryan and Darcy Smith and in remembrance of Sibichen John.

Prayers for the Sick: Marj Orioles, Bob Redmond, Jan Heyworth, Klaus Hahn, Janet Huxedurp, David Rix, Masaki Iwatani, Kym Holden, Michelle McLoughlin, Maria Robayo, Peter Viler, John Reynolds, Christina McAuley, Vicky Crawford, Juliet Estoloso, Betty Granata, Xander Ranieri, Robert Waddell, Yvonne Hill, June Phelan, Grace Boitano and Josephine Robayo.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND - 23 & 24 March, 2019

ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	LECTORS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
VIGIL Dennis Frketic S9	Louise Jongejan Gary Tierney Cheryl Braisby	Ross & Sue Pinkerton, Annarita Mezger, Maureen & Ray Scully, Louise Jongejan, Conni Tierney, Keith D'Sylva, Delphine Fernandes
7.30AM Joseph Frketic S1	Gerard Kearney Daryl Hill	Patrick Bowie, Andrea Tomic, Colleen & Eric Woodhead, Jo Wickens
9.00AM Zeno Hong S2	Ann O'Brien Susan Moore Nadine Lucas	Brian & Jenny Blacklock, Neil Bone, Tony Vermeer, Erin Myers, Jana Fizely, Ann O'Brien, Rosalie Sampath
10.30AM Budi Kawiadji S3	Anna-Maria Fitzpatrick Michael Fitzpatrick Leo Stanton	Anita Christy, Dorothy Finucane, Mark Beard, Bernadette Boulos, Margaret Hawkes, Winnie & Henry Li

6.00PM PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - 24 March, 2019

Servers Cassie Holden S4	Welcoming Laura Burton	Piano Alyssa Tchang	Bass Dominic Jones	Singers Kristen Mathias Claire Ward
Projectionist Josh Becker	Offertory Brendan Hassan	Guitar Andrew Tchang	Drums Jason Irawan Noel Thomas	Andrea Karatsiolis Rhiannon Athaide

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Ann Hishion Danielle Vassallo	CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Joan McAuliffe, Denis & Noah Bellerose	COUNTING (2nd Collection) Rex Smith, Jeff Cronan, Siew Elsdon, Erika Druzinec
FLOWER ROSTER Lent No Flowers	COUNTING (1st Collection) Bert & Helga Hofstaetter	BOOKSHOP Laurie Burridge / Carmel Moriarty / Christine & Hubert Jenneke / Crystal Good / Ingrid Vergano