



THE MASSABIELLE

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH COMMUNITY

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

367 Old Northern Road
Castle Hill NSW 2154

Ph: 02) 9634 2622

e: admin@stbernadette.org.au

w: www.stbernadette.org.au

Facebook: /Castlehillparish

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Fernando Montano

Assistant Priest

Fr Raymond Uguw

Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Dimian

Pastoral Associate

Mrs Nancy Eberhaut

pa@stbernadette.org.au

Admin and Office Support

Ms Laura Burton

admin@stbernadette.org.au

Youth Ministry

ym@stbernadette.org.au

Groundskeeper

Mr Darren Edwards

SCHOOL



St Bernadette's Primary

(02)9407 6600

Principal: Bianca Cooke

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Monday, Tuesday

6:45am

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

6:45am, 9:15am

Saturday and Public Holidays

8:00am

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil

5:00pm

Sunday

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,

6:00pm

RECONCILIATION TIMES

Saturday

8:00am-9:00am

4:00pm-4:30pm

Or by appointment

11-12 Nov 2023

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Continued from Last week

2. In biblical language "heaven", when it is joined to the "earth", indicates part of the universe. Scripture says about creation: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Gn 1:1). Heaven is the transcendent dwelling-place of the living God

Metaphorically speaking, heaven is understood as the dwelling-place of God, who is thus distinguished from human beings (cf. Ps 104:2f.; 115:16; Is 66:1). He sees and judges from the heights of heaven (cf. Ps 113:4-9) and comes down when he is called upon (cf. Ps 18:9, 10; 144:5). However the biblical metaphor makes it clear that God does not identify himself with heaven, nor can he be contained in it (cf. 1 Kgs 8:27); and this is true, even though in some passages of the First Book of the Maccabees "Heaven" is simply one of God's names (1 Mc 3:18, 19, 50, 60; 4:24, 55).

The depiction of heaven as the transcendent dwelling-place of the living God is joined with that of the place to which believers, through grace, can also ascend, as we see in the Old Testament accounts of Enoch (cf. Gn 5:24) and Elijah (cf. 2 Kgs 2:11). Thus heaven becomes an image of life in God. In this sense Jesus speaks of a "reward in heaven" (Mt 5:12) and urges people to "lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven" (ibid., 6:20; cf. 19:21).

3. The New Testament amplifies the idea of heaven in relation to the mystery of Christ. To show that the Redeemer's sacrifice acquires perfect and definitive value, the Letter to the Hebrews says that Jesus "passed through the heavens" (Heb 4:14), and "entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself" (ibid., 9:24). Since believers are loved in a special way by the Father, they are raised with Christ and made citizens of heaven. It is worthwhile listening to what the Apostle Paul tells us about this in a very powerful text: "God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus" (Eph 2:4-7). The fatherhood of God, who is rich in mercy, is experienced by creatures through the love of God's crucified and risen Son, who sits in heaven on the right hand of the Father as Lord.

4. After the course of our earthly life, participation in complete intimacy with the Father thus comes through our insertion into Christ's paschal mystery. St Paul emphasizes our meeting with Christ in heaven at the end of time with a vivid spatial image: "Then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thes 4:17-18). Sacramental life is anticipation of heaven

In the context of Revelation, we know that the "heaven" or "happiness" in which we will find ourselves is neither an abstraction nor a physical place in the clouds, but a living, personal relationship with the Holy Trinity. It is our meeting with the Father which takes place in the risen Christ through the communion of the Holy Spirit.

It is always necessary to maintain a certain restraint in describing these "ultimate realities" since their depiction is always unsatisfactory. Today, personalist language is better suited to describing the state of happiness and peace we will enjoy in our definitive communion with God.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church sums up the Church's teaching on this truth: "By his death and Resurrection, Jesus Christ has 'opened' heaven to us. The life of the blessed consists in the full and perfect possession of the fruits of the redemption accomplished by Christ. He makes partners in his heavenly glorification those who have believed in him and remained faithful to his will. Heaven is the blessed community of all who are perfectly incorporated into Christ" (n. 1026).

To be continued



DONATIONS TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

Donations can be made using the bank details below, the QR code, or via the Tap-and-go machines and cash collection boxes in the church. Your donations are greatly appreciated.



SUPPORT DONATIONS

For EFT to the First Collection - supporting the priests

BSB 067 950
 Account No 00004265
 Account Name Diocesan Clergy
 Reference **6006 Your name**

EFT to the Second Collection – for support of the Parish

BSB 067 950
 Account No 00000032
 Account Name Castle Hill Catholic Church
 Reference **Second Collection (Your Name)**

SACRAMENTS

For First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation programs for school children please contact Mrs Christine Jenneke (Sacramental Co-ordinator) at sacraments@stbernadette.org.au or 0433 183 322

For Baptisms, Weddings and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or at admin@stbernadette.org.au for bookings and further details.

Baptisms are held on the 1st, 2nd and 5th (when occurring) Sunday of each month.

Note the church law: parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised within the first few weeks. As soon as possible after the birth indeed even before it, they are to approach the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867§1]

NEW TO THE PARISH

We would like to welcome all new parishioners. *Welcome*
 If you are new to the parish, please collect a registration form from the foyer or the Parish Office and please come and say hello to one of the Clergy or Nancy at mass.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



On Instagram

@st_bernadettes_youth
 @st_bernadettes_young_adults



On Facebook

@St Bernadette's youth Castle Hill
 @St Bernadette's Young Adults

YOUTH GROUP- FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

Both Youth Group's meet every second Friday from 7:00-8:30pm in the hall. All welcome, bring a friend!

Junior Youth (yr 5-8) Works of Mercy

See our full term plan by scanning the QR code!



Senior Youth (yr 9-12) Fatima

See our full term plan by scanning the QR code!



YOUNG ADULTS –SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER

Join us Saturday 11th November, 6pm-9pm in the St Joseph's room. Our Guest Speaker Seminarian Jason Irawan will be presenting on "words and meaning" Dinner included. Please let us know of any dietary requirements.



YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY

Our Young Adults are running a weekly Bible Study in the St Joseph's Room on Thursday nights from 7:30-9:00pm. We will be looking at the upcoming Sunday readings.

ROSTERS 18-19 NOV 2023

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Caroline Dumapit Malisa Barsic Sean Eberhaut	Martin Collins Michelle Monteiro Yvonne Desouza	Adelina Tabila Brian Blacklock Hansel Fernando	Jan Crawford Leo Stanton	Brandon Leyba Hanna Pillai Nathan Colaco
Communion ministers	Rick Jenkins Brian Fitzalan Natalia Chui +2	Yvonne Desouza Patrick Bowie Campion Fernando +1	Angela Stenglin Christine Jenneke Hubert Jenneke Rosalie Sampath Celeste McLean	Mila Mina Coney Lau Helen Carr-Boyd Elizabeth Joseph Jiji Joseph	
Bookshop	Maureen Fearnside	Eugenia Fidel	Jenny and Brian Blacklock	Dorothy Finucane	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
N/A	Mon 20th Nov Marie Woodward Elaine Small	Eugenia Fidel Elizabeth de Jesus Helen Fidel	Mary Culjak Joanna Camarda	Margaret Sinha Francesca Menezes Pancras Robinson Rose Molina	Belinda Yapp

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Christine Jenneke and Helen Carr-Boyd who received awards at the CCD awards mass on Friday 3rd November for their work as Catechists. Christine received a Papal Blessing for 20 years service. Helen received Her Level Three Certificate.



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2023



This year with the current increase in cost of living and rising interest rates, there are many families who need our support. We are again asking for the generous support of our parishioners, to help bring the spirit of Christmas into the homes of families that our St Vincent de Paul members visit throughout the year, as well as assisting families through Catholic Care Social Services (CCSS) at Emerton. If you can assist with a donation of a hamper, please take a hamper label from the Church foyer, and return the hampers to the Church on the weekend of **2nd and 3rd December**. Information is available on the notice board regarding the assembly of the hamper and suggestions for its contents and size. Please be mindful of the weight of hampers. For more info contact Carole on 0438 014 070.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM-RECONCILIATION 2024

Parish families who would like their child to commence preparation to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation are invited to attend our information evening being held on **Wednesday 22nd November at 7.00pm in the Church**.

This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 2 and above, who have received the sacrament of Baptism. The evening will last approximately one hour and children do not need to attend. If you have any questions or would like information, please contact Mrs Christine Jenneke (Sacramental Coordinator) on 0433 183 322 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au

NEW SETS OF PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2024

Planned Giving envelopes for the next 12 months are available in the foyer. Should you wish to move to credit card or direct debit please contact the parish office.



FUNDRAISER BBQ

We will be starting a monthly fundraiser BBQ, where each month, a different ministry in the parish will hold a BBQ at the Sunday morning Masses, to help raise funds for their ministry. The St Bernadette's Netball Club will be running the first BBQ at the morning masses on Sunday 26th November. Bacon and Egg Rolls for sale \$5 each.

PROJECTIONISTS WANTED

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the projector at weekend Masses. All slides and training provided. For more information contact the Parish Office or see Nancy.



November 18-19



Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

On 18th and 19th of November Vinnies will be making their Christmas Appeal. Envelopes will be available on the pews and in the foyer, and Vinnies members will have donation buckets available at the doors to the church. Please give generously.

FOR SALE

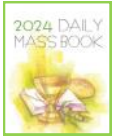


LECTORS BOOKS-BREAK OPEN THE WORD 2024

Break Open the Word for 2024 books are available for sale at the Parish Office. Break open the Word contains the Sunday mass readings for 2024 (YEAR B) Cost \$25 each. Cash only.

DAILY MASS BOOKS 2024 \$30

2024 Daily mass books are available from the bookshop and the Parish Office. \$30 each. Cash only.



THE SIGN-ADVENT 2023

The Wollongong Diocese Advent Reflection books are available from the bookshop and Parish Office \$7 each. Cash only.



COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2024

Available from the bookshop \$10.50 each, Cash Only.



VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS \$7

Pack of 10 Christmas cards available from the bookshop after Sunday masses. \$7 each. Cash only.

Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

Oct/Nov	This Week
Tues 14th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group Reparation Prayer Group
Wed 15th	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
Thurs 16th	Young Adults Bible Study Holy Hour 8:00pm-9:00pm
Fri 17th	Youth Group
November	This Month
23rd Nov	Coffee and Chat
26th Nov	BBQ Fundraiser Young Adults

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

First Reading Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

Readings Next Weekend

18-19 November

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Second reading

Gospel

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

1 Thess 5:1-6

Mt 25:14-30

Feast Days This Week

- 15 Nov** Saint Albert the Great
16 Nov Saint Margaret of Scotland
Saint Gertrude
17 Nov Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased Adele Rutherford, Adrian Attapattu, Mark Cunningham, Diana Giorgiutti,
Tony Gie, Charles Sollis, Agapito Tac-an, Sarah Abellanosa, Lexie Cartwright

For all the names in the Book of Remembrance

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Barbara Ison, Flavia Panto, Brian De Silva, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Yvonne Hill, Maree Malvern, Nida Farmiento, Elizabeth Mifsud,