



THE MASSABIELLE

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH COMMUNITY

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

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Fr Fernando Montano

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Fr Raymond Uguw

Assistant Priest

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Pastoral Associate

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pa@stbernadette.org.au

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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

4-5 Nov 2023

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Hello Everybody!

This month in November, the Church will encourage Catholics to pray for the souls in Purgatory. A tradition well rooted in the Catholic Faith. I thought it would be a good read for us, to focus on the teachings of the Church about Heaven, Hell and Purgatory.

I found a very interesting article online that hopefully can help us to reflect and meditate on these realities as we offer our prayers for our beloved departed brothers and sisters. We pray for both, those who we knew and still love and miss and also for those we do not know but who are also in need of our prayers to reach their final heavenly destination.



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

A few years ago, in his Wednesday Audiences, St John Paul II presented this important topic. In three of these Audiences, St. John Paul II pointed out that the essential characteristic of heaven, hell or purgatory is that they are states of being of a spirit (angel/demon) or human soul, rather than places, as commonly perceived and represented in human language. This language of place is, according to the Pope, inadequate to describe the realities involved, since it is tied to the temporal order in which this world and we exist. In this he is applying the philosophical categories used by the Church in her theology and saying what St. Thomas Aquinas said long before him.

"Incorporeal things are not in place after a manner known and familiar to us, in which way we say that bodies are properly in place; but they are in place after a manner befitting spiritual substances, a manner that cannot be fully manifest to us."

[St. Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologiae, Supplement, Q69, a1, reply 1]

Heaven is Fullness of Communion with God

Heaven as the fullness of communion with God was the theme of the Holy Father's catechesis at the General Audience of 21 July 1999. Heaven "is neither an abstraction not 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," the Pope said.

1. When the form of this world has passed away, those who have welcomed God into their lives and have sincerely opened themselves to his love, at least at the moment of death, will enjoy that fullness of communion with God which is the goal of human life.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "this perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed is called "heaven'. Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfilment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness" (n.1024).

Today we will try to understand the biblical meaning of "heaven", in order to have a better understanding of the reality to which this expression refers.

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.

Youth



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 11-12 NOV 2023

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Kris Murgatroyd Les Blanch Rod Burridge	Wayne Vergano Jackie Willard Margaret Ash	Dawn Wickramasinghe Ranmalee De Silva Rick Di Cristoforo	John Eberhaut Alex Joyce Edwin Zambrano	Anabel Formosa Rheza Tan
Communion ministers	Felicity Carvalho Douglas Carvalho Mary McMahon Bernard Home Pauline Home	Lucille Wilson Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee	Brian Blacklock Jenny Blacklock Ellen MacMahon Skirma Cervin Rudy Suwandny	Lydia Flores Paul Irwin Florina Vanerwaals Mary Winslow Jeyaraj Winslow	
Bookshop	Marjorie Anderson	Catherine Seddon	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Josie and Seng Yeoh	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Darshi Wettasinghe	Mon 13th Nov Bert and Helga Hofstaetter	Karl Procter Anne Cheung Joe Morgan	Alexis Chang Sandra Emett	Karen D'Souza Cheryl D'Sylva	Risa Sidik

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Joshua Becker, who, on Wednesday evening, was awarded the Citation of Merit For Youth by Bishop Vincent for his many years of dedication and service to St Bernadette's Parish. We thank Josh for all his work supporting our Audio Visual equipment, ensuring all our slides and sound equipment are prepared for mass each week, and helping out with all our events.



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.



NOVEMBER MASSES

Envelopes are available in the foyer for November Mass offerings. The names will be put into the "Book of Remembrance" placed on a temporary altar on the Sanctuary throughout November.

CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED TUESDAY 7TH FROM 2:30PM

The Church and Parish Office will be closed from 2:30pm this Tuesday 7th November.

November 18-19



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

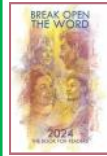


St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

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

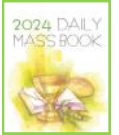


LECTORS BOOKS-BREAK OPEN THE WORD 2024

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 7th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group
	Reparation Prayer Group
Wed 8th	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
Thurs 9th	Young Adults Bible Study
	Holy Hour 8:00pm-9:00pm
Sat 11th	Young Adults

November

This Month

17th Nov	Youth Group
23rd Nov	Coffee and Chat
26th Nov	BBQ Fundraiser
	Young Adults

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

First Reading Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration. Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

Responsorial Psalm Ps 130

(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you. Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 23:1-12

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi. 'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Communion Antiphon:

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Feast Days This Week

9 Nov The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
10 Nov Saint Leo the Great
11 Nov Saint Martin of Tours

Readings Next Weekend

11-12 November

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Wis 6:12-16	1 Thess 4:13-18	Mt 25:1-13

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased Gordana Cvitkovic, Adrian Attapattu, Mark Cunningham, Diana Giorgiutti, Tony Gie, Charles Sollis
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,