



# 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

### 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

8:30am-9:00am

4:00pm-4:30pm

Or by appointment

13-14 JAN 2024 *SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B*

*Continued from last week*

## DICASTERY FOR THE DOCTRINE OF THE FAITH

### Declaration

### Fiducia Supplicans

### On the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings

#### Introduction

1. The supplicating trust of the faithful People of God receives the gift of blessing that flows from the Heart of Christ through his Church. Pope Francis offers this timely reminder: "The great blessing of God is Jesus Christ. He is the great gift of God, his own Son. He is a blessing for all humanity, a blessing that has saved us all. He is the Eternal Word, with whom the Father blessed us 'while we were still sinners' (Rom. 5:8), as St. Paul says. He is the Word made flesh, offered for us on the cross."

2. Encouraged by such a great and consoling truth, this Dicastery has considered several questions of both a formal and an informal nature about the possibility of blessing same-sex couples and—in light of Pope Francis' fatherly and pastoral approach—of offering new clarifications on the *Responsum ad dubium* that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith published on 22 February 2021.

3. The above-mentioned *Responsum* elicited numerous and varied reactions: some welcomed the clarity of the document and its consistency with the Church's perennial teaching; others did not share the negative response it gave to the question or did not consider the formulation of its answer and the reasons provided in the attached *Explanatory Note* to be sufficiently clear. To meet the latter reaction with fraternal charity, it seems opportune to take up the theme again and offer a vision that draws together the doctrinal aspects with the pastoral ones in a coherent manner because "all religious teaching ultimately has to be reflected in the teacher's way of life, which awakens the assent of the heart by its nearness, love, and witness."

#### I. The Blessing in the Sacrament of Marriage

4. Pope Francis' recent response to the second of the five questions posed by two Cardinals offers an opportunity to explore this issue further, especially in its pastoral implications. It is a matter of avoiding that "something that is not marriage is being recognized as marriage." Therefore, rites and prayers that could create confusion between what constitutes marriage—which is the "exclusive, stable, and indissoluble union between a man and a woman, naturally open to the generation of children"—and what contradicts it are inadmissible. This conviction is grounded in the perennial Catholic doctrine of marriage; it is only in this context that sexual relations find their natural, proper, and fully human meaning. The Church's doctrine on this point remains firm.

5. This is also the understanding of marriage that is offered by the Gospel. For this reason, when it comes to blessings, the Church has the right and the duty to avoid any rite that might contradict this conviction or lead to confusion. Such is also the meaning of the *Responsum* of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which states that the Church does not have the power to impart blessings on unions of persons of the same sex.

6. It should be emphasized that in the Rite of the Sacrament of Marriage, this concerns not just any blessing but a gesture reserved to the ordained minister. In this case, the blessing given by the ordained minister is tied directly to the specific union of a man and a woman, who establish an exclusive and indissoluble covenant by their consent. This fact allows us to highlight the risk of confusing a blessing given to any other union with the Rite that is proper to the Sacrament of Marriage.

### 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](mailto:sacraments@stbernadette.org.au) or 0433 183 322

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

Baptisms are held on the 1st, 2nd and 5th (when occurring) Sunday of each month at 12noon.

**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. 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.

Welcome

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

Our Junior and Senior Youth Groups are now on break. We will return on Friday 2nd February.

Parents, we would like to invite you to an announcement only WhatsApp group so we can keep you informed about youth group next year. To join scan the QR code or add via this link:  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/HtQsmDeo1whKm1Yd3p9s4R>



Any questions please reach out to Fr Matthew at [ym@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:ym@stbernadette.org.au) or 9634 2622



### YOUNG ADULTS

Our Young adults nights and Bible Study are now one break. We will return in February 2024.

## ROSTERS 20-21 JAN 2024

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
<b>Lectors</b>	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	Michelle Barreto Laura Burton Harrison Long
<b>Communion Ministers</b>	Beverley Curtis Esther Coleiro Kathleen Abernethy Keith D'Sylva Maureen Fearnside	Lucille Wilson Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee	Mary Tondini Ranmalee De Silva Lynda Sillick Yvette Braganza Shane Robinson	Teresa Somasundram Margaret Hawkes Dorothy Finucane Hilary Fong Bernadette Boulos	
<b>Bookshop</b>	Kathleen Abernethy	Eugenia Fidel	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Dorothy Finucane	Remy DeLeon
<b>Flowers</b>	<b>1st Collection</b>	<b>2nd Collection</b>	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	<b>Housekeeping</b>	<b>Church Linen</b>
Sandra Fernando	Mon 23rd Jan Jocelyn and Maxime Juste	David Tye Cosimo Miccoli Chris Clancy	N/A	Maria Mochnik Yvonne Desoza Anna Schweda Karen D'Souza	Melia Shammas

# Congratulations 60<sup>th</sup>

Congratulations to Harry and Robin Reyden, who celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary this week.

## YOUTH AGM

On Monday 15th January, our Youth Council will be holding their AGM to discuss the Youth and Young Adults programs for 2024. All welcome. The meeting will be held in the St Joseph's room at 7pm.



## FOOD FIESTA 2024

The Pentecost Food Fiesta will be again held this year on Sunday 19th May. We will be holding our first planning meeting on Thursday 8th February 2024, 7:30pm in the Marian Centre for anyone who is interested in being involved. All Welcome. For more information contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or [admin@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadette.org.au)

## REKINDLE THE SPARK WORKSHOP SATURDAY 3RD FEB

Join with other married couples looking to rekindle the spark by improving communication and understanding. The day will commence 10am at St Bernadette's Castle Hill with morning tea and afternoon tea provided. Please BYO lunch. The day will conclude at 4pm with confession available in the church, followed by 5pm mass. The cost for the day is \$30 per couple. Please RSVP for catering and resource purposes to Carolyn on 0425 329 609 by Sunday 28th January.



## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM-RECONCILIATION 2024

Enrollments are now open for the sacrament of Penance in 2024. This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 3 and above (in 2024), who have received the sacrament of Baptism. For more information, please contact Mrs Christine Jenneke (Sacramental Coordinator) on 0433 183 322 or at [sacraments@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stbernadette.org.au)

## LOST PROPERTY

Please check the Lost Property Box in the Church Foyer for any missing items. The box will be emptied on 1st February.



## CONFIRMATION 2023 PHOTOS

Photos from the Confirmations for 2023 can now be collected from the Parish Office.

We still have a number of photos from Confirmations and First Holy Communion 2020-2023 that have not been collected.

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2024

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

## FOR SALE



## LECTORS BOOKS-BREAK OPEN THE WORD 2024

Break Open the Word for 2024 books are available for sale at the Parish Office. Cost \$25 each. Cash only.

## DAILY MASS BOOKS 2024 \$30

2024 Daily mass books available from the bookshop



## CHILDREN'S LITURGY-9am MASS

Our Children's Liturgy program will be returning shortly for 2024. We are looking for more volunteers to join the roster to run the lessons for the children.

All worksheets and readings are provided. Children are split into younger (kindy-yr2) and older (yr3-6) groups, with one teacher on each age group. Lessons run approx. 15-20 minutes. For more information please contact Danielle Vassallo on 0421 649 641 or [sdvasallo@bigpond.com](mailto:sdvasallo@bigpond.com)



## PROJECTIONISTS WANTED

We are looking for volunteers to run the slides at mass (year 6 and up) in particular for the 5pm Vigil mass.

Slides are already put together for you, and training will be provided on how to use the computer system. If you are interested in becoming a projectionist please contact the parish office on 9634 2622 or via email at [admin@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadette.org.au).

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2024

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion or Communion to the Sick and Dying. If you are interested please contact Nancy in the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or [pa@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:pa@stbernadette.org.au)



## CATECHISTS WANTED

We are incredibly fortunate to still have the opportunity to go into the local public schools and spread the Word of God with primary school students at a number of public schools in our area. As the number of families in the Hills continues to grow, so does the number of students attending Public Schools.



St Bernadette's currently provide Catechist teachers to 5 local public schools, and we are looking for more teachers to assist in this growing need. All our teachers are provided with the training and support required, as well as the lesson plans and resources used in the classroom.

Our volunteer teachers currently consist of a fantastic team of parents, grandparents and young adults from various backgrounds, careers and experiences. We are looking for volunteers who are available to take a half-hour lesson on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday at one of our local public school. For more information contact Christine Jenneke on 0433 183 322

## Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

Jan	This Week
Tues 16th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group Reparation Prayer Group
Thurs 18th	Holy Hour 8:00pm-9:00pm
Fri 26th	Australia Day (Public Holiday)

## Today's Readings

### Entrance Antiphon:

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

### First Reading 1 Samuel 3:3-10.19

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am'. Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.' Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv. 8.9

(R.) Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too. You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you since you have received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel John 1:35-42

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

### Communion Antiphon:

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

### **Readings Next Weekend**

20-21 January 2024

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Jonah 3:1-5. 10	1 Cor 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20

### **Feast Days This Week**

17 Jan	Saint Anthony
20 Jan	Saint Fabian
	Saint Sebastian

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF**

Recently Deceased Richard Curtis, Concepcion Zamora, Margaret Brown, Carmencita Manuel

For the Anniversaries of Andrew Burton, Jean Fitzpatrick, Ted Nice

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

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