



# THE MASSABIELLE

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH COMMUNITY

## ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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### 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,

6:45am, 9:15am

Friday 2nd Feb

6:45am, 9:15am, 12noon

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

27-28 JAN 2024 *FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B*

*Continued from last week*

### Blessings in Sacred Scripture

14. To reflect on blessings by gathering different points of view, we first need to be enlightened by the voice of Scripture.

15. "May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace" (Num. 6:24-26). This "priestly blessing" we find in the Old Testament, specifically in the Book of Numbers, has a "descending" character since it represents the invocation of a blessing that descends from God upon man: it is one of the oldest texts of divine blessing. Then, there is a second type of blessing we find in the biblical pages: that which "ascends" from earth to heaven, toward God. Blessing in this sense amounts to praising, celebrating, and thanking God for his mercy and his faithfulness, for the wonders he has created, and for all that has come about by his will: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!" (Ps. 103:1).



16. To God who blesses, we also respond by blessing. Melchizedek, King of Salem, blesses Abram (cf. Gen. 14:19); Rebekah is blessed by family members just before she becomes the bride of Isaac (cf. Gen. 24:60), who, in turn, blesses his son, Jacob (cf. Gen. 27:27). Jacob blesses Pharaoh (cf. Gen. 47:10), his own grandsons, Ephraim and Manasseh (cf. Gen. 48:20), and his twelve sons (cf. Gen. 49:28). Moses and Aaron bless the community (cf. Ex. 39:43; Lev. 9:22). The heads of households bless their children at weddings, before embarking on a journey, and in the imminence of death. These blessings, accordingly, appear to be a superabundant and unconditional gift.

17. The blessing found in the New Testament retains essentially the same meaning it had in the Old Testament. We find the divine gift that "descends," the human thanksgiving that "ascends," and the blessing imparted by man that "extends" toward others. Zechariah, having regained the use of speech, blesses the Lord for his wondrous works (cf. Lk. 1:64). Simeon, while holding the newborn Jesus in his arms, blesses God for granting him the grace to contemplate the saving Messiah, and then blesses the child's parents, Mary and Joseph (cf. Lk. 2:34). Jesus blesses the Father in the famous hymn of praise and exultation he addressed to him: "I praise you, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth" (Mt. 11:25).

18. In continuity with the Old Testament, in Jesus as well the blessing is not only ascending, referring to the Father, but is also descending, being poured out on others as a gesture of grace, protection, and goodness. Jesus himself implemented and promoted this practice. For example, he blessed children: "And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them" (Mk. 10:16). And Jesus' earthly journey will end precisely with a final blessing reserved for the Eleven, shortly before he ascends to the Father: "And lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven" (Lk. 24:50-51). The last image of Jesus on earth is that of his hands being raised in the act of blessing.

19. In his mystery of love, through Christ, God communicates to his Church the power to bless. Granted by God to human beings and bestowed by them on their neighbours, the blessing is transformed into inclusion, solidarity, and peacemaking. It is a positive message of comfort, care, and encouragement. The blessing expresses God's merciful embrace and the Church's motherhood, which invites the faithful to have the same feelings as God toward their brothers and sisters.

*Continued next week*

### 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. *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

### WELCOME BACK BBQ

Join us as we kick off youth for 2024 with a welcome back BBQ on Friday 2nd Feb from 7:00-8:30pm.

To see the full term plans for both the Junior and Senior youth programs, scan the QR codes



### YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY

Our Young adults weekly bible study will be returning on Wednesday 21st February from 7:30pm in the St Joseph's room.

## ROSTERS 3-4 FEB 2024

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
<b>Lectors</b>	Douglas Carvalho Tony Calabria Felicity Carvalho	Sue Pinkerton Daniel Vergano Lisa Kemmis	Hyacinth Jones Catherine Whitelock Ann O'Brien	Sylvia Rego Gemma Saccassan Peter Saccassan	Anabel Formosa Rheza Tan Denis Bellerose
<b>Communion Ministers</b>	Felicity Carvalho Douglas Carvalho Mary McMahon Bernard Home Pauline Home	Monica Rodrigues David Rodrigues Andrea Tomic +1	Brian Blacklock Jenny Blacklock Ellen MacMahon Skirma Cervin Rudy Suwandy	Lydia Flores Paul Irwin Florina Vanderwaals Mary Winslow Jeyaraj Winslow	
<b>Bookshop</b>	Maureen Fearnside	Eugenia Fidel	Margaret Stedman	Coney Lau	Remy de Leon
<b>Flowers</b>	<b>1st Collection</b>	<b>2nd Collection</b>	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	<b>Housekeeping</b>	<b>Church Linen</b>
Maria Gobbo	Mon 5th Feb Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Eugenia Fidel Elizabeth de Jesus Helen Fidel	Joanne Boland Joanna Camarda	Bernadette Logue Marjorie Anderson Robyn Morgan	Belinda Yapp

## FIRST FRIDAY MASS: ANOINTING OF THE SICK/ADORATION



will take place this Friday, 2nd February at 12noon followed by a light lunch in the Marian Centre. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from after 6:45am mass until 12noon. All welcome. If you require transport please contact Maureen Fearnside on 9634 3329.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM-RECONCILIATION 2024

**Enrollments close Mon 5th February** 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)



## 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** at 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

On **Saturday 3rd February**, join with other married couples looking to rekindle the spark by improving communication and understanding. The day will commence 10am in the Marian Centre 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 is \$30 per couple. Please **RSVP by Sunday 28th January** for catering and resource purposes to Carolyn on 0425 329 609 .

## 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)



## SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities for face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, this coming February. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please contact the Parramatta Safeguarding team at [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

## ASH WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

Ash Wednesday masses on Wednesday 14th February will be at 6:45am, 9:15am (school attending) 12 noon (school attending) and 7:30pm.



## VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Vinnies would like to thank everyone who donated to their Christmas Appeal. They raised almost \$9000 to support those in need.



## 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

## ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLLING NOW - KINDERGARTEN 2025



We warmly welcome new families to join our school community. Enquiries and enrolment applications for **Kindy 2025** and Yrs 1 to 6 2024 & 2025. For **Kindergarten 2025** enrolments you are invited to register your interest to attend one of our upcoming **Open Day/School Tours** via our school website which commence Tuesday 27th February to Tuesday 12th March: <https://www.stbernadetteschill.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/tours-and-events>.

Enrolment forms and accompanying paperwork can be forwarded to the school office at [bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bernadettech@parra.catholic.edu.au).

We look forward to welcoming you to our St Bernadette's Castle Hill school community. If you require any further information, please call 02 9407 6600.

## 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 and the Parish Office. \$30 each. Cash only.



## Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

Jan/ Feb	This Week
Tues 30th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group
	Reparation Prayer Group
Thurs 1st	Holy Hour 8:00pm-9:00pm
Fri 2nd	First Friday Anointing Mass
	Youth Welcome back BBQ
	Catechist AGM



## Today's Readings

### **Entrance Antiphon:**

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

### **First Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

### **Responsorial Psalm Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9**

(R.) If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

### **Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7:32-35**

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

**Alleluia!**

### **Gospel Mark 1:21-28**

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

### **Communion Antiphon:**

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

### **Readings Next Weekend**

*3-4 February 2024*

*5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B*

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Second reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Job 7:1-4, 6-7	1 9:16-19	Mark 1:29-39

### **Feast Days This Week**

<b>31 Jan</b>	Saint John Bosco
<b>2 Feb</b>	The Presentation of the Lord
<b>3 Feb</b>	Saint Ansgar Saint Blaise

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

Recently Deceased Sergio Montano, Betty Byrne, Jim Stone, Rena Currie, Sam Banno (funeral 9th Feb 11am at St Bernadette's)

For the Anniversaries of John and Mary Camilleri, Lorenza Dalli, Joe De Silva, Manel Abhayaratna, Malwina Ratajszczak

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

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