



# 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](mailto:admin@stbernadette.org.au)

w: [www.stbernadette.org.au](http://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](mailto:pa@stbernadette.org.au)

#### Admin and Office Support

Ms Laura Burton

[admin@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadette.org.au)

#### Youth Ministry

[ym@stbernadette.org.au](mailto: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

3-4 FEB 2024 *FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B*

*Continued from last week*

### A Theological-Pastoral Understanding of Blessings

20. One who asks for a blessing show himself to be in need of God's saving presence in his life and one who asks for a blessing from the Church recognizes the latter as a sacrament of the salvation that God offers. To seek a blessing in the Church is to acknowledge that the life of the Church springs from the womb of God's mercy and helps us to move forward, to live better, and to respond to the Lord's will.

21. In order to help us understand the value of a more pastoral approach to blessings, Pope Francis urges us to contemplate, with an attitude of faith and fatherly mercy, the fact that "when one asks for a blessing, one is expressing a petition for God's assistance, a plea to live better, and confidence in a Father who can help us live better." This request should, in every way, be valued, accompanied, and received with gratitude. People who come spontaneously to ask for a blessing show by this request their sincere openness to transcendence, the confidence of their hearts that they do not trust in their own strength alone, their need for God, and their desire to break out of the narrow confines of this world, enclosed in its limitations.

22. As St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus teaches us, this confidence "is the sole path that leads us to the Love that grants everything. With confidence, the wellspring of grace overflows into our lives. It is most fitting, then, that we should place heartfelt trust not in ourselves but in the infinite mercy of a God who loves us unconditionally. The sin of the world is great but not infinite, whereas the merciful love of the Redeemer is indeed infinite."

23. When considered outside of a liturgical framework, these expressions of faith are found in a realm of greater spontaneity and freedom. Nevertheless, "the optional nature of pious exercises should in no way be taken to imply an under-estimation or even disrespect for such practices. The way forward in this area requires a correct and wise appreciation of the many riches of popular piety, [and] of the potentiality of these same riches." In this way, blessings become a pastoral resource to be valued rather than a risk or a problem.

24. From the point of view of pastoral care, blessings should be evaluated as acts of devotion that "are external to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and of the other sacraments." Indeed, the "language, rhythm, course, and theological emphasis" of popular piety differ "from those of the corresponding liturgical action." For this reason, "pious practices must conserve their proper style, simplicity, and language, [and] attempts to impose forms of 'liturgical celebration' on them are always to be avoided."

25. The Church, moreover, must shy away from resting its pastoral praxis on the fixed nature of certain doctrinal or disciplinary schemes, especially when they lead to "a narcissistic and authoritarian elitism, whereby instead of evangelizing, one analyzes and classifies others, and instead of opening the door to grace, one exhausts his or her energies in inspecting and verifying." Thus, when people ask for a blessing, an exhaustive moral analysis should not be placed as a precondition for conferring it. For, those seeking a blessing should not be required to have prior moral perfection.

26. In this perspective, the Holy Father's *Respuestas* aid in expanding the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith's 2021 pronouncement from a pastoral point of view. For, the *Respuestas* invite discernment concerning the possibility of "forms of blessing, requested by one or more persons, that do not convey an erroneous conception of marriage" and, in situations that are morally unacceptable from an objective point of view, account for the fact that "pastoral charity requires us not to treat simply as 'sinners' those whose guilt or responsibility may be attenuated by various factors affecting subjective imputability."

*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. 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

### JUNIOR YOUTH FRIDAY 16TH FEB

Friday 16th Feb in the St Joseph's Room. Our Junior Youth (Yrs 5-8) will be looking at Angels. For more details on the term plans for both Senior And junior youth, 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. This term we will be reading through the upcoming Sunday readings, and discuss their meaning with the assistance of the book "Break open the word"



### YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT

Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) will be returning for 2024 on Sunday 25th February 7:00pm-9:00pm in the St Joseph's Room. Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements. Brandon will be sharing on The Theology of Humour.



## ROSTERS 10-11 FEB 2024

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
<b>Lectors</b>	Mitch Dielwart Gary Tierney Cheryl Braisby	Dan Mathias Paul D'Cruz Joyan Fife	Mila Mina Karen Lee Hubert Jenneke	Michael Abrahams Raymond Pak	Brandon Leyba Hanna Pillai Nathan Colaco
<b>Communion Ministers</b>	Lisa Hurst Rick Jenkins Brian Fitzalan Natalia Chui +1	Lucille Wilson Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee	Angela Stenglin Christine Jenneke Hubert Jenneke Rosalie Sampath Celeste McLean	Mila Mina Coney Lau Helen Carr-Boyd Elizabeth Joseph Jiji Joseph	
<b>Bookshop</b>	Elaine Small	Catherine Seddon	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Josie and Seng Yeoh	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>
Darshi Wettasinghe	Mon 12th Feb Dorothy Finucane Margaret Stedman	Bill Lee Chris Crowe Edd Pagnucco	Lolita Suyko Danielle Vassallo	Margaret Sinha Frances Menezes Pancras Robinson	Tess De Santo

## 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)



## TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

Would you like to do something extra during Lent? Then come to the Tuesday morning Group at 10 am in Marian Centre. Where we go through the Sunday Mass Readings and see what we can learn from them. For more information contact Pauline Camilleri on 0407417039.



## 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 this **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)



## 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.



## PIETA LENTEN PROGRAM

Fr Raymond and Fr Matthew will be running the Wollongong Diocese PIETA Lenten program on Thursday nights during lent at 7pm in the Marian Centre, starting Thursday 15th February. Books are available for purchase for \$10 each through the parish office or on the night. Cash only.



## PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO

To celebrate his 25th Anniversary, Fr Fernando will be leading a Pilgrimage to Mexico in September. Places are limited. To register your interest, scan the QR code or contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or at [admin@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadette.org.au). Further details on the noticeboard in the church foyer.



## 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)

## MUSIC FOR LENT WORKSHOP

Musicians and Liturgy Planners are invited to attend an evening exploring Music for Lent on **Thursday 8th February** 2024 from 7pm to 8.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. The session will be presented by Eric Grella, Music Formation Facilitator, Mission Enhancement Team. To RSVP, please contact [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org)



## ST BERNADETTE STATUE

The statue of Our Lady with St Bernadette is available for Parishioners to borrow for a week during 2024. The bookings roster for the new year is on the noticeboard in the foyer. For enquiries and bookings contact Janina Mousley on 9899 6060 or 0444 599 502



## 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.

## ST BERNADETTE'S NETBALL CLUB 2024 REGISTRATION

Registration is open to play in STBNC's Winter Netball season, with games on Friday nights (7-9 y/os) and Saturdays (10+ y/os and Womens'). No prior netball experience is required. We are proud to welcome All Abilities players as well as keen future umpires, coaches and managers. Register via PlayHQ by **Friday, 16th February**. For more information follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/stbnc>) or email our Club President at [stbncpresident@gmail.com](mailto:stbncpresident@gmail.com).



## Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

Feb	This Week
Tues 6th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group
	Reparation Prayer Group
Thurs 8th	Holy Hour 8:00pm-9:00pm
	Food Fiesta Meeting
Feb	This Month
Wed 14th	Ash Wednesday
Thurs 15th	PIETA Lenten Program
Fri 16th	Stations of the Cross

## Today's Readings

### Entrance Antiphon:

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

### First Reading Job 7:1-4. 6-7

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

Alleluia!

### Gospel Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

### Communion Antiphon:

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

### **Readings Next Weekend**

10-11 February 2024

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Lev 13:1-2, 44-46	1 Cor 10:31-11:1	Mark 1:40-45

### **Feast Days This Week**

<b>5 Feb</b>	Saint Agatha
<b>6 Feb</b>	Saint Paul Miki and Companions
<b>8 Feb</b>	Saint Jerome Emiliani Saint Josephine Bakhita
<b>10 Feb</b>	Saint Scholastica

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

Recently Deceased Hermine Eberhaut (Funeral Mon 5th 11am at St Bernadette's)

Sam Banno (Funeral Fri 9th Feb 11am at St Bernadette's)

For the Anniversaries of Lawrence James Owen, Estelita Cruz

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

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