



# THE MASSABIELLE

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH COMMUNITY

## ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

367 Old Northern Road  
Castle Hill NSW 2154

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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 Coordinator

Mrs Puspa Winendiah

[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,

6:45am, 9:15am

Friday 3rd May

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 APRIL 2024 *FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B*

Hello Everybody!

On this especial time of Easter, and after we just finish learning about the Icon of the Resurrection of Jesus, I would like to draw your attention to a very especial candle that we call the Paschal Candle. This candle is the same candle we bless on the Easter Vigil and is lit throughout the Paschal Season and once the Easter Season is over, it is lit on special occasions such as baptisms and funerals. Some people have suggested that the origin of this candle is probably inspired by the Jewish custom of lighting a lamp at the conclusion of the Sabbath. The rite therefore has its roots in the very beginning of Christianity.

During the ceremony of the blessing of the Easter Candle, five grains of incense representing Christ's wounds are inserted in the form of a cross. An alpha above the cross and an omega below (the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet) indicate that Christ is the beginning and end of all. The current year is written on the four sides of the cross as the priest says that to Christ belongs time and eternity.

As you can see the meaning behind the Easter Candle is very rich. The flame symbolises Christ who is the Light of the World (Jn. 8:12), the tall white candle in many ways signifies the Divine pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night that lead the Israelites in their Exodus from slavery in Egypt (Ex.13:21-22) and as we sang on the Easter Vigil Christ is our true Passover who freed us from the slavery of sin and brings us to the freedom to be children of God.

During the Easter Vigil, after placing the Paschal on the candlestick the priest will start the Exulted, the Paschal Hymn when the priest praises God for His acts in history, especially the salvation in Christ. At the final part the priest will draw his attention to the Paschal Candle:

*Accept this Easter candle,  
a flame divided but undimmed,  
a pillar of fire that glows to the honour of God.  
(For it is fed by the holy melting wax, which the mother bee brought forth  
to make this precious candle.)  
Let it mingle with the lights of heaven  
and continue bravely burning  
to dispel the darkness of this night!  
May the Morning Star which never sets  
find this flame still burning:  
Christ, that Morning Star,  
who came back from the dead,  
and shed his peaceful light on all humanity,  
your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.*



The candle remains in the sanctuary or a prominent place in the church during the 50 days of Easter season and is lit for all liturgical offices. After Pentecost, the Easter Candle is placed close to the baptismal font.

During the year it is lit during all baptisms and funeral services; the candle is placed next to the casket during the funeral Mass. In this way it symbolizes baptism as a death and resurrection in Christ, and also testifies to Christian certainty in the resurrection of the dead as well as to the fact that all are alive in the risen Christ.



Peace in Jesus

*Fr. Fernando Montano*

### 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 ON BREAK

The youth are now on break for the School Holidays. Senior Youth will return for Term 2 on Friday 10th May. Our Senior Youth will be talking about "Made In The Image"

Junior Youth will return for Term 2 on Friday 17th May. Our Junior youth will be talking about "Why Can't We Be Friends?"

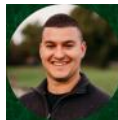
### YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY (16-35yrs)

Our Young Adults Bible Study is held on Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm-9:30pm in the St Joseph's Room.



### YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT 21ST APRIL

Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) is on Sunday 26th May 7:00pm-9:00pm in the St Joseph's Room.



Guest Speaker Simon Carrington is coming to talk on "How To Date with Passion and Purpose."

Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements by contacting [ym@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:ym@stbernadette.org.au).

## ROSTERS 4-5 May 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	Joanne Dobry Alex Joyce Edwin Zambrano	Brandon Leyba Hanna Pillai Nathan Colaco
<b>Communion Ministers</b>	Felicity Carvalho Douglas Carvalho Bernard Home Pauline Home +1	Lucille Wilson Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee	Mary Tondini Ranmalee De Silva Lynda Sillick Yvette Braganza Shane Robinson	Mila Mina Coney Lau Helen Carr-Boyd Elizabeth Joseph Jiji Jospheh	
<b>Bookshop</b>	Elaine Small	Eugenia Fidel	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Dorothy Finucane	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 May Dorothy Finucane Margaret Stedman	David Solomons Joe Harney Jeslin Cyriac	Joanne Boland Joanna Camarda	Margaret Sinha Francesca Menezes Pancras Robinson	Claire Lagunzad

### AIR CONDITIONER UPDATE

Donation envelopes can be found on the pews to support our Air Conditioner. Our target is \$150,000 to replace the ducted air conditioner systems in the church and hall. We have raised **\$89,709** so far. Thank you for your generous support. Donation envelopes can be placed on the collection plates, in the collection boxes, handed to the Priests or given to the Parish Office.



### MOTHERS' DAY FLOWER STALL

The youth leaders will be running their annual Mothers' Day flower stall on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th May. There will be a range of native bouquets, mixed florals, single flowers, chocolate bouquets, gift tags and cards available for purchase. Prices range from \$5-\$50. Cash and EFTPOS available. Funds will go towards resources for the youth and young adults programs.

### GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL

Envelopes for the Good Shepherd Appeal can be found on the pews. Donations go towards supporting our seminarians in the Diocese. For any online donations please select St Bernadette's CASTLE HILL to ensure the donation is attributed to our quota. We have raised \$2930 so far. Thank you for your generous donations.

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



will take place this Friday, 3rd May 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.

### FR RAYMOND'S 50TH BIRTHDAY

Dear friends, I would like to thank you for your great support, prayers, kind words, and gifts to me as I turned 50. I sincerely appreciate your love, kindness, and hospitality since I joined the St Bernadette's Parish family. May god bless you and reward you abundantly.

Fr Raymond C. Ugwu, C.S.Sp

### FUNDRAISER BBQ

The St Bernadette's Football Club are running a fundraiser BBQ at the morning masses this Sunday 28th April. Bacon and Egg Rolls for sale \$5 each. If you want a quick exit from Mass this Sunday but don't want to miss out on a tasty breakfast snack why not pre-pay on your way INTO the church before Mass? Come see one of the volunteers at the BBQ table before mass to pre-pay. You can then jump the queue and collect your food 'to-go'!

**Australia's Biggest morning tea**

**Cancer Council**  
Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Scan to donate

**Thurs 23rd May**  
after 9:15am mass  
in the Marian Centre

### DIOCESAN SYNOD THINK TANK SESSIONS

The people of God in the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to contribute to the development of our 'Diocesan Plan for a Synodal Church'.

Local faith communities are encouraged to engage in dialogue, offer valuable insights to the Plan's development, and to continue nurturing leaders through synodal practices through a series of Think Tank Sessions, beginning on 1 May. For more information, and to register your attendance at one of the Think Tank Sessions below, visit <https://parracatholic.org/synod/think-tank-sessions/>

Date	Time	Theme	Location
Wednesday 1 May	6:30 - 9:00pm	Theme 1: An Inclusive and Welcoming Church	Greystanes Parish
Wednesday 8 May	6:30 - 9:00pm	Theme 2: A Humble and Healing Church	Mount Druitt Parish
Wednesday 15 May	6:30 - 9:00pm	Theme 3: A Listening Church	Baulkham Hills Parish
Wednesday 22 May	6:30 - 9:00pm	Theme 4: A Church Renewed in Spirit and Prayer	Plumpton Parish
Wednesday 29 May	6:30 - 9:00pm	Theme 5: A Church that Reaches to the Margins	Penrith Parish
Wednesday 5 June	6:30 - 9:00pm	Theme 6: A Church Walking Together	Harris Park Parish

## Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

April/May	This Week
Tues 30th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group Reparation Prayer Group
Wed 1st	Wednesday Morning Bible Study Young Adults Bible Study
Thurs 2nd	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
May	Next Month
Fri 10th May	Senior Youth Group
Sat 11th May	Youth Fundraiser: Mothers' Day Flowers
Sun 12th May	
Fri 17th May	Junior Youth Group
Sun 19th May	Pentecost Sunday
Thurs 23rd May	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea
Sun 26th May	Fundraiser BBQ
	Young Adults- Simon Carrington



## Today's Readings

### Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### First Reading Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

### Second Reading 1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

### Communion Antiphon:

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

### **Readings Next Weekend**

4-5 May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B

**First Reading**

**Second reading**

**Gospel**

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

1 Jn 4:7-10

Jn 15:9-17

### **Feast Days This Week**

**29 Apr**

Saint Catherine of Sienna

**30 Apr**

Saint Pius V

**1 May**

Saint Joseph the Worker

**2 May**

Saint Athanasius

**3 May**

Saints Philip and James

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

Recently Deceased Zabrina Kibellis, Salvatore Vinci, Yolanda Roxas

For the Anniversaries of Molly Edge, Yama Go, Jovita Flores, Gabriel Mearns,

Rita Chioatto, Delia Hiedy, Pablito Afable, Ramon Preller

### **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Flavia Panto, Brian De Silva, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Yvonne Hill, Elizabeth Mifsud, Andrew Tchang