



THE MASSABIELLE

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH COMMUNITY CASTLE HILL

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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admin@stbernadette.org.au

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Mrs Puspa Winendiah

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

23-24 Nov 2024 *OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE YEAR B*

Continued from last week

24. Hope finds its supreme witness in the Mother of God. In the Blessed Virgin, we see that hope is not naive optimism but a gift of grace amid the realities of life. Like every mother, whenever Mary looked at her Son, she thought of his future. Surely she kept pondering in her heart the words spoken to her in the Temple by the elderly Simeon: "This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed, so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too" (Lk 2:34-35). At the foot of the cross, she witnessed the passion and death of Jesus, her innocent son. Overwhelmed with grief, she nonetheless renewed her "fiat", never abandoning her hope and trust in God. In this way, Mary cooperated for our sake in the fulfilment of all that her Son had foretold in announcing that he would have to "undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again" (Mk 8:31). In the travail of that sorrow, offered in love, Mary became our Mother, the Mother of Hope. It is not by chance that popular piety continues to invoke the Blessed Virgin as Stella Maris, a title that bespeaks the sure hope that, amid the tempests of this life, the Mother of God comes to our aid, sustains us and encourages us to persevere in hope and trust.

In this regard, I would note that the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City is preparing to celebrate, in 2031, the fifth centenary of Our Lady's first apparition. Through Juan Diego, the Mother of God brought a revolutionary message of hope that she continues to bring to every pilgrim and all the faithful: "Am I not here, who am your Mother?" That message continues to touch hearts in the many Marian shrines throughout the world, where countless pilgrims commend to the holy Mother of God their cares, their sorrows and their hopes. During the Jubilee Year, may these shrines be sacred places of welcome and privileged spaces for the rebirth of hope. I encourage all pilgrims to Rome to spend time in prayer in the Marian shrines of the City, in order to venerate the Blessed Mother and to implore her protection. I am confident that everyone, especially the suffering and those most in need, will come to know the closeness of Mary, the most affectionate of mothers, who never abandons her children and who, for the holy people of God, is "a sign of certain hope and comfort".

25. In our journey towards the Jubilee, let us return to Scripture and realize that it speaks to us in these words: "May we who have taken refuge in him be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered" (Heb 6:18-20). Those words are a forceful encouragement for us never to lose the hope we have been given, to hold fast to that hope and to find in God our refuge and our strength.

The image of the anchor is eloquent; it helps us to recognize the stability and security that is ours amid the troubled waters of this life, provided we entrust ourselves to the Lord Jesus. The storms that buffet us will never prevail, for we are firmly anchored in the hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ and to overcome sin, fear and death. This hope, which transcends life's fleeting pleasures and the achievement of our immediate goals, makes us rise above our trials and difficulties, and inspires us to keep pressing forward, never losing sight of the grandeur of the heavenly goal to which we have been called.

The coming Jubilee will thus be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation. May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth (cf. 2 Pet 3:13), where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises.

Let us even now be drawn to this hope! Through our witness, may hope spread to all those who anxiously seek it. May the way we live our lives say to them in so many words: "Hope in the Lord! Hold firm, take heart and hope in the Lord!" (Ps 27:14). May the power of hope fill our days, as we await with confidence the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory, now and forever.

Given in Rome, at Saint John Lateran, on 9 May, the Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, in the year 2024, the twelfth of my Pontificate.

Pope Francis

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, Funerals 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 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

St Bernadette's
Parish Castle Hill
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 SENIOR YOUTH

Are now on break for the year. We wish you a merry Christmas, and look forward to youth in 2025.

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

Are now on break for the year. We wish you a merry Christmas, and look forward to Young Adults in 2025.



Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to all who generously donated to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal, helping support those in need this Christmas.

ROSTERS 30 NOV-1 DEC 2024

Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Kris Murgatroyd Les Blanch Rod Burrige	Wayne Vergano Jackie Willard Margaret Ash	Dawn Wickramasinghe Ranmalee De Silva Sherryl Rozario	Joanne Dobry Alex Joyce Edwin Zambrano	Timothy Leong Anabel Formosa
Communion Ministers	Beverley Curtis Esther Coleiro Kathleen Abernethy Keith D'Sylva Maureen Fearnside	Lucille Wilson Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee	Brian Blacklock Jenny Blacklock Ellen MacMahon Skirma Cervin Rudy Suwandy	Sylvia Rego Venetia Lee Winnie Li Henry Li Nina Irwin	
Bookshop	Maureen Fearnside	Eugenia Fidel	Jenny and Brian Blacklock	Dorothy Finucane	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
N/A	Mon 2nd Dec Dorothy Finucane Margaret Stedman	David Tye Cosimo Miccoli Chris Clancy	Laura Burton Jenny Blacklock	Margaret Sinha Reg Sinha Margaret Sinha Snr Francesca Menezes Pancras Robinson	Claire Lagunzad



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2024

This year with the current increase in cost of living, 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 **7th and 8th December**. The hampers will be sorted on Friday 6th, Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th, and delivered on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th. Please be mindful of the weight of the hampers as they need to be lifted on and off the truck for delivery. **If you are available to help with sorting or distributing Hampers please contact Carole on 0438 014 070.**

PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLS NIGHT-tickets on sale now!



On Friday 13th December, the Parish will be holding a Christmas Carols evening in the church.

Tickets on sale \$10 per person. Tickets available for purchase via Trybooking (scan QR Code), at the Parish Office (Cash only) or next weekend after all masses (cash or EFTPOS)



\$10 ticket includes entry, 1 battery candle, 1 bottled water and 1 gingerbread cookie. Dolce Cannoli & Co, Shire Gluten Free, and The Blacktop Coffee will have a variety of goods available for purchase on the night.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM-RECONCILIATION 2025

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 **Tuesday 26th 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 the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au



COFFEE & CHAT THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Please stop by the Marian Center for coffee & chat this Thursday morning after the 9.15am mass. **Please bring a plate of Christmas finger food to share.** All welcome

ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMES

Thursday 5th Dec	8:00pm - 9:00pm during Holy Hour	
Saturday 7th Dec	8:30am - 9:00am	4:00pm - 4:30pm
Thursday 12th Dec	8:00pm - 9:00pm during Holy Hour	
Saturday 14th Dec	8:30am - 9:00am	4:00pm - 4:30pm
Thursday 19th Dec	8:00pm - 9:00pm during Holy Hour	
Saturday 21st Dec	8:30am - 9:00am	4:00pm - 4:30pm



PARRAMATTA
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

**Homeless young mothers
and their children desperately
need your help this Christmas**

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will provide practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home.

parracatholic.org/appeal

FOR SALE

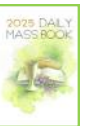


LECTORS BOOKS-BREAK OPEN THE WORD

Break Open the Word for 2025 books are available for sale at the Parish Office.
Cost \$30 each. Cash only.

DAILY MASS BOOKS

2025 Daily mass books available from the bookshop and the Parish Office.
Cost \$25 each. Cash only.



THE LIGHT: ADVENT BOOKS

The Wollongong Diocese Advent Reflection books are available from the bookshop and Parish Office
\$7 each. Cash only.

JOSEPHITE CALENDAR 2025

With inspirations from St Mary of the Cross Mackillop.
Available from the bookshop.
\$13 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.

November

This Week

Tues 26th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Reconciliation Parent Information Night
	Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm
Wed 27th	Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10am
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 28th	Coffee and Chat
	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

First Reading Daniel 7:13-14

I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1

(R) The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

Second Reading Revelation 1:5-8

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 18:33-37

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

'YES, I AM A KING. I WAS
BORN FOR THIS, I CAME INTO
THE WORLD FOR THIS: TO BEAR
WITNESS TO THE TRUTH; AND
ALL WHO ARE ON THE SIDE OF
TRUTH LISTEN TO MY VOICE.'

JOHN 18:37



Readings Next Weekend

30 Nov-1 Dec 2024

First Sunday of Advent Year C

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Jer 3:14-16	1 Thess 3:12-4:2	Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Feast Days This Week

25 Nov	Saint Catherine of Alexandria
30 Nov	Saint Andrew

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Harry Bott

For all the names in the Book of Remembrance

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Yvonne Hill, Andrew Tchang, Minda Robles, Marion Heron, Geoff Roney, Michael Ng