



THE MASSABIELLE

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

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 Neil Bulathsinalage

Assistant Priest

Fr Ravi Muvvala

Pastoral Associate

Mrs Nancy Eberhaut

pa@stbernadette.org.au

Admin and Office Support

Ms Laura Burton

admin@stbernadette.org.au

Youth Coordinator

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

14-15 DEC 2024 *THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C*

Dear Parishioners,

I am Fr Neil Bulathsinalage. I have come to St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill from St Aidan's Parish Rooty Hill, where I was Assistant Priest for 2 years.

I grew up in Sri Lanka with my family, where my mother passed away in April this year. I ask you to please pray for her soul. I belong to the Salesian Congregation. I was ordained to the Priesthood in 2009 in Sri Lanka, where I was appointed as a principal in vocation schools in Sri Lanka for 10 years, before moving to Australia.

In 2003 I went to Rome as a missionary, to join an Explore Study program. I also spent time in Portugal studying Portuguese and theology. After leaving Portugal, I moved to Angola, in West Africa, where I worked for 2 years at a Catholic College, with street kids, and in refugee camps.

I came to Australia in 2019, where I joined the Parramatta Diocese and have worked at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes, Our Lady of the Rosary, St Mary's, and St Aidan's Rooty Hill.

I am happy to be in the Parish of Castle Hill and hope to share God's love and compassion with you. I look forward to working with Fr Fernando and Fr Ravi as a team.



ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMES

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Tuesday 24 th December Christmas Eve	5:00pm	Children's Mass
	7:30pm	Family Mass
	9:30pm	Youth Mass
Wednesday 25 th December Christmas Day	12:00am	Midnight Mass Carols from 11:30pm
	7:30am	
	9:00am	
	10:30am	
No evening Mass on Christmas Day		
Thurs 26th Dec, Fri 27th Dec	8am mass only	Church will be closed after 8am Mass. Parish Office closed.
Sat 28th Dec	8am, 5pm (Vigil)	As per normal
Sun 29th Dec	7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am 6:00pm	As per normal
Mon 30 th Dec to Wed 1 st Jan	8am mass only	Church will be closed after 8am Mass. Parish Office closed.
Thurs 2 nd Jan onwards	6:45am, 9:15am	Office and Church open as per normal

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 Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation programs for school children please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or at sacraments@stbernadette.org.

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 are on break for the year. We look forward to seeing you when we return in February 2025.



YOUNG ADULTS—NORTHERN DEANERY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS OUTING: WED 18TH DEC

The Young Adults of the Northern Deanery are planning an outing into the city to explore the Christmas lights displays Sydney city has to offer!

Who: all young adults 18-35 yrs are invited

When: Wednesday December 18th 5:30pm till late

Following 5:30pm mass at St Mary's Cathedral in the city, we will grab dinner as a group and explore the Christmas lights Sydney has to offer from Darling Harbour to the Cathedral.

ROSTERS 21-22 DEC 2024

Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Mitch Dielwart Gary Tierney Cheryl Braisby	Dan Mathias Paul D'Cruz Joyan Fife	Mila Mina Karen Lee Hubert Jenneke	Michael Abrahams Danielle Vassallo Raymond Pak	Michelle Baretto Laura Burton
Communion Ministers	Lisa Hurst Rick Jenkins Brian Fitzalan Natalia Chui Conni Tierney	Lucille Wilson Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee	Delphine Fernandes John Donnelly Lois Donnelly Winnie Lam Gabrielle Jamison	Teresa Somasundram Margaret Hawkes Dorothy Finucane Hilary Fong Bernadette Boulos	
Bookshop	Kathleen Abernethy	Eugenia Fidel	Jenny & Brian Blacklock	Josie & Seng Yeoh	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
N/A	Mon 23rd Dec Jocelyn and Maxime Juste	Bill Lee Chris Crowe Eddy Pagnucco	N/A	Maria Mochnik Yvonne Desouza Anna Schweda Karen D'Souza Neil Fonseca	Risa Sidik



CHILDREN'S 5PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

The 5pm mass on Christmas Eve will be a Children's mass. As part of the mass the children act out the Gospel reading. Come dressed as an angel or shepherd. If your child is interested in being a part of the Christmas Eve play, there will be a rehearsal on Friday 20th Dec at 3:00pm in the church. For more information please see Mrs Younis (yr 6 teacher at St Bernadette's Primary) or contact Danielle Vassallo on 0421 649 641 or sdvassallo@bigpong.com

THE GIVING TREE

This advent, The Giving Tree is decorated with envelopes for [The House of Welcome \(white envelopes\)](#), and [St Bernadette's Refugee Group \(red envelopes\)](#) Cash donations can be placed in the envelopes, and dropped into the gold donation box at the base of the tree, or the 1st and 2nd collection boxes at the front of the church. Further information on both groups can be found next to the tree.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM-RECONCILIATION 2025

Parish families who would like their child to commence preparation to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation, enrolments are now open. This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 2 and above (yr 3 2025), who have received the sacrament of Baptism. For enrolment information, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or via email at sacraments@stbernadette.org.au

VINNIES CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Thank you to everyone who was involved in this year's Vinnies Hampers. We were able to provide 580 families in need with hampers this Christmas thanks to your generosity. This is our Parish's biggest ever donation of hampers, and we could not have done it without your donations of food, toys, time and effort, and love. They are greatly appreciated by the Vinnies team and the recipients of the hampers.



**Parish Office and Church closed
Wednesday 18th December from 12:00 noon**

FOR SALE

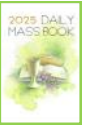


LECTORS BOOKS-BREAK OPEN THE WORD

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.

TAKE YOUR FREE COPY

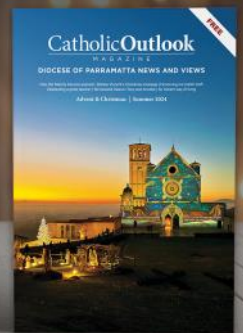
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SUMMER EDITION

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CATHOLIC AGENCY.



CATHOLICOUTLOOK.ORG/MAGAZINE



Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

December

This Week

Tues 17th

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am

Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm

Wed 18th

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10am

Parish Office Closed from 12:00noon

Young Adults Christmas lights outing

Thurs 19th

Holy Hour 8pm-9pm Confessions available

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 12:2-6 R. v.6

(R) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Communion Antiphon:

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS;
AGAIN I WILL SAY, REJOICE.
LET ALL MEN KNOW YOUR
FORBEARANCE.
THE LORD IS AT HAND.
PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5



Readings Next Weekend

21-22 Dec 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Micah 5:1-4	Heb 10:5-10	Lk 1:39-44

Feast Days This Week

21 Dec

Saint Peter Canisius

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

For the Anniversaries of: Albert Leroy, Monique Leroy, Thierry Leroy, Asquith Figueira, Margaret Sutton, Henry Restall, John McAuliffe, James Hennessey, Xavier Padanilam

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Yvonne Hill, Andrew Tchang, Minda Robles, Marion Heron, Geoff Roney, Sylvia Fagan, Paul Cloran