



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

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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,

6:45am, 9:15am,

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Easter Vigil

7:00pm

Easter Sunday

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,

6:00pm

RECONCILIATION TIMES

Saturday

8:30am-9:00am,

4:00pm-4:30pm

Or by appointment

12-13 APRIL 2025 *PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD YEAR C*

Hello Everybody:

Holy Week is finally here! The holiest of the weeks in the Catholic Calendar when the Church everywhere calls her children to come together to make present again the mysteries of the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. In every Church, liturgies will be held to commemorate these events at the core of the Christian faith. Starting on Holy Thursday, the church celebrates the Holy Triduum a Latin word that means three days.

Holy Thursday celebrates both the institution by Christ himself of the Eucharist and of the institution of the sacerdotal priesthood (as distinct from the 'priesthood of all believers') for in this, His last supper with the disciples, a celebration of Passover, He is the self-offered Passover Victim, and every ordained priest to this day presents this same sacrifice. The Last Supper was also Christ's farewell to His assembled disciples, some of whom would betray, desert or deny Him before the sun rose again.

The Holy Thursday liturgy is celebrated in the evening because Passover began at sundown, also shows the worth God ascribes to the humility of service, in the Mandatum to love one another presented by Jesus' washing the feet of His disciples. This commandment gave this day its old name as Maundy Thursday. The action of the Church on this night also witnesses to the Church's esteem for Christ's Body present in the consecrated Host in the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, carried in solemn procession to the flower-bedecked Altar of Repose, where it will remain 'entombed' until the communion service on Good Friday. No Mass will be celebrated again in the Church until the Easter Vigil proclaims the Resurrection.

And finally, there is the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament by the people during the night, just as the disciples stayed with the Lord during His agony on the Mount of Olives before the betrayal by Judas.

On Good Friday, the entire Church fixes her gaze on the Cross at Calvary. In the solemn ceremonies of Good Friday, in the Adoration of the Cross, in the chanting of the 'Reproaches', (Improperia) in the reading of the Passion, and in receiving the pre-consecrated Host, we unite ourselves to our Savior.

The Church - stripped of its ornaments, the altar bare, and with the door of the empty tabernacle standing open - is as if in mourning. In the fourth century the Apostolic Constitutions described this day as a 'day of mourning, not a day of festive joy,' and this day was called the 'Pasch (passage) of the Crucifixion.'

The omission of the prayer of consecration deepens our sense of loss because Mass throughout the year reminds us of the Lord's triumph over death, the source of our joy and blessing. The desolate quality of the rites of this day reminds us of Christ's humiliation and suffering during his Passion.



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

Wednesday 16th April	Morning masses 6:45am, 9:15am Chrism Mass 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta
Holy Thursday 17th April	No morning mass Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm
Good Friday 18th April	No morning mass Stations of the Cross 9:30am and 12noon Stations of the Cross acted out by the youth of the parish. Both sessions last approx. 1hr Passion of the Lord Liturgy 3pm Reconciliation 10:30am-2:30pm. No reconciliation after 3pm Liturgy
Easter Vigil 19th April	No morning mass, No Reconciliation on Holy Saturday Blessing of the Easter Food 11am Vigil Mass 7:00pm
Easter Sunday 20th April	Masses as per normal - 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am and 6pm
Easter Monday 21st April	8am mass only. Public Holiday. Parish Office closed.

Church and office open as per usual Tuesday 22nd April.

Friday 25th April ANZAC Day public holiday. Mass 8am only. Church closed after Mass. Parish Office closed.



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 (years 5-8)

On break for Easter holidays. We will return in Term 2. Keep an eye out for further details and dates.

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

On break for Easter holidays. We will return in Term 2. Keep an eye out for further details and dates.

YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY (16-35yrs)

Our Young Adults Bible Study is held every Wednesday evening 7:30-9:30pm in the St Joseph's Room. We are using the Sydney Archdiocese Lenten Companion: Let Your Will Be Done not mine

PASSION PLAY 2025

The youth and young adults of the parish present the Passion of Our Lord on Good Friday (18th April 2025) at 9:30am and 12noon. All high school aged students and young adults are invited to be involved in this year's Passion Play. There are a number of roles, both speaking and non-speaking. **Rehearsal will be this Sunday (Palm Sunday) at 12noon in the church.** For more information contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622.

To sign up please scan the QR code or email ym@stbernadette.org.au.



ROSTERS 19-20 APRIL 2025

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	N/A	Wayne Vergano Jackie Willard Margaret Ash	Dawn Wickramasinghe Ranmalee De Silva Sherryl Rozario	Joanne Dobry Alex Joyce Edwin Zambrano	Hanna Pillai Brandon Leyba Michelle Kim
Communion Ministers	N/A	Monica Rodrigues David Rodrigues Andrea Tomic	Brian Blacklock Jenny Blacklock Ellen MacMahon Skirma Cervin Rudy Suwandy	Sylvia Rego Venetia Lee Winnie Li Henry Li Nina Irwin	Dess Gutierres Dominique Boudib Remy de Leon
Bookshop	N/A	Eugenia Fidel	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Dorothy Finucane	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
N/A	Tues 22nd April Marie Woodward Elaine Small	David Tye Cosimo Miccoli Chris Clancy	N/A	Andrea Tomic Krystyna Graczyk Myra Tan Gabriella Tan Pauline Home	Lois & John Donnelly



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the children in our sacramental program who made their First Reconciliation on Tuesday night.

CATECHISTS WANTED

We are looking for 2 volunteers who are available to take a half-hour lesson on a Wednesday or Friday at one of our local public school. For more information please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or admin@stbernadette.org.au



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2025

Enrolments close 23rd April for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion for 2025. Please note the Monday session is now **full**. This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 4 and above, who have received the sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation. If you have any questions or would like information, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au

HOUSE OF WELCOME

This year as part of our Holy Thursday Mass, we will be collecting non-perishable donations for the House of Welcome. During the Offertory procession there will be an opportunity to place donations into tubs on the sanctuary steps. The House of Welcome are looking for donations of canned, long-life and dry foods (rice, flour, lentils etc), toiletries and cleaning products. For more details of donations please see the parish noticeboard in the foyer. They **do not** need donations of tinned soup, baked beans or tinned spaghetti (they already have an abundance of these items). No alcohol or fresh produce please.



PROJECT COMPASSION

Please return your Project Compassion boxes on Holy Thursday. Please place boxes in the baskets that will be placed on the Sanctuary steps as part of the Offertory. We kindly ask you to convert coins to cash where possible. Online donations can be made via the QR code.



PONTIFICAL HOLY LAND GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in every Catholic Church to support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land. Your donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of people who are keeping alive the Christian presence in the land of Jesus, often in the face of great difficulty in recent years.

CYP GOOD FRIDAY NIGHT WALK

Young people are invited to join Catholic Youth Parramatta and Bishop Vincent for the annual 21km Good Friday Night Walk from St Patrick's Church, Blacktown to St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. For more information and to register for the walk, please visit <https://parracatholic.org/events/gfnw/>



PASSION PLAY 2025

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CALLING ALL BUILDERS

We are looking for builders who can help repair the damage to the portico of the church. If you are able to provide us with a quote for the work involved, please contact the Parish office.



SHIRE GLUTEN FREE STALL

This Thursday 17th April, Shire Gluten Free will be holding a stall in the parish carpark from 10am-1pm. A range of gluten free and vegan products will be available for sale. To place pre-orders for collection, or for more information visit shireglutenfree.com.au

Upcoming Events	
Please see notices for further details.	
April	This Week
Tues 15th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm
Wed 16th	Chrim Mass 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 17th	No morning mass Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm
Fri 18th	Stations of the Cross 9:30am & 12noon
	Passion of the Lord Liturgy 3pm
Sat 19th	Blessing of the Easter Food 11am
	Vigil Mass 7:00pm
April	This Month
Fri 25th April	ANZAC Day– public holiday. 8am Mass only. Church closed after mass. Parish Office closed.

Today's Readings

Entrance Gospel

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany at the place called the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village opposite, whereon entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you shall say this, "The Lord has need of it"'. So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' And they said, 'The Lord has need of it'. And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt they set Jesus upon it. And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples'. He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out'.

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2

(R) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Luke 22:14 – 23:56

Communion Antiphon:

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



Readings Next Weekend

20 April 2025

Sunday of the Resurrection

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Acts 10:34, 37-43	Col 3:1-4	Jn 20:1-9

Feast Days This Week

13 April	Palm Sunday
15 April	Saint Bernadette
17 April	Holy Thursday
18 April	Good Friday
19 April	The Easter Vigil

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Anniversaries: Renold Sequeira, Wilma Collignon

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Pope Francis, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Yvonne Hill, Minda Robles, Marion Heron, Sylvia Fagan
Geoff Roney, Mita Dela Pena, Neil Carr-Boyd, Annette Ng, Michael Wilson, Yvonne Back, Michael Whitbread