



ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Fernando Montano

Assistant Priest

Fr Menard Gaspi

Pastoral Associate

Mrs Nancy Eberhaut

pa@stbernadette.org.au

Admin and Office Support

Ms Laura Burton

admin@stbernadette.org.au

Youth Ministry

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

THE MASSABIELLE

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

2-3 AUGUST 2025 *EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C*

As you may know, I have just returned from my pilgrimage of thanksgiving for the gift of the priesthood. Part of my trip included time in Rome where I was amazed by the rich history and culture of the Church. Thousands of canonized saints find their resting place in Rome, distinctly St. Peter at the Basilica in the Vatican City. As we enter the month of August, I am particularly excited about the celebration of our one and only St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Through multiple time zones and thousands of kilometres from Rome, we honour our own Australian Saint. Her life and example provide us hope for our country and belief that we too are called to be a saint.

St. Mary MacKillop, born on January 15, 1842, in Melbourne, Australia, remains a towering figure in the history of the Australian Church and is regarded as the first Australian to be canonized as a saint. Her journey from humble beginnings to sainthood is a testament to her deep faith, resilience, and unwavering commitment to the poor and marginalized.

Mary Helen MacKillop was the eldest of eight children in a poor Scottish immigrant family. Her father, Alexander MacKillop, struggled to provide for the family, and in 1851, he abandoned them, leaving Mary to help support her mother and siblings. Despite the challenges of poverty, Mary was a bright, compassionate child who was determined to become a teacher. Her passion for education led her to work as a governess and later, to open a small school for the children of working-class families in Penola, South Australia.

In 1866, Mary MacKillop's life took a pivotal turn when she met Father Julian Tenison Woods, a Jesuit priest with whom she shared a vision for the education of poor children. Together, they founded the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart, a religious congregation dedicated to providing education and support to the neglected and impoverished children across Australia, especially in rural and remote areas. The order was unique in that its members lived and worked outside of traditional convents, often teaching in remote communities and making education accessible to the most underserved populations.

The Sisters of St. Joseph expanded rapidly, and Mary became known as "Mother Mary," leading the order with an emphasis on simplicity, humility, and service. She worked tirelessly to establish schools, orphanages, and other institutions that would cater to the poor and abandoned. Mary also promoted the empowerment of women, encouraging them to be actively involved in their communities and to have a strong sense of social justice.

Throughout her life, St. Mary MacKillop faced numerous challenges, including financial difficulties, illness, and opposition from clergy and church authorities. Yet, her profound faith, determination, and commitment to serving others never wavered. She saw the face of God in every person, especially the most vulnerable, and dedicated her life to bringing the love of Christ to those in need.

Her most famous quote is "Never see a need without doing something about it". It is a call to action and to share the love of God wherever we go. It is a warning to indifference and apathy.

Mary MacKillop died on August 8, 1909, in North Sydney at the age of 67. Her influence on the Australian Church remains profound. The Sisters of St. Joseph continue to thrive, with schools, hospitals, and social programs dedicated to her mission. Her canonization by Pope Benedict XVI on October 17, 2010, was a recognition of her exceptional life of faith and service.

Her legacy endures, and her life serves as a model of courage, compassion, and commitment to justice, deeply influencing the Australian Church and inspiring generations of Catholics around the world. We celebrate her Feast day on August 8. The Church in Australia raises this celebration to the level of a Solemnity, highlighting her importance in the life of Catholics in Australia.

The remains of St. Mary MacKillop rest in the Memorial chapel in North Sydney. If you haven't visited there yet, I encourage you to make a pilgrimage of it as soon as you can. It is a great grace for us to be able to kneel before the grave of a Canonized Saint. A humble reminder that saints are ordinary people who loved God extraordinarily. There is also a museum on the grounds to help you enter into the story of her life.



In the hearts of Jesus and Mary

Fr. Menard Gaspi

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)

Friday 8th August 7-8:30pm
in the parish hall
Australia's First Saint

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Friday 15th Aug 7-8:30pm
The youth will be attending the
7:30pm Parish Mass for the
Feast of the Assumption.

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 will be reading through the coming Sunday's readings through Lectio Divina.



YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT 17TH AUGUST

Come and join our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) Sunday 17th August 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Hall. Our Guest Speaker, Christian Salem, will be "Exploring Eastern Catholicism" with us. Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements by contacting ym@stbernadette.org.au.



ROSTERS 9-10 August 2025

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Kris Murgatroyd Les Blanch Rod Burridge	Martin Collins Michelle Monteiro Yvonne Desouza	Danielle Vassallo Brian Blacklock Hansel Fernando	Venetia Lee Hyacinth Jones Leo Stanton	Michelle Barreto Laura Burton Radheen Wettasinghe
Communion Ministers	Charles D'Emanuele Cynthia D'Emanuele Kris Murgatroyd Sue Pinkerton Ross Pinkerton	Lucille Wilson Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee	Brian Blacklock Jenny Blacklock Ellen MacMahon Skirma Cervin Rudy Suwandny	Sylvia Rego Venetia Lee Winnie Li Henry Li Nina Irwin	Anabel Formosa Brennie Hassan +1
Bookshop	Elaine Small	Eugenia Fidel	Jenny and Brian Blacklock	Dorothy Finucane	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Maria Gobbo	Mon 11th August Pauline and Bernard Home	John Loftus Vanessa Xiberras Joseph Collorafi	Sandra Emett Nina Irwin	Julieann Gething Risa Sidik Lim Nguyen Cheryl D'Sylva	Risa Sidik

Congratulations

Monica and David Rodrigues celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this week. May God continue to bless them and their family.



St Bernadette's Primary School's annual Fun Fair will be held on Friday 24th October 2025. The P&F are currently seeking Sponsorship contributions to help bring the fair to life and prizes and donations for their major raffle. If you, your business, or someone you know may be able to contribute in any way, please reach out to the P&F Committee– they would be most grateful for any level of support. For sponsorship enquiries please contact: Sara Ang on 0403 624 212



Congratulations

Michael Lopez, Melvyn Myers, and the late Geoff Roney, will be awarded the Diocesan Medal of Honour for outstanding contributions and service to the Parish community.

The annual Diocesan Awards & Vespers of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop will be held on Thursday, 7th August at 7pm, at St Patrick's Cathedral.

ADULT CONFIRMATION 2025: 23 & 26 AUGUST



The Office for Worship will host a Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 23rd August from 9.30am – 2pm at Blacktown. For more information and to enrol, please contact the Office for Worship at ofw@parracatholic.org

PARISH OUTING THURSDAY 11/9/2025 OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CATHOLIC CHURCH ROSEMEADOW



We are organising a Parish outing on Thursday 11th September to Our Lady Help of Christians, which has been designated as a Special Place of Pilgrimage for Jubilee Year of Hope 2025. Departing Brisbane Rd 8.30am. Cost \$55 (cash only) including bus hire and donation to Our Lady Help of Christians. The day will consist of morning tea, Q & A, mass / confession, and time to shop (at your expense), we will then stop for lunch at Mt Annan Botanical Gardens (at your expense) returning to St Bernadettes by 4pm. Sign up sheet in the foyer, places are limited. **Please place \$55 cash in an envelope with your name and drop into the Parish Office by Monday 18th August.**



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE DOCUMENTARY SUNDAY 17 AUGUST 2025

We will be hosting a viewing of the documentary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the Parish Hall on Sunday 17th August 2pm – 4pm. Cost will be \$10 per person, payable at the door and is **cash only**.

SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



Office for Safeguarding

For those new to ministry, or needing to complete their refresher training, The Parramatta Safeguarding Office will be running some face-to-face training for modules 1-3, 4&5, and 6 in Blacktown. Monday 1 September 9.30am to 2.30pm for Modules 1-3. Tuesday 2 September 10am to 1.30pm for Modules 4 and 5. Wednesday 3 September 10am to 12noon for Module 6. For more information, or to register, please email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

FUNDRAISER BBQ

Thank you to all who supported last week's BBQ. The Refugee Group raised \$850 with your generous support.

Save the Date



Melbourne Cup Lunch

Tuesday 4th November 2025
The Heritage House, Kenthurst
\$120 per person

Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

August	This Week
Tues 5th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm
Wed 6th	Wednesday morning Bible Study 10am Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 7th	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 8th	Feast of St Mary MacKillop
August	Next Month
Fri 15th Aug	The Feast of the Assumption Masses will be held at 6.45am, 9:15am, 12noon, and 7.30pm.
Sat 16th Aug	Bethlehem Olivewood Stall
Sun 17th Aug	Our Lady of Guadalupe Documentary
Sun 24th Aug	Fundraiser BBQ: Care Group

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity! For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him. That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 12:13-21

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.' Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

Communion Antiphon:

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.



*Take care to
guard against
all greed*

Luke 12:15

Readings Next Weekend

9-10 August 2025

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Wis 18:6-9	Heb 11:1-2, 8-19	Lk 12:32-48

Feast Days This Week

4 Aug	Saint John Vianney
6 Aug	The Transfiguration of the Lord
7 Aug	Saints Sixtus II and companions Saint Cajetan
8 Aug	Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop

8TH AUGUST– FEAST OF ST MARY MACKILLOP

The St Bernadette's students (years 3-6) will be joining us on Friday 8th August at the 9:15am Parish Mass to celebrate the feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. The centre two sections of the church will be reserved for parishioners, with the school sitting in the two side sections



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST



The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be held at **6.45am, 9:15am, 12noon, and 7.30pm.**
The school students and teachers will be attending the 9:15am Mass and 12noon Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Joseph Hao, Fr Chris Riley, Prabha Goyal, Eduardo Gutierrez (Funeral Mon 4th 11am)
Antonio Pennisi (Funeral Tues 5th 10:30am) Romelia Ja Come De Santiago (funeral Wed 6th 1pm– Spanish)

Anniversaries: Lawrence De Souza, Manuel Jose Yu, Roman & Fidela Dela Cruz

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Yvonne Hill, Minda Robles, Sylvia Fagan, Raymond Coffey