



ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Castle Hill NSW 2154

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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

23-24 AUGUST 2025 *TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C*

Sometimes you need to leave in order to live.

In the rush of daily life, it's easy to take the things we have for granted — our homes, relationships, health, and even the simple routines that bring structure to our days. Taking a holiday to pause and reflect is more than just a break from work or responsibilities; it's an opportunity to truly appreciate what we have. Whether spent travelling or simply staying home, such a holiday can shift our perspective and reconnect us with gratitude.

I am a firm believer that gratitude is at the heart of our faith. Our relationship with the Father is not 'paying him back' for what He gives to us. There is no way we can repay God for his goodness to us. He asks us to be grateful sons and daughters who appreciate the goodness of the Father. The word 'Eucharist' means thanksgiving, as together with Jesus we offer a 'sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving' to the Father.

Last month I had the blessing of taking time off for personal pilgrimage. I was especially excited given it is my first year of the priesthood. I considered it a great opportunity to give thanks to our Lord and our Lady for the gift of the priesthood (as well as some time for rest and recreation). I first went to San Francisco for a family reunion then down to Los Angeles to catch up with some of my former classmates whom I call brothers. I proceeded to Medjugorje in Bosnia and Herzegovina. When I was a young boy, I received a cassette tape (kids you can ask your parents what that is!) on the apparition at Medjugorje. Whenever I would listen to it, it had a very calming effect on me. I would find myself often sleeping to the reassuring message of our Mother Mary. She is alleged to have appeared to six children beginning in 1981. She revealed herself as the Queen of Peace, calling for conversion and a return to God.

In this Jubilee of Hope, I visited Rome sweet Home, which was busier than usual. Beautiful churches and good food kept me busy. I was overwhelmed with gratitude to pass through the Jubilee doors and claim the Lord's goodness and mercy for my journey. I took a side trip to Mugnano del Cardinale, just south of Naples where I visited the Shrine of my little sister, St. Philomena. As one of my favourite saints, it was a blessing to visit her shrine and thank her for the years of guidance, inspiration and intercession.

Holidays are great when they serve their purpose of rest, relaxation and recreation. But life on Earth is not a call to perpetual rest and relaxation. Like a good night's rest, a holiday is meant to give us refreshment and a renewed sense of appreciation for our duties. We sadly can't afford to sleep all day.

The great danger of life is taking people and things for granted. We forget how great a blessing these things are to us. Too often, we associate holidays with escaping — from stress, monotony, or familiar surroundings. But what if a holiday became a time to look inward rather than outward? Instead of focusing on what we don't have or what we want to change, we can use that time to notice what's already good in our lives. From a warm home and good health to close friendships or quiet moments of peace, there is much to be thankful for — if we choose to see it.

Gratitude doesn't require grand gestures or perfect circumstances. It simply asks for presence and attention. When we take a holiday with the intention of appreciating what we have, we return to our daily lives with renewed clarity and a greater sense of fulfillment. We can notice the comfort of our favourite chair, the laughter of loved ones, or the beauty of a quiet morning. If we can acknowledge God's goodness in the things we can see, then it becomes easier to acknowledge the graces hidden to our eyes.

In the end, God's greatest gifts are often the simplest: love, providence, comfort, and connection. A holiday centred on God-appreciation reminds us that happiness isn't always found in something new — sometimes, it's already right in front of us.



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 5th Sept 7-8:30pm
in the parish hall
Feast of the Cross

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Friday 29th Aug 7-8:30pm
The youth are using Lectio Divina
to reflect on the Sunday readings

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 21ST SEPTEMBER

Come and join our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) Sunday 21st September 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Hall. Our Guest Speaker, Judith-Grace Vella, will be sharing with us on Overcoming Discernment Paralysis. Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements by contacting ym@stbernadette.org.au.

ACYF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The St Bernadette's young adults are putting together a pilgrimage group to travel to ACYF in Melbourne in November. If you are interested in joining us, please complete the google form by scanning the QR code



ROSTERS 30-31 August 2025

Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Ministry					
Lectors	Mitch Dielwart Gary Tierney Sean Eberhaut	Ross Pinkerton Graeme Kearns Jacinta Kearns	Geoffrey Kemmis Jennifer Piyush Amber McLean	Irene Ngu Jeethu Bobby May O'Connell	
Communion Ministers	Beverley Curtis Esther Coleiro Kathleen Abernethy Keith D'Sylva Maureen Fearnside	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	Laura Burton Darren Edwards Rheza Tan
Bookshop	Maureen Fearnside	Catherine Seddon	Jenny and Brian Blacklock	Josie and Seng Yeoh	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Margaret Jones	Mon 1st Sept Hubert and Christine Jenneke	Karl Procter Martin Collins Joe Morgan	Sandra Emett Nina Irwin	Bernadette Logue Marjorie Anderson Robyn Morgan Sa Bunsoem	Mandy Leong



PARISH FUNDRAISER BBQ

The St Bernadette's Parish Care Group are running a fundraiser BBQ at the morning masses this Sunday. Bacon and Egg Rolls for sale \$5 each. Cash and EFTPOS available. Funds go towards supporting the First Friday care group lunch.

COFFEE & CHAT THURSDAY 28TH AUGUST GUEST SPEAKERS: FIRE AND RESCUE NSW

Please stop by the Marian Center for coffee & chat this Thursday morning after the 9.15am mass. All welcome. Our guest speakers, Fire and Rescue New South Wales, will be sending us some firefighters from Castle Hill Fire Station to speak to us about fire safety in the home.



SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING

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

RCIA INFORMATION NIGHT WEDNESDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

RCIA An information evening will be held on Wednesday 24th September at 7:00pm in the Marian Centre for those adults interested in becoming Catholic. Further details of the program will be explained at the meeting.

Any questions, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or nancy@stbernadette.org.au

SHIRE GLUTEN FREE STALL

This Friday 28th August, Shire Gluten Free will be holding a stall in the parish carpark from 11am-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



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Sr Judy McLeod, who passed away on Wednesday 20th August. The funeral will be held at St Bernadette's on Tuesday 26th August at 11am.



Melbourne Cup Lunch



12:00pm-3:30pm

Tuesday 4th November 2025

The Heritage House, Kenthurst

\$120 per person

Tickets now on sale

at the Parish Office
or online via the QR Code



Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

August

This Week

Tues 26th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm
Wed 27th	Wednesday morning Bible Study 10am
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 28th	Coffee and chat: NSW Fire and Rescue
	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 29th	Senior Youth: Lectio Divina

August/ September

Next Month

Fri 5th Sept	First Friday anointing Mass & Adoration
Thurs 11th Sept	Parish Outing

Fathers' Day Raffle

The Young Adults are running a Fathers' Day raffle.

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Available after masses the next 2 weekends.

Winners drawn after 6pm Mass on Sunday 7th September



Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading Isaiah 66:18-21

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

Second Reading Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 13:22-30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed. 'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!" Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

Communion Antiphon:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Readings Next Weekend

30-31 August 2025

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Sirach 3;17-20, 28-29	Heb 12:18-19, 22-24	Lk 14:1, 7-14

Feast Days This Week

25 Aug	Saint Joseph Calasanz
	Saint Louis
27 Aug	Saint Monica
28 Aug	Saint Augustine
29 Aug	The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Vlado Batorek, Sr Judy McLeod (Funeral Tues 26th 11am)

Anniversaries: Luke Gardoni, S. Lingier, Sofia Sustek,

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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