



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Fr Menard Gaspi

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Groundskeeper

Mr Darren Edwards

SCHOOL

St Bernadette's Primary

(02)9407 6600

Principal: Bianca Cooke



WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Monday, Tuesday

6:45am

Wednesday, Thursday,

6:45am, 9:15am

Friday 15th August

6:45am, 9:15am, 12noon,

7:30pm

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

9-10 AUGUST 2025 *NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C*

Of all the places in the world I have visited, Lourdes, France is my favourite place. A sanctuary of history, solemnity, beauty, peace and great faith.

Our Lady, my Mama, has been a great pillar of devotion, intercession and comfort throughout my Christian journey. Many evenings through my seminary journey have been spent before the image of our lady, asking her to watch over and guide me. During this last vacation I visited Medjugorje in Bosnia and Herzegovina to offer thanksgiving to my mama.

On August 15 we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In Australia, the church has raised the celebration to a solemn feast and a "Holy day of Obligation". There are only two "non-Sunday" holy days of Obligation in the liturgical year. Christmas day on December 25 and the Assumption of Mary on August 15. The faithful are mandated to worship at Holy Mass as participation in the life and faith of the Church. These two Holy days are a sign of our love for the Lord Jesus and his dear Mother, Mary.

The Assumption of Mary is a dogma in Roman Catholic theology which holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory at the end of her earthly life. This belief emphasizes Mary's unique role in salvation history and her close association with her divine Son. At the Ascension, Jesus enters into Heavenly glory by his own divine power. The Assumption is God's special grace of bringing Mary into Heaven through the passion and resurrection of Jesus.

The doctrine of the Assumption is the most recent of the four Marian Dogmas to be defined. It was officially declared as dogma by Pope Pius XII on November 1, 1950, in the Apostolic Constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*. In it, the Pope stated: "the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." This declaration did not specify whether Mary died before being assumed, leaving open both possibilities—whether she died and was then assumed, or was taken up without experiencing physical death. We believe that in Mary, we see the first-fruits of the resurrection of the Christ, a fruit we hope to share in.

The belief in the Assumption is rooted in early Christian tradition and writings, although it is not explicitly stated in Scripture. However, Catholics believe that the Assumption is consistent with biblical themes and typology, such as Mary being the "Ark of the New Covenant" (cf. Revelation 11) and her role as the "Woman clothed with the sun." These scriptural images, along with her sinless nature as defined by the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, support the idea that Mary would not suffer bodily decay after death.

The Assumption also reflects Catholic beliefs about the resurrection of the body and the ultimate destiny of all faithful Christians. Mary is seen as the first to fully share in the resurrection promised by Christ, serving as a sign of hope and a model for the Church. Her Assumption is a reminder of God's power to redeem not only the soul but also the body, affirming the dignity of the human person.

On this great feast, I invite you to reflect on the glory that awaits us as sons and daughters of the Father, and to honour Mary as Queen of Heaven, who intercedes for the Church and draws believers closer to her Son, Jesus Christ.



In the hearts of Jesus and Mary

Fr. Menard Gaspi



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 will be attending the 9:15am Mass and 12noon Mass.

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



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 22nd August 7-8:30pm
in the parish hall
The Assumption

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

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

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.

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 16-17 August 2025

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Caroline Dumapit Malisa Barsic John Abernethy	Sue Pinkerton Campion Fernando Lisa Kemmis	Steve Vassallo Catherine Whitelock Ann O'Brien	Sylvia Rego Vince del Gallego John Eberhaut	Brandon Leyba Michelle Kim
Communion Ministers	Felicity Carvalho Douglas Carvalho Mary McMahon Bernard Home Pauline Home	Yvonne Desouza Patrick Bowie Sherryl Rozario Campion Fernando	Angela Stenglin Christine Jenneke Hubert Jenneke Rosalie Sampath Celeste McLean	Lydia Flores Paul Irwin Florina Vanderwaals Mary Winslow Jeyaraj Winslow	Dess Gutierrez Dominique Boudib Remy de Leon
Bookshop	Pauline Home	Catherine Seddon	Margaret Stedman	Maria Gobbo	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Olivia Cheng	Mon 18th Aug Jocelyn and Maxime Juste	Campion Fernando Gary Moeller Emelie De Leon	Julie James Lolita Suyko	Maria Mochnik Yvonne Desouza Anna Schweda Karen D'Souza Neil Fonseca	Belinda Yapp

Congratulations

Michael Lopez, Melvyn Myers, and the late Geoff Roney, were awarded the Diocesan Medal of Honour on Thursday evening. Thank you for all you do for our Parish community



BETHLEHEM OLIVEWOOD STALL

Next weekend there will be handcrafted olivewood religious items for sale. These items are hand crafted in the Holy Land by the Catholic families there. Purchases will help support the Catholic community in the Holy Land and improve their livelihood and support maintaining the Holy sites.



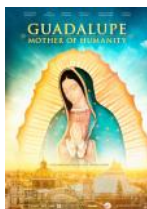
ADULT CONFIRMATION 2025: 23 & 26 AUGUST

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

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 12th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm
Wed 13th	Wednesday morning Bible Study 10am Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 14th	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 15th	The Feast of the Assumption Masses will be held at 6.45am, 9:15am, 12noon, and 7.30pm. Senior Youth: will be attending the Feast of the Assumption parish Mass
Sat 16th	Bethlehem Olivewood Stall
Sun 17th	Our Lady of Guadalupe Documentary
August	Next Month
Sun 24th Aug	Fundraiser BBQ: Care Group
Thurs 28th Aug	Coffee and chat: Group homes Australia

Readings Next Weekend

16-17 August 2025

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Jer 38:4-6, 8-10	Heb 12:1-4	Lk 12:49-53

Feast Days This Week

11 Aug Saint Clare
14 Aug Saint Maximilian Kolbe
15 Aug The Assumption of Mary

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading Wisdom 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Second Reading Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.' Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful. 'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

Communion Antiphon:

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

*See that you are dressed for
action and have your lamps lit.*



Luke 12:35

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Frances Campbell, Arthur Pearce, Maria McLachlan, Lily Cimadoro

Anniversaries: Kevin McCann, M P Jacob, Felice Zadro, Vivienne Fletcher, Cosima Criso Di Quattro, Lidia Gomez,

In Remembrance: Severo Yu, Manuel Jose Yu

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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