



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

Ph: (02) 9634 2622

e: admin@stbernadette.org.au

w: www.stbernadette.org.au

Facebook: /Castlehillparish

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,

6:45am, 9:15am

Friday 7th November

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

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

PARISH OFFICE AND

CHURCH CLOSED

11:30AM ON TUESDAY

4TH NOVEMBER

The Parish Office and church will be closed from 11:30AM on Tuesday 4th November

1-2 NOVEMBER 2025 THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Hello Everyone!

As we continue reflecting on the lives of saints as we journey through the liturgical calendar, the church invites this week to celebrate the life and example of one of the great saints from Latin America. Saint Martin of Porres.

Saint Martin of Porres was born in the Viceroyalty of Peru, now known just as Peru. He was born in Lima on the 9th of December 1579. Martin was the illegitimate son to a Spanish gentleman and a freed slave from Panama, of African or possibly Native American descent. At a young age, Martin's father abandoned him, his mother and his younger sister, leaving Martin to grow up in deep poverty. After spending just two years in primary school, Martin was placed with a barber/surgeon where he would learn to cut hair and the medical arts.

As Martin grew older, he experienced a great deal of ridicule for being of mixed-race. In Peru, at that time, by law, all descendants of African or Indians were not allowed to become full members of religious orders. Martin, who spent long hours in prayer, found his only way into the community he longed for was to ask the Dominicans of Holy Rosary Priory in Lima to accept him as a volunteer who performed the most menial tasks in the monastery. In return, he would be allowed to wear the habit and live within the religious community. When Martin was 15, he asked for admission into the Dominican Convent of the Rosary in Lima and was received as a servant boy and eventually was moved up to the church officer in charge of distributing money to deserving poor.

During his time in the Convent, Martin took on his old trades of barbering and healing. He also worked in the kitchen, did laundry and cleaned. After eight more years with the Priory of the Holy Rosary, Martin was granted the privilege to take his vows as a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic by the prior Juan de Lorenzana who decided to disregard the law restricting Martin based on race and background.

However, not all of the members in the Priory of the Holy Rosary were as open-minded as Lorenzana; Martin was called horrible names and mocked for being illegitimate and descending from slaves.

Martin grew to become a Dominican lay brother in 1603 at the age of 24. Ten years later, after he had been presented with the religious habit of a lay brother, Martin was assigned to the infirmary where he would remain in charge until his death. He became known for encompassing the virtues needed to carefully and patiently care for the sick, even in the most difficult situations.

Martin was praised for his unconditional care of all people, regardless of race or wealth. He took care of everyone from the Spanish nobles to the African slaves. Martin did not care if the person was diseased or dirty, he would welcome them into his own home.

Martin's life reflected his great love for God and all of God's gifts. It is said he had many extraordinary abilities, including aerial flights, bilocation, instant cures, miraculous knowledge, spiritual knowledge and an excellent relationship with animals. Martin also founded an orphanage for abandoned children and slaves and is known for raising dowry for young girls in short amounts of time. During an epidemic in Lima, many of the friars in the Convent of the Rosary became very ill. Locked away in a distant section of the convent, they were kept away from the professed. However, on more than one occasion, Martin passed through the locked doors to care for the sick. However, he became disciplined for not following the rules of the Convent, but after replying, "Forgive my error, and please instruct me, for I did not know that the precept of obedience took precedence over that of charity," he was given full liberty to follow his heart in mercy.

Martin was great friends with both St. Juan Macías, a fellow Dominican lay brother, and St. Rose of Lima, a lay Dominican.

In January of 1639, when Martin was 60 years old, he became very ill with chills, fevers and tremors causing him agonizing pain. He would experience almost a year full of illness until he passed away on November 3, 1639.

By the time he died, he was widely known and accepted. Talks of his miracles in medicine and caring for the sick were everywhere. After his death, the miracles received when he was invoked in such greatness that when he was exhumed 25 years later, his body exhaled a splendid fragrance, and he was still intact.

St. Martin de Porres was beatified by Pope Gregory XVI on October 29, 1837 and canonized by Pope John XXIII on May 6, 1962.

He has become the patron saint of people of mixed race, innkeepers, barbers, public health workers and more. His feast day is November 3.

St Martin of Porres, pray for us!



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

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 7th November
 7:00-8:30pm in the hall.
 We will be learning about
 St John Henry Newman

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Friday 14th November 7-8:30pm
 in the St Joseph's Room.
 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 16TH NOVEMBER

Come and join our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) Sunday 16th November 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Hall. With Guest Speaker Niel Kulkarni Dinner included. All welcome More info ym@stbernadette.org.au.



ROSTERS 8-9 NOVEMBER 2025

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
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	Michelle Barreto Laura Burton Radheen Wettasinghe
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	Anabel Formosa Brennie Hassan Jane Lapidario
Bookshop	Maureen Fearnside	Catherine Seddon	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Josie and Seng Yeoh	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Olivia Cheng	Mon 10th Nov Jocelyn Juste Maxime Juste	Eugenia Fidel Elizabeth de Jesus Helen Fidel	Sandra Emmett Nina Irwin	Maria Mochnik Yvonne Desouza Anna Schweda Karen D'Souza Neil Fonseca	Melia Shammass

Vinnies Christmas Appeal
St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

1-2 November 2025

ANOINTING OF THE SICK/ADORATION

will take place this Friday, 7th Nov at 12noon followed by a light lunch in the Marian Centre. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from after 6:45am mass until 12noon. All welcome. If you require transport please contact Maureen Fearnside on 9634 3329.

CASTLE HILL CEMETERY MASS:

All Souls Day mass will be celebrated at Castle Hill Cemetery on Saturday 8th November at 10am.



NOVEMBER MASSES

Envelopes are available in the foyer for November Mass offerings. Parishioners are invited to write the names of deceased relatives and friends **on the back of the envelope** or on a typed list inside, with a donation. *Please note any donation cheques will not be processed until December.* The front of the envelope is for your details. The completed envelope can be placed in the collection boxes or given in to the Parish Office. From there the names will be put into the "Book of Remembrance" which will be placed on a temporary altar on the Sanctuary throughout November. Masses will be offered during the month of November for our friends and family who have gone before us.



RECONCILIATION 2026 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Parish families who would like their child to commence preparation to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation are invited to attend our information evening being held on **Tuesday 11th November at 7.00pm in the Church.** This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 2 and above (year 3 in 2026), who have received the sacrament of Baptism. The meeting will run for one hour. Children do not need to attend. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au

MINISTRY OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND DYING FORMATION: 8 NOVEMBER

Are you currently taking Communion to the sick and dying in the Diocese of Parramatta? If so, please join the Office for Worship for a day of ongoing formation to further your knowledge and understanding of this important topic. Saturday 8 November from 9:30am – 2pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Morning tea and Lunch provided. For more information and to register before 3 Nov, please contact the Office for Worship Team OFW@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.

PARISH FUNDRAISER BBQ

Thank you to everyone that supported the St Bernadettes Netball Club BBQ last weekend. They raised \$811. Next months BBQ will be run by the Youth Group.

St Bernadette's
Parish Castle Hill

Christmas Carols

Fri 19th December
7:00-9:00pm

A night of performances by choirs, music groups and soloists, performing a selection of Christmas Carols, with liturgical readings.



Tickets on sale \$10 per person
via Trybooking (scan QR Code)
or at the Parish Office (Cash only)

Upcoming Events
Please see notices for further details.

November	This Week
Tues 4th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am Melbourne Cup Lunch Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm
Wed 5th	Wednesday morning Bible Study 10am Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 6th	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 7st	Junior Youth: St John Henry Newman
Sat 8th	Castle Hill Cemetery Mass

November	This Month
Tues 11th Nov	Reconciliation 2026 Parent Info Night
Fri 14th Nov	Senior Youth: Lectio Divina
Sun 16th Nov	Young Adults
Thurs 27th Nov	Coffee and Chat

PARISH OFFICE AND CHURCH CLOSED
11:30AM ON TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER
The Parish Office and church will be closed from 11:30AM on Tuesday 4th November as the Parish Staff will be attending the Parish Melbourne Cup Lunch.

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Just as Jesus died and has risen again, so through Jesus God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep; and as in Adam all die, so also in Christ will all be brought to life.

First Reading Maccabees 12:43-45

Judas, the leader of the Jews, took a collection from the people individually, amounting to nearly two thousand drachmae, and sent it to Jerusalem to have a sacrifice for sin offered, an altogether fine and noble action, in which he took full account of the resurrection. For if he had not expected the fallen to rise again it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead, whereas if he had in view the splendid recompense reserved for those who make a pious end, the thought was holy and devout. This was why he had this atonement sacrifice offered for the dead, so that they might be released from their sin.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. Rv2

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading Philippians 3:20-21

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the resurrection and the life, said the Lord: whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 7:11-17

Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. 'Do not cry,' he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said, 'Young man, I tell you to get up'. And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, 'A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.' And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

Communion Antiphon:

I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord. Whoever believes in me, even though he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever.

Readings Next Weekend

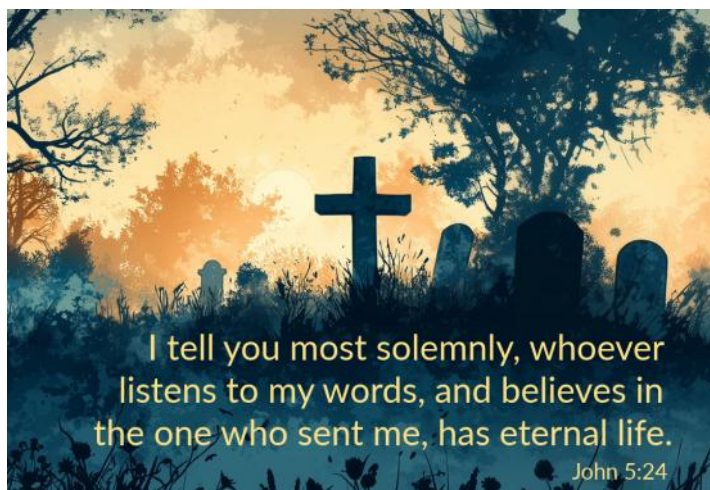
8-9 November 2025

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Ezek 47:1-2, 8-9, 12	1 Cor 3:9-11, 16-17	Jn 2:13-22

Feast Days This Week

2 Nov	All Souls
3 Nov	Saint Martin de Porres
4 Nov	Saint Charles Borromeo



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently deceased: Shane Tuite, T. L. George

For all the names in the Book of Remembrance

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Lukas Ivanic, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Michael Wilson, Minda Robles, Raymond Coffey, Tony Kearney, Ruth Porciuncula, Sakina Au-Yeung, Colleen Woodhead, Janelle Kenchington, Fahim Laoulach