



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, 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

15-16 NOVEMBER 2025 *THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C*

Hello everyone!

This coming week, the church invites us to celebrate the feast of Saint Cecilia, she is maybe one of the most famous virgin martyrs of the early church and she is celebrated as the patron saint of music and musicians.

According to the book "The lives of the Saints" by Rev. S. baring-Gould, published in 1914 in Edinburgh, there was in the city of Rome a virgin named Cecilia, who was given in marriage to a youth named Valerian, who was then a pagan. She wore sackcloth next to her skin, and fasted, and invoked the saints and angels and virgins, beseeching them to guard her virginity. And she said to her husband, "I will tell you a secret if you will swear not to reveal it to anyone." And when he swore, she added, "There is an angel who watches me, and wards off from me any who would touch me." He said, "Dearest, if this be true, show me the angel." In reply she said, "That can only be if you will believe in one God and be baptized."

She sent him to Pope S. Urban (223-230), who baptized him; and when he returned, he saw Cecilia praying in her chamber, and an angel by her with flaming wings, holding two crowns of roses and lilies, which he placed on their heads, and then vanished. Shortly after, Tibertius, the brother of Valerian, entered, and wondered at the fragrance and beauty of the flowers at that season of the year. When he heard the story of how they had obtained these crowns, he also consented to be baptized.

After their baptism the two brothers devoted themselves to burying the martyrs slain daily by the prefect of the city, Turcius Almachius. They were arrested and brought before the prefect, and when they refused to sacrifice to the gods were executed with the sword.

In the meantime, St. Cecilia, by preaching had converted four hundred persons, whom Pope Urban baptized. She distributed her possessions to the poor, which enraged the prefect Almachius. Soon after, Cecilia was arrested and condemned to suffer in the baths. She was shut in for a night and a day, and the fires were heaped up, and made to glow and roar their utmost, but Cecilia did not even break out into perspiration through the heat. When the flames did not harm her, crowds came to her, and she preached to them or prayed. At the end of that period, she died and was buried by Pope Urban and his deacons.

Cecilia was buried in the catacomb of St. Callixtus, near Rome. At the beginning of the 9th century, Pope Paschal I discovered her incorrupt (undecayed) relics in the catacomb of St. Praetextatus and had them moved to Rome, to a basilica in Trastevere that now bears her name.

While the year she was proclaimed a saint is not known, her name appears in Pope Gelasius's book from 496 A.D. in which he listed all the Catholic saints. While considered a Catholic saint, she is also venerated in the Orthodox Church, the Anglican Communion, and the Lutheran Church.



St Cecilia is known as the patron saint of music and musicians, according to legend, she "sang her heart to the Lord" while musicians played at her wedding. She is also associated with music because she continued to praise God with hymns while she was dying.

In art, and as the patron saint of musicians, Cecilia has any number of instruments that she could be shown with. However, artists have usually chosen an organ or a viol (or violin), sometimes depending on the period in which the artwork was created. Some have also included the angel crowning her with roses and lilies.

Many paintings of Saint Cecilia feature an organ – either in the background or with Cecilia herself playing it. Although the organ is an instrument and therefore is something you might expect to be in a painting of the patron saint of musicians, it actually stems from a mistranslation of Latin.

At some point in the late medieval period, at the beginning of the Mass dedicated to her, the phrase 'candendibus organis' was transcribed as 'cantantibus organis'. This changed the meaning from 'between the instruments of hot torture' to 'singing with the organ'. This gives us the beautiful images of St Cecilia playing the organ and not the with instruments of torture, a beautiful act of providence!

St Cecilia, 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 21st November
 7:00-8:30pm in the hall.
 We will be learning about
 St Giorgio Frassati

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Friday 5th December 7-8:30pm
 on the basketball courts.
 The youth are holding a
 combined end of year water fight.

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. Guest Speaker Niel Kulkarni will be sharing with us on The Beatitudes: The Eight Doors to the Kingdom. Dinner included. More info ym@stbernadette.org.au.



YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT 23RD NOVEMBER

Come and join our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) Sunday 23rd November 7:00pm-9:00pm in the Hall for our end of year social. Bring a plate of Christmas food to share

ROSTERS 22-23 NOVEMBER 2025

Ministry \ Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Kris Murgatroyd Les Blanch Rod Burrige	Martin Collins Michelle Monteiro Yvonne Desouza	Danielle Vassallo Brian Blacklock Hansel Fernando	Venetia Lee Hyacinth Jones Leo Stanton	Timothy Leong Anabel Formosa
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	Mandy Leong Don de Leon Puspa Winendiah
Bookshop	Pauline Home	Catherine Seddon	Margaret Stedman	Maria Gobbo	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Darshi Wettasinghe	Mon 24th Nov Christine and Hubert Jenneke	John Geoghegan Kevin Johnson Douglas Carvalho	Jody Masina Jenny Blacklock	Bernadette Logue Krystyna Graczyk Myra Tan Gabriella Tan Pauline Home	Remy de Leon

DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

OPEN THE DOORS OF HOPE TO GRIEVING HEARTS THIS CHRISTMAS

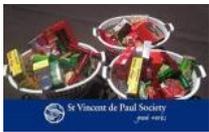
"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted."
- Matthew 5:4




Bishop's Christmas Appeal
parracatholic.org/appeal

NOVEMBER MASSES

Envelopes are available in the foyer for November Mass offerings. Masses will be offered during the month of November for our friends and family who have gone before us.



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2025

We are again asking for the generous support of our parishioners, to help bring the spirit of Christmas into the homes of families in need.

Please take a hamper label from the Church foyer, and return the hampers to the Church on the weekend of **6th & 7th December**. Please be mindful of the weight of hampers. For more info contact Carole on 0438 014 070.

PARISH FUNDRAISER BBQ 23RD NOVEMBER

St Bernadette's Youth and Young Adults are running a fundraiser BBQ at the morning masses next Sunday 23rd November. Bacon & Egg Rolls for sale \$5 each. Cash & EFTPOS available.



RECONCILIATION SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026

Registrations are now open for the 2026 Reconciliation Sacramental program. 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. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au

NEW SETS OF PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2026

Planned Giving envelopes for the next 12 months are available in the foyer. Should you wish to move to credit card or direct debit please contact the parish office.



FOR SALE FROM THE BOOKSHOP-cash only

The Promise Advent Reflection by Wollongong Diocese. \$7 each

Columban Calendars \$12 each

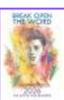
Vinnies Christmas Cards 10pack. \$10 traditional, \$5 modern (kids)

Daily Mass Books 2026 \$35 each

Break Open The Word \$35- for sale from **Parish Office**







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)

FR MENARD 1ST ANNIVERSARY MORNING TEA

On Sunday 23rd November, we will be holding a morning tea in the hall after the 10:30am Mass, to celebrate Fr Menard's one year anniversary of the Priesthood.



Please bring a plate of finger-food to share.

Upcoming Events	
Please see notices for further details.	
November	This Week
Tues 18th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Reparation Prayer Group 7:00pm
Wed 19th	Wednesday morning Bible Study 10am
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 20th	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 21st	Junior Youth: St Giorgio Frassati
	Fundraiser BBQ: Youth
Sun 23rd	Fr Menard 1st Anniversary morning tea
	Young Adults: End of Year
November	This Month
Thurs 27th Nov	Coffee and Chat

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading Malachi 3:19-20

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:5-9. R. see v.9

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow. We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 21:5-19

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?' 'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven. 'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

Communion Antiphon:

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

Readings Next Weekend

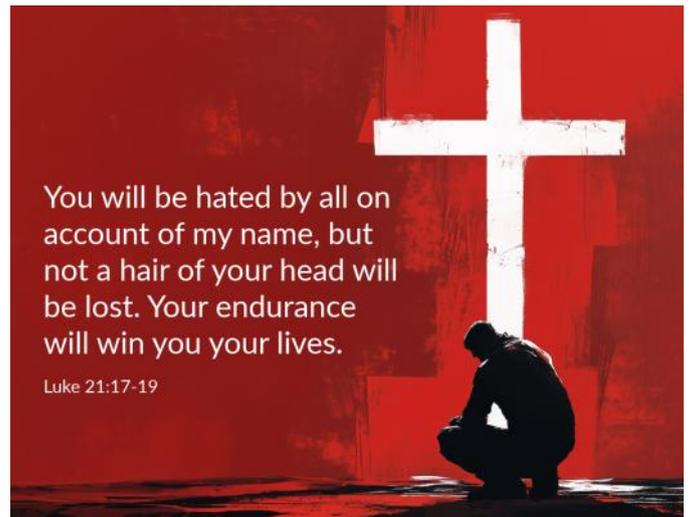
22-23 November 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Year C

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
2 Sam 5:1-3	Col 1:12-20	Lk 23:35-43

Feast Days This Week

- 17 Nov Saint Elizabeth of Hungary
- 18 Nov Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul
- 21 Nov The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 22 Nov Saint Cecilia



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently deceased: Vince Sineti

For all the names in the Book of Remembrance

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Lukas Ivanic, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Michael Wilson, Tony Kearney, Minda Robles, Colleen Woodhead, Cristina Illanes