



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Groundskeeper

Mr Darren Edwards

SCHOOL

St Bernadette's Primary

(02)9407 6600

Principal: Bianca Cooke



14-15 MARCH 2026 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

As we approach Holy week, we have a number of opportunities in the Diocese for further reflection and prayer to help prepare yourself for Easter. We warmly invite you to consider the following opportunities.

Tenebrae: Holy Monday 30th March at 7:30pm St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Tenebrae is a liturgical service of sung readings and Psalms that features distinctive symbolic elements of Christ's passion and death. Tenebrae means "shadows" or "darkness" in Latin. The service shows the darkness that comes over the earth upon Christ's death. One of the chants of the service draws from Scripture that tenebrae factae sunt — "darkness fell" at the death of Christ (Matthew 27:45-46). Tenebrae is designed to serve as a powerful, reflective experience for the faithful ahead of the Easter Triduum. The representation of the darkness of sin and death serve to call the faithful to embrace the light of Christ, who has conquered death.

Chrism Mass: Holy Wednesday 1st April at 7:30pm St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

During the Chrism Mass, the Bishop, joined by every priest in the Diocese, blesses the Oil of Chrism, the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick that will be used in the sacraments in the year ahead. At the heart of the Chrism mass is a celebration of the priesthood, a powerful display of the unity of the gathered priests with their local shepherd, the Bishop. Lay people are strongly encouraged to participate in the Chrism Mass, too. With the bishop, priests and lay faithful participating together, the Chrism Mass is a particularly strong symbol of the unity of the people of God.

Good Friday Night Walk: Good Friday 3rd April at 9pm- Saturday 4th April at 7am. St. Patrick's Blacktown to St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

Hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta's youth ministry office, the Good Friday Night Walk is an annual pilgrimage attended by hundreds of young people from across Western Sydney each year. Beginning late on Good Friday and continuing into the early hours of Holy Saturday, this overnight pilgrimage invites participants to journey together in prayer, reflection and reverence as we retrace the steps of Christ during the Easter Triduum. The full walk spans approximately 20km. Register at <https://parracatholic.org/events/gfnw/>



In the hearts of Jesus and Mary

Fr. Menard Gaspi

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

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

Palm Sunday 28/29th March	Saturday 5pm Vigil, Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 6pm
Monday 30th March	Tenebrae: St. Patricks Cathedral, Parramatta 7:30pm
Wednesday 1st April	Morning masses 6:45am, 9:15am Chrism Mass 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta
Holy Thursday 2nd April	No morning mass Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm
Good Friday 3rd April	No morning mass Stations of the Cross 9:30am and 12noon Stations of the Cross acted out by the youth of the parish. Both sessions last approx. 1hr Passion of the Lord Liturgy 3pm Reconciliation 10:30am-2:30pm. No reconciliation after 3pm Liturgy
Holy Saturday 4th April	No morning mass, No Reconciliation on Holy Saturday Blessing of the Easter Food 11am Vigil Mass 7:00pm
Easter Sunday 5th April	Masses as per normal -7:30am, 9am, 10:30am and 6pm
Easter Monday 6th April	8am mass only. Public Holiday. Parish Office closed.

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.au

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 20th March 7-8:30pm
 In the St Joseph's Room
 The Triduum Masses will be our focus next Friday

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Friday 27th March 7:00-8:30pm
 In the St Joseph's Room
 This Friday we will be discussing the Stations of the Cross

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.

PASSION PLAY 2026

The youth and young adults of the parish present the Passion of our Lord on Good Friday (3rd April) at 9:30am and 12noon. All high school aged students and young adults are invited to be involved. For more information contact ym@stbernadette.org.au.



YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT 15TH MARCH

Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) is on Sunday 15th March 7:00pm-9:00pm in the hall. Noah Vassallo will be asking the question "Who Is Christ?" Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements by contacting ym@stbernadette.org.au.



ROSTERS 21-22 MARCH 2026

Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Ministry					
Lectors	Caroline Dumapit Malisa Barsic John Abernethy	Campion Fernando Lisa Kemmis Grace Touma	Mila Mina John Fernando Hubert Jenneke	Michael Abrahams Edwin Zambrano Raymond Pak	Timothy Leong Anabel Formosa Jane Lapidario
Communion Ministers	Charles D'Emanuele Cynthia D'Emanuele Kris Murgatroyd Sue Pinkerton Ross Pinkerton	Julian Bong Sherryl Rozario David Rodrigues Andrea Tomic	Brian Blacklock Jenny Blacklock Ellen MacMahon Skirma Cervin +1	Sylvia Rego Venetia Lee Winnie Li Henry Li Nina Irwin	Mandy Leong Don de Leon Puspa Winendiah
Bookshop	Kathleen Abernethy	Eugenia Fidel	Jenny and Brian Blacklock	Coney Lau	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
N/A	Mon 23rd March Pauline Home Bernard Home	Karl Procter Anne Cheung Joe Morgan	Liza Echevarria Natalie Coghlan	Andrea Tomic Krystyna Graczyk Myra Tan Gabrielle Tan Pauline Home	Remy de Leon



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2026

Enrolments are now open for First Holy Communion 2026. This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 4 and above, who have received the sacrament of Baptism and Reconciliation. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au

ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

We warmly welcome new families to join our school community. Register for our upcoming Open Day and School Tours via our website.

<https://info.parra.catholic.edu.au/open-day/stbernadetteschill>

If you require any further information, please call 9407 6600.



PARISH FUNDRAISER BBQ

St Bernadette's Football Club are running a fundraiser BBQ at the morning masses next Sunday 22nd March. Bacon & Egg Rolls \$5 each. Cash and EFTPOS available.

HOUSE OF WELCOME

This year as part of our Holy Thursday Mass, we will be collecting non-perishable donations for the House of Welcome. During the Offertory procession there will be an opportunity to place donations into tubs on the sanctuary steps. The House of Welcome are looking for donations of canned, long-life and dry foods (rice, flour, lentils etc), toiletries and cleaning products. They **do not** need donations of tinned soup, baked beans or tinned spaghetti (they have an abundance of these items). No alcohol or fresh produce please.



CARPARK MAINTENANCE

The top carpark will be unavailable for parking over the next few Mondays and Tuesdays from 9am-2pm. We are having work done on the gardens and several parking spaces will be blocked off during these times for safety. The carpark will still be available for morning masses, but please do not leave cars parked in the top section of the carpark on these days.

THURSDAY HOLY HOUR:

Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00pm-9:00pm every Thursday evening. Reconciliation will be available during Lent.

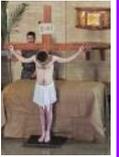


FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will be reflecting on the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings during Lent at 7.30pm in the Church. Reconciliation will be available during this time.

PASSION PLAY 2026

The youth and young adults of the parish present the Passion of our Lord on Good Friday (3rd April) at 9:30am and 12noon. All high school aged students and young adults are invited to be involved in this year's Passion Play. There are a number of roles, both speaking and non-speaking, and we are eager to have as many participants as possible. Rehearsals will be held at 7pm on Sunday 22nd and 29th March. For more information contact the Parish Office at ym@stbernadette.org.au or speak to Fr Menard.



CYP GOOD FRIDAY NIGHT WALK

Young people are invited to join Catholic Youth Parramatta and Bishop Vincent for the annual 21km Good Friday Night Walk from St Patrick's Church, Blacktown to St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. For more information and to register for the walk, please visit <https://parracatholic.org/events/gfnw/>

Upcoming Events	
Please see notices for further details.	
March	This Week
Tues 17th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Reparation Prayer Group 7pm
Wed 18th	Wednesday morning bible study
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 19th	Lenten Program with Fr Menard 7pm
	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 20th	Junior Youth: Triduum Masses
	Stations of the Cross
Sun 22nd	Fundraiser BBQ: Football Club
March	This Month
Thurs 26th March	Coffee and Chat

Readings Next Weekend		
21-22 March 2026		
The 5th Sunday of Lent Year A		
First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Ezek 37:12-14	Rom 8:8-11	Jn 11:1-45

Feast Days This Week	
17 March	Saint Patrick
18 March	Saint Cyril of Jerusalem
19 March	Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Grab your **FREE** copy of the **Catholic Outlook Easter Edition**

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22 R. v.1

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glorify to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glorify to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel John 9:1-41

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.' Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His

neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered. They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.' So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him. Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.' Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied: 'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Carmen Camilleri (funeral Wed 18th 11am), Mary Gunasekera (funeral Thurs 19th 11am)

Miguel Oppus, Cindy Cheung, James Field,

Anniversaries: Gertrude Meier, Americo De Atouguia, Joseph Victor Poon

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Lukas Ivanic, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Minda Robles, Steven Ziraj, Tien Phung