



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Principal: Bianca Cooke



28-29 MARCH 2026 *PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD*

Hello Everyone!

As we enter Holy Week—beginning today with Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord—the Church invites us to relive the mysteries of salvation: Christ's messianic entry into Jerusalem, his suffering, death, and the promise of resurrection. This sacred time, called the "Great Week" in Eastern traditions, holds precedence over all other celebrations, drawing us into the heart of the Paschal Mystery. It is for Catholics the Holiest of the weeks.

I would like to encourage you to keep the week holy by spending time not only attending the services and devotions during the week, but also by spending time reflecting on the events that we commemorate this week. Gone are the times where we used to be able to watch religious movies on public television that in a way helped us to keep the days holy and reflective.

Please remember that Holy Week's services and devotions—processions, foot-washing, veneration of the Cross, Easter Vigil—immerse us in intense prayer and meditation. They harmonize ancient piety with liturgy, fostering conversion, reconciliation, and communion with Christ's sacrifice. No other week so powerfully crushes death's shadow, restoring life through his victory. Now more than ever, is important to reflect that the power of death is conquered and destroyed by the victorious triumph of Christ.

This is the week that bring us all together not only as Catholics but as members of this Parish, to commemorate together the mysteries of our faith. Fr Menard and I will be very happy to see you joining us in prayerful reflection and in silent contemplation.



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

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

Sat 28th/Sun 29th March	Palm Sunday Masses: mass times as per normal 5pm Vigil, 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) SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Both groups are now on break for the Easter Holidays. Keep an eye out for Term 2 details coming soon!

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. Rehearsal will be held on Sunday 29th March at 7pm. For more information contact ym@stbernadette.org.au.



YOUNG ADULTS NIGHT 19TH APRIL

Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) is on Sunday 19th April 7:00pm-9:00pm in the hall. Guest speaker Denis Setiyo will be sharing on "living against the grain" Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements by contacting ym@stbernadette.org.au.



ROSTERS 4-5 April 2026

Ministry	Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	N/A		Ross Pinkerton Graeme Kearns Jacinta Kearns	Dawn Wickramasinghe Ranmalee De Silva Sherryl Rozario	Joanne Dobry Carolyn Curro Malena del Gallego	Radheen Wettasinghe Lisa Giacomelli
Communion Ministers	N/A		Yvonne Desouza Patrick Bowie Monica Rodrigues Campion Fernando	Mary Tondini Ranmalee De Silva Lynda Sillick Yvette Braganza +1	Mila Mina Coney Lau Helen Carr-Boyd Elizabeth Joseph Jiji Joseph	Rason Chia Patricia Chia Remy de Leon
Bookshop	N/A		Eugenia Fidel	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Dorothy Finucane	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen	
N/A	Tues 7th April Marie Woodward Elaine Small	Bill Lee Chris Crowe Eddy Pagnucco	N/A	Margaret Sinha Francesca Menezes Pancras Robinson Emma Arumai Paula Boyd	Claire Lagunzad	

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



Registrations close Wednesday 13th April.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the 70 children in our sacramental program who made their First Reconciliation on Tuesday.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Next Sunday 5th April our clocks will move back one hour, giving us all an extra hour's sleep.



HOLY THURSDAY FOOD DONATIONS

This year as part of our Holy Thursday Mass, we will be collecting non-perishable donations. During the Offertory procession there will be an opportunity to place donations into tubs on the sanctuary steps. We 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.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please return your Project Compassion boxes on Holy Thursday. Please place boxes in the baskets that will be placed on the Sanctuary steps as part of the Offertory. We kindly ask you to convert coins to notes where possible to assist us with banking. There are still a number of Project Compassion boxes available in the foyer.



PONTIFICAL HOLY LAND GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in every Catholic Church to support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land. Your donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of people who are keeping alive the Christian presence in the land of Jesus, often in the face of great difficulty in recent years.

NO FIRST FRIDAY HEALING MASS IN APRIL

There will be no First Friday Mass in April as this is Good Friday. First Friday healing Mass will return on Friday 1st May.

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.

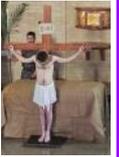


PARISH FUNDRAISER BBQ

Thank you to all those who supported the St Bernadette's Football Club with their BBQ last weekend. They raised \$875. The next BBQ will be held on Sunday 26th April by the Netball Club.

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/April	This Week
Mon 30th	Tenebrae, St Patrick's Cathedral
Tues 31st	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Reparation Prayer Group 7pm
Wed 1st	Wednesday morning bible study
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
	Chrism Mass: St Patrick's Cathedral
Thurs 2nd	Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm
Fri 3rd	Stations of the Cross 9:30am, 12noon
	Reconciliation 10:30am-2:30pm
	Passion of the Lord Liturgy 3pm
	Good Friday Night Walk CYP
Sat 4th	Blessing of the Easter Food 11am
	Easter Vigil Mass 7:00pm
Sun 5th	Daylight Savings ends
	Easter Sunday Masses as per normal
April	This Month
Mon 6th	Easter Monday Public Holiday 8am Mass only. Parish office closed
Sat 11th April	Spiritual Reading Book Club
Wed 13th April	Communion registrations close
Sun 19th April	Young Adults: Denis Setiyo

Today's Readings

Entrance Gospel Matthew 21: 1-11

When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord has need of them," and he will send them immediately'. This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you humble and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass'. The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee."

Entrance Antiphon

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:
* Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.
* Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2
(R) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Matthew 26:14-27:66

Communion Antiphon:

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

Readings Next Weekend

5 April 2026

Sunday of the Resurrection

First Reading

Acts 10:34, 37-43

Second reading

Col 3:1-4

Gospel

Jn 20:1-9

Feast Days This Week

2 April Holy Thursday

3 April Good Friday

4 April Easter Vigil



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Anniversaries: Victor D'Souza, Mladen Martinovic, Alma Ozolins,
Lora Anisse, Andrea Arifin Kesuma, Theodorus Afianto Kesuma

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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