



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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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 1st May

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

25-26 APRIL 2026 *FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A*

Continued from last week



Finally, there is the idea of Baptism as the transmission of light. The liturgy makes the symbolism practical: from the paschal candle, other candles are lit—especially those of the newly baptized—so that the light of Christ enters their hearts. A symbol that is also present during the rite of Baptism.

The Church's symbolism therefore does not stay on the level of metaphor: it is enacted. Light is "passed on," like life.

The Easter Candle teaches that Christian hope is not a vague optimism but resurrection faith. Pope John Paul II describes the Vigil's theme: "Let there be light" (cf. Genesis 1:3). The liturgy moves from darkness as the candle is blessed and carried forward, so that "light returns" when the paschal proclamation is made. The rite is a sacramental way of saying: death and life are linked because God has acted in Christ.

The Church also interprets the candle as inseparable from the Paschal Mystery itself: Pope Benedict XVI explicitly teaches, "Cross and resurrection are inseparable," and from Christ's self-giving "light is born." In that light, the candle is not only an Easter ornament but a theological statement about how redemption reaches believers—especially through baptism.

Finally, the candle expresses the Church's vocation. Pope Benedict XVI notes a further patristic insight: the candle's material comes from bees, and the Church—like bees—cooperates to build a "community of light," summoned to let the light of Christ shine in the world. Pope Francis adds that the flame spreads with contagious vitality: the Church is "contagious light," and Christians are reminded to live from their baptismal illumination.

As you can also see, liturgically, the candle has a proper place and a defined season. It should lead the procession and guide the faithful entering worship—like Israel guided by a pillar of fire. It is to be kept with honor and used in the Church's sacramental and pastoral moments; lit during the Easter season and then kept for baptismal celebrations and placed near a coffin in funerals to signify Christian death as passover. And it is extinguished on Ascension Day, teaching that Christ's visible presence has given way to the Church's mission and to his return to heaven.

As you can see, the Easter Candle is history turned into liturgy, and liturgy turned into theology. Its candle-flame is a sign of Christ—light born from sacrifice—and of the Church's task: to receive that light in baptism and to bear it outward until Christ's resurrection is proclaimed not only by words, but by a life lit from within. Let us continue to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus and may his light, bring peace to our world.



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano



ANZAC PUBLIC HOLIDAY MONDAY 27TH APRIL
8am Mass only. Church closed after Mass. Parish Office Closed



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

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)**

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. It ensures that children, young people, and vulnerable adults are safe, respected, and protected in our parish community. All volunteers and ministry members are required to complete safeguarding training. For more information, please visit the Diocese of Parramatta Safeguarding website: <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/>
Thank you for helping keep our parish a safe and welcoming place.

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 1st May
7:00-8:30pm in the hall.
Easter Social Night

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Friday 8th May 7:00-8:30pm
in the St Joseph's Room.
The Model of Surrender (St Joseph)

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 MAY



Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) is on Sunday 17th May 7:00pm-9:00pm in the hall. Jefferson Kim will be speaking on Angelology Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements by contacting ym@stbernadette.org.au



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]

ROSTERS 2-3 May 2026

Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Ministry					
Lectors	Sean Eberhaut Bob Myers Colleen Leong	Grace Touma Campion Fernando Lisa Kemmis	Mila Mina John Fernando Hubert Jenneke	Irene Ngu Jeethu Bobby May O'Connell	Olivia Eberhaut Radheen Wettasinghe Lisa Giacomelli
Communion Ministers	Felicity Carvalho Douglas Carvalho Mary MacMahon Bernard Home Pauline Home	Julian Bong Sherryl Rozario David Rodrigues Andrea Tomic	Mary Tondini Ranmalee De Silva Lynda Sillick Yvette Braganza +1	Mila Mina Coney Lau Helen Carr-Boyd Elizabeth Joseph Jiji Jospheh	Rason Chia Patricia Chia Remy de Leon
Bookshop	Pauline Home	Catherine Seddon	Jenny and Brian Blacklock	Maria Gobbo	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Olivia Cheng	Mon 4th May Pauline Home Bernard Home	John Loftus Vanessa Xiberras Joseph Collorafi	Joanne Boland Jenny Blacklock	Andrea Tomic Krystyna Graczyk Myra Tan Gabriella Tan Pauline Home	Belinda Yapp

FIRST FRIDAY MASS: ANOINTING OF THE SICK/ADORATION

This Friday, 1st May at 12noon. **There will be NO lunch after the Mass this month.** If you require transport **for Mass only**



please contact Maureen Fearnside on 9634 3329. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from after 6:45am mass until 12noon.

PARISH FUNDRAISER BBQ

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



CATECHISTS WANTED

We are looking for volunteers who are available to take a half-hour lesson on a Wednesday at one of our local public schools. All our teachers are provided with the training and support required, as well as the lesson plans and resources used in the classroom. For more information please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or admin@stbernadette.org.au

MOTHERS' DAY FLOWERS FUNDRAISER

Our youth will be holding their annual Mothers' Day flower stall on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th May. A range of bouquets, single stems and boxed arrangements will be for sale, along with a variety of chocolate bouquets. Prices range from \$5-\$50. Cash and EFTPOS available.



BAPTISM FOR SCHOOL – AGED CHILDREN

For children age (5-15 years old) in the PARISH who have not yet received the sacrament of Baptism. At least one parent must be a Baptised Catholic. The sessions will be 13th and 20th June at 11am. Parents and child/children must attend both sessions. Please contact the Parish office at on 9634 2622 or admin@stbernadette.org.au for more details. Enrolments close Friday 5th June.

MARCH FOR CHANGE FRIDAY 1ST MAY

The March for Change speaks out against domestic and family violence in the Hills and beyond. Beginning at 7am at Castle Towers purple carpark. For more information scan the QR code.



RELAY FOR LIFE 16-17 MAY

Fr Menard and the St Bernadette's Young Adults are participating in the 2026 Hills Relay For Life to raise funds for Cancer Council Australia. To donate, please scan the QR code. To join our group please speak to Therese or email ym@stbernadette.org.au



REFUGEE GROUP TRIVIA NIGHT

Join us for a Charity Trivia Night on Saturday 30th May at 6pm in the hall, supporting a refugee family arriving in June. Tickets are \$25 per person, with tables of 8-10 people. Pre-order charcuterie boxes are available, with desserts sold on the night and tea and coffee provided. Scan the QR code to register your table and find out more.



AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

We will be hosting our annual Australia's Biggest Morning Tea in support of Cancer Council Australia on Thursday 28th May at 10am in the Marian Centre. All Welcome.



NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

MUSIC WORKSHOP 5 MAY

Musicians throughout the Parramatta Diocese and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. On Tuesday 5 May at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, the workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Please RSVP by 1 May. For RSVP's or enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

ROSARY WORKSHOPS IN MAY

Come along for a fun evening of community and crafting rosary beads that will then be donated to the sick and dying in hospitals across our Diocese. The evening will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 5 May and Wednesday 20th May at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, Cost: \$5pp (includes materials). To register and for more information, please contact Lucy at ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

COMMISSIONING MASS OF LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All liturgical ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers on 12 May 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. To register please contact ofw@parracatholic.org.

Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

April	This Week
Mon 27th April	ANZAC Public Holiday 8am Mass only. Church closed after Mass. Parish Office Closed
Tues 28th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am Reparation Prayer Group 7pm
Wed 29th	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 30th	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 1st	First Friday anointing Mass & Adoration Junior Youth: Social Night
May	Next Month
Fri 8th May	Senior Youth: The Model of Surrender
Sat 9th May	Mothers' Day flower stall
Sun 10th May	
Sun 17th May	Young Adults: Angelology
Sun 24th May	Fundraiser BBQ: Vinnies Pentecost Sunday
Thurs 28th May	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea
Fri 29th May	Liturgy of Life
Sat 30th May	Trivia Night: Refugee group fundraiser

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1

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

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel John 10:1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

Communion Antiphon:

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



Readings Next Weekend

2-3 May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A

First Reading	Second reading	Gospel
Acts 6:1-7	1 Pet 2:4-9	Jn 14:1-12

Feast Days This Week

27 April	Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort
28 April	Saint Peter Chanel
29 April	Saint Catherine of Sienna
30 April	Saint Pius V
1 May	Saint Joseph the Worker
2 May	Saint Athanasius

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Ansamma P.E, Rosa Calabria

Anniversaries: Benjamin Zamora, Molly Edge, Josey Varghese, Peter James,

Taha Go, Luis Alberto Robayo, Emmanuella Fariaty Arifin, Gabriel Mearns

In Remembrance: Jouita Flores

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Lukas Ivanic, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Minda Robles, Jay O'Sullivan, Raymond Coffey