



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Fernando Montano

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Fr Menard Gaspi

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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

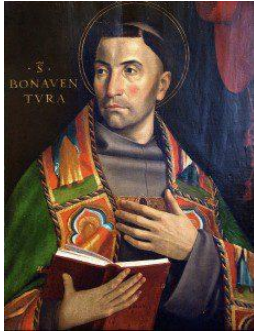
8:30am-9:00am,

4:00pm-4:30pm

Or by appointment

11-12 July 2026 *Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A*

Hello everyone!



This week, the Church invites us to remember great saints, as I wrote to you last year on our Lady of Mount Carmel, this week I would like to invite you to reflect on the life of St Bonaventure, whose feast day will be on the 14th of July, Wednesday.

Saint Bonaventure, who was baptized as Giovanni di Fidanza, was one of the greatest minds and saints of the 13th century. He is called by the Church the Seraphic Doctor, and a faithful successor of St. Francis of Assisi. He was born at Bagnoregio in Italy about 1217 to 1221, he grew up in a world where Christians strongly connected faith to culture and learning.

As a boy, Bonaventure suffered a serious illness. His mother turned to the intercession of St. Francis, who had recently been canonized. Bonaventure recovered, and the experience marked him deeply. Later, in Paris, the life and "evangelical radicalism" of the Friars Minor captured his imagination and helped him discern what to do with his life.

Bonaventure entered the Order of Friars Minor in his youth (the exact year is uncertain in the sources). He was sent to complete his studies in Paris, and was formed under the Franciscan tradition and, in particular, learned from Alexander of Hales, a leading teacher of the time. By 1248, he had earned the right to teach publicly, and he lectured with great success, showing how Christian truth can be pursued with both intellectual rigor and spiritual devotion.

His life combined two apparently different things: contemplation and governance. When Bonaventure faced opposition in Paris from secular professors who attacked the mendicant friars, he responded with scholarship and charity. He wrote in defense of evangelical poverty, and the dispute eventually ended with the restoration of the friars' privileges and the conferral of the degree of Doctor of theology upon both Bonaventure and St. Thomas Aquinas (1257).

Only shortly after this, Bonaventure was elected Minister General of the Friars Minor (1257). The Order was divided, with tensions between those urging a stricter observance and those seeking mitigations. Bonaventure governed with "healthy realism" and spiritual courage, making clear that wise leadership must be rooted in prayer and reflection, and must guide souls toward Christ rather than rely only on structures and commands.

Among his many works, Bonaventure's spirituality is especially illuminated by his "Mind's Road to God" (Itinerarium mentis in Deum). Pope Benedict XVI describes this as a "manual" for mystical contemplation, rooted in a deep intimacy with Christ and expressed in stages that lead from knowledge to union, always depending on grace, desire, and prayer, not mere study.

In his later years, Bonaventure's responsibilities widened beyond the Franciscan Order. He was made Cardinal-Bishop of Albano and was central to major Church efforts, including the Council of Lyons, where the reunion with the Greeks was pursued. During this period, he also chose to practice humility in very concrete ways, even accepting humiliations consistent with his Franciscan spirit.

Saint Bonaventure died at Lyon in July 1274. Those who knew him described him as gentle, courteous, humble, compassionate, and adorned with every virtue—learning's equal companion, devotion.

Today, St. Bonaventure remains for the Church a model of the unity of faith and reason, and of the way contemplation can produce wise action—teaching that the highest knowledge of God is not only understood, but sought, loved, and received in grace.

St Bonaventure, pray for us!



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

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)**

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]

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)

Are now on break for the school holidays. Keep an eye out for Term 3 dates coming soon!

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Are now on break for the school holidays. Keep an eye out for Term 3 dates coming soon!

YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY (18-35yrs)

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 19th JULY

Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) is on Sunday 19th July 7:00pm-9:00pm in the hall.

We will be holding a trivia night! Come along to join in the fun.

Dinner included. Please let us know any dietary requirements by contacting ym@stbernadette.org.au

ROSTERS 18-19 July 2026

Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Ministry					
Lectors	Les Blanch Rod Burrige	Scott Koslow Lisa Biasucci Sue Pinkerton	Steve Vassallo Catherine Whitelock Ann O'Brien	Joanne Dobry Carolyn Curro Malena del Gallego	John Zdrilic Jane Lapidario Michelle Kim
Communion Ministers	Charles D'Emanuele Cynthia D'Emanuele Sue Pinkerton Ross Pinkerton Lucille Wilson	Yvonne Desouza Patrick Bowie Monica Rodrigues Campion Fernando	Angela Stenglin Christine Jenneke Hubert Jenneke Rosalie Sampath Celeste McLean	Lydia Flores Paul Irwin Florina Vanderwaals Mary Winslow Jeyaraj Winslow	Dess Gutierrez Olivia Eberhaut Catherine Wibisono
Bookshop	Elaine Small	Eugenia Fidel	Christine and Hubert Jenneke	Dorothy Finucane	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Sandra Fernando	Mon 20 th July Maureen Feamside Remy de Leon	David Tye Cosimo Miccoli Chris Clancy	N/A	Maria Mochnik Yvonne Desouza Doug Desouza Anna Schweda Karen D'Souza Neil Fonseca	Melia Shammass

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2026

Registrations are now open for the sacrament of Confirmation. This program is suitable for children who are in Year 6 and above, who have received the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation & Eucharist. Registrations close Monday 27th July. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au



BIBLE STUDY WITH FR FERNANDO

Fr Fernando will be running his annual study series in July. Looking at the program Jesus: The Way, The Truth and The Life over 5 weeks this year and continuing 5 weeks next year, 7:00pm in the hall. Books are available from the Parish Office or on the night for \$40 each, cash only while stocks last.



ST BERNADETTE'S SPIRITUAL READING BOOK CLUB

Our next book club meeting is this Saturday the 11th July at 9am in the St Joseph's Room. We are currently reading chapters 1-9 of "Introduction to the Spiritual Life" by Brant Pitre. All Welcome. For more information please contact Danielle Vassallo on 0421 649 641 or sdvassallo@bigpond.com



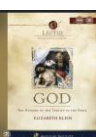
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: LECTORS (readers) AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

We are looking for volunteers to assist with reading and distribution of Communion at our weekend masses. You will be placed on a rotating roster (approximately every 4-6 weeks, depending on mass times)
 Readers: 9am mass x1, 10:30am Mass x3, 6pm Mass x1
 Communion: 7:30am x4, 9am x3, 10:30am x5
 All training provided. Please contact Nancy on 9634 2622 or at pa@stbernadette.org.au



TOONGABBIE LEGAL CENTRE

Toongabbie Legal Centre (TLC) volunteers will be selling raffle tickets next weekend, along with some merchandise items. All proceeds will directly support their free legal clinic. Tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of 10 tickets – with ten prizes.



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

We will be starting our new program, *God, The mystery of the Trinity in the Bible* by Elizabeth Klein, next Wednesday 22nd July at 10am in the Marian Centre. All welcome.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA



ADULT CONFIRMATIONS 2026

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year.

This will be on Saturday 29th August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August 2026. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org

BE THE WITNESS — THE MUSICAL

Over the past few months, the chorus of Be The Witness has visited parishes across the Diocese, sharing a glimpse of this powerful Catholic musical. Now the full production is coming to Riverside Theatres Parramatta from 10–13 September 2026. Be The Witness brings the story of Jesus to life through the eyes of St Peter, using music, drama and storytelling to create a moving encounter of faith, hope and witness.

10–13 September 2026
Riverside Theatres Parramatta

SPECIAL PARISH GROUP OFFER
 GROUP BOOKINGS 10+
UPTO 20% OFF!

Offer ends July 10. Book Now Limited Seats

SCAN TO BOOK YOUR GROUP TODAY!
www.bethewitness.com.au

With the support and encouragement of Bishop Vincent Long
Presented by Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown

SUPPORTING SEAFARERS AND FISHERS AROUND THE WORLD

STELLA MARIS

SEA SUNDAY
12TH JULY 2026



Wine Tasting



Friday 24th July at 7pm in the hall.
 \$30pp, \$50 per couple or \$180 per table of 8.
 Charcuterie boxes are available for pre-order \$30 each.

Tickets on sale after masses
11/12th and 18/19th July (cash or EFTPOS)
available via the QR code
or at the Parish Office (cash only)



Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

July	This Week
Tues 14th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am Reparation Prayer Group 7pm
Wed 15th	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 16th	Bible Study with Fr Fernando Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Sun 19 th July	Young Adults: Trivia Night
July	This Month
Thurs 23 rd July	Coffee and Chat: Castle Hill Police
Sun 26 th July	Fundraiser BBQ
Mon 27 th July	Confirmation enrolments close

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading Isaiah 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Responsorial Psalm 64:10-14 R. Lk 8:8

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Second Reading Romans 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. **Alleluia!**

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Readings Next Weekend

18-19 July 2026

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Wis 12:13, 16-19

Second reading

Rom 8:26-27

Gospel

Mt 13:24-43

Feast Days This Week

13 July	Saint Henry
14 July	Saint Camillus de Lellis
15 July	Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Gospel Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!' Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. 'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

Communion Antiphon:

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Ivor Neves, Sabina, Rosary John, Stella D'Souza

Anniversaries: Branko Habek, Ulrich Pragst, Adele Small, Wendy Smith, Tim Anderson, Bernadita Yu, Manuel Jose Yu, Elizabeth Chow, David Leung, Rosamma Devasia, Marie Celine, Percival Marc, John Gregory, Felipa Camat,

In Remembrance: Angus Chui, Shannon S, Margaret McGlone

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Kristine Murgatroyd, Lukas Ivanic, Victoria Rix, Eleanor Ross, Minda Robles, Rowena Ferguson, Helen Jacob