



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, 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

25-26 July 2026 *Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A*

Hello everyone!

This Sunday the church invites us to celebrate the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

During the following weeks, I want to share with you the message that Pope Leo XIV has given to mark this important occasion. I hope you enjoy the reading!



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

I will never forget you (Is 49:15)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord promises that he will never forget any of us. He assures us that he has engraved our faces on the palms of his hands (cf. Is 49:16) and that his love is greater than a mother's love for her child (cf. Is 49:15). The prophet gives us a glimpse of an intimate and intense dialogue in which God addresses, in familiar terms, each person individually and the people as a whole. Even today, we can read these words as referring to each of us, and everyone can hear that "I will never forget you" spoken directly to them.

These are words that fill us with comfort and hope. They are the answer to an agonizing feeling that troubles the heart: "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me" (Is 49:14). How often in Sacred Scripture, especially in the Psalms, does prayer spring from the despair of those who feel that their lives are of no interest to anyone and are being neglected! The painful feeling of being forgotten is, unfortunately, shared by many people, and among them are quite a few elderly people.

God's love, which forgets no one, offers itself as an act of justice and a response to the anonymity in which human life all too often ends up lost. The lives of many elderly people, in particular, seem to be covered by a veil that blurs the features of their faces and shrouds them in oblivion. This is what happens in homes where loneliness reigns and also in those care facilities where each person's uniqueness risks being reduced to a bed number or an illness.

The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them. Bring them, through this message and your presence, the closeness and affection of the Pope. Ensure that the words of the prophet, "But I will never forget you," take the form of a tender and affectionate encounter. "In an era that favors speed and fragmentation, the human person still yearns to receive care and recognition from attentive minds, kind words and hands capable of tenderness. The digital culture multiplies connections and offers new opportunities for interaction; yet, the human heart retains an irrevocable need for genuine closeness" (Encyclical Letter, *Magnifica Humanitas*, 239).

The Church understands the suffering of her elderly members; she knows full well that they are all too often viewed through the lens of stereotypes and considered a burden; she is aware that a profit-driven economy weakens family ties; she knows that many elderly people are left behind by children who are forced to migrate or, in some cases, to fight in wars. For each of these reasons, she joyfully proclaims the Lord's promise: "But I will never forget you!"

Continued next week



LEO PP. XIV

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

BSB067 950

Account No00004265

Account NameDiocesan Clergy

Reference6006 Your name

EFT to the Second Collection – for support of the Parish

BSB067 950

Account No00000032

Account NameCastle Hill Catholic Church

ReferenceSecond 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 31st July 7:00-8:30pm in the hall
Junior Youth will be holding a Social Night

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Friday 7th August 7:00-8:30pm in the St Joseph’s Room. We will be talking about Modern Crusades

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 16th AUGUST

Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) is on Sunday 16th August 7:00pm-9:00pm in the hall. Noel Thomas will be speaking to us about Authenticity of Scripture and the Bible.

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

ROSTERS 1-2 August 2026					
Mass	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Ministry					
Lectors	Caroline Dumapit Malisa Barsic John Abernethy	Dan Mathias Paul D'Cruz Joyan Fife	Geoffrey Kemmis Jennifer Piyush Amber McLean	Sylvia Rego Vince del Gallego John Eberhaut	Olivia Eberhaut Radheen Wettasinghe Lisa Giacomelli
Communion Ministers	Lisa Hurst Rick Jenkins Brian Fitzalan Natalia Chui Conni Tierney	Claire Lagunzad Doug Desouza Bill Lee Hilary Zhang	Delphine Fernandes John Donnelly Lois Donnelly Winnie Lam +1	Teresa Somsundram Margaret Hawkes Dorothy Finucane Hilary Fong Bernadette Boulos	Remy de Leon Catherine Wibisono +1
Bookshop	Kathleen Abernethy	Eugenia Fidel	Margaret Stedman	Coney Lu	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children’s Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Lucy Achermann	Mon 3 rd August Pauline and Bernard Home	Eugenia Fidel Elizabeth de Jesus Helen Fidel	Liza Echevarria Julie James	Marjorie Anderson Robyn Morgan Sa Bunsoem Laurie Burridge	Tess De Santo



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



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.



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: 10:30am Mass x1
Communion: 7:30am x3, 9am x2, 10:30am x5
All training provided. Please contact Nancy on 9634 2622 or at pa@stbernadette.org.au



PARISH FUNDRAISER BBQ

The school P&F are running a fundraiser BBQ at the morning masses this Sunday 26th July. Bacon & Egg Rolls \$5 each. Cash and EFTPOS available.



WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027 LAUNCH: 12 AUGUST

Come and discover the pilgrimage to the 17th International World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea (26 July – 11 August 2027), themed "Take courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Join us for an inspiring evening to learn about the pilgrimage, hear testimonies from past pilgrims, explore the faith and culture of the Korean Church, and enjoy fellowship with other young people. Date: 12 August 2026. Doors open at 6:30pm. Venue: Nagle College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown Register today at parracatholic.org/events/wyd27-launch/ All welcome

VINNIES DONATION BINS REMOVED

The Vinnies donation bins at the bottom of the driveway have been removed by Vinnies head office due to cost. They will no longer be collecting clothing donations from St Bernadette's. **please do not leave your clothing donations here.** Donations can still be taken to the Vinnies stores. Our closest stores are Unit 5 19 Victoria Ave, CASTLE HILL, 9A/9B Old Northern Rd, BAULKHAM HILLS, or 364 Pennant Hills Rd, PENNANT HILLS.

Save the Date Melbourne Cup Lunch



12pm-3:30pm Tuesday 3rd November
The Heritage House, Kenthurst
\$120 per person +drinks

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. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org. Enrolments close 18th August

GET #ACTIVE4VOCATIONS

This National Vocations Awareness Week, Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and our Holy Spirit Seminarians will get #Active4Vocations in City2Surf on Sunday 9 August. Please pray for vocations and support our seminarians as they take on the 14km journey from Sydney to Bondi to promote priestly vocations. Spur them on with a donation at tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations.



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.

Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

July	This Week
Mon 27 th	Confirmation enrolments close
Tues 28 th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Reparation Prayer Group 7pm
Wed 29 th	Wednesday morning bible study 10am
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 30 th	Bible Study with Fr Fernando 7pm
	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 31 st	Junior Youth: Social Night 7pm
August	Next Month
Fri 7 th Aug	First Friday: healing Mass and Adoration
	Senior Youth: Modern Crusades 7pm
Sat 8 th Aug	Book club: 9am
Sat 15 th Aug	Feast of the Assumption
Sun 16 th Aug	Young Adults: Noel Thomas
Sun 23 rd Aug	Fundraiser BBQ: Care Group
Thurs 27 th Aug	Coffee and Chat

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5.7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

Lord, I love your commands.

Second Reading Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Communion Antiphon:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

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Readings Next Weekend

1-2 August 2026

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Is 55:1-3

Second reading

Rom 8:35, 37-39

Gospel

Mt 14:13-21

Feast Days This Week

29 July	Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus
30 July	Saint Peter Chrysologus
31 July	Saint Ignatius Loyola
1 Aug	Saint Alphonsus Liguori

The kingdom of heaven is like
treasure hidden in a field
which someone has found

Matthew 13:44



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Theresa Connor, Aaron Price

Anniversaries: Brian D'Arcy, Mariamma Xavier, Frank Pankhurst, Terry Pankhurst

In Remembrance: Adrian Attapattu

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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