



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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PARISH PRIEST

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Ms Laura Burton

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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

24-25 October *Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A*

Hello Everyone!

I hope you enjoyed the readings on the relationship between music and liturgy over the last few weeks. I did not want to finish the month without writing something on this month dedicated to the Rosary. October is traditionally associated with the Holy Rosary, and the Church celebrates the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on 7 October. The Rosary is more than a familiar sequence of prayers: it is a way of remembering the Gospel with Mary, so that our eyes and hearts are drawn more deeply to Jesus.

The Rosary as we know it today, took shape gradually in the second millennium of the Church's life. Its development belongs to a wider Christian practice of repeating prayers with the help of beads or other counters. The familiar form—Our Father, Hail Marys, and meditation on the mysteries—also developed over time.

Catholic tradition closely associates the Rosary with St Dominic and the preaching of the Dominican friars. The precise historical story of its origins has been debated, and it is best not to imagine that every detail of the Rosary appeared all at once in its present form. What is clear is the important role the Dominicans played in spreading and promoting this prayer.

The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is linked especially with the Church's thanksgiving for the victory at Lepanto in 1571. Pope St Pius V called the faithful to pray for the Church, and a commemoration of Our Lady of Victory followed. In time, the observance became the feast of the Holy Rosary, kept on 7 October.

The Rosary is usually seen as a Marian devotion, but we must always remember that Christ is at its heart. In each decade, we announce a mystery from the life of Jesus and pray the Our Father and Hail Marys while contemplating it. The Hail Mary itself keeps our attention on Christ: its words recall the Angel Gabriel's greeting and Elizabeth's praise, and each prayer leads toward Jesus, "the fruit" of Mary's womb.

The mysteries invite us to walk through the Gospel: the joy of Christ's coming, the light of his public ministry, the sorrow of his Passion, and the glory of his Resurrection and the life of the Church. They are not simply scenes to remember from long ago. We contemplate the living Christ and ask how his life speaks to ours—how his humility, mercy, courage and trust in the Father can shape our choices today.

Mary's place in this prayer is that of a mother and disciple. The Rosary lets us learn from her attentive way of keeping the events of Jesus' life in her heart. We do not turn to Mary instead of Christ; we ask her to help us know and follow her Son more faithfully.

Because the Hail Mary is repeated, the Rosary can be prayed slowly and peacefully. Repetition need not be empty or mechanical. Like a familiar melody, it can steady our attention and give the mind space to ponder the mystery. Pope St John Paul II described the Rosary as a form of contemplation that can help Christians be formed according to the heart of Christ.

This prayer can be prayed alone, with family, or as a parish community and on this month of October we are invited to renew our dedication and devotion to this form of prayer. A decade prayed thoughtfully may be a good beginning for anyone who finds a full Rosary difficult. During this month of October, we might make time for the Rosary at home or join a parish gathering. We can pray and offer our rosaries for the needs of our families, our community and the world, while allowing the Gospel to challenge and console us.

The Rosary is simple enough to pray in the ordinary rhythms of life, yet rich enough to lead us deeper into the mystery of Christ. This October, may it help us listen with Mary, contemplate Jesus, and carry the Gospel into the way we live.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

CHURCH AND OFFICE CLOSED THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER

Next Thursday 29th October, the church will be closed after the 9:15am Mass, and the office will be closed while Laura and Nancy attend First Aid Training to help keep our Parish community safe.

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)

Junior youth returns Friday 6th November in the st Joseph’s room. We will be talking about liturgical music.

SENIOR YOUTH (years 9-12)

Senior youth will be on Friday 30th October in the St Joseph’s Room. We will be talking about Divinisation.

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 15th NOVEMBER

Our Young Adults Nights (18-35 Yrs) is on Sunday 15th November 7:00pm-9:00pm in the hall. Isayah Maybury-Picatoste will be speaking about the Sacraments and Intention Devotion. 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 31 Oct-1 Nov 2026					
Mass Ministry	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Douglas Carvalho Tony Calabria Felicity Carvalho	Ross Pinkerton Graeme Kearns Jacinta Kearns	Dawn Wickramasinghe Ranmalee De Silva Sherryl Rozario	Michael Abrahams Edwin Zambrano Raymond Pak	Olivia Eberhaut Radheen Wettasinghe Lisa Giacomelli
Communion Ministers	Beverley Curtis Esther Coleiro Kathleen Abernethy Keith D'Sylva Maureen Fearnside	Yvonne Desouza Patrick Bowie Monica Rodrigues Campion Fernando	Brian Blacklock Jenny Blacklock Ellen McMahon Skirma Cervin +1	Sylvia Rego Venetia Lee Winnie Li Henry Li Nina Irwin	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
Darshi Wettasinghe	Mon 2 nd Nov Marie Woodward Elaine Small	Joe Harney Paul D’Cruz Trish McDonald	Sandra Emmet Nina Irwin	Margaret Sinha Francesca Menezes Pancras Robinson Emma Arumai Paula Boyd	Jane Ng

NOVEMBER MASSES

Envelopes are available in the foyer for November Mass offerings. Parishioners are invited to write the names of deceased relatives and friends on the back

of the envelope or on a typed list inside, with a donation. **Please note any cheques will not be processed until December.** The front of the envelope is for your details. The completed envelope can be placed in the collection boxes or given in to the Parish Office. From there the names will be put into the "Book of Remembrance" which will be placed on a temporary altar on the Sanctuary throughout November. Masses will be offered during the month of November for our friends and family who have gone before us.

CASTLE HILL CEMETERY MASS:

All Souls Day mass will be celebrated at Castle Hill Cemetery on Saturday 8th November at 10am.



RECONCILIATION 2027 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Parish families who would like their child to commence preparation to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation are invited to attend our information evening being held on Monday 9th November at 7.00pm in the Church. This preparation process is suitable for children who are currently in Year 2 and above (year 3 in 2027), who have received the sacrament of Baptism. The meeting will run for about 30 mins.

Children do not need to attend. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or sacraments@stbernadette.org.au

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS

Our annual Christmas Carols will be held on Friday 11th December at 7pm. If you are interested in performing at this year's Carols, please register your expression of interested via the QR Code, or contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622

or at admin@stbernadette.org.au

Applications close Friday 13th November.

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: 15 NOVEMBER

The annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 15 November at 2:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, followed by afternoon tea. Those celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate. If you would like to attend, please register your full names, years married, and numbers attending by 6th November via parracatholic.org/events/wedding-anniversary-mass

harvest St Bernadette's Parish Pilgrimage
journeys • Jordan and the Holy Land



Fr Fernando and Nancy will be leading a pilgrimage to Jordan and the Holy Land from 23rd August to 7th September 2027 with Harvest Journeys. To register, please visit <https://bookings.harvestjourneys.com/pv2737>

We will be holding an information evening on Friday 6th November at 6pm in the church. Colleen from Harvest Journeys, and Fr Fernando, will be here to answer any questions you may have.

Melbourne Cup Lunch



12:30pm-4:00pm
Tuesday 3rd November 2026
The Heritage House, Kenthurst
\$120 per person

Tickets now on sale
at the Parish Office
or online via the QR Code



TICKETS ON SALE AFTER MASSES

Tickets will be on sale outside the church this weekend.

Prizes awarded for best dressed male and female.

Sweeps, games and lucky door prizes to be won!

We will also be selling raffle tickets for our major raffle.

Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10.



Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

7-8 November 2026



SAVE THE DATE: FOOD FIESTA MEETING

We will be holding a planning meeting on Thursday 12th November at 7pm in the Marian Centre to discuss next year's Pentecost Food Fiesta (Sunday 16th May 2027).

If you are interested in being involved in the food fiesta, please come along to our meeting.

Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

October	This Week
Tues 27 th	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am Reparation Prayer Group 7pm
Wed 28 th	Wednesday morning bible study 10am Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 29 th	Church and Parish Office Closed Catholicism for Dummies 6:30pm Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 30 th	Senior Youth: Divinisation
Sun 1 st Nov	All Saints Day
November	Next Month
Mon 2 nd Nov	All Souls Day
Tues 3 rd Nov	Melbourne Cup Lunch
Fri 6 th Nov	First Friday lunch and Adoration Pilgrimage Information night
Mon 9 th Nov	Reconciliation 2027 Parent Info Night
Thurs 12 th Nov	Food Fiesta Meeting
Sun 15 th Nov	Young Adults: Isayah Maybury-Picatoste

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

First Reading Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. "If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Communion Antiphon:

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

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Readings Next Weekend

31 Oct-1 Nov 2026

All Saints Year A

First Reading

Rev 7:2-4, 9-14

Second reading

1 Jn 3:1-3

Gospel

Mt 5:1-12

Feast Days This Week

28 Oct Saints Simon and Jude



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Mary Galluzzo, Maureen Dorahy (funeral Monday 26th 11am)

Anniversaries: Charles Sollis, Anthony Xavier Dalpadado, Yvonne Philip

In Remembrance: Pan Soon Jeong

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Gianna Locke, Kristine Murgatroyd, Lukas Ivanic, Siena Maria Burns, Victoria Rix, Barbara Ison, Eleanor Ross, Minda Robles, Graham Mostyn