



THE MASSABIELLE

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

ST. BERNADETTE'S PARISH

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Mr Darren Edwards

SCHOOL

St Bernadette's Primary

(02) 9407 6600

Principal: Bianca Cooke

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Monday 2nd November

6:45am, 7:30pm

Tuesday

6:45am

Wednesday, Thursday,

6:45am, 9:15am,

Friday 6th November

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

31 October-1 November *All Saints Year A*

Hello Everyone!

On the 2nd of November, the Church commemorates all the faithful departed. After celebrating the saints in glory on All Saints' Day, the faithful are invited to turn in prayer to those who have died and commend them to God's mercy. All Souls' Day is not simply a day of sadness or remembrance, the commemoration expresses the Christian conviction that death does not end our communion in Christ, and that we can continue to pray for those who have gone before us.

Christians have prayed for the dead from the early centuries. The names of departed Christians were remembered in the Church's worship, and monasteries developed customs of commemorating their deceased members and benefactors. By the ninth century, monasteries were observing a collective day of remembrance, though the date varied.

The observance became especially associated with St Odilo, Abbot of Cluny. Around the beginning of the eleventh century, he directed the monasteries of his congregation to keep the 2nd of November as a commemoration of all the faithful departed. The practice gradually spread beyond Cluny and became established throughout the Church. Pope St John Paul II described how, on the day after All Saints' Day, Odilo urged special prayers for the dead, and how this custom eventually became the universal practice.

The Church's prayer for the dead is grounded in the communion of saints, that is the unity in Christ of the faithful on earth, those being purified, and the saints in heaven. The Church teaches that those who die in God's friendship may still need purification before entering the fullness of life with him. This final purification, called purgatory, is not the punishment of the damned; it is the purification of those who are ultimately destined for heaven.

Therefore, to pray for the departed is an act of hope and charity. We ask God to show mercy, purify them in his love, and bring them into the fullness of his kingdom. The Church especially offers the Eucharist for the Dead, and also commends prayer, works of mercy, almsgiving and the application of indulgences. In many parishes, like ours, Catholics are invited to offer prayers and Masses for the souls in purgatory, especially during this month of November. These are not attempts to control God or calculate the state of a person's soul; they are ways of entrusting the departed to God and exercising our communion with them.

The liturgy is at the heart of the commemoration of the faithful departed. Taking part in Mass, and praying for particular people by name, joins our personal remembrance to the prayer of the whole Church. At home, families might share stories of those who have died, pray the Eternal rest prayer especially during this month, or include the departed in the Rosary and grace before meals. The Church's Directory also recommends prayers such as the De profundis (Psalm 130) and the Requiem aeternam as I mentioned before.

During this month, visiting a cemetery can be another meaningful practice: tending a grave, placing flowers or lighting a lamp can express continuing bonds of love and remembrance. Such visits should be understood as prayerful signs of that bond, not as obligations whose neglect bring fear or bad luck. The Church specifically cautions against treating them with superstition.

Finally, All Souls' Day also invites us to accompany those who grieve. A quiet visit, a message, or remembering a person's loss beyond the first days after a funeral can make Christian hope tangible. Praying for the dead does not ask us to forget them; it allows grief, gratitude and hope to be held together before God.

As we remember our loved ones, we entrust them to the mercy of the Lord, who calls the dead to himself and promises eternal life. In praying for them, we give thanks for the love we shared and renew our hope in the communion of saints.

℣. Eternal rest, grant unto them, O LORD,

℟. And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

℣. May they rest in peace.

℟. Amen.



Peace in Jesus

Fr. Fernando Montano

CHURCH AND OFFICE CLOSED TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER

Next Tuesday 3rd November, the church and Parish office will be closed from 12noon for the Melbourne Cup function.



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 will be on 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 13th November in the St Joseph’s Room. We will be talking about Saints.

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 7-8 Nov 2026					
Ministry	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Lectors	Mitch Dielwart Gary Tierney Stacey Leong	Wayne Vergano Jackie Willard Margaret Ash	Neil Fonseca Anne D'Cruz Danielle Vassallo	Irene Ngu Jeethu Bobby May O'Connell	Michelle Barreto Laura Burton Nathan Colaco
Communion Ministers	Charles D'Emanuele Cynthia D'Emanuele Lucille Wilson Sue Pinkerton Ross Pinkerton	Julian Bong Sherryl Rozario David Rodrigues Andrea Tomic	Angela Stenglin Christine Jenneke Hubert Jenneke Rosalie Sampath Celeste McLean	Lydia Flores Paul Irwin Florina Vanderwaals Mary Winslow Jeyaraj Winslow	Anabel Formosa Brennie Hassan Jane Lapidario
Bookshop	Kathleen Abernethy	Eugenia Fidel	Margaret Stedman	Coney Lau	Remy de Leon
Flowers	1st Collection	2nd Collection	Children's Liturgy	Housekeeping	Church Linen
Sandra Fernando	Mon 9 th Nov Christine and Hubert Jenneke	John Loftus Vanessa Xiberras Joseph Collorafi	Liza Echevarria Laura Burton	Cathy Teh Clarissa De Lima Joanne Myatt Constance Fidel Michelle Gardoni	Risa Sidik

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the 52 children who receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this Weekend. May they be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to learn and grow in faith.



ALL SOULS DAY MASS

There will be a Mass for All Souls Day at 7:30pm on Monday 2nd November in the Church. All Welcome

CASTLE HILL CEMETERY MASS:

All Souls Day mass will be celebrated at Castle Hill Cemetery on Saturday 7th November at 10am.



FIRST FRIDAY MASS:

ANOIDING OF THE SICK AND ADORATION

First Friday Mass will take place this Friday, 6th November at 12noon followed by a light lunch in the Marian Centre.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from after 6:45am mass until 12noon. All welcome. If you require transport, please contact Maureen Fearnside on 0438461955



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 family and friends who have gone before us.

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.



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.



FACE-TO-FACE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING DAY

On Saturday 21st November we will be running Cycle 2 (modules 4 & 5) for those needing to complete their safeguarding training and would like to do it face-to-face. Training will be held from 10am-1:30pm in the hall. To register please contact the Parish Office on 9634 2622 or at admin@stbernadette.org.au



Vinnies Christmas Appeal



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

7-8 November 2026

Next Weekend, vinnies members will have donation buckets, and there will be envelopes on the pews, for the annual Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Thank you for your generous donations.



St Bernadette's Parish Pilgrimage

• 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.

Upcoming Events

Please see notices for further details.

November	This Week
Mon 2 nd	All Souls Mass 7:30pm
Tues 3 rd	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group 10am
	Melbourne Cup Lunch 12:30pm
	Reparation Prayer Group 7pm
Wed 4 th	Wednesday morning bible study 10am
	Young Adults Bible Study 7:30pm
Thurs 5 th	Holy Hour 8pm-9pm
Fri 6 th	First Friday Mass and anointing 12noon
	Junior Youth: Liturgical Music 7pm

November	This Month
Mon 9 th	Reconciliation 2027 Parent Info Night
Thurs 12 th	Food Fiesta Meeting
Sat 14 th	Spiritual Reading Book Club
Sun 15 th Nov	Young Adults: Isayah Maybury-Picatoste
Sat 21 st Nov	Safeguarding training
Sun 22 nd Nov	Fundraiser BBQ: Refugee Group
Thurs 26 th Nov	Coffee and Chat 10am

Today's Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

First Reading Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel. After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.' One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6

Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon:

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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Readings Next Weekend

7-8 Nov 2026

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Wis 6:12-16

Second reading

1 Thess 4:13-18

Gospel

Mt 25:1-13

Feast Days This Week

- 1 Nov All Saints
- 2 Nov All Souls
- 3 Nov Saint Martin de Porres
- 4 Nov Saint Charles Borromeo

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF

Recently Deceased: Giuseppa Melia (funeral Wed 4th 11am), Paul Restall, Richard Burnett (funeral Mon 9th 11am)

Anniversaries: Carmel Restall, Celestino Baiada, Reethamma Varghese, Fr John Williams, John McAuliffe, Jack McAuliffe, Rosario Roco

For all the names in the Book of Remembrance

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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