



St Bernadette's Parish

Under the Pastoral Care of The Paulist Missionaries
59B Westmoreland Road, North Sunshine

Presbytery 9311 2977 - School 9311 8872 - Augustinian Sisters 9312 3953
Parish Email: sunshinenorth@cam.org.au - Parish website: stbernadettesparish.com.au



Second Sunday in Lent

Year B

25th February 2024

Parish Staff

Fr Silvio Bezzina mssp	Parish Priest
Miss Amanda Browne	Pastoral Worker
Mrs Joyce Cutajar	Parish Secretary (Mon, Thurs & Fri)
Mrs Bev Tessari	Office (Tuesday)
Miss Josie Desira	Office (Wednesday)
Mr Brendan Gill	School Principal



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Last weekend we welcomed Bishop Martin Ashe, the Auxiliary Bishop for the Western Region of Melbourne. It was a joy to welcome Bishop Ashe to a jam-packed weekend of encounters and mass celebrations. Starting with St. Bernadette School, Parish staff and Council, and other committees, visits to St. Bernadette Community Centre, and Nursing Home, some elderly parishioners, youth group, and more. A highlight was the encounter with parish leaders and volunteers who spoke to the bishop of their experience in parish ministry and beyond, and the parish forum. He celebrated all weekend masses, as Holy Eucharist is the source and climax of Catholic worship and met the Polish and Vietnamese communities. It was a very busy weekend, and I would like to show my appreciation to all who were involved in the preparations and meetings. The bishop was grateful for our hospitality and affirmed the work and ministry in our parish. In mine and your name, I thanked the bishop for his visit and affirmation.



Bishop Ashe's visit gave us the opportunity to continue to examine the reality of our parish, identify our strengths, and note the weaker areas of our ministry. We hope that soon we will embark on new initiatives which will help our parish community in its continued growth. Saying this, I turn to you all, and invite you to respond positively, and even come up with new ideas that will enhance this process.

Wishing you all a spiritually healthy Lenten season.
God bless you.

Fr Silvio

Weekday Masses

Monday 26th

10.00 am Funeral for Susan Prgic
7.30pm tối thứ hai hàng tuần có Thánh Lễ và lần chuỗi LCTX

Tuesday 27th St Gregory of Narek

9.15 am Daily Mass

Wednesday 28th

9.15 am Daily Mass
6.30 pm Novena, Rosary followed by
7.00 pm Mass

Thursday 29th

9.15 am Daily Mass

Friday 1st

9.15 am Daily Mass. After Mass 'The Way of the Cross'
7.00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Weekend Masses

Saturday - 6.30pm and
8.00pm Neo-Catechumenal (Pioneers Hall)
Sunday - 8.30am, 9.45am (Polish) 11.00 am,
12.30pm (Vietnamese) and 7.00pm.
2nd Sunday of the Month 2.00pm (Samoan)
except in November and at Easter time.

Reconciliation

Wednesday Evening - 6.30pm to 7.00pm
Saturday - 11.00am to 12 noon (at the Presbytery)
and 6.00pm to 6.30pm.

Baptisms

By Appointment Only.
Held on 2nd Saturday of the Month at 11.00am.



2nd Sunday Lent

Reflect, today, upon this holy mountain to which you are called. Know that as you climb it with perseverance and determination, hope and joy will be given to you.

Pray for the ability to trust in the God Who not only died a cruel death but also is radiant in glory for all eternity. Trust Him, turn to Him and commit to the journey ahead.

My Transfigured Lord, You revealed Your glory to these disciples as a way of helping them accept Your Cross. Help me to also embrace Your Cross in my life and to see clearly the glory that results from its embrace. I trust in You, dear Lord; help me to trust You more. Jesus, I trust in You.



Last Weekends Thanksgiving \$3,334.00



The Musicworx team is thrilled to invite you to their upcoming community production of Annie JR. following little Orphan Annie who is determined to find her parents and escape life in a dismal orphanage. Set in 1933, this heart-warming musical, with its catchy tunes, is bound to have you humming along and cheering the little girl's sense of hope and optimism. Three shows only: 10th & 11th March (Labour Day long weekend) at the St Bernadette's Community Centre, Cooke Ave. Tickets: \$25-\$30 with discounts for concession and group bookings. For more information visit www.musicworx.org or call 0438 549 362.



Increase your prayer and reflection life during Lent this year.

One important way of coming closer to Jesus is prayer. For this reason, during the season of Lent, on Friday evenings, at 7:00pm, we will be having a prayer or reflection opportunity.

Friday 1st March – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 8th March - Movie Night – “Do You Believe?”

Friday 15th March – Prayer around the Cross

Friday 22nd March – Lenten Mission (in English)

Save the dates. More details will follow.

Everyone is welcome.

Let us make Lent a truly prayerful season.

First Friday Adoration

Friday 1st March 2024, Mass at 9.15am followed by adoration at 9.45am - 10.30am and at 7.00pm. You are invited to spend some time in prayer with Jesus.



Thank you to Mary, Fred and to all those who made the time to help.

The amount of \$1,765.00 has been raised and donated to the missions.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

Parents please ensure you know exactly where your child is if they are not beside you; and PLEASE ACCOMPANY YOUR CHILD if they need to leave the church for any reason (e.g. to go the toilet or get something from your car, etc.)



EXPERIENCE MISSION WITH THE PAULIST MISSIONARIES - MISSION 25 - APPLICATIONS OPEN

The experience is open for those aged 18 - 25. Leaving Melbourne on Friday 3rd January 2025 and returning on Sunday 19th January 2025. For more information please pick up a flyer from the foyer.



ATTENTION SAMOAN COMMUNITY

Mass in March will be on Sunday 17th March at 2.00pm.

Divine Mercy Mass is on Sunday 7th April at 2.00pm.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

Transfiguration: Changed and being changed!

The drama in the gospel for this Sunday takes place on a mountain, as indeed does the very dramatic events in the first reading from the Book of Genesis.

The mountain in scripture is the place revelation. Throughout the bible, it is often on the mountain that God's power and presence are revealed and experienced. It is on Mount Sinai that Moses experiences God and brings the people the Ten Commandments. Jesus proclaims the powerful Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. In the gospels we are told that Jesus often went up the mountain by himself to pray so that he could hear God speaking to him. It is no surprise or coincidence that Jesus is crucified on the hill called Calvary.

In the gospel this Sunday Jesus takes some of his friends and followers away from the activity, noise and business of the market place. As he had done on his own before, he takes them to the mountain so that they can experience something wonderful and powerful. While they are there something out of the ordinary does happen; before their very eyes, Jesus is transfigured. He is changed. And then they hear these words from God; 'This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him.' What are we to make of this event? What does it mean for us today? The call, invitation and challenge of Lent is that we are to be transformed and changed. God calls to each of us and says, 'Come back to me with all your heart.' During this sacred season we are called to look honestly and humbly at our daily lives; at how we treat others, how we speak to them and how we behave. We are invited to ask ourselves, is there anything in my own daily life that needs to be changed and improved? How are we meant to be transformed during Lent before we celebrate the new life of Easter?

While on the mountain, Peter exclaims, 'It is wonderful for us to be here.' When we have the opportunity to gather with others to celebrate the Eucharist, could we make that our prayer and say, indeed, it is wonderful for us to be here. During the mass, we offer and present the ordinary bread and wine to God. God accepts, blesses, transforms and then offers them back to us as the Body and Blood of his Son.

However, not only during Lent, but also whenever we are at mass, we are meant to be changed and transformed into the people God wants us to be. With faith and courage can we also offer our own ordinary daily lives to God with the bread and wine? God will accept, bless and transform us too, if we are open to allowing God to act powerfully in our lives. Just as those with Jesus left the mountain changed by what they heard and saw, we too in our own way are meant to leave mass changed, and renewed by what we have experienced with each other. This week, let's pray that we too will be transfigured by God's love, compassion and forgiveness as we continue our journey through Lent with Jesus and each other.

Michael Moore OMI



Second Sunday of Lent 24 & 25 February

After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *for all future generations.*

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

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FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Caritas
AUSTRALIA



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Saturday 6.30pm: Louis Xuereb, Stellini & Xuereb Families, Camilleri & Cutajar Families, Joe Pulis, Scerri Family, Bugeja Family, Tony & Theresa Zammit, Will Camilleri - Joe & Mary Porter, Porter, Fleri, Falzon and Micallef families, Louis & Theresa Galea, Michael Angelo & Rita Gatt, Bernard & Carmela Pace, Firmino & Maria Moretto, Alvin John, Joseph & Carmen Bugeja, Ganna & Joseph Pace, Gregory & Joe Pace, Victor, Carmelo & Maria Galea & Family, Carmelo, Rita, Loreto & Damien Grech, Xuereb Family, Grech Family & Special Intentions, Sam Xiberras, Carmelo Mercieca & Grech Family, Lewis & Emanuel Azzopardi, Tarcisio, Gulia, Spiro, Emanuel & Patrick Debrincat, Angelo & Maria Camilleri, Julie Camilleri, Guzeppi & Zarenu Farrugia, All Souls

Sunday 8.30am: Joseph Sultana, Jerry Sultana, Tony & Theresa Zammit, Will Camilleri - Laurie Haber, John Muscat, Vernon Browne, Emanuel Spiteri, Rita Cini, Lewis & Emanuel Azzopardi, Tarcisio, Gulia, Spiro, Emanuel & Patrick Debrincat, All Souls

Sunday 11.00am: Rosario Manariti, Sam & Angela Camilleri, Paul Cassar, Josephine Xerri - Spiteri & Mercieca Families, Pauline Debrincat, Tony Micallef, Paul Cutajar, Joseph Grech, John & Nina Sultana, Rita Trost, Catherine Wicker, Josephine Borg, Antonia, Lawrence & Joe Sultana & Family, Bernard & Carmela Pace, Firmino & Maria Moretto, Gregory & Joe Pace, Emmanuel Piscopo & Family, Fred Xiberras, All Souls

Sunday 7.00pm: - Alvin John, Joseph & Carmen Bugeja, Ganna & Joseph Pace, All Souls

Anniversary: Joseph Sultana

Recently Deceased: Kevin Monks, Janice Piacentini

Funeral: Susan Prgic - Monday 26th February at 10.00am.

Sick: Elli Riikonen, Bertti Riikonen, Clementina Leong, Kim Borg, Theresa Vella, Rob Brennan

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LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:

Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the Book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 115-10. 15-19

RESPONSE: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading:

Romans 8:31-34

A reading from the letter to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

cf Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel:

Mark 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

