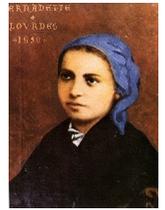




# St Bernadette's Parish

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

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



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Year B**

**28<sup>th</sup> April 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



### Weekday Masses

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> St Catherine of Siena**  
7.30pm tối thứ hai hàng tuần có Thánh Lễ và lần chuỗi LCTX

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> St Pius V. Pope**  
9.15 am Mass  
1.00 pm Funeral for Mary Zammit - Rosary followed by Mass

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> St Joseph the Worker**  
9.15 am Mass  
6.30 pm Novena, Rosary followed by  
7.00 pm Memorial Mass for Caterina Defina (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> St Athanasius**  
9.15 am Mass

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sts Philip & James, Apostles**  
9.15 am Mass  
9.45 am 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month at 11.00am.



### Dear Parishioners and Friends,

One of the most beautiful things about Australia is its multiculturalism. Every day we encounter people who have come from all over the world. Every family brings with it its language, way of thinking, culture, and values. Most, if not all, would love to live in peace and create and enjoy a safe environment where they can raise their families. It is a great richness.



This Thursday we celebrated ANZAC day, and (even at church) we remembered all those who fought in the First World War and other wars to ensure our freedom. Many have carried or still carry the scars of physical, emotional and other injuries they sustained. Others paid the ultimate price and laid down their lives. We remember. We are grateful. We pray for their souls, and for their grieving families.

The First World war was dubbed to be the War that Ends all Wars. Sadly, it didn't. ANZAC day gives us the opportunity to reflect on international relations and war. Disputes among people have existed since forever, and many have sought to resolve their differences through war. We ask, does war solve differences? In most cases, it does not! Rather, it creates more grievances, which are then harder to heal.

In his article in the Catholic Weekly (25<sup>th</sup> April 2024), Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ wrote the following: *In the face of present conflicts, Pope Francis follows earlier Popes in speaking of war as the enemy and calling for diplomacy to end them. This is always unpopular with people who see diplomacy as appeasement and anything short of unqualified victory as defeat. Anzac Day reminds us of the price that people pay for the wars their leaders join. The present wars remind us of the destruction of peoples and of their culture. Both call on us to support the work of people who try to make peace.*

Let us strive to create peace, not occasions for war. Starting from our little circle.

God bless you.

Fr Silvio

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Year B**

Reflect today, upon Jesus' words. Jesus says that He is the "true vine." He is the only source of the nourishment we



need for the new life of grace. He is the only way to Heaven and salvation. Knowing our Lord and being attached to Him firmly is faith. Second, our Lord says that He takes away every branch that does not bear fruit. This indicates that faith without the good fruit of charity is dead and is like a branch on a vine that produces nothing. Third, when Jesus finds a branch that bears good fruit, he doesn't leave it alone. Instead, He prunes it with loving attention so that "it bears more fruit" and so that God will be able to build up His Kingdom in glorious ways through you.

*Jesus, most glorious Vine, You and You alone are the source of all nourishment in life. From You all good things come. Help me to have a firm faith in You and all that You have revealed, so that this faith will bud forth and bring about an abundance of good fruit for the glorious building up of Your Kingdom. Jesus, I trust in You.*

Last Weekends Thanksgiving \$3,385.30



### WELCOME BR CAN

Br Can will be speaking at all masses this weekend. This will be a good opportunity for you to catch up with him.

### MISSION 2025

Experience mission with the Paulist Missionaries. Share in the work of the church in Manila and in Bataan.

Young adults who have participated in last year's mission immersion will be speaking during masses this weekend about their experience. They will be available to answer your questions after mass.



### RCIA PROGRAM

Any person wishing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation through the RCIA program to become a member of the Catholic Church please contact Tony Gatt on Mobile 0419115692.

Program commences on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> of April at 7pm.  
Address : 29 Rosslare Pde St Albans.

### First Friday Adoration

Friday 3rd May 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.



### MINI FETE

Last weekend a mini fete was held. A big thank you goes to the people who purchased and to those who donated. The amount \$540 was raised for the missions. Thank you to Mary & Fred Borg and family who organised the fete.



### MASS COUNT

We will be counting attendances at each mass throughout the month of May.



### CatholicCare Victoria Sunday appeal

Next weekend is the CatholicCare Appeal.

CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care, support for separating families, social housing and homelessness support. Donations will help CatholicCare Victoria support the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community and empower everyone to live life to the full.

**Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal.** Your support and generosity will help provides caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community.

You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513.



The Missionary Society of Saint Paul  
And the family of



### Br Can Tran mssp

Are pleased to invite you to join us in the Joyful celebration of the Final Profession of Vows

**Sunday, 5 May at 10.30am**

Saint James the Apostle Parish  
330 Derrimut Road, Hoppers Crossing Vic 3029

**Presided by Fr Hector Attard mssp  
Regional Superior of the Philippines mission**

Followed by light refreshments at the Paulist Centre  
Next to the church

RSVP by 29 April to: [finalvows@mssp.org.au](mailto:finalvows@mssp.org.au)

### Pentecost and the Holy Spirit in our Lives

Have you ever experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in your life? Have you ever had the opportunity to reflect upon the significance of Pentecost - not only for the disciples of Jesus after he ascended into Heaven, but for each one of us in our daily lives?

On Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, in partnership with Michael Azzopardi from the Proclaim Office of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, the Parish will be running a Pentecost Retreat Day.

The Retreat Day will take place at St Bernadette's School and will run from 9:30am to 5:00pm. There will be opportunities to reflect with Lectio Divina, Visio Divina, Raniero Cardinal Cantalamessa (video), as well as opportunities to worship with song.

If you would like to join us for this prayerful experience, please contact Amanda on 0438 514 304 or via email at [brownieab75@gmail.com](mailto:brownieab75@gmail.com)



### May Movie– Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May

**Come along for an evening of faith, fun and friendship.**

Our next Movie night will be on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of May at 7pm in the **SCHOOL STAFF ROOM.**

**Please enter via small gate on Willey Street**

### The movie for May is called "The Last Champion"

John Wright was a hometown hero — the powerful star of his high school wrestling team and a promising Olympian. He could have had it all ... but one bad decision destroyed his dreams and forced him to leave under a cloud of scandal that has haunted him ever since. Twenty years later, John returns to his small town after his mother's death, hoping to save his family home from foreclosure. His icy reception proves that his former friends and neighbours still haven't forgiven him for letting them down. Unexpectedly, John gets the opportunity to turn everything around — by coaching his high school's wrestling team. There he meets Michael, a talented underdog with a troubled homelife who faces a vicious opponent out to destroy him both on and off the mat. Can John become the leader the team and Michael needs, or will he lose himself to the dark demons of his past?

The Last Champion is an inspirational family sports drama that will have you believing in second chances. Beautifully photographed in the Pacific Northwest, it's a story about faith, loss and redemption.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Saturday 6.30pm:** Camilleri & Cutajar Families, Joe Pulis, Louis Xuereb, Stellini & Xuereb Families, Paul & Rita Bugeja, Buttigieg & Grech Families, Frank Muscat - Joe & Mary Porter, 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:** Rita & Salvu Cini, Frank Muscat - Laurie Haber, John Muscat, Vernon Browne, Emanuel Spiteri, Rita Cini, Lewis & Emanuel Azzopardi, Tarcisio, Gulia, Spiro, Emanuel & Patrick Debrincat, All Souls

**Sunday 11.00am:** Frank Muscat - Rosario Manariti, 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, Joseph Vella, John & Geswolda Borg, James & Gladys Pinto, Luigi & Adelina Moretto, All Souls

**Sunday 7.00pm:** Connie Micallef, Frank Muscat - Alvin John, Joseph & Carmen Bugeja, Ganna & Joseph Pace, All Souls

**Recently Deceased:** Lucia Spiteri (Malta), Michael Buhagiar

**Anniversary:** Caterina Defina (1<sup>st</sup>), Angelo Buttigieg, Carmelo Farrugia (52<sup>nd</sup>)

**Funeral:** Mary Zammit - On Tuesday 30 April at 1.00pm, Rosary followed by Mass (Mother of Fr Raymond Zammit)

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



**THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES**

Thank for your generous contributions to St Bernadette's Thanksgiving Program. If you would like to join the Thanksgiving Program, simply fill in a Census and Pledge Card form. You can obtain this from the Sacristy.

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## LITURGY OF THE WORD - Fifth Sunday of Easter

### First Reading:

Acts 9:26-31

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 21:26-28, 30-32

**RESPONSE:** I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

### Second Reading:

1 John 3:18-24

*A reading from the first letter of St John*

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation:

John 15:4-5

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

### Gospel:

John 15:1-8

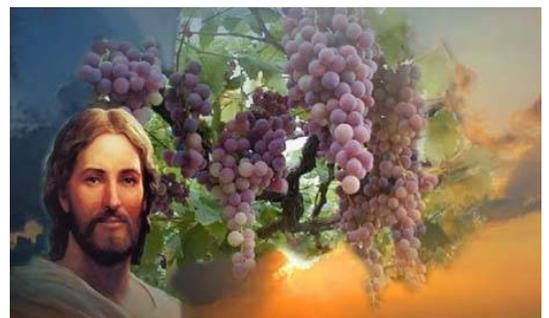
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away - he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



Next Week's Readings:

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17