



# 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



Third Sunday in Lent

Year C

20<sup>th</sup> March 2022

## Parish Staff

Fr John Taliana 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

**Tuesday, Thursday & Friday - 9.15am**

**Wednesday 9.15am and 7.00pm**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> -**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> -** St Turibius of Mogroveja  
**9.15am**

**6.30pm** Novena, Rosary followed by Mass  
**7.00pm** Mass

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> -** St Oscar Romero

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> -** The Annunciation of the Lord  
After Mass "The Way of the Cross"

## Weekend Masses

Saturday - 6.30 pm Vigil Mass,  
Sunday- 8.30 am, 9.45am (Polish) 11.00 am and 7.00pm  
12.30pm Vietnamese (EVERY Sunday)

## Reconciliation

Saturday  
By Appointment

## Baptisms

By Appointment Only  
Held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month  
at 11.00am



## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN, 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 (eg: to go the toilet, get something from your car, etc).

## REFLECTION

Reflect, today, upon the outward signs of your inward spiritual health. Do you see the virtues sprouting forth from your life? Are you aware of the work God desires to do in



your soul so as to cultivate it and fertilize it with grace and mercy? Say "Yes" to Him this day and allow that grace to produce an abundance of good fruit.

*My virtuous Lord, I invite You into my soul to cultivate it and fertilize it with Your grace. Please prune my sins and help me to sink my roots deeply into the nourishment of Your mercy. I am sorry for the ways that I have failed to bear fruit in my life. I now entrust myself to You so that Your care will remedy all my ills and weaknesses. Jesus, I trust in You.*

## WEDNESDAY EVENING MASS AT 7.00PM



From Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March the Novena and Rosary are prayed at 6.30pm.

**Every Friday** during Lent The Way of the Cross will be prayed after 9.15am Mass.

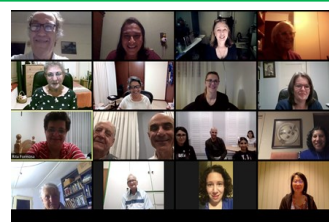
## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Our Scripture reflection sessions are on Thursday evenings.

These sessions are via ZOOM video platform so you do not need to leave the comfort of your own home to attend.

If you haven't already attended these sessions, but would like to, please send Amanda an email to brownieab75@gmail.com and she will send you the ZOOM link weekly.

These sessions focus on reflecting on the scripture for the following Sunday and they are a chance for you to connect, not only with the Word of God, but also with the other Parishioners that join.



## Please Pray For

**All who have died recently, for all whose Anniversaries occur at his time and for all those who are sick and dying.**



## SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend 26 & 27 March we will be donating both collections to the Flood Appeal in Queensland and New South Wales and to the Ukraine Emergency Appeal. We invite you to be generous as you have always been in the past.



### **Third Sunday of Lent 19 & 20 March**



**Janice 44**, is a proud Wagilak woman, a traditional dancer, living in a remote community in the Northern Territory. As elders grow older and pass away, she knows she must share her knowledge with the younger generation. However, the community faces multiple challenges, including a lack of jobs, limited educational opportunities, and a socio-economic which can lead to young people becoming disconnected from culture.

With your help, Caritas Australia supports Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, which operates a centre for traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and culture, providing employment and generating income for local communities.



**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive.**

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 [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.



## FLOOD APPEAL - SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The floods in Queensland and New South Wales are having a devastating effect on the people living in these regions of Australia. For those wishing to support the long-term recovery work to be undertaken by St Vincent de Paul Society in Queensland and New South Wales, financial donations can be made direct to either state.

[www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au) - Flood Appeal - St Vincent de Paul Society  
- Good Works ([vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au))

or by calling - Queensland - (07) 3010 1000 or New South Wales - (02) 9568 0262

## CARITAS AUSTRALIA - UKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

The people of the Ukraine are living through a crisis that will impact the country for years to come. Caritas Australia has launched an appeal to support Caritas Ukraine and other partners in the region. The appeal will support the provision of clean water, hygiene and food kits to vulnerable families, as well as safe collection centres for families on the move, emergency accommodation and support for distressed children and families.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/>  
or contact 1800 024 413

## PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS



You are invited to participate in a 'Prayer around the Cross' service this year as part of your Lenten journey.

Prayer around the Cross is a devotional prayer service that includes times of spoken prayer, simple chant, silence and reflection. It is an invitation for you to bring your personal prayers of intercession, praise or thanks and lay them at the cross. The cross may have different meanings for each one of us but ultimately it is a symbol of forgiveness and love.

Come and join us in the Church on  
**Friday the 25th of March at 7pm.**

## MALTESE MISSIONS

FOR THE MALTESE PARISHIONERS

In Lent we do the Lenten sermons in Maltese (Esercizzi tar-Randan). This year we have these sermons from Tuesday 5th April till Friday 8th April when we finish with the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. It is a special time for our growth in the spiritual life and to make Lent a really special time.

The preacher this year is Fr. Noel Bianco.

He has requested that if people would like some topics to be reflected and preached upon in these sermons he will be happy to hear from you. You can contact him personally when he is in church or by email [lelidega@hotmail.com](mailto:lelidega@hotmail.com) or by phone 0417651889. He is looking forward to hearing from you.



Our first Garage Sale in a very long time **Saturday 26th March.**

It will be at our Community Centre in Cooke Ave between 9am and 2pm.

Please make time to go along and pick up a bargain.

For this Garage Sale we **do not** want any donations of items. Please hang on to them until our next one.

## MINISTERS ROSTERS

Proclaimers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist your rosters can be collected from the Sacristy.



Please email the Parish office if you would like your roster emailed to you. Parish email address is [sunshinenorth@cam.org.au](mailto:sunshinenorth@cam.org.au).



**ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SUNSHINE NORTH 9311 8872**

# ENROL NOW

ENROLMENTS FOR PREP 2023 ARE NOW OPEN.  
IF YOUR CHILD TURNS 5 BY APRIL 30TH 2023, THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO START SCHOOL NEXT YEAR.  
DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM FROM OUR WEBSITE, OR COLLECT ONE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

**First Reading:****Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15***A reading from the book of Exodus*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' he answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm:****Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11**

**Response: : The Lord is kind and merciful.**

**Second Reading:****1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12***A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation:****Matthew 4:17**

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Gospel :****Luke 13:1-9***A reading from the Gospel according to Luke*

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

*"Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down." Luke 13:8-9*

Every gardener knows that good fruit is, in part, dependent upon the presence of good soil. But other factors are also important in the production of good fruit. The plant must be free of disease, receive water and sun, be planted in a warm environment, be properly pruned, and have enough space to grow. When all factors are present, good fruit is guaranteed.

So it is with our lives. The soil in which we are to be planted is the mercy of God. And this soil is the richest soil attainable for the production of the virtues in our lives. God also produces the sun, the rain, and the warmth that is needed for our growth. But, similarly speaking, we must allow ourselves to be pruned. We must also allow the soil to be fertilized and cultivated in a variety of ways. Though Jesus is the Gardener of our lives, it's also fair to say that we are the gardeners in the sense that we must cooperate with our Lord, relying upon the supernatural resources of the Creator to ensure the healthy growth of our spiritual lives so that the good fruit of virtue may be born in our lives.

This passage above is the conclusion to the Parable of the Fig Tree. Just prior to this passage, the owner of the vineyard, God the Father, ordered that the barren fig tree be cut down so that it will no longer exhaust the soil.

But our merciful Lord, sent on mission from the Father to till the soil of our lives, seeks to offer one more chance and the Father obliges out of love. This life is that "year" by which our Lord works fervently to cultivate the soil around us. We must cooperate through daily prayer, fidelity to His commands, acts of loving sacrifice and surrender to His providence. In the end, if we allow our Lord to do all He desires, our lives will bear good fruit.

But on the flip side, make no mistake about the fact that, if our lives do not bear good fruit, we will be "cut down." Bearing good fruit is not an option, it's a must. It's a clear indication of our spiritual health and it will become the measure of our eternal reward or eternal death. Do not be intimidated by such sharp language coming from our Lord. He spoke it in love so that we will know the serious duty we have to bear good fruit in our lives.

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