



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



Fourth Sunday of Lent

Year B

10th March 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,

The grace of God works mysteriously in the lives of people whose hearts are open to him. He responds with greater grace towards those who, acknowledging their sinfulness, humble themselves before Him. Self-righteous people very often block the grace of God. The believe they do not need it!



Through the simple words and gestures of the ordained minister, blessings help people increase their trust in God. Blessings become an expression of the Church's maternal heart. In the case of couples in irregular situations or same-sex couples, the intention is not to legitimise anything, but rather to open one's life to God, to ask for his help to live better, and to invoke the Holy Spirit so that the values of the Gospel may be lived with greater faithfulness (FS #40).

The Church is the sign (sacrament) of God's infinite love. So even when someone's relationship with God is clouded by sin, they can always ask for a blessing. They stretch out their hands to God, as Peter did in the storm when he cried out to Jesus, "Lord, save me!" (Mt. 14:30). (FS #42)

The Declaration ends by quoting Pope Francis, who in his *Catechesis on Prayer: the blessing* (2nd December 2020) says that this world needs blessings, and we can give blessings and receive blessings. God the Father loves us, and we respond by blessing Him, thanking Him, and learn from Him to bless others. All brothers and sisters need to feel that in the Church they are always loved and always blessed.

May God bless us all, whoever we are.

This brings us to the end of our look at *Fiducia Supplicans*.

Fr Silvio

Last Weekends Thanksgiving \$2,340.20

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of Church flowers for Easter, please place your donation in an envelope with the words "Easter Flowers" on the front and give to Father or the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity.



Weekday Masses

Monday 11th

7.30pm tối thứ hai hàng tuần có Thánh Lễ và lần chuỗi LCTX

Tuesday 12th

9.15 am Daily Mass

11.00am Funeral Mass for Kazimierz Kloss

Wednesday 13th

9.15 am Daily Mass

6.30 pm Novena, Rosary followed by

7.00 pm Mass

Thursday 14th

9.15 am Daily Mass

Friday 15th

9.15 am Daily Mass followed by 'The Way of the Cross'

7.00 pm Prayer Around the Cross

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 (Samoa)

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.

4th Sunday of Lent

Reflect, today, upon how open you are to the fullness of God's Word.

What would happen if God were to reveal to you, by an immediate

personal revelation of divine

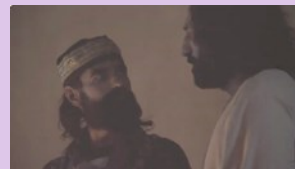
knowledge, all that was in His sacred mind? Would it be too

much for you to handle? Yes, it would be. But that humble

admission is an important step toward that very goal. Humble yourself, today, more fully before the mysterious Word of God and pray that you will continue to be changed and open so that the clarity of God's truth will more fully penetrate your soul.

My teaching Lord, Your sacred Truth is so deep, so profound and so transforming that it remains too much for me to fully comprehend and embrace. For that reason, I thank You for the mercy of speaking to me in veiled ways so as to continually draw me deeper in my faith and knowledge of You. Please continue to my mind and heart to You so that, one day, I will understand Your Truth most fully.

Jesus, I trust in You.





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 15th March – Prayer Around the Cross

Friday 22nd March – Lenten Mission (in English)

Friday 29th March - Good Friday

Save the dates. More details will follow.

Everyone is welcome.

Let us make Lent a truly prayerful season.



Altar Server meeting for Easter

There will be a meeting on Saturday the 23rd of March for altar servers who are interested in serving for our Easter Triduum this year. If you would like to Altar serve during these special days and cannot attend the meeting, please let Amanda know on 0438 514 304.

Lenten Mission - Jesus and friends!



Previously known as the Maltese Mission (*Ezercizzi tar-Randan*), this year's Lenten Mission will be delivered in English.

As we approach the celebration of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus, we become more aware of the fact that we are not as close to Him as we would like to be. There is so much that pulls us away. Wouldn't it be nice to encounter Him face to face as some people did? Their encounter with Jesus had a profound effect on their lives. They surely have something to share with us! Save the dates and time.

Tuesday 19th to Friday 22nd March 2024

At 7:00pm (finishing by 8:00pm)

ALPHA Series



The Alpha series provides an opportunity for individuals to explore their faith in a different way. It reinforces the power of God's unconditional mercy and love and by sharing their journey with others, participants have the opportunity to deepen their faith and love for Jesus.

We are planning to run another ALPHA course this year in our Parish and are looking to start the series mid April. The series goes for about 11 weeks and will once again be face to face. This year the Alpha series has new Australian Street Talks and a new interactive format with discussion questions and breaks throughout each episode.

If you think that you would be interested in being a part of this series, please email Amanda at brownieab75@gmail.com or call her on 0438 514 304.

Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours.



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Learn Even More: Join our [two-week tour to Timor-Leste on 06/05/2024](#) to see Palms program participants our local partner communities in action together.

Contact: 02 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au

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



The experience is open for those aged 18 - 35. 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.

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ENROL NOW

ENROLMENTS FOR PREP 2025 ARE NOW OPEN.

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DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM FROM OUR WEBSITE OR COLLECT ONE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

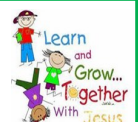


Fr Richard Rosse would like

to invite you for a 14-day pilgrimage departing on 21st May 2024. This pilgrimage features Fatima, Valladolid, Lourdes, Nice, Siena, Rotondo and Rome for all-inclusive price of \$8190. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD



Children's Liturgy takes place every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month at the 11am Mass. It is an opportunity for children to explore the gospel reading of the day in a more child friendly way so that they understand it's message more clearly.

Fourth Sunday of Lent 9 & 10 March

As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, **Memory** faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Saturday 6.30pm: Camilleri & Cutajar Families, Joe Pulis, Louis Xuereb, Stellini & Xuereb Families, Paul & Rita Bugeja, Scerri Family, Anna, Karmnu & Frangisku Farrugia - 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 - 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, Lourdes Borges - 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 & Geswalda Borg, All Souls

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

Anniversary: John Borg (10th), Lourdes Borges, Anna Farrugia (40th)

Recently Deceased: Josephine Borg, Carmen Turner

Funeral: Kazimierz Kloss - Tuesday 12th March at 11.00am - Mass

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

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LITURGY OF THE WORD - 4th Sunday of Lent

First Reading:

2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

A reading from the Book of Exodus

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 136

RESPONSE: : Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Second Reading:

Ephesians 2:4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

John 3:16

Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel:

John 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believed in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed;

but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light,

so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Next Week's Readings:
Jeremiah 31:31-34;
Hebrews 5:7-9;
John 12:20-30