



St Bernard's Parish, Botany

4 Ramsgate Street, Botany, NSW 2019

Office Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm

Phone: (02) 9316 8303

Internet: www.stbernards-botany.org.au

Email: stbernardsparishbotany@gmail.com

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Theme: Today's readings emphasize the importance of following God, living in unity, and facing the challenges of discipleship. They guide us in understanding and applying Scripture. While many left Jesus after His teaching on eternal life, the Apostles chose to stay and believe in Him. Like them, we must each decide who Jesus is and how we will live. There may be times when we are confused and doubtful in our faith, especially when we are hurt, angry, or burdened. Christ explains that faith is a gift from God that grows in us through the working of the Holy Spirit. Let us, with the Apostle Peter, profess our faith in Christ, the giver of eternal life, and celebrate our unity as His disciples.

Communion Antiphon: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Parish Priest

Fr. Abraham Augusthy

Parish Secretary: Margaret Liew

St Bernard Primary School:

Principal: Mrs Kelly Bouris

Asst. Principal: Christine Lawrence.

REC: Jessica Muscat

Phone: 9666 4560

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 7:00am and 9:00am

Kid's Church

During Sunday 9.00 AM Mass

Croatian Mass: Sun 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Mon: 9.00 AM

Tuesday: 7:00pm Mass and Novena

Wed, Thu, Fri & Sat: 9.00 AM

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 9:30am - 10:00am

Baptisms:

By appointment on Sun. at 10:15am

Marriage: By appointment

(Six months' notice)

Divine Mercy Prayers &

Benediction: Fridays 6:30pm

Marian Movement of Priests

Cenacle Prayers (Rosary & Act of Consecration)

Thursdays 9:30am to 10:00am

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B



THE MEMORARE OF SAINT BERNARD

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, and sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother, to thee I come, before thee I stand sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate! Despise not my petitions but, in thy mercy, hear and answer me. Amen

Saint Bernard -Pray for us.

Prayer Requests

1. Mass Intentions

2. Sick: John Ross, Michael Spies, Olave Laporte, Georgia Neale, Regina Attalah, Ryan Bacal, Gesalit Cabrera, Felicia Clark, Gabby Custodio, Terry Delaney, Grazia Ferraro, Mark Rodney Javier, Lourdes Infante, Carlos Lobo, Jeanette Magee, Gwen Menzies, Adriano Oliva, Nadia Radmilo, Sasha Rances, Nally Terenal, Noleen Walsh, Diana Wiley, all the sick and suffering.

3. Recently Deceased: Nobel Vaz, Anton Snashel, Teofilo Labao Javier

4. Anniversary: Margaret Greenhalgh, Rita Xuereb, Anthony Xuereb, Anthony Manesh, Giuseppe Trassari, Joseph Chacko, Angela Trassari, Carolina Lenzo, Michael Smyth snr, Eloisa Laurel, Roberto Rances, Roberto Iligant, Ann Grimmant

5. Other: Blago Kraljevic, Margaret & Joseph Fenech, Therese & Alfred Scerri, Isabel Fenech, All Souls in purgatory

**FEAST OF
SAINT
BERNARD**

Sun 25th August 2024

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

First Reading

A reading from the book of Joshua Josh 24:1-2,15-18

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called all the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered. 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:2-3, 16-23. R. v.9

Response: (R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips.
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. (R.)
3. They call and the Lord hears;
And rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R.)
4. Many the trials of the just man
But from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
Not one of his bones shall be broken. (R.)
5. Evil brings death to the wicked;
Those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. (R.)

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies;

for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applied to Christ and the Church.

The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 6:60-69

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life,
The flesh has nothing to offer.'

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.' 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who do not believe him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered. 'Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Social Justice Sunday 25th August 2024

In the 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World", Australia's Bishops scrutinize the signs of our troubled times, observe the violence around us and put our faith and hope in the possibility of peace. Using scripture and the guidance of Pope St John XXIII's *Pacem in Terris* and Pope Francis' *Fratelli Tutti*, we learn that peace is possible if we put our trust in Christ who is the way, the truth and the life and the Prince of Peace. It is from him that we learn about the architecture of peace. From him, we learn a commitment to the culture of encounter, the value of dialogue at all levels and the importance of seeing everyone as our sister, or brother.

Acknowledgement of Country

We respect and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and future. We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on this land and commit to building a brighter future together.

Feast Day Gathering

To celebrate the Feast of Saint Bernard, the patron saint of Botany Parish, there is a BBQ morning tea and social this Sunday 25th August after 9.00am Mass on the school grounds. Please bring a plate of food and join in the celebration. All welcome.

Sacrament of First Eucharist

Year 3 students from St Bernard Primary School will receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 15th September 2024. The students from our parish public schools will receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday 24th November 2024. Kindly keep all the candidates, their parents and teachers in your prayers.

SAINT BERNARD of Clairvaux

St. Bernard was born in a castle in Burgundy, France in 1090. At an early age he was sent to the best school and he studied Theology and Holy Scripture. At the age of twenty two, he entered the Cistercian Order, bringing with him, thirty young men. Soon his superior sent him to start a new Abbey at Clairvaux. They lived a very austere life and spent very much time in prayer. Bernard was a good abbot and a valued guide of souls because of his great wisdom and closeness to God. Soon, not only the monks went to him for guidance but kings, bishops and even the Pope. The Pope asked him to preach a Crusade through France and Germany and Asia. This was very difficult for him because he was not a man of war but of God. He founded more than 150 monasteries before he died in 1153 but today there are Cistercian monasteries all over the world. He is also known for his writings which have earned him the title of "Doctor of the Church". He was devoted to the Blessed Virgin and composed the beautiful prayer, the Memorare.

HISTORY OF ST. BERNARD'S PARISH

The foundation stone of St. Bernard's Church, Botany was laid in 1860. The original site, which was donated by Edward Lord, is on the north side of the millpond on Botany Road. As the site was on the crest of a hill the parish was originally called the church of Mount St. Bernard, Botany Bay. Over the years parts of this large parish have become separate parishes, such as Mascot, Daceyville and Matrville.

Botany Bay Parish was originally part of the parish of St. Benedict's Broadway, and as such was in the care of an Irish priest, Father Corish. Later it was cared for by the Franciscan Fathers from Waterloo. In April 1885, Botany Bay parish was created and placed in the hands of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. Father Hartzler was the first parish priest. The parish school was established by his successor, Father Henri Chetail. In 1907, the parish was handed over to the secular clergy and Father Patrick Dowling from Kilkenny, Ireland, was appointed as the new parish priest. One of Father Dowling's first act was to build a presbytery.

In 1911, the Municipal Council changed its name from North Botany to Mascot and so the parish was renamed St. Bernard's Mascot. Fr Dowling's successor Fr Patrick Walsh, who was also from Ireland, built a new church-school and a convent.

In 1954, it was considered time to divide the sprawling parish into two. The newer one became St. Therese's Mascot and the older one retained the name St. Bernard's Botany. The original parish buildings were purchased and later demolished by the Department of Civil Aviation to allow for the expansion of the airport. Today the airport expressway crosses the original site.

Botany Parish is very proud of its rich history. It still uses chalices that were presented to the parish and the OLSH sisters in 1895 and another chalice that was presented to the parish in 1939. Some of the other artefacts of the parish include a tabernacle, a processional cross and a number of processional candle holders. The striking stained glass behind the altar was donated by Dr John O'Neill. Out the front of the unusually shaped church is the original memorial stone that commemorates "the 50th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the old St Bernard's, September 11th, 1860."

Throughout the years the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart have maintained their involvement in the Botany Parish. Originally they taught the children of the parish about their religion after Sunday Mass. Later they taught the children of the parish school when it was established. The administration of the parish school was the responsibility of the OLSH sisters until 1994 when a lay principal was appointed. Today the sisters continue to help the parish priest with the pastoral care of the parishioners.

PARISH PRIESTS OF SAINT BERNARD

Fr. Everard	Jan 1954 to May 1968
Fr. Moseley	May 1968 to Aug 1968
Fr. G. Solomon	Aug 1968 to March 1976
Fr. Berkery	March 1976 to May 1978
Fr. R. McGuckin	June 1978 to Dec 1978
Fr. W.J. Meacham	March 1979 to Nov 1982
Mons. F. Coorey	Dec 1982 to Aug 1993
Fr. Joseph Aikkaramattam	Sept 1993 to Dec 2009
Fr. Abraham Augusthy	Dec 2009 to

A SNAPSHOT OF ST BERNARD

Catholic Population	5,096
Total Population in Botany	14,854
Total Catholic Families	1,864
Catholic Live alone	366
Catholic born overseas	1496
Baptisms (2023)	51
Holy Communion (2023)	47
Confirmations (2023)	41

Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 28th August at 6.30pm in the presbytery.

Catholic Weekly in the church foyer for \$2 each.

Many Many thanks

Heartfelt thanks to **Lucas and Guerrero Families** for setting everything up and arranging for the Feast Day Agape meal.

Sincere thanks **St Bernard Primary School Community**, especially to Principal Mrs Kelly Bouris, Asst. Principal: Mrs. Christine Lawrence, REC: Ms. Jessica Muscat, Family Educator Katrina Andrew and all the staff and students, for their help and support.

Thanks to parish staff, visitors, and volunteers.

Sincere thanks to every one of you, for your participation, active involvement, commitment and service in the parish.

CWF Aug 2024 Appeal is finalised

A total of \$1468.70 collected, \$908.70 in cash and \$560 in cards. The funds will be remitted to Charitable Works Fund Trust. Tax Receipts for CWF card slip and cheque donations will be issued by CWF Archdiocese of Sydney. All other CWF donations will be issued by the parish Thank you very much for your contributions.

Feast Days of the Week

27th Aug – Saint Monica

28th Aug – Saint Augustine

29th Aug – The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

ROSTERS for Next Week

Sat 31st August - VIGIL SAT 5.30 PM

Readers: Mariela & Rebecca Dever

Acolyte: David Spowart

Sun 1st September - SUNDAY 7.00 AM

Readers: Mele Lusaipau & family

Acolyte: Socorro Lucas

Sun 1st September - SUNDAY 9.00 AM

Readers: Maria & Fabian Heaton

Acolyte: Joseph Manesh P

Counters: Maria Yanto & family

Altar Society: (Group 4) Pearl Ventura, Tess Oliva & Norma Bukalan

Your Donations and Contributions.

Thanks a lot for your donations and contributions to Saint Bernard parish Botany. We are grateful for all your contributions, especially through Parish Planned Giving, weekly envelopes, and debit/credit cards monthly. Your planned giving contributions (Second collection) helps to cover essential expenses such as wages of the staff, parish insurance, cleaning, gas, electricity, water bills, photocopying and bulletin expenses, and other daily maintenance expenses. Your consistent support, no matter how small, makes a significant impact on our parish community. We sincerely appreciate your contributions in the loose collections, tap donations, and responses to various appeals. Thanks also to the visitors for their donations.

If you would like to join the planned giving system, please contact the parish office.

TAP AND GO –Church Donation Point is Available at the Church foyer.

Prayers & Thanks

Thank you to **Neusa Wickremasinghe** for the altar flowers in honor of Shireen Wickremasinghe's birthday. Wishing Shireen a very happy birthday and abundant blessings from God.

Thank you to **Jenny Kraljevic** for the altar flowers in loving memory of her Late husband Blago Kraljevic on his birthday. May perpetual light shine upon him

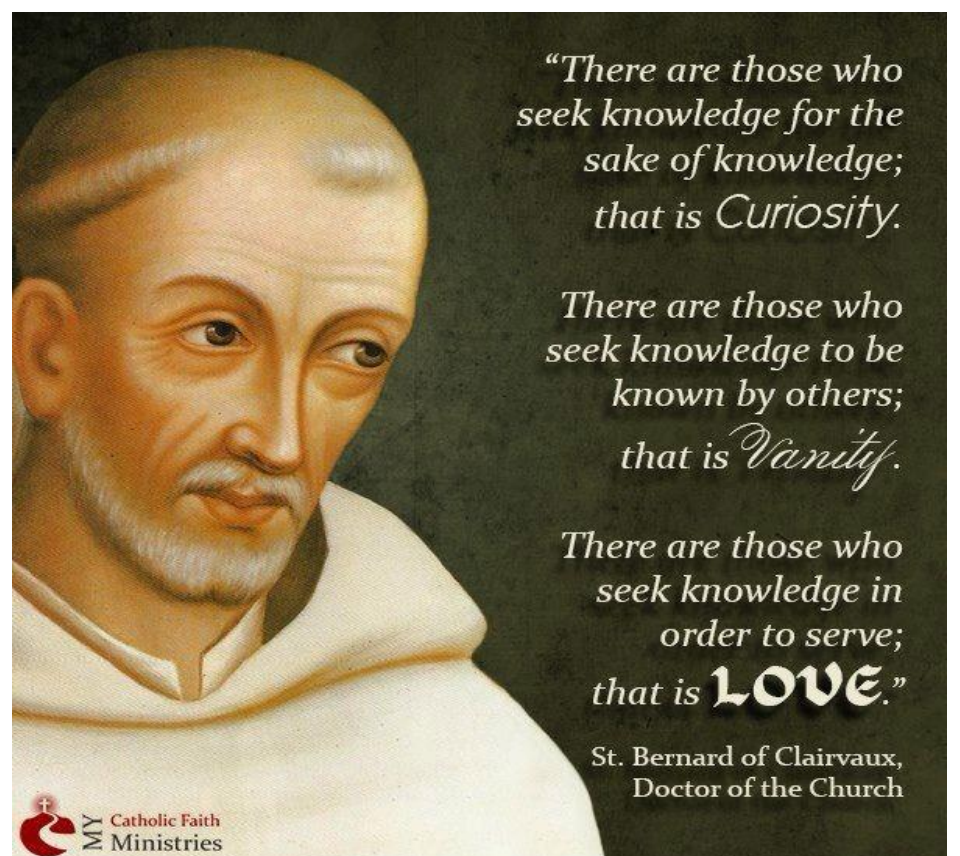
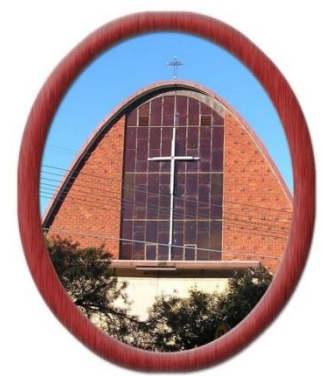
Flowers and Candle offering

The offering form for August 2024 to November 2024 is available in the church foyer. Sponsor flowers and candles on a Sunday to celebrate your special occasion.

St. Bernard's Church Botany



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"There are those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge; that is Curiosity.

There are those who seek knowledge to be known by others; that is Vanity.

There are those who seek knowledge in order to serve; that is LOVE."

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Doctor of the Church