



Regents Park Catholic Parish

Comprising of St Bernardine's Church, St Catherine's Church
and Our Lady of the Assumption Church

22nd March 2020

4th Sunday of Lent

'The Man born blind'

Parish Contacts

25 Vergulde Road, Regents Park

Mon - Fri 8:30am - 2:30pm

Phone: 3884 7600 Fax: 3800 2646

Email: stbernardines@bne.catholic.net.au

Website: www.stbernardinesparish.com.au

Priests of the Parish

Parish Priest— Fr John Conway

Email: conwayj@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Priest—Fr John Hong Nguyen

Email: nguyenj@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary & Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Christy Gracias

Email: stbernardines@bne.catholic.net.au

Coordinator of Lay Ministries

Mrs Carrie McCormack

Email: pastoral.stbern@bne.catholic.net.au

Mobile: 0481 008 317

Finance Officer

Mrs Barbara Malicki

Email: finance.stbern@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Mass Times

Reconciliation

By appointment only.

Saturday

No Mass

Sunday

No Mass

Monday

St Bernardine's Church Mass only

7:00pm

Tuesday

St Catherine's Church Mass only

8:00am

Wednesday

St Bernardine's Church Mass only

9:00am

Thursday

Our Lady of the Assumption Mass only 6:00pm

We the Catholic Communities of Regents Park Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit; commit to building a welcoming, inclusive, faith centred community grounded upon the Gospel values of leadership and service.

Ministry Matters Coronavirus COVID 19 Crisis.

Archbishop Mark in concert with so many of the Australian Catholic Bishops have decided to cancel Weekend Masses at this time across the Archdiocese. In union with the Anglican Dioceses as well, this decision is taken for the health and well-being of our Church Communities. Such a decision, especially at this significant Season of our Year, as we prepare for the Celebrations of the Triduum and the Easter event is unprecedented in the life of our Church, but it is a decision that needs to be taken to ensure that this virus can be contained as best as we are able. While the weekend Masses have been cancelled, there are opportunities to live-stream Weekend Masses so that you can still participate at home as family.

There are also opportunities through the week to participate in a weekday Mass, so long as the numbers attending are under 100. This is a requirement from the Federal Government, and it is imperative that we abide by this decision, again, for the health and well-being of all of us. So please come along if you so wish, but be in mind that 100 is the magic number that we CANNOT go beyond.

There will be information within this Newsletter that can assist you in deciding just what we can do as God's faithful people at this challenging time in the life of our Church in our own faith journey. I am sure that together we can be successful in fighting this terrible disease that has decimated so much of our Society at this time. Businesses are struggling. The entertainment Industry is also facing great financial hardship with so many areas closing due to the virus, and interaction between everyday people is meant to be kept to a minimum. This has not is a challenge confronting us. But together we can win. Together we can endeavour to fight off this deadly virus as we respond to the recommendations that are being provided to us by so many professional people in our lives. As we all now know, Self isolation is the new buzz word and it is perhaps the only way that we can overcome this terrible disease. Lets work together and find a solution to this virus that has touched so many lives so far.

A gentle reminder:

Stockpiling goods from supermarkets is really not necessary as Australia will not run out of products. I was in Woolies on Thursday and there was not one bag of frozen vegetables available. Tinned goods had also been cleared from shelves. Is this really necessary? I am sure that there will be food a-plenty if we all behave normally and rationally. Give others a fair go, especially those who may be challenged by age and disability. Together we can win this battle, but perhaps only together can it be done.

May God be with us all at this time. Fr John

Parish Meetings

All meetings, groups and gatherings are postponed until further notice.

Pastoral Council, and Parish Finance Meetings may meet online to address significant issues that may arise.

Due to Coronavirus the following will affect our parish until further notice:

- All weekend masses are cancelled effective immediately, we have been granted a canon law dispensation to release us from our Sunday Mass obligations
- Cancellation of all Parish gatherings, meetings and groups
- Hospitality after any Masses or meetings is cancelled
- Nursing Homes visits in all forms are cancelled, each Home has new protocols in place, please call them before you visit
- The Sacramental Programmes of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion are on hold until further notice
- RCIA is on hold until further notice
- Baptisms Preparation nights are cancelled for March. April will be confirmed by 20th April. Those who are already booked for Baptism please contact the office to confirm or change the arrangements. If there are any special needs for Baptism, please contact the office via email or telephone

At this stage, 100 parishioners per Mass ONLY and social distancing guidelines must be followed please. We are taking all considerations especially as we plan for our Easter liturgies and we are waiting on daily updates from the Archdiocese as to if and when weekend Masses can resume.

**The office is only accessible by appointment only,
please call, or email to make a time.**

Weekday Mass times for this coming week are: -

- Mon 23rd Mar - St Bernardine's - Regents Park at 7pm
- Tues 24th Mar - St Catherine's - Jimboomba at 8am
- Wed 25th Mar - St Bernardine's - Regents Park at 9am
- Thurs 26th Mar - Our Lady of The Assumption - Park Ridge at 6pm

We also need to state that if you are unwell, we urge you stay home and get well before coming along to these Masses, your health is of highest importance. If you would like to, we will have a collection bowl for your normal offerings. We also understand, your family may need it more at the moment.

Weekday Mass times beyond this are yet to be decided. We will update Facebook, our website and newsletters as we know.

If you would like to be kept in the know, please email the parish office on stbernardines@bne.catholic.net.au

This Sunday's Readings: Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13	St Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
Next Sunday's Readings: Ezekiel 37:12-14	St Paul to the Romans 8:8-11	John 11:1-45

What can continue:

- Quiet **individual** prayer before Mass, please respect and follow social distancing guidelines.
- St Bernardine's Church will be open during school hours (8:30am-2:00pm) for individual prayer and reflection, no group prayer to be done.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available only by appt. Email conwayj@bne.catholic.net.au or Phone 0418 151 295.

How can you help?

We are seeing some wonderful initiatives across the world where people are taking care of each other; we want to allow room for us to extend our Christian love to the community.

- If you are in a situation where you are quarantined, isolated, infirmed or unwell and need assistance, we can do our best to assist you. Please email your request and mobile number to Carrie at pastoral.stbern@bne.catholic.net.au
- If you are in the situation where you can assist those who are quarantined, unwell, informed or isolated, please let us know so can connect you with those in need. Please email how you are able to help with your mobile number to Carrie at pastoral.stbern@bne.catholic.net.au

Available Masses

The Archdiocese is making their weekday and weekend Masses at the Cathedral available online <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast/>

To find weekday Mass across the Archdiocese use this link below.

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/parishes-mass-times/find-mass-or-service/>

Our Parish Mass

Fr John Conway will be videoing our Sunday Parish Mass and it will be made available on Sunday Morning by 9am via Facebook. We are currently sorting the technical stuff out. The link will be active on Sunday all going well and is <https://www.facebook.com/RegentsParkCatholicParish/>

We ask for your prayers, patience and understanding at this time, whilst we all live in this new environment.

Please be in touch with any questions.

St Bernardine's Parish Office

Volunteer Welcome Portal link is <https://welcome.brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

"The Archdiocese of Brisbane and our Community has standards of conduct for employees and volunteers to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children, young people and or vulnerable adults."

My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Cancelation of Parish Activities

To all our wonderful parishioners, as Fr John has indicated, the decision has been made to cancel all Parish Gatherings, Groups and Meetings.

This includes the following groups and any other adhoc gatherings:-

- All Hospitality at all centres
- Legion of Mary
- CLEO
- Rosary gatherings
- St Catherine's Gospel Reflections
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Youth Meetings
- Parish Council
- Light and Presence Prayer Vigil
- ALPHA
- 50's Plus
- Stations of the Cross at all centres
- Craft Group
- Children's Junior Music
- 40th Anniversary and expo planning meeting
- Finance Council

Pray the Rosary



THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

- First Mystery: The Annunciation of the Lord
- Second Mystery: The Visit of the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth
- Third Mystery: The Birth of the Lord
- Fourth Mystery: The Presentation of the Lord
- Fifth Mystery: The Finding of Jesus in the Temple