



Regents Park Catholic Parish

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

Feast of the Ascension

24th May 2020

'Go, make disciples of all the Nations..'

Parish Contacts

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

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Priests of the Parish

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Finance Officer

Mrs Barbara Malicki

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Parish Mass Times

Currently the way to see a Mass
is via our website

www.stbernardinesparish.com.au

From here you can see

[Masses at St Stephen's Cathedral](#)

[Masses with The Pope](#)

[Pastoral Messages](#)

[Where to get help](#)

[Activities for children](#)

[Readings](#)

[Liturgies](#)

[Facebook](#)

We are live streaming via Facebook,
Mass on Wednesday and Sunday.
Please know that Fr John and Fr John
are saying a Mass everyday.

Livestreamed

**Wednesday 9am Mass and
Sunday 9am Mass.**

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

Even in the midst of COVID-19, God continues to call us to mission and service in and for our world. On this Feast of the Ascension, the disciples gathered at the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. It was at this moment that he would commission them. Go, he said to them, make disciples of all the Nations. This has become known as **'The Great Commission.'** It was that moment when Jesus sent his disciples out on their own ministry into the world as he would return to the Father.

This Great Commission, spoken by Jesus so long ago to his gathering of disciples, is spoken also to us the disciples who continue to stay faithful to our God even today. Each of us, by virtue of our faith has also been commissioned. "Go, make and disciples." On this Feast of the Ascension Jesus empowers us to go and make a difference by our lives. We are called!

We are empowered and we will receive the power of the Spirit of God that can enable us to make a difference in the world. COVID-19 may be a small hindrance to our ministry at this time, but we are still called in this somewhat challenging time, to live what we believe and to make disciples by our lives.

'This Great Commission' to go and make disciples is the challenge that lies before us, and it is only by accepting the challenge of this Commission that Jesus gives to you and to me, that we can be faithful to God's call in our lives. *Like the man with the wheelbarrow, its all ahead of us*, and it is up to us to choose to act.

LIVE-STREAM Masses. As you are aware, our parish provides a Live-stream mass every Wednesday and Sunday at 9:00am. I do invite you to tap into this event to share and celebrate as much as we are able together.

NEWSLETTER ACCESS. There may also be parishioners that you know who cannot access the internet and so do not receive the parish newsletter. Could I ask you to please print off a copy of the newsletter and get it to our local parishioners who may be locked into their own homes, and cannot access parish news. That would be most helpful.

May God bless us all!! Fr John

Dear Parishioners,

We celebrate the Ascension this Sunday. The First Reading and the Gospel give us an image of Jesus ascending into heaven. However, he promised to the disciples that he was with them all the time. Therefore, Ascension opens to us a reality that Jesus never leaves us 'orphaned'. In the book, *Break Open The Word*, we can read: *"The Ascension is not about Jesus going up into outer space. The ascension is not an event, but a celebration of the passing of the baton from Jesus to us. The risen Lord is now present in his people."*

Journeying in life, we are greatly consoled and assured with the presence of the risen Lord. He is with us as he promised: *"I am with you always, yes, to the end of time."* We can experience his presence throughout our life, especially through the Eucharist we celebrate. Even in this challenging time of the Pandemic when we do not have chance to go to church, at any Eucharist, live-streamed or private, Jesus is fully present with us no matter where we are to participate into the Eucharistic celebration.

We are invited to be open to Jesus so that he can enter into our lives and live in our heart, our mind, our words, our actions, our behaviour. We can also experience the presence of Jesus through the others by the way they are, live and work. As we begin a new week this Sunday, we give thanks to God for the volunteers, especially those working at the frontline helping the people affected (in one way or another) from the Covid-19. We may feel a call to reach out to the others and do something meaningful according to our ability and capacity. The Risen Lord is always with us to inspire and to help us in our mission of making known to the others the reality of God's Kingdom of love, peace and justice... right in the corner of the world called the Parish of Regents Park. The commissioning words of Jesus still echoes in us: *"Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit..."*

May God bless us all!!

John Hong.

RCIA Candidates

As you all know, we have four candidates journeying through the RCIA program. Please celebrate with prayer, that last week, they were able to participate in Reconciliation preparing them for the next stage of their journey, which they hope to be able to partake very soon. Please hold them in your hearts and prayers as they continue on their journey to become Catholics.

Rosary

Please join Fr John and Carrie, who will live stream Rosary 11:30am on Saturday



Parish App

Are you wanting to donate to the parish during this time? Click here to go to the link on our website.

Please note it is not compulsory but it is available if you and your family want to access it. There are some of you already that have accessed the app and made donations. Thank you.



Rite of Reconciliation

Please know in this difficult time, if you would like to seek Reconciliation, please email the parish office or either Fr John Conway or Fr John Hong, and they can make an appointment for you to come for Reconciliation

Restrictions Easing

So, some good news, the government is easing restrictions. So is the church, but it is changing so fast, we can only plan about 4 weeks out. There are some significant hurdles regarding cleaning and seating capacity.

Reconciliation available now by appointment.

Stage 1 - For our parish this is what it looks until June 11:-

- Live streaming at St Bernardine's on Wednesday 9am and Sunday 9am
- Private Prayer available at St Bernardine's by contacting the office for access
- St Catherine's not open for either Mass or Private Prayer
- Our Lady of Assumption not open for either Mass or Private Prayer

Stage 2- From June 12—July 9 this is the tentative plan:-

- Live streaming at St Bernardine's
- Private Prayer available at St Bernardine's by contacting the office for access
- St Bernardine's plan for weekend Mass only 20 people by roster or ballot
- St Catherine's plan to reopen for a Mass only 20 people by roster or ballot
- Our Lady of Assumption plan to reopen for a Mass only 20 people by roster or ballot

Stage 3—From July 10—to far ahead to confirm.

As you can imagine, there is a lot to work through, and it may change anytime going forward. We may even have to hold at Stage 1 if directives change.

More detail will follow next week in relation to the roster or ballot system to attend Mass.

Children's Sacramental Journey 2020

Hi Parents, we have more guidelines, we are just confirming how to implement them in our parish. We will update you as soon as we are able.

Our Patron—St Bernardine of Siena

St Bernardine was born to a noble family near Siena, Italy on September 8th, 1380. As a young man he volunteered to care for the sick when an outbreak of the plague struck Siena during the 1400's. He worked tirelessly throughout the plague and only stopped when he became ill himself. He entered the Franciscan Order in 1402 and was ordained two years later.



St Bernardine was responsible for a renewal of faith amongst all classes of people, for making peace amongst warring factions, and for helping the poor organise "credit unions" to help themselves.

He was an eloquent and captivating speaker, he preached all over Italy and became known as one of the best preachers of his time. At the heart of his preaching was Jesus and he designed a symbol for the name of Jesus on a banner with the Greek letters "IHS" at the centre, surrounded by a blazing sun. Have you noticed it, on the way into St Bernardine's Church at Regents Park?

St Bernardine devoted his entire life to spreading the word. He died on May 20th, 1444 and was canonized six years after his death on May 24th, 1450.

When we began our life as a new parish on 8th September, 1980 we chose St Bernardine as our patron.

Prayer to St Bernardine

Saint Bernardine of Siena, words were very important to you.
You spent most of your life speaking the golden words of Jesus' mercy and his Holy Name.
And you abhorred words that were shameful.
Pray for us that we may always choose to speak Jesus' name with reverence
and choose words of love over words of shame.

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Elsie: 0410 061 787

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Email Fill in a [Professional Standards disclosure form](#) (accessed via our website psqld.catholic.net.au) and email it to psqld@catholic.net.au

Post Fill in a [Professional Standards disclosure form](#) and post it to us at: PO Box 3264, Brisbane Qld 4001

Phone 1800 337 928 OR (07) 3324 3070
Office hours 9.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday (excepting public holidays)

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For enquiries contact Barbara

Ph: 3884 7600

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

"Disclaimer: Photos and videos may be recorded at various parish community events and used in parish publications or social media. Please contact the parish office if you do not wish your image to be included."

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