



Regents Park Catholic Parish

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

Baptism of the Lord 12th January 2020

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

Mobile: 0423 275 975

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

Monday

St Paul de Chartres (Chapel) 9:00am

Tuesday

St Catherine's 8:00am

St Paul de Chartres (Chapel) 9:00am

Wednesday

St Paul de Chartres (Chapel) 8:00am

St Bernardine's Church 9:00am

Thursday

St Paul de Chartres (Chapel) 9:00am

Friday

St Paul de Chartres (Hall) 9:00am

Saturday

St Paul de Chartres (Hall) 4:00pm

St Bernardine's Mass 6:00pm

Sunday

Our Lady of Assumption Mass 7:30am

St Bernardine's Mass 9:00am

St Catherine's Mass 5:30pm

Youth Events

Youth Mass 2nd Sat of the Month
St Bernardine's 6:00pm

Youth Night 3rd Fri of the Month 6:00pm
Next Event is 17th January at 6:00pm at Parish
Patio. All are welcome.

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

The Office is Open!!

2020—NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNINGS.

Well, it is great to have Fr John Hong Nguyen amongst us at this time and part of his amazing story appears inside our newsletter this weekend. With a second Fr John active within the parish, it certainly eases the great burden of the pastoral commitment that I have faced over these past six months, since Fr Jacob left us to taste of the wonder of Burleigh Heads Parish and the beach.

But now a new year has dawned, and as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord this weekend, it is an opportunity once again for us to reflect upon our own call to mission and ministry for the Kingdom of our God. God has gifted us all.

(Full stop).

God has gifted us all and it is how we respond to that great gift given to us so freely, that we can choose to be a part of this unfolding Kingdom in our world.

It begins with us! It begins with us as we say YES to that call and invitation from our God to make disciples as we set out on our own pilgrimage in the world. But what do you do? The choice is so often up to each of us to see for ourselves the gifts that we hold and how best to use them so that God's Kingdom can continue to grow.

As our year continues to unfold there will be opportunities for everyone to choose to use! Parish ministries will need to be filled, and the successful nominees can only come for the body of our Churches. **THAT'S YOUSE!! What will you be, what will you do?** Choose a ministry in the service of our God and of our Church. **Watch this space!!**

God bless, Fr John

PS Have you met Fr John Hong Nguyen yet? Stop and say hello, make him feel welcome and at home with us.

PPS We also welcome back Barbara, Carrie and Christy from their Christmas holidays.

Hymns for the Week

Gathering Hymn:	Come to the Water	AOV1-074
Psalm Response:	The Lord will bless his people with peace.	
Offertory Hymn:	God Has Chosen Me	GA447
Communion Hymn:	Open My Eyes	AOV1-166
Recessional Hymn:	Joy to the World	GA 295

STATEMENT FROM CONFERENCE PRESIDENT ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE

Australia is facing an unprecedented calamity as fire engulfs the land in many places. We have all seen the apocalyptic images, even if we are not in the areas most affected. Lives have been lost, homes and towns have been destroyed, smoke has shrouded large swathes of our country.

And there is no end in sight to the horror which confronts us with our powerlessness before the devastating force of nature.

The efforts of firefighters have been heroic. The resilience of the communities affected has been extraordinary. This has been Australia at its best, and we all stand with those who have been most stricken and with those who are putting their lives on the line to fight the fires.

But we need more than words. Expressions of solidarity are important, but they are not enough. The bishops are aware of the huge amount being done around the nation, led by governments and first responders. While the bishops typically respond to challenges at a parish or diocesan level, the scale of this crisis requires a national response from the whole Church to complement and coordinate what is happening locally. From the Bishops Conference, that national response includes:

- ◆ The facilitation of a national network connecting people affected by the bushfires with people who can help with tasks such as preparing meals, clearing properties, rebuilding communities, as well as pastoral and counselling support.
- ◆ The distribution of special prayers and other resources for use in parishes, families and other Catholic communities.
- ◆ Collaboration with key national agencies like Catholic Health Australia, Catholic Social Services Australia, the National Catholic Education Commission and the St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) to ensure as effective a response as possible from the wider Catholic community.
- ◆ Cooperating with Catholic Religious Australia and religious institutes and their ministries.
- ◆ Parishes across the country taking up a special collection at Masses on the Australia Day weekend, with all funds to be donated to Vinnies' bushfire appeal.

Our experts on the ground – from agencies like Vinnies, CatholicCare and CentaCare, in parishes and other Catholic communities, including Catholic hospitals and aged care providers – know this will be a long-term process to help people and whole towns rebuild. With broad and deep roots across the nation, the Church stands ready to walk alongside people throughout their journey of recovery.

Facing this exceptional crisis, we renew our call for insistent prayer for those stricken by drought and fire, for those who have lost their lives in the fires and their families, for rain to quench the parched land and extinguish the fires, and for urgent action to care for our common home in order to prevent such calamities in the future. A genuinely Catholic response to a crisis of this magnitude must draw strength from prayer which inspires concrete and compassionate action. January 7, 2020

Baptism Preparation Session

Our next Baptism Preparation Session will be held on Monday 20th January at 7:00pm at St Bernardine's Church. Please RSVP to the office email.
Stbernardines@bne.catholic.net.au

'The Great Commission'

Go make disciples, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Regents Park Pilgrimage to the *Holy Land*

It is happening on October 3rd in 2020. So it is not even twelve months before we set out to uncover the wonder of the Land that Jesus called home. It is 11 Nights/13 days In the Holy land. We will be experiencing the following places: Dead Sea and then to Bethlehem. Nazareth and Cana and the Sea of Galilee (where much of Jesus ministry took place.) The climb up Mt Tabor and Mt Carmel. Then to Haifa and to Jericho, where Zacchaeus climbed the sycamore tree to see Jesus, and finally to Jerusalem where Jesus life came to an end and where the Church under the Apostles would begin. The cost of the journey is around \$6790 (twin share). Come and see! Come and see what we have heard about through the Scriptures. Let the Holy land come to life for you on this journey of a life time. Come and see. Brochures available from the Parish office.

This Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Next week's Readings: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Apostles 10:34-38
St Paul to Corinthians 1:1-3

Matthew 3:13-17
John 1:29-34

Dear Parishioners,

Up till now, I have been in the Parish for more than a week. Everything is new for me. The very first thing I explore is that we have a great Parish Priest. I am appointed as an assistant Priest. May I take this opportunity to share briefly about myself.

My name is John Hong Nguyen as you know. I came from the Parish of Ipswich Catholic Community. I am originally from Vietnam. I came to Australia as a refugee on 11 September 1991, after more than 3 years in both Detention Camps and Refugee Camps in both Hong Kong and The Philippines. In Australia, I stayed in Sydney for two years, then in Perth for one year and Melbourne for two years. Since 1998, I have been in Brisbane Archdiocese firstly as a Seminarian. I was ordained on 5 July 2002 and have been appointed to the Parishes of Gympie, Beenleigh, Grovely, Kingaroy and Nanango, and Ipswich Catholic Community.

I would love to share if anyone in the Parish is wanting to know more about my life. I consider that every bit of my life is a grace and blessing from God, from the time in Vietnam to Hong Kong, to the Philippines, and now in Australia. It is my honour to journey with you in faith, hope and love during my appointment here. Being conscious of my limited and humble ability, and my weaknesses, I would dare to ask for your prayer. I am very grateful for your warm welcome, acceptance, encouragement and support shown to me in one way or another.

"This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him," the word God said about Jesus at his baptism. May we journey our Ordinary Time in love, peace, joy and hope. May God bless us all!!

Fr John Hong Nguyen



Next Youth Event: Youth Night

January 17th 2020 Parish Centre @ 6PM

NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES—ALL MASSES

Counters

We are seeking interest from parishioners who are willing to assist with the counting of collections from weekend Masses. Counting occurs each Monday morning in the Parish. We need regular counters and those who can be on standby. We need your help please! Tea and coffee provided!!

Hospitality

Are you able to help once a month with hospitality at our churches? Hospitality and welcoming, are opportunities to connect with people, to say hello, give a smile, make a great cuppa!! Even share the cake!!

Choirs

Are you able to come join a choir and sing once or twice a month? You might even be in a choir and want to sing another week.

Cleaners

Help needed. As we start the year, our rosters change as does people's availability. Two of our cleaning teams at St Bernardines, after a very long time helping, are stepping down from this ministry.
Are you able to help please?

Volunteers Needed!



Mass Coordinators

Can you be the person, coordinating the start of Mass? Making sure everything is set up, that everyone is present who helps?

Computer Operators

Are you interested in doing some computer related work? We are asking parishioners to assist with the PowerPoint presentations for all Masses in our communities. This includes weekend Masses, occasional weekday liturgies, funerals and other liturgies we celebrate during the year.

Piety Stall Sales

Can you help? Holding key for small sales before or after Mass? We will handle purchases and banking etc, just need someone to open up when asked for someone to purchase something.

More information..?

Please talk to either Fr John, your Mass Coordinator or Christy for details. Or feel free to ring the office on 38847600.

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)

Elsie's Sewing, Clothing Alterations & Embroidery

2 Colisa Crescent, Regents Park

We do all clothing alterations including formal & wedding dresses, men's suits, replace zippers, etc. We have also purchased the embroidery business from Sal's Embroidery.

All former and new clients welcome.

Contact Ph: 3802 8707

Elsie: 0410 061 787

John: 0438 271 249



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HOME DELIVERY

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