



ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS

Traces of the observance of a feast in honour of All Saints can be found in the East as early as the fourth century. At Rome in the seventh century a commemoration was observed on May 13, the date of the dedication of the Pantheon for Christian use. The following century saw the date changed to November 1 and it has remained the same ever since.

Many people know the Pantheon in Rome. It was built by Marcus Agrippa as a temple for all the gods. The Greek, Πάνθεον, (pan theos) means 'every god'. This magnificent building, lit only by that hole in the roof, (the oculus is over eight metres wide), was given to Pope Boniface IV by the Emperor Phocas in 609. It's consecration as a church meant that the Pantheon was saved from demolition, unlike so many other buildings in Rome. Although Urban VIII, from the famous Barberini family, (that the Italians like to say was a Barbarian), tore away the bronze ceiling in the portico. The Catholic version of this story is that the bronze was reused by Bernini to make the baldachino over the high altar of St Peter's. The real story seems to be that the bronze was used to make cannon balls. Having said that, a temple dedicated to all the gods, leading to a consecrated Christian church dedicated to those who have suffered for the Faith, continuing on to a feast dedicated to all the saints, is a seamless transition from the old Roman religion to our very Catholic theology of the Communion of Saints. The overriding theological foundation for the

feast of All Saints is that of the unity of the Church on earth with the communion of the saints and their intercession for the pilgrim Church here on earth. Monday's feast of All Souls' parallels this sense of union with those who have gone before us.

You will notice the prayers set down for today have that Catholic concept of "togetherness", or mutual benefit: "May their prayers, (that is the prayers of the holy men and women of every time and place), bring us your forgiveness and love". In the Prayer over the Gifts we pray, "May we always be aware of their concern to help and save us". The Preface is even more expressive of our links with those who have gone before us, "Around your throne the saints, our brothers and sisters...."

The theme is continued into Monday when, on the Feast of All Souls, we pray for those who have gone before us with the expectation that God will hear our prayers and move them into his presence. For

instance, the Prayer over the Gifts prays, "Accept these gifts and receive our brothers and sisters into the glory of your Son". In the Prayer After Communion, it is expressed in this way, "...bring the departed faithful to the peace of your eternal home." Expressions such as, "Since our departed brothers and sisters believed in the mystery of our resurrection let them share the joys and blessings of the life to come" and again, "In your loving mercy grant them pardon and peace". On the Feast of All Saints we are asking for help for ourselves. On the Feast of All Souls we ask help



Inside Rome's main cemetery next to San Lorenzo Outside the Walls. Catholics have always had great respect for the dead and have, from the earliest times, prayed for the dead.

from God for others.

The two feasts compliment each other. In the Third Mass for All Souls, there is a certain bluntness - at the eleventh hour - (the last of the three masses), for it says, "May our sacrifice bring peace and forgiveness to our brothers and sisters who have died". As the introduction to the altar missal puts it, "The Church offers the Eucharistic Sacrifice of Christ's Passover for the dead so that, since all the members of Christ's body are in communion with each other, the petition for spiritual help on behalf of some may bring comforting hope to others."

On All Souls Day we will have three masses in the parish. To the usual 6.45 am Mass will be added a 9.15 am Mass and there will be a third Mass at 7.30 pm at night. This should give people who want to attend Mass, ample opportunity to pray for the departed on Monday.

During November you will notice the Remembrance Book on the sanctuary near the Paschal Candle. The Easter Candle is lit with great solemnity to start the Holy Saturday ceremonies. It is a powerful symbol that proclaims that Christ is not dead, but is alive. It speaks of Resurrection. The Remembrance Book is placed next to this candle to symbolise that our prayers for those whose names are inscribed in the Book are prayed for in the hope that they share in Christ's resurrection. To have names inscribed in the Book, write the names on one of the envelopes placed on the seats today and then hand the envelope to one of the priests or place the envelope on the collection plate during the month of November.

In the narthex of the church is a memorial where parishioners are invited to place some symbol of a loved one who has died. This can be a death card or a photo. Please put your name on the back of the photo so that it can be returned to you at the end of November. Photos or other symbols can be added all through November.

The Preface for the Dead prays, "Lord, for your faithful people life is changed, not ended. When the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death we gain an everlasting dwelling place in heaven." This is our Catholic understanding of death and a reason why we pray for the dead.

Father John.

ATTENTION LECTORS: If you are a Lector at the Vigil, 7.30am, 9.00am or 10.30am Masses and are unable to continue in this ministry, please inform the Parish Office a.s.a.p. as new rosters are being prepared.

LITURGY CORNER

The Beatitudes (Mt 5:1-12) outline the desired attitudes and actions of the people of God which the great saints of Christianity have embodied in their attitudes and actions. Today when we honour the saints - holy women and men who have left a legacy of witness to Christ, we are effectively praising the grace of God which has triumphed in their lives. The saints challenge the Christian community to live the commands of Jesus: love God, love one's neighbour and love one's self, intentionally with courage and conviction. The Beatitudes offer guidelines, so we may well ask, "Am I gentle, merciful and a peacemaker (etc)?"

The Summit, adapted.



Today's Readings

First Reading: Revelations 7:2-4,9-14. John sees a huge number of saints who have suffered persecution but now enjoy victory in heaven.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3. We are told that in the end we shall be like God because we will see him as he really is.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12. In the Beatitudes Jesus tells us what kind of people will enter into his kingdom.

Next week: 32nd Week in Ordinary Time - Year B
1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

Feast Days this Week

All Souls' Day - Monday, 1 November

St Charles Borromeo - Wednesday, 4 November

HOLY HOUR WITH BENEDICTION this Thursday from 8.00 to 9.00pm including Rosary, prayers, hymns & scripture reading. All welcome!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION this Friday following 6.45am Mass until 9.15 and following 9.15 Mass until 11.45am.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK will take place this Friday, November 6 at 12 noon followed by a light lunch in the Marian Centre. All welcome. If you can help with transport (drivers needed) or by providing sandwiches, it would be greatly appreciated. Call Marion Heron on 9659 9385.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP: You are invited to join in and listen, reflect and discuss the Scripture readings for the coming ADVENT season, meeting on Wednesday mornings at 10am until 11:30am for 4 weeks, starting from November 4 in the Marian Centre. Please ring the parish office if you are wanting to participate, so books can be ordered.

Prayer for the *Year of the Priest, 2009 - 2010*

Almighty God,
You have gifted to your church priests
to model the life of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.
May they be filled with the Holy Spirit
as they pastor your flock. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOVEMBER MASSES

November is a traditional time to remember those who have died. In this Parish there will be a Book of Remembrance on the sanctuary near the paschal candle. Those who wish to have their loved ones remembered are asked to include the names on the special November Mass offerings envelopes, and the Parish will add their names to the book. Only the names of recently deceased and anniversaries will be noted in the bulletin. Regarding the offerings amount, a decision by the Australian Bishops' Conference has noted that November Mass offerings are \$20 per Mass. However, St Bernadette's Parish will always continue to offer masses for the intentions of its parishioners, irrespective of the amount offered.

Parishioners are also invited to place a photo of any recently deceased parishioner or relative on a board which will be available in the Church foyer. Please place the name of the deceased person on the back of the photo together with details of the sender's name, address and phone number in case the photo is left behind or lost.

**MASSES FOR ALL SOULS' DAY
MONDAY, NOV 2
6.45am; 9.15am; 7.30pm**

LIFE BEGINS AT 50: Walk from Dover Heights to the Gap on Sunday 8 November. For further details ring Howard 98998983.

CASTLE HILL CEMETERY MASS: An All Souls' Day Mass will be celebrated at Castle Hill Cemetery next Saturday 7 November at 10.30am. There is plenty of parking in the grounds.

ST BERNADETTE'S CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP invites you to *An Introduction to Christian Meditation* and afternoon tea on Saturday 14 November from 1.30 to 4.00pm in the Marian Centre. RSVP Marilou Sandejas 9680 4531 or Lesley Maker 9873 1321.

EVER THOUGHT OF BEING AN ALTAR SERVER? It takes a training course and some commitment to keep to a mass roster. If you are interested, please see one of the priests after Mass for an application form. Training sessions commence on Saturday afternoons starting Saturday November 7.

HELPERS NEEDED in the parish hall on Wednesday, November 11 at 7.30pm to prepare planned giving envelopes for distribution.

ANNUAL MASS FOR DECEASED PRIESTS will be held on Wednesday 11 November in the Mary, Mother of Mercy Crematorium Chapel at Rookwood Cemetery.

COME - SEE ... 21 November 2009

Topic: The Gift of Advent
Time: 12 noon. BYO lunch, then 1 to 4.45pm
Place: Marymount, 34 David Rd, Castle Hill
Cost: \$5.00
RSVP: 17 November to the parish office.

Sr Judy



Celebrating 10 Years at St Bernadette's.

Youth & Young Adults Ministry

LIFE Nights presents (for Grades 8 to 12 and bring a friend.)

Beach day - 14th November



10:00 at the church for car pooling to Collaroy beach & back at the church by 4:30. RSVP to ym@stbernadette.org.au by 12th Nov.

Bring packed lunch or money for lunch and swim gear. If you are under 18yrs you must bring a note from parents permitting you to be driven by a leader of the parish.

Into LIFE is this Monday 7 - 8.30pm in the parish hall. Bring \$2 donation for food & drink. All in Years 6 - 8 are welcome to attend.

Point to Ponder: Matthew 5:1-12 "True Happiness"
- What do I think true happiness is?

Pray For:

We thank God for helping all those who have made it through their exams and assignments and still pray for those still working away. May all of the time spent preparing and studying be blessed with good results.

Need some inspiration or some faith facts? This fantastic web site is for you - www.lifeteen.com.

St Bernadette's Primary School Fun Fair

357 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill

This Friday 6 November 2009

**Great Rides, Reptile Show, Dance Performances,
Showbags, Plants, Great Food
including Italian, Lebanese, Sausage
Sizzle, Cakes, Cappuccinos, Gelato and
much much more!**

Time: 3pm - 8.30pm



BOOKSHOP NEWS The 2009 Columban Calendar is available at the Bookshop for only \$7.00. Buy one of the best religious calendars in the world and you will be helping our missionaries at the same time.

CHAT & CRAFT GROUP meets every second and fourth Friday in the Marian Centre from 10am for conversation, craft and companionship. BYO lunch. Contact Ellen Wallace - 9634 7276 for details.

ST MONICA'S REUNION LUNCH: Past mothers, teachers and friends of St Monica's School North Parramatta are invited to a luncheon at the Auditorium of Northmead Bowling Club, Windsor Rd, Northmead on Saturday 7 November at 11:30am. Please contact Margaret Irving 8882 9115 or 0421 071 939 for more info or to RSVP (by 2 Nov).

LIFELINE BOOK FAIR at the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground on the weekend of 14/15 November from 9am to 5pm. Over 40,000 books, CDs & DVDs at reasonable prices.

St Bernadette's Parish Community
Parish House, 367 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, NSW 2154

Telephone 9634 2622 Fax 9899 3511 Email: admin@stbernadette.org.au
 Web page: http://www.stbernadette.org.au

Parish Staff

Fr John Boyle, Parish Priest
 Fr Eugene Szondi, Assistant Priest
 Fr Sunny Michael, ms, Assistant Priest
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate
 Mrs Alice Bradshaw, Sacramental Co-ordinator
 Mr Luke Hackett, Pastoral Associate (Youth)
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 Mr Michael Watson, Maintenance Co-ordinator
 Mr Darren Edwards, Maintenance

Mass Times for this Week

Sunday Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.30am &
 6pm Parish LIFE TEEN Youth Mass

Weekdays Mon 6.45am, 9.15am, 7.30pm
 Tue 6.45 am,
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15am
 First Fri 6.45am, 9.15am, 12 Noon
 Sat 8.00am

Mass on Public Holidays at 8.00am

Reconciliation Sat 8.30am-9.00am; 4.30pm-5.30pm

Baptisms and Marriages: By appointment only. Contact the Parish House. Please note the Church law: Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptised in the first few weeks. As soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it. [Can. 867 §1]

St Bernadette's Parish School: Mr Paul Colyer, Principal 9634 2898

Please pray for Darel Mullen and Florence Daley who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Emilio Zadro, Henry Linden Cromack (Nov 7), Aaron O'Sullivan (Oct 29), Aubrey George Rigozzi (Nov 2) and Rosario Roco (Nov 2).

Prayers for the Sick: Abel De Guzman.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – October 31 & November 1

ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
VIGIL Michael Lopez S1	Vince Connelly Ray Scully Jessica Fearnside	Carole-Ann Lunn, Annarita Mezger, Maureen & Ray Scully, Sabrina Lobo, Connie Tierney, Helen Wintle, Ros Knezevic, Joe Zammit
7.30AM Joe Lorenzo S2	Tony Falzon Patricia Bright John O'Dea	John O'Dea, Annemarie & Daryl Hill, Jennifer Wakeling, Matthew Troy, Fran Mulcahy
9.00AM John Maker S3	Trevor O'Shea Brian Blacklock Joanne O'Shea	David/Bettina Green, Sally Healey, John & Lois Donnelly, Aida Pereira, Von & Mike Lulan, Brian & Katrina Fitzalan
10.30AM Stephen MacMahon S4	Tony Smith Philip Golanco Trinity Abbertson-Woo	Buds Custodia, Campion, Rani & Cherani Fernando, Kerry Myers, Natalie Parmenter, Sandra & Johan Nelis, Rosary Roco

6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - November 1

Adult Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Musos
Julia Calixto Michael Smith	Alfonso Aguilera Belinda Lee Bill Clasquin Brenda Clasquin Julie Ferry	Bass Erich Gracias Flor Piano Alice Bradshaw Guitar Daniel Ang Horns/Strings/ Winds
Lectors Gillian Pak Leanne Pak Mitchell Waters	Marc Clasquin Maria Aguilera Tina Muscat Tony Muscat Vanessa Muscat	Singers Alison Wong Annabel Irawan Monique O'Callaghan Sara Ang Veronica Sahabu Adam Chioatto Bec Burrowes
Altar Servers S5	Projectionist Matt Ashton	
Gift Preparation Caitlin Chaney	Ushers Alfonso Aguilera Glen Ferry	Welcomers Darren Edwards Monica O'Callaghan

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Pauline Andrew Rhonda Loftus	CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Maria Mochnik, Kathy Habek, Adelina & Ronald Tabila, Caroline Irawan	COUNTING (2nd Collection) John Loftus, Mila Mina, Joe Busittil, Joseph Collorafi
FLOWER ROSTER Olivia Cheng	COUNTING (1st Collection) Sandra Watson Denise Hicks	BOOKSHOP Paula Boyd / Heather Woods / Jane Beard / Crystal Good / Giuli & Serge Dogulin