



The Massabielle

The Weekly Newsletter of St Bernadette's
Parish Community, Castle Hill, NSW

FEBRUARY 20 & 21, 2010 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C

Issue Number 349

WAITING FOR THE TRAIN

Newspapers, fearful of declining readership have reinvented themselves. They no longer just report news, or report on the news, but have become the catalyst for change and now fight for causes.

Our friends at the *Sydney Morning Herald* have a new cause, one that is close to the heart of many of our parishioners.

It was revealed in last Saturday's *Herald*, that journalists are backing an inquiry headed by the state's former rail and roads boss, Ron Christie, who is suggesting a heavy rail link to the Hills. Many of our parishioners spend too much time away from their families in getting to and from work at North Ryde, Mascot and the City. This is such an issue for some families that parishioners have moved out of the parish to be closer to public transport routes.

There is a cynical attitude amongst parishioners because the government has pledged to build public transport, but in 15 years, 13 major projects have been scrapped. "The government has a policy of announcing and then cancelling, curtailing or deferring projects". The *Herald* suggests that an independent board should take control of the state's transport needs as recommended by Ron Christie. "High-quality public transport must now be the priority for scarce financial resources", Mr Christie said.

The campaign by the *Herald* must be working because Monday's paper reported that the Premier had told the treasury and transport department to study the recommendations of the independent inquiry into Sydney's public transport.

There is another aspect to this news that should not escape parishioners. A railway station proposed for Arthur Whiting Park would put pressure on our parish car park. Castle Towers would put a three-hour-free limit on its car park, so commuters would look for alternative parking. The church property is the next closest, so the parish would need to address this issue of commuter-parking in the parish car park.

The issue was raised at the last Parish Finance Committee meeting, and, on Thursday, at the Parish Pastoral Council. Even though the *Christie Report's* time frame of a railway station at Castle Hill by 2015 might be out by fifty years, it is my belief that the railway will come to Castle Hill. The parish should be ready when it comes.

Consequently, the parish, through a memorandum of understanding, will work with the parish primary school, through the Catholic Education Office, to relocate the classrooms at the back of the present parish office. This would comply with the parish's master plan so that the school/parish would have access to a wide corridor from Old Northern Road to Brisbane Road with a view to one day building an adequate multi-story car park to accommodate parking for this still-growing parish.

The safety of school children is paramount and the present traffic management can be greatly enhanced with an improved kiss-and-drop zone on

the parish property.

And while we await the arrival of the train, there are some improvements that could be made to the present public transport system.

I went by bus into the City for a funeral last



Geraldine Doogue, the ABC TV and ABC radio presenter, joined parishioners and visitors in the parish hall Friday night for a conversation on *Spirituality—Making Connection in our World* as part of the Catalyst for Renewal outreach in the Hills.

week. Having sat many times on the M2 in peak-hour traffic and not moving, I thought it would be fun to zoom along in the bus lane at 80km an hour. Not so. The bus hurtles along sometimes at 100km with a solid concrete barrier on the right and an endless line of frustrated motorists only a metre away on the left. It would only take one aggravated motorist, late for an appointment, to move into the bus lane, for disaster to occur. It was like being on a Luna Park ride but more scary because the danger was real.

Yesterday's practice of paying the bus driver along the route should be scrapped in the name of efficiency. How long does it take to accept money from a passenger, give change and issue a receipt?

Why not have a one-zone fare? Why should Hills people pay more to get to the City than someone living in Stanmore? Because the bus uses more diesel? Because people on longer journeys wear out the industrial seat padding more than people on shorter journeys? Or bored teens have longer time to vandalise the windows? This is such old-fashioned thinking!

If the bus moguls insist on multi-zones, then commuters should push for a system like the London Oyster. The Oyster is a pre-paid card where passengers place their card on a yellow card reader when entering the bus or railway station. The Oyster is an integrated system which can be used on all forms of public transport - on trains, busses and trams. (I suppose the fact that it is an integrated system means it could never work in Sydney.)

Nevertheless, for a faster system, we should push for bus tickets to be purchased at outlets like newsagents and cancelled at a date-stamp machine when entering the bus. Then passengers could enter the bus through any of the three doors that open at every stop. Policing the honour system would always be an issue. But then to imply that Hills people could conceivably be dishonest is a sin in itself.

If we are fair-dinkum about public transport, let's discriminate in favour of bus commuters by charging only a nominal bus fee, or better still, encourage usage by not charging a fee at all.

I mention these matters because the Catholic Church has a view on family life. Transport directly affects families and the quality of family life. Parishioners are major stakeholders in all matters regarding transport.

Father John.

LITURGY CORNER

This Sunday our RCIA Catechumens (those not previously baptised) will sign in our Book of the Elect (which holds the names of all adults received into the Church at the Easter Vigil since 1988). Their signing marks their desire to continue the journey towards full Church membership - Baptism, Confirmation and Communion. From St Bernadette's, along with all the catechumens of our diocese, our people will proceed to the Cathedral for the special ceremony: Rite of Election of Catechumens, over which Bishop Anthony Fisher will preside. The catechumens are being supported for this part of the journey by the RCIA team who are their sponsors (plus family and friends). They are also being supported by many members of this community - some of whom have acknowledged their commitment to pray for the catechumens by signing under their photos. The Rite of Election means they are no longer called 'catechumens' as they joined 'the Elect'.



Today's Readings

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10. Moses commands the people to remember how God saved them from slavery in Egypt so that he might lead them into the promised land.

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13. Paul tells us that anyone, Jew or Gentile, who calls in faith upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13. Just as Israel was tested in the desert, Jesus enters into the wilderness to be tested by Satan.

Next week: 2nd Sunday of Lent Year C

Genesis 15:5-12,17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28-36.

Feast Day this Week

Monday, 22 February - Chair of St Peter

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

REPARATION PRAYER GROUP will meet this Wednesday at 8.00pm in the Basement of the Parish Office. All welcome.

CATECHIST HELPERS DESPERATELY NEEDED:

Classes in some of our state schools are unusually large this year so helpers are desperately needed to assist the Catechists in these classes. Classes are on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday for just 30 minutes each week. If you can help please phone Christine on 9484 1190 or 0433 183322.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place on Friday evenings at 7.30pm during Lent.



LITTLE BLACK BOOK FOR LENT is a book of six-minute reflections for the 50 days leading up to Easter. Available from the Bookshop for just \$5.

PROJECT COMPASSION

The Good News of the Gospel challenges us to change ourselves and our world for the better. Your donations to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion allow families to gain skills to increase their household food security and offers hope for a healthier future.



Project Compassion boxes are available for you to take home today.

CATECHIST COMMISSIONING MASS TODAY:

Congratulations to the Catechists who will be commissioned at the 10.30 Mass today. Following the Mass, the Catechists and their families are invited to morning tea in the Parish Hall.



THE IRISH FUN NIGHT – IT'S ON AGAIN!

In the Parish Hall, 20th March, 7.00 for 7.30pm start. For a great night of Irish fun and festivity, organise a table of 10 or 12 now. Irish Dancing, Music and Jokes with some Trivia on the side. Only \$15 per head. BYO Nibbles & Drinks. Supper, Tea & Coffee provided. All parishioners and groups welcome. Organised by the FAMILY GROUPS. Bookings – phone Maureen or Ray Scully 9634.6925.

ST BERNADETTE'S PLAYGROUP: Families with children 0 – 5 yrs welcome Monday and Thursday in the Lourdes Centre (entry via Brisbane Rd) from 10.00am to 12 noon during school terms. Cost: \$15 per family per term. Craft supplied. Information: Carolyn 0411 547 285 or Suzanne 9614 3403.

JESUS & MEN MEETING in the Parish Hall on 27 February from 8.45am to 11.45am, Greg Nance will be speaking on 'You Are Who You Are'. Please join in for a morning of learning, sharing and fellowship with the men of the parish. Enquiries & Registration: Steve Decker on 9688 6226.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER on Friday 5 March: This year's theme, "Let Everything that has Breath Praise God", reminds us that we are to praise God in all circumstances, especially during difficult times. All are welcome at St Michael's Church, Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills at 7.30pm for the Service prepared by the women of Cameroon.

JOIN FATHER JOHN ON A HARVEST PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Father John is leaving for Europe on June 9 and taking a 12-day pilgrimage to Fatima, Avila, and Lourdes, then a second pilgrimage immediately following the Visitations of Mary Pilgrimage. The second pilgrimage, an eleven-day pilgrimage will visit Paris, Lisieux, La Salette, Taize, Turin and other pilgrimage sites in France. Parishioners and their friends are invited to join Father John on one or both pilgrimages. Brochures are available from the sacristy or from Harvest Pilgrimages 9390 5460 or www.harvestpilgrims.com or talk to Father John on 9634 2622.



Youth & Young Adults Ministry



LIFE Nights presents COLD SHOULDER

Sunday 21st Feb after 6.00pm Mass till 8.30 in the hall for all in grades 9-12. bring a friend. \$2 food & drink .

Young Adults (ages 18-35yrs) The Lenten Program has begun and continues till Easter. Held every Thursday night at the Muscat's home from 7:30 till 9:00pm with a donation of \$2 each night. Please register by email ym@stbernadette.org.au or call/sms youth minister on 0420 594 277.

Into LIFE: This Monday from 7 - 8.30pm in the parish hall. Bring \$2 donation for food & drink. All in Grades 7 - 8 are welcome to attend.

Life Teen Youth Mass TrainingIf you want to serve at the Sunday night masses in any way please contact the youth ministry on 0420 594 277 or email ym@stbernadette.org.au. All ages are welcome to participate and we have many roles to fill including welcoming committee, offertory team, communion ministers, readers, senior servers and more.

OAKHILL COLLEGE ENROLMENTS 2010:

Applications for enrolment into Year 7 will close on Friday 5 March and enrolment for girls into Year 11 2011 will close Friday 21 May 2110. Parents who have not yet submitted an Application for Enrolment can contact the Registrar on 9634 0802 or registrar@oakhill.nes.edu.au.

CARE GROUP THANK YOU: The Care Group would like to thank the many people who gave food and gifts for their Christmas Function. Some of the wonderful supporters are: The Church Bookshop, Be Seen Clothing, Nine Beautiful Bloom at Castle Mall and Greater Union Theatres, Castle Towers. Why not come along to Care Group - make new friends and help some of our older parishioners. Call Marion 9659 9385 or Susan 9680 7504.

VIVA LA FIESTA!!!!

To help us all celebrate the Year of The Priest in 2010, St Bernadette's Parish Pastoral Council is inviting parishioners to register their interest in a MULTINATIONAL FOOD FIESTA to be held in the Parish on **Pentecost Sunday - 23 May**. Expressions of interest are now being sought from parishioners who would like to participate in the FOOD FIESTA, by way of cooking traditional dishes and then distributing these dishes through stalls set up at the celebration.

A limited number of stalls will be available so you if you want to show off your culinary skills and introduce a world of tantalizing gastronomical treats to your fellow Parishioners please register your interest as early as possible. For more information and bookings please call Greg Piggott 9680 3977 0413 747 214

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME: The next session will take place this Tuesday 23 February at either 4pm or 7.30pm or on Saturday 27 February at 3.30pm in the Parish Hall for children and parents.

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
 Sr Judy McLeod, rsm, Pastoral Associate
 Mr Luke Hackett, Pastoral Associate (Youth)
 Mrs Frances Gallagher, Office Manager
 Mrs Monica Rubic, Parish Secretary (Finance: Mon-Thu)
 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
 Tue 6.45am
 Wed 6.45am, 9.15am
 Thurs 6.45am, 9.15am
 Fri 6.45am, 9.15am
 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 Willie Lai Kwon, Henry Roy and Kata Gogic who have died recently and for the anniversaries of Kevin Nobbs, Maree & Glad Parmenter, Ruby Boody, Eileen Kay, Clare Moriarty, Ruth Michael, Kathleen Cox, Elizabeth Repael Pillao, Simplicio Robles, Rainier R de Leon and Achille & Margherita Forestieri and in remembrance of Linda Johnston and Joshua Daniels.

Prayers for the Sick: Adeline Chong, Marj Orioles, Rita Gatt, Pablito Afable, Antonietta Aloschi and Brian Fausset.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – February 27 & 28

ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	LECTORS	MINISTERS OF COMMUNION
VIGIL Edy Kesuma S4	Caroline Dumapit Paul Dumapit John Abernethy	Jessica Fearnside, Rebecca Barrett, Marjorie Orioles, Harry Reyden, Kym, Cassandra & Jacqueline Holden, Moira Mitchell, John Geoghegan
7.30AM Michael Lopez S5	Yolanda Colosimo Joyan Fife Jerard Heffernan	Rose & Peter Huby, Gerard & Geraldine Kearney, Carmel Moriarty, Joyan Fife
9.00AM Joe Lorenzo S1	Angela Crowe Nanette D'Arcy Neil Bone	Christine Kelly, Catherine Chan, John Hogan, John Leach, Hilary Fong, Joan Claxton, Gi Zenere, Mike Reidy, Yvette Braganza
10.30AM John Maker S2	Irene Ngu Margaret Griffin Guy Hannan	Tim Abrams, Coney Lau, Roslyn Knezevic, Ollie Nguy, Letty & Robert Yu, Susana Lorenzo, Adel Boudib, Dawn Wickramasinghe

6.00 PARISH LIFE TEEN YOUTH MASS MINISTRY ROSTER - February 28

Adult Servers	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Belinda Lee Annalyce Hangan Chris Dogulin		Musos Bass Erich Gracias Flor Piano Alice Bradshaw Guitar Daniel Ang Horns/Strings/ Winds
Lectors Vanessa Muscat Tina Muscat Brenda Clasquin			Singers Alison Wong Annabel Irawan Sara Ang Darian Jessup- Lonsdale Veronica Sahabu Bec Burrowes
Altar Servers S3	Projectionist Matthew Ashton		
Gift Preparation Jeremy Smith Mitchell Johnson-Green	Ushers Paul Musgrave Phillip Smith	Welcomers	

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Karen Byrnes Lisa Biasucci	CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING Marion Heron, Marjorie Anderson, Caroline Higgins, Bernadette Logue	COUNTING (2nd Collection) Matthew Troy, Andrew Losurdo, Graham Murray, Michael & Julie Puckeridge
FLOWER ROSTER No flowers	COUNTING (1st Collection) Howard Woodward Marie Woodward	BOOKSHOP Paula Boyd / Carmel Moriarty / Jane Beard / Crystal Good / Giuli & Serge Dogulin