



St. John the Baptist Catholic

Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights



(incorporating Bonnyrigg Heights, Green Valley, Edensor Park, Abbotsbury, Cecil Hills & Elizabeth Hills)

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Dominic Dinh

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Office Hours: Tue- Fri 10.30am to 4pm

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 2

'Prayer of the Church'

Morning Prayer is prayed
at St John the Baptist
15 minutes prior to
weekday morning Masses

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 9:10am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

St Anthony, abbot

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

Saturday - 9:10am

St Fabian, pope, martyr

St Sebastian, martyr

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY 20/21 JANUARY

(3rd Sunday in Ordinary

Time Year B)

Saturday Vigil Mass:

5:30pm

Sunday Masses:

8:00am, 10:00am and

5:30pm

4th Sunday of the Month:

5:30pm Mass in Tagalog

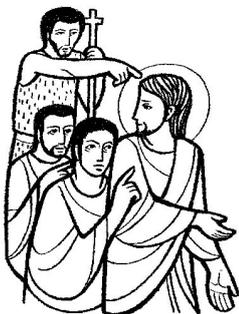
1st Friday of the Month:

7:00pm Mass in

Vietnamese

Reconciliations:

Saturdays - 4:15-5:00pm



The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

13th and 14th January, 2018

Respond to his call

A young man was in front of me coming out of the Church one Sunday, and as always the priest was standing at the door shaking hands as the congregation departed. He grabbed this young man by the hand and pulled him aside. The priest said to him, "You need to join the army of the Lord!" the man replied, "I'm already in the army of the Lord, Father." The priest questioned, "How come I don't see you here except for Christmas and Easter?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist said to his disciples, "Behold, the Lamb of God." He pointed to Jesus. He proclaimed Jesus as the Lamb of God. He made known who Jesus was. Then we hear Jesus questioned his disciples "What do you want?" and his call, "Come and see." Jesus invites his disciples to the way, the inner truth and life that is in him and comes through him. "They came and saw where he stayed and they stayed with him that day." The disciples visited Jesus physically, and after they experienced where he was interiorly and to some degree shared in his light, and life. And they responded to His call to the service of his gospel. They were well on their way to living the ways of Jesus.

The question of vocations is causing alarm in certain Church circles. The average age of the priesthood is rising steadily while the number of those entering the seminary continues to decline. Some speculate that if the present trends continue, large areas of the Church will be deprived of the services of a priest in the next few decades. I have no doubt that God calls everyone in some way or other. There is no shortage of vocations if we understand it in a broader mean - a new call to live and witness to the Good News.

Let us pray that we all will grow closer to the person of Christ and may we commit ourselves to live His Good News to the full.

Fr Dominic Dinh

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1694 Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, Christians are 'dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus' and so participate in the life of the Risen Lord. Following Christ and united with him, Christians can strive to be 'imitators of God as beloved children, and walk in love' by conforming their thoughts, words and actions to the 'mind...which is yours in Christ Jesus', and by following his example.

Scripture. It must be said that Christ himself 'is present in his word, since it is he who speaks when Scripture is read in Church.' Indeed, 'the liturgical celebration becomes the continuing, complete and effective proclamation of God's word. The word of God, constantly proclaimed in the liturgy, is always a living and effectively word through the power of the Holy Spirit. It expresses the Father's love that never fails in its effectiveness towards us.' The Church has always realised that in the liturgical action the word of God is accompanied by the interior working of the Holy Spirit who makes it effective in the hearts of the faithful.

Verbum Domini (2010) 52.

 * Your Prayers are requested for the *
 * following, for whom Mass will be *
 * offered: *
 * Sick: Nancy VARTULI, Doug ANDERSON, Jessie ZAMMIT, *
 * Ronald & Ruben SAPIN *
 * Recently Deceased: Speraza CAMILLERI, Lewis VELLA, Fr *
 * Grove JOHNSON, Fransi BOMBAC, Librada Guinto *
 * LEONES *
 * Death Anniversary: Michael CASSAR, The soul of Philipphê, *
 * Janina TOMASZEWSKI *
 * Other: Special Intention *



St Anthony

Two Greek philosophers ventured out into the Egyptian desert to the mountain where Anthony lived. When they got there, Anthony asked them why they had come to talk to such a foolish man? He had reason to say that -- they saw before them a man who wore a skin, who refused to bathe, who lived on bread and water. They were Greek, the world's most admired civilization, and Anthony was Egyptian, a member of a conquered nation. They were philosophers, educated in languages and rhetoric. Anthony had not even attended school as a boy and he needed an interpreter to speak to them. In their eyes, he would have seemed very foolish.

But the Greek philosophers had heard the stories of Anthony. They had heard how disciples came from all over to learn from him, how his intercession had brought about miraculous healings, how his words comforted the suffering. They assured him that they had come to him because he was a wise man.

Anthony guessed what they wanted. They lived by words and arguments. They wanted to hear his words and his arguments on the truth of Christianity and the value of ascetism. But he refused to play their game. He told them that if they truly thought him wise, "If you think me wise, become what I am, for we ought to imitate the good. Had I gone to you, I should have imitated you, but, since you have come to me, become what I am, for I am a Christian."

Feast Day January 17



ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

If you have a family member or know of anyone who is sick and needs anointing please contact the Parish office on 9823 2572 or in an emergency please contact Fr Dominic on 0423 420 639.

Saints of the Week



St Sebastian

Nothing is known about St. Sebastian's youth other than the fact he may have come from southern France and he was educated in Milan. He joined the Roman Army in 283 AD, ostensibly to be of service to other Christians who were being

persecuted by the Romans. St. Sebastian distinguished himself and for his excellent service, he was promoted to serve in the Praetorian Guard to protect Emperor Diocletian.

While serving as a Praetorian Guard, Marcus and Marcellian, twin brothers, were imprisoned for refusing to make public sacrifices to the Roman gods. The brothers were deacons of the Christian Church. During their imprisonment, their parents visited them to implore them to renounce Christianity. However, St. Sebastian convinced both parents to convert to Christianity. St. Sebastian also converted several other prominent individuals, including the local prefect.

This led to his discovery and he was reported as a Christian to Emperor Diocletian in 286. The Emperor, who was already infamous for ordering the deaths of hundreds of Christians, scolded Sebastian and ordered him to be killed by having him tied to a stake on a training field and used as target practice.

Archers riddled his body with arrows, his body was described as, "full of arrows as an urchin." Believed to be dead, the archers left his body for retrieval and burial. He was recovered by Irene of Rome, whose Christian husband was a servant to Diocletian and also martyred. Irene discovered that Sebastian was still living and she hid him and nursed him back to health.

Feast Day January 20

Patron of soldiers, athletes and those who desire a saintly death.



St Fabian

Eusebius, born just a few years after Fabian's death, tells us how Fabian came to Rome after Pope Anteros died in 236. A layperson, and not a very important one, he may have come for the same reason many still come to Rome today during a papal

election: concern for the future of the faith, curiosity about the new pope, a desire to grieve for the pope who had passed. Seeing all the important people gathered to make this momentous decision must have been overwhelming. Which one would be the new pope? Someone known for power? Someone known for eloquence? Someone known for courage?

Suddenly during the discussion, a dove descended from the ceiling. But it didn't settle on "someone known" for anything at all. The dove, according to Eusebius, "settled on [Fabian's] head as clear imitation of the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove upon the Savior." There must have been something of the Holy Spirit working because everyone suddenly proclaimed Fabian as "worthy" to be pope and this stranger was elected.

To us the dove signifies peace, and this dove was prophetic. Starting close to Fabian's election, the suffering and persecuted Church began a time of peace. The emperor, Philip, was friendly to Christians and not only was the persecution stopped but Christians experienced acceptance.

Feast Day January 20

PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptisms - If you wish to Baptise your child here in the Parish you will need to make an appointment with either Fr Dominic, Fr Phan or Deacon Mervyn. A Baptism date will then be discussed at the meeting.

Contact the Parish Office for more information.



We congratulate the family of Teresa Ngoc Dinh who will be baptised here this Sunday 14th January, the newest member of JB parish. May she always know the love of God, and feel His guiding hand throughout her life.



Our Family - from a parishioner.

Our family is a blessing it means so many things, words could never really tell the joy our family brings, our family is mutual love, the love of dad and mother, showing children how to love and care for one another.

Our family is heartfelt pride, the feeling deep and strong that makes us glad to take a part and know that we belong, our family is always home, a place where we can share our joys and sorrows, hopes and dreams, for happiness live there.

Our family is a bond of faith that even time can't sever a gift to last throughout our lives, the family of God is forever.

 **ATTENTION EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:** The new Roster is now available for collection after all Masses this weekend.

 **ATTENTION READERS:** The new roster is now available and please take home your copy of "Break Open the Word" which is located in the Church alcove.



Looking for parenting resources?

-  [PARENTING TIPS](#)
-  [PARENTING RESOURCES](#)
-  [PARENTING TOOLS](#)

Our new online parenting resource provides information and tips to help build positive parent-child relationships.

Go to catholiccare.org and look for the Parenting Hub icon.

Ministries Next Week 20/21 JAN	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	M Camilleri A Pace	J Finucane I O'Connor	A Watts E Villegas	C Sullivan J Sullivan
EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS:	L Topic M Brito J Burxgx V Petkovic M Chum B Goria	T Simpson M Jebraill B O'Connor V Tomac A Esposito	N Dubuisson J Habib T Vartuli E Villegas G Dunn H Fenech	
COUNTERS: CHURCH	G Adam	E Villegas		
CLEANERS: Group 1	V Baltazar	J Mavizo	B Roy	R Agius
ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER	7/1/2018	14/1/2018	21/1/2018	28/1/2018
	Michelle De Luca	Connie Monteleone	Jacque Sultana	Marianna Caruso



BIBLE STUDY: Every Thursday 10am - 11am Gathers in the Church Meeting Room (after the 9:10am Mass and Rosary). For further information please contact Meding on 9823 7121 or 0410 177 673.



'COME AND SIT WITH THE LORD' CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Every Monday and Tuesday at 8pm

Give 20 minutes of your busy day to Jesus and experience the difference in your life. Held in the Church chapel. Duration time is approximately 30 minutes. For further information, contact Frances on 0438 213 313.



You are invited

The Ascension Prayer Community is inviting everyone to our prayer meetings. The meetings start with Praise and Reflection, followed by teaching/sharing, fellowship and much more. So why not come along and join us, to enjoy a time of reflection, teaching, sharing and great fellowship.

When: Thursday 1st February, 2018 @ 7pm

(Meetings take place every fortnight on a Thursday.)

Where: Parish Hall, 45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights

Contact: Susan (02) 9607 5137 or 0415 342 672

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are in need of new leaders and helpers if you are interested in joining our team please contact Angela (9606 8403 or 0410 964 196).



Please let Angela or your co-ordinator know (as soon as possible) whether you would like to continue being a Children's Liturgy Leader in 2018.

Please leave your folder and photocopies for 2017 in the Church Meeting Room or the Children's Liturgy cupboard.

Thank you,
Angela Galdas

Youth Corner

Hi guys,
We would love to hear your feedback on what you would like to see happen with the youth in the parish.

You are welcome to write to the parish office telling us what activities you would like to do and what you would like to see in the youth corner of this bulletin. Our postal address is 45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, NSW, 2177 or you can email us at: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

We thank you for your time and look forward to



PARISH HOUSIE: Every Saturday 2pm - 4:30pm at the Liverpool Catholic Club.

Think about your choices. Gambling More, enjoying less? For free and confidential information and advice about problem gambling, contact **Gambling Help 1800 858 858** www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!*

Communion Antiphon: *You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.*

Next Sunday:

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I encounter Jesus most surely when..... This strengthens my allegiance to him in that.....
- ♦ In following Jesus I have come to see him as.....
- ♦ I find and bring others to Jesus when.....

First reading

1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord, where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

39:2, 4, 7-10

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The body is not meant for fornication: it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; do you think I can take parts of Christ's body and join them to the body of a prostitute? Never! But anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 1:41.17

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:35-42

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

The Gospel of the Lord

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