



# 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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**Parish Pastoral Centre:**

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**Website: [www.johnthebaptist.org.au](http://www.johnthebaptist.org.au)**

**Office Hours: Tue- Fri 9.00am to 4pm**

**Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang**

**Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski**

### MASSES THIS WEEK

#### PSALTER 1

#### 'Prayer of the Church'

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

**Monday - No Mass**

**Tuesday - 9:10am**

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*Sts Cosmas and Damian,  
martyrs*

**Thursday - 9:10am**

*St Vincent de Paul, priest*

**Friday - 9:10am**

*St Wenceslaus, martyr*

*St Lawrence Ruiz and*

*companions, martyrs*

**Saturday - 9:10am**

*St Michael, Gabriel, Raphael,  
archangels*

#### **NEXT SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY 29/30**

**SEPTEMBER**

*(26th 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

**1st Saturday of the Month**

Fatima Devotions 7.45am

Adoration/Benediction  
8.30am

**Reconciliations:**

Saturdays — 4:15—5:00pm

**Anointing of the Sick**

Contact the Parish Office  
or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639

### 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

22nd and 23rd September, 2018

### The measure of servant leadership lies with children

"Who is the greatest?" Unlike our Western societies that honour and esteem children, ancient societies honoured the elderly in one's clan. Reflecting this outlook, St. Thomas Aquinas once answered the question, "If there was a fire, whom should I rescue first?" Thomas listed in the order of importance: one's parents first, one's spouse second, one's children last of all. Children were the least important. Serving one such as a child really showed true leadership for they served the ignored and the helpless. Even though we honour and esteem children today, isn't it so easy to ignore them?

Jesus used a small child as a bench mark of leadership. The measure of servant leadership lies not with adults, but with children. To serve someone as lowly as a child takes an act of extreme humility. For, "whoever welcomes a child such this in my name, welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me, welcomes not me but the One who sent me." Jesus teaches us that leadership does not mean power but service. Power strangles life and brings a slow death. But, service brings life, even from death itself.

But who was the "child" of which Jesus spoke? Who was the Christian to serve? In one respect, the Christian was to show hospitality those who had the social status of the child: the outcast, the sinner, the sick and feeble. In another respect, the Christian was to show hospitality to all of God's children, regardless if they were friend or foe. In a third respect, the Christian was to show hospitality to those who had become the "children" of the community, the Christian missionary who risked life and limb to spread the Good News. Obviously it took wisdom to discern how one would serve these different groups. But Jesus made one thing clear. Leadership meant serving all. It meant esteeming the least important.

To serve one like children, to place all others on the same plane as oneself, is the road to Christ and the Father. This service is exemplified with Christ's death on the cross. We all have the opportunity and the responsibility to exercise leadership in our lives. But, as the gospel points out, leadership means service. It means setting aside our selfish desires to care for others' needs and to show them respect.

*How has someone shown you true Christian leadership? How has that leadership challenged your role as a leader: parent, manager or co-worker, minister?* Jesus presents the Children as our challenge and our reward. They are the measure of our Christian leadership. How we lead them, how we serve them, reveals the seriousness of our commitment to Christ. Let us therefore serve them well.

**Fr Richard Ddumba**

**Your Prayers are requested for the following, for whom Mass will be offered:**



**Sick:** Col PURCELL, Inez BUGEJA, Claudio Da SILVA, Charlie SALIBA, Bozana VUKOV, Diana VUKOV, Judy VELLA, Giuse, Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Nancy VARTULI, Doug ANDERSON, Jessie ZAMMIT

**Recently Deceased:** Josie HOPE, Alice McGANN, Jane MICALLEF, Zac FENECH, Agostino BADINO, Kenneth JIANG

**Death Anniversary:** Maria Elsa LAY, Jose Paulo LAY, Carolina DEL VALLE, Vincent MUSCAT, Violet ANDERSON, Luciano MORASSUT

### OCTOBER RETREATS MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE

247 St Andrews Road, Varroville  
Please see Church noticeboard for details.

### 'SRODOWISKO' Vocations Camp for Men

**19-21 October, 2018**

Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale

Please see Church noticeboard for further information

Info and Registration: [vocationcentre.org.au](http://vocationcentre.org.au)

RSVP: Friday 28th September, 2018

### JOHN THE BAPTIST PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND JANUARY 2019

A pilgrimage "**Footsteps of Jesus**" is being organised by Harvest Journeys - an authentically Catholic organisation. Let us watch the Gospels come alive as we retrace the progressive stages of the life of Jesus from his nativity in Bethlehem to his Passion on Calvary.

**Tour Details:** 10 days/9 nights. Sunday 13th to Tuesday 22nd January. Visiting Bethlehem, Nazareth, Cana, Sea of Galilee, Mt Tabor, Mt Carmel, Haifa, Masada, Jericho, Jerusalem and Emmaus.

**Inclusions:** airfare, accommodation, meals, deluxe air conditioned coach, pilgrimage escort/local guides, sightseeing, entrance fees, fully escorted by Pilgrimage Chaplain and Private Daily Masses.

**Cost:** group of 15 - \$6,180 pp group of 20 - \$5,780 pp

**Pre tour Option:** 10th - 13th January. Wonders of Jordan (3 nights - Amman, Dead Sea Resort, Mt Nebo, Madaba and Petra. \$1,290 pp

**If you are interested please contact Nina Laureti on 0408 465 149 to begin planning stages.**

Let us pray that this Parish Pilgrimage will spiritually renew us, allow us to share amazing memories together and foster lifelong bonds of friendship and return home transformed with a stronger conviction to contribute to the faith life and mission of the community of John the Baptist.



### PARISH MORNING TEA EVERY SUNDAY AFTER 10AM MASS

The Parish will now be holding a morning tea after the 10am Mass every Sunday. Please bring along a plate to share and stay to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with your community.

# Saints of the Week



### Sts Cosmas and Damian

Sts. Cosmas and Damian were brothers, born in Arabia, who had become eminent for their skill in the science of medicine. Being Christians, they were filled with the spirit of charity and never took money for their services. At Egaea in Cilicia, where they lived, they enjoyed the highest esteem of the people. When the persecution under Diocletian broke out, their very prominence rendered them marked objects of persecution. Being apprehended by order of Lysias, governor of Cilicia, they underwent various torments about the year 283.

**Feast day: September 26**

**Patron: Pharmacists**



### St Vincent De Paul

St. Vincent de Paul was born to a poor peasant family in the French village of Pouy on April 24, 1581. His first formal education was provided by the Franciscans. He did so well, he was hired to tutor the children of a nearby wealthy family. He used the monies he earned teaching to continue his formal studies at the University of Toulouse where he studied theology. He was ordained in 1600 and remained in Toulouse for a time. In 1605, while on a ship traveling from Marseilles to Narbonne, he was captured, brought to Tunis and sold as a slave. Two years later he and his master managed to escape and both returned to France. St. Vincent went to Avignon and later to Rome to continue his studies. While there he became a chaplain to the Count of Goigny and was placed in charge of distributing money to the deserving poor. He became pastor of a small parish in Clichy for a short period of time, while also serving as a tutor and spiritual director. From that point forward he spent his life preaching missions to and providing relief to the poor. He even established hospitals for them. This work became his passion. He later extended his concern and ministry to convicts. The need to evangelize and assist these souls was so great and the demands beyond his own ability to meet that he founded the Ladies of Charity, a lay institute of woman, to help, as well as a religious institute of priests - the Congregation of Priests of the Mission, commonly referred to now as the Vincentians. Vincent helped reform the clergy and the manner in which they were instructed and prepared for the priesthood. He did this first through the presentation of retreats and later by helping develop a precursor to our modern day seminaries. The Vincentians remain with us today with nearly 4,000 members in 86 countries. In addition to his order of Vincentian priests, St. Vincent cofounded the Daughters of Charity along with St. Louise de Marillac. He was eighty years old when he died in Paris on September 27, 1660. St. Vincent is sometimes referred to as "The Apostle of Charity" and "The Father of the Poor".

**Feast Day: September 27**

**Patron: Of charities; horses; hospitals; leprosy; lost articles; Madagascar; prisoners; Richmond, Virginia; spiritual help; Saint Vincent de Paul Societies; Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory; Vincentian Service**



**Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael** - Angels are messengers from God. Three of the special messengers mentioned in the Bible are the archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. The names of each of these archangels tell us about the work God gave them to do. Michael's name means "who is like God." God gave

Michael the responsibility of protecting us as God protects us. Gabriel's name means "hero of God." Gabriel is God's hero because he communicates God's message to people. We remember Gabriel best for being the angel who announced to Mary that she would be the mother of God's only Son. Raphael's name means "God has healed." In the Bible, Raphael heals a blind man and is said to have stirred the water in a pool where Jesus healed a paralyzed man. On the feast day of the archangels, we remember that God's messengers guide us in our journey to everlasting life with our Father. We can pray to Michael when we face temptation. We can ask to Gabriel to help us say "yes" to God as Mary did so many years ago. We can pray to Raphael when we are ill or know someone who is in need of healing.

**Feast Day: September 29**

## PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION



**Baptisms** - If you wish to Baptise your child here in the Parish you will need to attend **10:00am Mass on Sunday 7th October.** Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Meeting Room.



**JB SPRING FAIR**  
**21st October 2018**  
**11am – 4pm**

Looking for **generous sponsors** to offer prizes for our Spring Fair: Please call Caterina : 0416 044 149

Looking for **volunteers** to make our Spring Fair a wonderful success.

Please call anyone below or put your name down on the board outside the Church and we will contact you.

Any enquires or volunteers please contact:

Josie: 0407 203 593

Caterina: 0416 044 149

Susan: 0419 606 683

Maria: 0407 662 535

**Calling all youth, musicians, parishioners and priests!**

### MASTERCLASS

#### RUNNING A SUCCESSFUL CATHOLIC YOUTH MASS

**Sunday 7th October, 2018**

**1:30pm - 6:00pm**

(Followed by Youth Mass)

**Our Lady of the Way, North Sydney**

**Register online: [parish2020.com/register](http://parish2020.com/register)**

See Church noticeboard for more details

**Volunteer Overseas - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco.** We are seeking volunteers for January 2019 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, Zambia & Solomon Island. Applications close October 15th. Send us an inquiry - [www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au)

Ministries Next Week 29/30 Sept	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	A Vlahadamis J Victorino	S Hely T Simpson	J Habib N Debuissou	T Corvelo
<b>EXTRA- ORDINARY MINISTER</b>	D Vella L Tononcelli E Vella M Camilleri C Araco A Gorio	R Morelini J Jebrail Delicia Vella F Foti D O'Sullivan	M Aulsebrook R Hibbs N Laureti A Bautista N Dubuissou T Vatruli	D Pham R Imbert M Mai M Abdal
<b>CHURCH COUNTER</b>	M Privitera			
<b>CLEANERS: CHURCH</b>				
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER</b>	<b>30/9/2018</b> Z Penitani	<b>7/10/2018</b> M De Luca	<b>14/10/2018</b> A Portolesi	<b>21/10/2018</b> S Nguyen
<b>10AM MORNING TEAS</b>	<b>30/09/2018</b> Group 5	<b>7/10/2018</b> Group 1	<b>14/10/2018</b> Group 1	<b>21/10/2018</b> Group 3

## Upcoming Parish Activities .....

### Save the date!

**Confirmation** will be held on Saturday 29th September at 2:00pm and Sunday 30th September at noon and 3:00pm.

**JB Spring Fair** Sunday 21st October.

**Volunteers' Dinner:** Friday 23rd November

**Year 6 Graduation Mass** 18th December at 6:30pm.

**Combined Christmas Carols:** Friday 7th December



### CONFIRMATION PRACTICE

**Tuesday 25th September**

6:00pm - 6:30pm Saturday Mass

6:45pm - 7:15pm Sunday Noon Mass

7:30pm - 8:00pm Sunday 3:00pm Mass



### Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

This is a series of 8 informative and engaging half-hour videos presented by Jeff Cavins.

Each video will be followed by a lively group discussion. If you would like to have a deeper relationship with God and a better understanding of your faith, then join us for Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible. You will not only benefit personally from being part of this study, you will also help to bring about a profound renewal of our parish as we grow closer to Christ.

**When:** Thursday 27th September at 7.30pm  
(Meetings will be held fortnightly)

**Where:** Parish Hall

For further information or to sign up, text George on 0414 607 513 or email [george\\_dcruz@hotmail.com](mailto:george_dcruz@hotmail.com)



### ANNUAL CATECHIST MASS

This Sunday 23rd September, is the Annual

Catechist Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 2:00pm. At this Mass these will be 3 significant award recipients. We congratulate Nina Laureti on 30 Years Service Award, Sharon Cook and Connie Giannone on their 20 Years service to the Catechist Ministry.

We also congratulate 55 student catechists from Freeman Catholic College who will also be presented with the certificates of participation.

Congratulations to all involved. May this inspire others to join our wonderful JB Catechist Team. If you are interested, please contact Nina on 0408 465 149.



### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

*Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover your relationship!*

**16th – 18th November at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW**

Book online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

Alternatively contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or [adrian.janet1@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.janet1@bigpond.com)

**AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED, an International Catholic Charity** are recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Sydney. See Church noticeboard for details or visit <https://www.aidtochurch.org/work>



## RAISE YOUR VOICES!

**Entrance Antiphon:** *I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.*

**Communion Antiphon:** *You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.*

### Next Sunday:

#### 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year B)

First Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

Second Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

### Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I find myself clamouring for status when..... At these times Jesus challenges me to be servant by.....
- ♦ I am the least when..... I am the greatest when.....
- ♦ I am reduced to silence when.....

#### First reading

**Wisdom 2:12, 17-20**

##### A reading from the book of Wisdom

The godless say to themselves:

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.

'Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

##### The Word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

**53:3-6, 8**

##### The Lord upholds my life.

O God, save me by your name;  
by your power, uphold my cause.  
O God, hear my prayer;  
listen to the words of my mouth.

*The Lord upholds my life.*

For proud men have risen against me,  
ruthless men seek my life.  
They have no regard for God.

*The Lord upholds my life.*

But I have God for my help.  
The Lord upholds my life.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart  
and praise your name for it is good.

*The Lord upholds my life..*

#### Second reading

**James 3:16-4:3**

##### A reading from the letter of St James

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow

the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

##### The Word of the Lord

#### Gospel Acclamation

**cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

#### Gospel

**Mark 9:30-37**

##### A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'



##### The Gospel of the Lord