



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

Email: pp@johnthebaptist.org.au

Assistant: Rev Fr Richard Ddumba

Email: dumbrich@live.com

Deacon: Rev Mervyn Francis

Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Parish Pastoral Centre:

45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

Office: 9823 2572 Fax: 9822 9954

Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Website: www.johnthebaptist.org.au

Office Hours: Tue- Fri 9.00am to 4pm

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 3

'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

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

*The Dedication of the Lateran
Basilica*

Saturday - 9:10am

St Leo the Great, pope doctor

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY 10/11

NOVEMBER

*(32nd 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

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

3rd and 4th November, 2018

The Two Greatest Commandments: Love God & Love your Neighbour

One of the most sacred things a Moslem can do is make the pilgrimage to Mecca, birthplace of Mohammed. It is one of the five pillars of the Islamic religion. Once upon a time the king of the cats made a pilgrimage to Mecca. On his return, the king of the mice felt obliged to go and congratulate him. But when the other mice heard this they feared for their king's safety. They said, 'The cat is our enemy, he can't be trusted. 'Oh, but now that he he's been to Mecca, I expect to see a great change in him. I'm told he prays five times a day,' the king replied. So the king mouse set out. On coming into the kingdom of the cats, he spotted his opposite number in the distance, and was very impressed by what he saw. Still dressed in his pilgrim's robe, the king cat was deep in prayer. However, no sooner had the king mouse come near him than he jumped up and pounced. Fortunately the king mouse was a fast mover, and succeeded in escaping down a hole. Later he joined the other mice. 'Well, how did you get on?' they asked eagerly. 'Is it true that since he made the pilgrimage to Mecca he's a changed cat?' 'You were right. Though he prays like a pilgrim, he still pounces like a cat.'

This story illustrates how easy it is to separate the two commandments: to think that we can love God without loving our neighbour too. In that case we end up with a loveless religion. The two commandments are essentially interrelated. True love of neighbour springs from the love God; and there can be no true love of God that does not express itself in love of neighbour. This is better than all sacrifices. It is easy to let ritual take the place of love. Jesus showed us how to live the two commandments: how to love God and to love our neighbour as well. He didn't say they were the same thing, but that we can't have one without the other. Another thing, in Leviticus 19:18, the commandment: 'You must love your neighbour as yourself' is restricted to fellow-Israelites. Love within one's group or fellowship is merely a natural and universal human trait. It does not distinguish the Christian from the non-Christian. Jesus broadened it to include everyone, Gentiles as well as Jews, enemies as well as friends. The emphasis on love became for Christians the identifying characteristic of their religion.

Catechism Theme: Overview to the Ten Commandments (CCC 2052-2055)
Christianity has always used the "Great Commandment" as a lens to view the Ten Commandments. The first three commandments fulfil love of God. The last seven fulfil love of neighbour. Living out the Great Commandment fulfils the Law (see Romans 13:9-10). But, the command to love demands more. To love God requires God's help. It requires an openness to the Spirit. We cannot possibly live out God's Law by ourselves. With his help, we can hope and we can experience results.

Fr Richard

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



Sick: Isabelle CROUCHE, Giuseppina LETTIERI, Antoinette RACO, Peter ANDERSON, Col PURCELL, Inez BUGEJA, Claudio Da SILVA, Charlie SALIBA, Bozana VUKOV, Diana VUKOV, Judy VELLA, Giuse, Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Nancy VARTULI, Jessie ZAMMIT

Recently Deceased: Vedasto RAMOS, Doug ANDERSON, Fr Denis FOLEY

Death Anniversary: Pasqualina LUCA, Reg McANDREW

Other: Marion FENECH, Jimmy and Maryann FENECH, Special Intention

Saints of the Week



The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

The feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. John Lateran is celebrated by the entire Church. It marks the dedication of the cathedral church of Rome by Pope Sylvester I in 324. This church is the cathedra (or chair) of the bishop of Rome, who is the Pope. A Latin inscription in the Church reads: "omnium ecclesiarum Urbis et Orbis mater et caput." Translated, this means, "The mother and head of all churches of the city and of the world."

The basilica was originally named the Archbasilica of the Most Holy Savior. However, it is called St. John Lateran because it was built on property donated to the Church by the Laterani family, and because the monks from the monastery of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Divine served it.

Feast day: November 9



We congratulate the families of Marco DI MASCIO, Alivia PIZZUTI and Antonio SERGI who will be baptised here this Sunday 4th November.



St Leo the Great

Saint Leo the Great, also known as Pope Saint Leo I, was born into a Roman aristocratic family. His response to the call of the Lord transformed him into one of the greatest popes of Christian history.

In fact, he was the first pope to be given the title "the Great." Details pertaining to Leo's place of birth are not known, but it is believed his ancestors come from Tuscany. Pope Leo was responsible for important changes in the Church year. He added new feasts and placed greater importance on the celebration of Christmas. He replaced pagan holidays with Christian celebrations and began the practice of fasting during certain Church seasons. Heresies, or false teachings, were another area of concern for Pope Leo. He wrote letters to the bishops to help them better understand the true teachings of the Church that have come down to us from the Apostles; he gave sermons correcting false teachings, and he even called an important Church meeting to deal with confusion caused by false teachings. Leo the Great is also responsible for helping people understand the meaning of the Incarnation, God becoming man in Jesus. For his great gift of teaching, Pope Leo has been given the title of Doctor of the Church.

Pope Leo was also a peacemaker. He personally convinced the Huns to turn back from their planned invasion of Rome. Although the warring tribe called the Vandals did invade Rome, Leo was able to keep them from burning and looting the city.

Leo is best known for being a good shepherd and pastor for all the people of the Church, from the bishops to the poor who begged for food on the streets of Rome. He reached out to the poor and neglected people of the world and urged the bishops to do the same. His homilies helped people know how to live their faith because they were full of practical advice.

Leo died on November 10, 461. He wished to be buried as close as possible to St. Peter's tomb. His body was first laid in the entrance of St. Peter's basilica but was later moved inside the basilica in 688.

Feast Day: November 10



THE CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL (CWF)

This weekend is the CWF Appeal which continues to play an important role in providing social, pastoral, advocacy and training programs. The CWF is your Catholic Charity. Couples, families, refugees, migrants, our future priests, Catholic public school children, the deaf and hearing impaired are just some of the people you are helping by supporting the CWF. There is so much that can be done with your donations, so please give generously.

Our contribution for the collection is \$7,400 and any shortfall has to be made up from Parish Funds. Envelopes are available on the tables at the entrances to the Church.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR DECEASED PRIESTS

You are cordially invited to the Annual Memorial Mass for Deceased Priests, Celebrated by Bishop Terry Brady.

12pm Wednesday, 21 November 2018

Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood Catholic Cemetery, followed by refreshments in the Mary, Mother of Mercy Condolence Lounge. Please RSVP by 15 November to: Nancy Murdocca on (02) 9646 6908 or nancym@catholiccemeteries.com.au



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 8th November 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

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES PARISH PRESENTATION



Branko and Jelena Poljak were selected by the Archdiocese of Sydney to represent Catholic families at the World Family Synod in Ireland in August this year.

They have written their thoughts on this experience. Parishioners are welcome to take home a copy which can be found on the Church tables.

PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION



Baptisms - If you wish to Baptise your child here in the Parish you will need to attend **10:00am Mass this Sunday 4th November**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Meeting Room.

2020 Plenary Council

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) are asking all the faithful to engage in an open and inclusive process of listening, dialogue and discernment about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia. The feedback which the bishops receive will enable them to discuss the pastoral priorities that need to be addressed in the Plenary Council which will take place 2020 (a Plenary Council consists of bishops who represent the whole number of bishops from a particular country while meeting with the Pope). To help facilitate their feedback, the three questions the ACBC are asking the faithful to respond to are:

1. **What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?**
2. **What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?**
3. **Do You have a story of your experience of faith, or the Church you would like to share?**

The ACBC are asking people to gather together to provide their feedback so that they can pray, talk and listen to one another before making their submissions. You can submit your response by going to: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

PALMS AUSTRALIA: Looking for a Change? Discover assignments in Asia, Africa or the Pacific, 5:30 - 7:00pm 5th November, 2018 Aquinas Academy, 141 Harrington St, Sydney.

ATTENTION READERS: If you would like a copy of the Break Open the Word for 2019 please see Fr Dominic in the Sacristy or let the Parish Office know by Monday 5th November at the latest so that we can place an order. Thank you.

ATTENTION READERS: The new roster is now available for collection after all Masses this weekend.

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

Ministries Next Week 10/11 NOV	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	A Vlahadamis E Vella	L Barilla T Simpson	A Bautista N Laureti	A Bento R Capolupo
EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTER	T Micali D Vella M Abdal B Empeigne D Vella	V Baltazar	N Dubuison C Porreca T Vartuli J Habib G Dunn S D'Cruz	G Vanderwert S Cook D Pham R Imbert
CHURCH COUNTER	J Oliveri	V Baltazar	Younart	
CLEANERS: CHURCH				
ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER	11/11/2018 S Leonello	18/11/2018 C Monteleone	25/11/2018 J Sultana	2/12/2018 D Triganza
10AM MORNING TEAS	11/11/2018 Group 2	18/11/2018 Group 3	25/11/2018 Group 4	2/12/2018 Group 1

Upcoming Parish Activities

Save the date!

Volunteers' Dinner: Friday 23rd November

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

Combined Christmas Carols: Friday 7th December



THANKSGIVING MASS AND DINNER

We thank everyone who has volunteered in the Parish this year and invite you to join us for a

Thanksgiving Mass and Dinner on **Friday 23rd**

November at 7:00pm. If you are able to attend please let your co-ordinator know or contact the Parish office on 9823 2572 for catering purposes.



MOTORVATE SEBASTIAN'S FIGHT FOR LIFE - FUND RAISING DINNER

Sebastian Aguiar, a John the Baptist Year 6 student is the only child in Australia battling the life threatening and complex ROHHAD syndrome. Join us for a fundraising dinner to raise money to purchase a motor vehicle which can be modified to safely transport Sebastian, his wheelchair and life supporting medical equipment.

6:30pm, Friday 9th November 2018 (includes a 4 course dinner with beer, wine, soft drinks and entertainment)

Tickets \$100, to book -

<https://www.trybooking.com/432342>

Purchase tickets individually or as a group (Maximum 10 people per table)

Every ticket purchased will go into a draw for your chance to win a lucky door prize!

Ticket bookings close 5pm Monday 5 November 2018. We look forward to the community coming together to support Sebastian on the night.

If you would like to donate to this wonderful cause:

Account: Motor-Vate Sebastians Fight For Life

BSB: 032349

Account: 450268

For further information contact: Rina 0410 664 792 or Rosalie 0404 276 332.



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.

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!*

Communion Antiphon: *You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.*

Next Sunday:

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year B)

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28

Gospel: Mark 12:41-44

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ The differences between Jesus' understanding of love and my views of love are.....
- ♦ The greatest challenge for me in loving God with my whole being is..... The greatest challenge for me in loving my neighbour is.....
- ♦ I have experienced myself to be "burnt offerings and sacrifices" when..... This has brought me to realise that.....

First reading

Deuteronomy 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord the God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: the Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

17:2-4, 47, 51

I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise,
when I call I am saved from my foes.

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me,
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed.

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second reading

Hebrews 7:23-28

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Hebrews

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the

Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

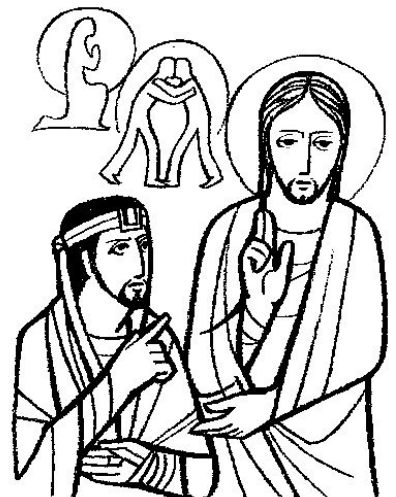
Gospel

Mark 12:28-34

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

The Gospel of the Lord



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