



# 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](mailto:pp@johnthebaptist.org.au)

Emergency: 0423 420 639

### Assistant: Rev Fr Richard Ddumba

Email: [dumbrich@live.com](mailto:dumbrich@live.com)

### Deacon: Rev Mervyn Francis

Email: [info@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:info@johnthebaptist.org.au)

### Parish Pastoral Centre:

45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

Office: 9823 2572 Fax: 9822 9954

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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 2

#### Monday - No Mass

*St Raymond of Penyafort,  
priest*

#### Tuesday - 9:10am

#### Wednesday - 7:00pm

#### Thursday - 9:10am

#### Friday - 9:10am

#### Saturday - 9:10am

#### NEXT SUNDAY

#### SUNDAY 12/13 JANUARY

*(The Baptism of the Lord  
Year C)*

#### 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

## The Epiphany of the Lord (Year C)

5th & 6th January, 2019

### God's Revelation

John, an avid golfer, came home from the golf course one Saturday. His wife, Mary asked him with whom he had played that day. He said, "Oh, no one in particular." she asked, "*Why don't you play with Bill anymore?*" John replied, "*Would you like to play golf with someone who throws his clubs, swears all the time, lies about his scores and won't stop talking while you are trying to play a shot?*" Of course not! Mary protested. "*Neither does Bill.*" John replied.

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word Epiphany comes from the Greek '*epiphancia*', meaning '*manifestation*'. After Christmas, we continue to ponder at the revelation of God to the world in Jesus Christ. The Feast of the Epiphany symbolises '*the baby born to be King*' will rule not by force but by love, reigning not from a throne but from a cross.

The Gospel today gives us a wonderful picture of the wise men who were searchers for the truth. They left their homeland and their families to follow the star to discover the birth of God's Son in Bethlehem. The significance of this from the scriptural point of view is that Christ came for **All** people without exception including the non-Jews. From our point of view the story shows the wise men as people who yearn for the truth by reaching out to seek for it. They were free, flexible and passionate about their truth-seeking. How different they were compared to Herod who resorted to lies and murder when his plan failed? Or to the priests, scribes and people of Jerusalem who showed no interest? Like the wise we are called to search for the truth which sets us free, i.e. constantly seeking for God in prayers, in the way we live our life.

Let us pray that like the wise men who were able to recognise the infant Jesus as the Christ, the promised Messiah, may we be able to recognise Jesus as God who 'is with us' till the end of time and make Him present to others.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

528 The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world... In the magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the gospel sees the first fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations.

### Thought of the week

Your children will not remember you for the material things you provided but for the feeling that you cherished them. *Richard Evans*

**Fr Dominic**

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



**Sick:** Fr Paul STENHOUSE, Bishop Bill WRIGHT, Janelle CLIFTON, Isabelle CROUCHE, Giuseppina LETTIERI, 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:** Emmanuel ZAHRA

**Death Anniversary:** Van Linh THAI

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



**MEMORIAL BOOK:** Parishioners are invited place their loved ones names in the permanent Memorial Book which will be left in the Church for the whole year. Please call or email the Parish Office with their names and date of their death so that we can add them to the Book. Thank you



**JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH CALENDAR** is available for purchase for \$5.00 from the Piety Store outside the Church.

## Footprints

One night I dreamed a dream. I was walking along the beach with my Lord. Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, one belonging to me and one to my Lord. When the last scene of my life shot before me I looked back at the footprints in the sand. There was only one set of footprints. I realized that this was at the lowest and saddest times of my life. This always bothered me and I questioned the Lord about my dilemma. "Lord, you told me when I decided to follow You, You would walk and talk with me all the way. But I'm aware that during the most troublesome times of my life there is only one set of footprints. I just don't understand why, when I needed You most, You leave me." He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you never, ever, during your trials and tests. When you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you in my arms."



## Events & Marketing Coordinator, Fairfield Parish

Fairfield Parish is inviting applications for this newly-created position. The primary purpose of this position is to assist the Parish to engage in outreach, faith-renewal, and build up the Parish's faith-community. The Position Description, which includes the desired requirements for applicants, can be downloaded from: <https://catholicjobsonline.com.au> Permanent salary negotiable. For enquiries, contact Priscilla, Parish Operations Manager: 9724 5997 or 0490 099 551 or [priscilla@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:priscilla@olrfairfield.org.au) Applications are to be submitted in writing, including a CV and cover letter, and close on 20 January 2019.

# Saints of the Week



## St Raymond of Penafort

St. Raymond of Pennafort was born in Spain, St. Raymond was a relative of the King of Aragon. From childhood he had a tender love and devotion to the Blessed Mother. He finished his studies at an early age, and became a famous teacher. He then gave up all his honours and entered the Order of the Dominicans. St. Raymond was very humble and very close to God. He did much penance and was so good and kind that he won many sinners to God. With King James of Aragon and St. Peter Nolasco he founded the Order of Our Lady of Ransom. The brave religious of this Order devoted themselves to saving poor Christians captured by the Moors. Once he went with King James to the Island of Majorca to preach about Jesus. King James was a man of great qualities, but he let himself be ruled by passions. There on the Island, too, he was giving bad example. The Saint commanded him to send the woman away. The King said he would, but he did not keep his promise. So St. Raymond decided to leave the Island. The King declared he would punish any ship captain who brought the Saint back to Barcelona. Putting all his trust in God, Saint Raymond spread his cloak upon the water, tied up one corner of it to a stick for a sail, made the Sign of the Cross, stepped onto the cloak, and sailed along for six hours until he reached Barcelona. This miracle moved the King. He was sorry for what he had done, and he became a true follower of St. Raymond. St. Raymond was one hundred years old at the time of his death.

**Feast day:** January 1

**Patron of Canonists**

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



## Son of God: The Daily Gospel Year C-1

This e-book, which may be downloaded **free of charge** to a computer/tablet/phone, offers the Gospel for every day of the coming Liturgical Year C-1 beginning with the First Sunday of Advent. Each daily Gospel has with it a reflection of some 750 words. The e-book may be passed on for downloading to friends or acquaintances as desired. It carries the Imprimatur of Archbishop Anthony Fisher given when he was Bishop of Parramatta.

**Son of God: The Daily Gospel Year C-1** may be accessed at the following: [www.catholic-thoughts.info/ebook/](http://www.catholic-thoughts.info/ebook/)



## 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 6th January**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Meeting Room.

# Happy New Year 2019

## PARISH MINISTRIES

We are always in need of people to help in our various Parish Ministries. If you are able to help at anytime throughout the year please contact the group Coordinator to find out more details. Thank you

**Parish Council (Chair):** Jeff Lai

**Reader:** Nina Laureti Ph: 9823 3277.

**Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister:** Linda Barilla Ph: 9607 4993.

**Catechist:** Nina Laureti Ph: 9823 3277.

**Acolyte and Altar Servers:** Fr Richard.

**Children's Liturgy:** Angela Galdas Ph: 9606 8403.

**Parish Morning Teas:** Teresa Vartuli Ph: 0413 835 250.

**Church Cleaning:** Ann Gorla Ph: 0425 284 860.

**Church Linen:** Michelle De Luca 0400 374 277.

**Parish Housie:** Yvonne Smolinski in the Parish Office Ph: 9823 2572.

## To all our Children's Liturgy Leaders and Helpers of 2018.

Please let Angela or your co-ordinator know (ASAP) whether you would like to continue being a Children's Liturgy Leader in 2019. We are especially **in need of Leaders and helpers for the 10am Mass in 2019**. If anyone is interested in joining the team please contact Angela Galdas on 9606 8403 or 0410 964 196.

After your final Children's Liturgy for the year, please leave your folder and photocopies for 2018 in the Children's Liturgy cupboard. 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 12/13 JAN	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	G Turnbull M Abdal	J Poljak S Hely	M Aulsebrook C Goodyer	M Zangari V Arbanas
<b>EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTER</b>	B Empeigne A Vlahadamis D Vella L Tononcelli E Vella M Camilleri	M Jebrail Delicia Vella A Liberatore F Foti B O'Connor	E Villegas C Porreca T Nguyen M Aulsebrook R Hibbs J Habib	S Cook M Mai G Vaderwert D Pham
<b>CHURCH COUNTER</b>	J Oliveri	V Baltazar	Younart	
<b>CLEANERS: CHURCH</b>				
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER</b>	13/01/2019 R Marciano	20/01/2019 S Leonello	27/01/2019 M De Luca	3/02/2019 D Triganza
<b>10AM MORNING TEAS</b>	13/01/2019 Group 2	20/01/2019 Group 3	27/01/2019 Group 4	3/02/2019 Group 1

## Upcoming Parish Activities ..... Save the date!



**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 Tuesday at 8pm for 8:15pm start**

Give 30 minutes of your busy day to Jesus and experience the difference in your life. Held in the Church chapel. If you are new to the meditation group can you please allow one hour. For further information, contact Frances on 0438 213 313.



## JORDAN YOUTH GROUP

Primary school students in Years 5 and 6 are welcome to come together to engage, learn, pray and be involved in spiritual life and explore our Catholic faith. Join us in group discussions, games, activities and reflection.

For further details contact the Parish Office on 9823 2572 or email: [infor@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:infor@johnthebaptist.org.au)



## 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.



## 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 31st January @ 7:10pm**

(Meetings take place every fortnight on a Thursday)

**Where: John the Baptist Parish Hall**

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



Our Christmas gathering



**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](http://www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au)



## RAISE YOUR VOICES!

**Entrance Antiphon:** *Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.*

**Communion Antiphon:** *We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.*

### Next Sunday:

#### The Baptism of the Lord - (Year C)

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

### Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Like the magi I feel a driving desire to find Christ when.....
- ♦ I know my life is complete when..... Wisdom to find completeness comes to me through.....
- ♦ Christ satisfies me with fullness when.....

#### First reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

##### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

##### The Word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts  
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba  
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,  
all nations shall serve him.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

#### Second reading

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

##### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

##### The Word of the Lord

#### Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

#### Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

##### A reading from the Holy Gospel according Matthew

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

*And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders  
of Judah, for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'*



Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

##### The Gospel of the Lord

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