



# 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 4

**Monday - 8am**

**Tuesday - 8am**

*St Agatha, virgin, martyr*

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*St Paul Miki and  
companions, martyrs*

**Thursday - 9:10am**

**Friday - 9:10am**

*St Jerome Emiliani*

*St Josephine Bakhita, virgin*

**Saturday - 9:10am**

#### NEXT SUNDAY

### SUNDAY 9/10 FEBRUARY

*(Fifth Sunday in Ordinary*

*Time 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

### 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

2nd & 3rd February, 2019

### *Love Transforms our Mind and Heart*

After a wedding anniversary celebration, a man was walking in his garden. He stood by the moon-drenched pool, tossing pebbles into the water and watching circles form. How like a circle is my love for my wife, he thought. It, too, has no beginning and no ending. The next day, he went to a goldsmith and directed him to make a gold circle to fit his wife's finger. When the man slipped the finished ring on his wife's finger, he told her, "*This circle, which has no beginning and no ending, is a pledge of my love for you, which is also eternal.*" And down through the ages, the giving of a wedding ring has sealed the vows of marriage and symbolised the purity and endlessness of love in marriage.

Today's second reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians is used by many couples in their marriage ceremony as an expression of their love for one another. It reads "*Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful....is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.*" If there is love in our hearts we will see love in others, and the way we see them will be very different.

In St. Luke's gospel, Jesus stressed that God's love is big enough for everyone and we are being loved by Him. When we accept this love we are free from fear and being free from fear we become free from compulsion thus the way we see others and our problems begins to change. As the result our behaviour also begins to change.

Let us pray that we will always be aware of God's love for us so that we will live our life joyfully and be free to love others the way Jesus loved us.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

1822 Charity is the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for his own sake, and our neighbour as ourselves for the love of God.

**Each morning** when I open my eyes I say to myself: "I, not events, have the power to make me happy or unhappy today. I can choose which I shall be. Yesterday is dead, tomorrow hasn't arrived yet. I have just one day, today, and I'm going to be happy in it."

A woman went to a doctor's office and seen by one of the new doctors. But after 4 minutes in the examination room, she burst out, screaming as she ran down the hall. An older doctor stopped her and asked her what the problem was, and when she explained, he had her sit down and relax in another room. He then marched down to the new doctor's office and demanded. "what's the matter with you? Mrs. Terry is 63 years old, she has four grown children, 8 grandchildren, and you told her she was PREGNANT???" The new doctor smiled and said: "Cured her hiccups though, didn't I?"



**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, Inez BUGEJA, Claudio Da SILVA, Bozana VUKOV, Diana VUKOV, Judy VELLA, Giuse, Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Nancy VARTULI, Jessie ZAMMIT

**Recently Deceased:** Ronald William FENTON, Charlie SALIBA, Manuela REGO, Merita AGUDO, Ghazwan KOREAL

**Death Anniversary:** Ciro PUNZO

**Other:** Gung Gia JIANG, Gung Jing KIAM, Tung Chil ANG, Jia Arng MUAI, Jue Soak KIM, Gung Tia PUNG, Gung Hoak PUNG, Kenneth JIANG, Kue Soong LEE, Ngo Hai BUAI, Kue Peng KEE, Kue Peng SIR, Kue Peng TIA, Kue Chang GUANG, Kue Miel TIAN, Kue Miel ANG, Marion FENECH, Jimmy and Maryann FENECH, Thanksgiving, Special Intention

## 6 CATECHISTS + MANY HELPERS NEEDED TO COVER ALL CLASSES THIS YEAR

Due to work and family commitments and some catechists teaching 2 or 3 classes we need **6 catechists to cover all classes in 2019.**

**Cecil Hills Primary, Wednesdays 9:20am to 9:50am, Year 3 and Year 6**

**Edensor Park Primary, Wednesdays 9:00am to 9:30am, Kindy and Year 4**

**What is involved?** You are invited by the Church to share our faith with over **1100** children in our **6 public schools** who receive **30 minutes of Scripture** each week during the school term. Classes are on Tuesday mornings, Wednesday mornings and afternoons and Friday mornings.

**What do I need?** A willingness to share your faith life and a Working with Children Check (WWCC)

**What help will I get?** Support and encouragement from our vibrant group of 65 catechists who share their faith interests and goals. CCD provides practical training courses including compulsory safeguarding training to help you to develop teaching skills and to make the best use of your own gifts. (see information below)

If you would like more information about the mission of a Catechist or Helper, please contact Nina Laureti on 0408465149 or speak to Fr Dominic or Fr Richard or contact the Parish Office on 98232572.

## NSW Special Religious Education Teacher Training for Parish Catechists and Helpers

**Monday 11 February**

**6:30pm to 9:30pm - JB Meeting Room**

**1.1 Training - Safeguarding and Role of the SRE Catechist (mandatory for all new catechists/helpers)**

**Monday 18 February**

**6:30pm to 9:30pm - JB Meeting Room**

**1.2 - Using the authorised curriculum**

**Monday 25 February**

**6:30pm to 9:30pm - JB Meeting Room**

**1.3 - Classroom Management**

To book courses, please contact the CCD Office 9307 8330 or email [office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au)

# Saints of the Week



**St Agatha** also known as Agatha of Sicily, is one of the most highly venerated virgin martyrs of the Catholic Church. She was born around 231 in Sicily to a rich and noble family. From her very early years, the notably beautiful Agatha dedicated her life to God. She became a consecrated virgin, a state in life where young women choose to remain celibate and give themselves wholly to Jesus and the Church in a life of prayer and service. That did not stop men from desiring her and making unwanted advances toward her. One of the men who desired Agatha, whose name was Quintianus, because he was of a high diplomatic ranking, thought he could force her to turn away from her vow and force her to marry. His persistent proposals were consistently spurned by Agatha, so Quintianus, knowing she was a Christian during the persecution of Decius, had her arrested and brought before the judge. He was the Judge. To force her to change her mind, Quintianus had her imprisoned - in a brothel. She suffered a month of assaults and efforts to get her to abandon her vow to God and go against her virtue. Quintianus sent her off to prison a move intended to make her even more afraid, but it was probably a great relief to her. Agatha continued to proclaim Jesus as her Saviour, Lord, Life and Hope. Quintianus ordered her to be tortured. He had her stretched on a rack to be torn with iron hooks, burned with torches, and whipped. Noticing Agatha was enduring all the torture with a sense of cheer, he commanded she be subjected to a worse form of torture. This evil man ordered that her breasts be cut off. He then sent her back to prison with an order of no food or medical attention. But the Lord gave her all the care she needed. He was her Sacred Physician and protector. Agatha had a vision of the apostle, St Peter, who comforted her and healed her wounds through his prayers. After four days, Quintianus ignored the miraculous cure of her wounds. He had her stripped naked and rolled over hot coals which were mixed with sharp shards. When she was returned to prison, Agatha prayed, "Lord, my Creator, you have ever protected me from the cradle; you have taken me from the love of the world, and given me patience to suffer: receive now my soul."

**Feast day: February 5**

**Patron** of Sicily, bellfounders, breast cancer, against fire, Palermo, rape victims, and wet nurses



## St Paul Miki and Companions

Paul was the son of a Japanese military leader. He was born at Tounucumada, Japan, was educated at the Jesuit college of Anziquiama, joined the Jesuits in 1580, and became known for his eloquent preaching. He was crucified on February 5 with twenty-five other Catholics during the persecution of Christians under the Taiko, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, ruler of Japan in the name of the emperor. They were all canonized as the Martyrs of Japan in 1862. **Feast day: February 6**



**St Josephine Bakhita** also known as 'Mother Moretta' (our Black Mother) bore 144 physical scars throughout her life which were received after she was kidnapped at the age of nine and sold into slavery. Such was the trauma experienced that she forgot her birth name and her kidnappers gave her the name Bakhita meaning 'fortunate'.

She experienced the moral and physical humiliations associated with slavery. In 1882 her suffering was alleviated after she was bought for the Italian Consul. With Italian families Bakhita received kindness, respect, peace and joy. A change in the family's circumstances meant that she was entrusted to the Canossian Sisters of the Institute of the Catechumens in Venice. It was there that Bakhita came to know about God whom, 'she had experienced in her heart without knowing who He was' since she was a child. She was received into the Catholic Church in 1890, joining the sisters and making final profession in 1896. The next fifty years of her life were spent witnessing to God's love through cooking, sewing, embroidery and attending to the door. When she was on door duty, she would gently lay her hands on the heads of the children who attended the nearby school and caress them. Her voice was pleasing to the little ones, comforting to the poor and suffering. Bakhita was a source of encouragement to many and her constant smile won people's hearts.

**Feast Day** February 8 **Patron** of Sudan





## 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 3rd February**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Hall.



## CHANGES TO MORNING MASSES AT JOHN THE BAPTIST

**Monday and Tuesday Mornings at 8:00am starting 4th February**

Wednesday Evening 7:00pm

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Mornings 9:10am

The weekend Masses will remain the same.

## MEMORIAL

**For Courtney Jayde TOPIC**

27/2/92 - 10/2/15

Memorial at Hungry Jacks, Hoxton Park

4th Anniversary

**Sunday 10th February, 2019**

From 10.30am onwards

All are welcome.



## 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.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Fr Dominic would like to hold on the **First Sunday of each Month** a supper after the 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass and a morning tea after the 8:00am Sunday Mass. If you are able to assist please contact Teresa Vartuli on 0413 835 250.

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

Ministries Next Week 9/10 FEB	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	G Turnbull M Camilleri	L Barilla J Finucane	C Porreca E Villegas	R Capolupo A Bento
<b>EXTRA- ORDINARY MINISTER</b>	T Micali A Gorla B Empeigne A Vlahadamis D Vella L Tononcelli	L Barilla R Morellini M Jebail Delicia Vella A Liberatore	S D'Cruz T Vartuli S Hambrook H Fenech E Villegas C Porreca	S Cook M Mai G Vanderwert D Pham
<b>CHURCH COUNTER</b>	J Oliveri	V Baltazar		
<b>CLEANERS: CHURCH</b>				
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER</b>	11/02/2019 S Shabo	18/02/2019 A Portolesi	25/02/2019 K Jekki	4/03/2019 C Monteleone
<b>10AM MORNING TEAS</b>	10/02/2019 Group 2	17/02/2019 Group 3	24/02/2019 Group 4	3/03/2019 Group 1

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



Hi,  
My name is David Moore and I am in formation within the Archdiocese of Sydney to be ordained a Permanent Deacon. After spending two years appointed to St. Josephs at Moorebank, I have just been

transferred to John the Baptist Parish to complete my formation under the mentorship of Fr. Dominic and the community.

During my time at St. Josephs, I was involved in a number of Pastoral Activities within the Parish Community.

These included various touchpoints in:

- ☐ The RCIA Program
- ☐ Ministries of Acolyte and Lector
- ☐ Baptismal Co-ordinator
- ☐ Mens Group Leader
- ☐ Pastoral Council Member
- ☐ Eucharistic Minister to the Sick and housebound
- ☐ Working with St Vincent De Paul night Patrol

As well as balancing work, family and Pastoral work, I am studying a Bachelor of Theology at the Catholic Institute in Strathfield.

I am married to wife Jenny and have four beautiful Daughters.

As a Deacon, I look forward to continuing my journey towards Ordination at Bonnyrigg by working with the local community to ensure Christs work is nourished in a Parish which is already very successful within the Archdiocese.

I look forward to meeting as many parishioners as possible, and under the guidance of my mentors, adding value to this community.

Regards  
Dave



**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

## 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



**LOST after 8pm Christmas Eve Mass** black shopping bag (with red love hearts on the front) containing cables and four microphones in cases belonging to the Tongan Choir. If found please contact the Parish Office on 9823 2572.



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

## RAISE YOUR VOICES!

**Entrance Antiphon:** *Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.*

**Communion Antiphon:** *Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.*

### Next Sunday:

#### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year C)

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

### Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ The prophetic words of Jesus which amaze me are..... Those which I embrace wholeheartedly are.....
- ♦ The prophetic words of Jesus which are upsetting and which I am resisting are.....
- ♦ What sustains me to live Jesus' words even in the face of opposition and anger from others is.....

#### First reading

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

##### A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying:

'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. 'So now brace yourself for action.

Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed.

'I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks.'

#### The Word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

70:1-6, 15, 17

##### I will sing of your salvation.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me, free me:  
pay heed to me and save me.

##### I will sing of your salvation.

Be a rock where I can take refuge,  
a mighty stronghold to save me;  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
Free me from the hand of the wicked.

##### I will sing of your salvation.

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,  
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.  
On you I have leaned from my birth,  
from my mother's womb you have been my help.

##### I will sing of your salvation.

My lips will tell of your justice  
and day by day of your help.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth  
and I proclaim your wonders still.

##### I will sing of your salvation.

#### Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31-13:13

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

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing.

If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

#### The Word of the Lord

#### Gospel Acclamation

Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor  
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

#### Gospel

Luke 4:21-30

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

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?'

But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself" and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside." And he went on, 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

#### The Gospel of the Lord



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