



# 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: [curate@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:curate@johnthebaptist.org.au)  
Emergency: 0451 910 634

### 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

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

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 - 8:00am**

**Communion Service**

*St Mary Magdalene*

**Tuesday - 8:00am**

**Communion Service**

*St Bridget*

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*St Sharbel Makhluf, priest*

**Thursday - 9:10am**

**Communion Service**

*St James, apostle*

**Friday - 9:10am**

**Communion Service**

*Sts Joachim and Anne,  
parents of Blessed Virgin  
Mary*

**Saturday - 9:10am**

#### **NEXT SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY 27/28 JULY**

*(17th 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

Sunday — 5:00—5:15pm

#### **Anointing of the Sick**

Contact the Parish Office  
or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639  
or Fr Richard 0451 910 634

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

20th & 21st July, 2019

### The better part

There was a man who was in the habit of going off by himself into a remote wood. One day a friend, curious to know what he was up to, followed him into the wood. When he caught up with him, he found him sitting quietly on a log. 'What are you doing? He asked the man. 'I'm praying,' came the reply. 'But why come to this remote spot to pray?' 'Because I feel close to God here.' 'But isn't God to be found everywhere, and isn't God the same everywhere?' 'God is but I am not.'

In the gospel, Jesus says that Mary has "chosen the better part". What is more important when we welcome a guest: getting about the business of serving them, or seating down so we can listen to them? Martha got busy serving her guest, while Mary simply wanted to listen. Harried with the work and frustrated with her sister's lack of help, Martha complained to Jesus. In response, Jesus told Martha to stop worrying and start listening. Jesus did not reject the need for serving others. Helping guests is the sign of a gracious host. What Jesus did insist upon was balance. There is a time to prepare for guests and there is a time to socialize with them. There is a time to serve and a time to listen.

Understandably, down the ages and perhaps particularly in recent times, it is Martha who has evoked more sympathy. Her complaint that she has been left to do all the work by herself seems at one level very justified. But this is precisely where the provocation of the Gospel has its bite. As Luke's Gospel so often makes clear, frenetic service, even service of the Lord, can be a deceptive distraction from what the Lord really wants. Good people are always prone to measure their goodness by all they do for the Lord. They forget that nothing that they can ever do could match all they need to receive, and that the Lord's primary intent towards us is to bestow upon us life, love and salvation, rather than to make use of our service.

When we welcome the Lord, we should prepare for the welcome with prayer, but be ready to listen to the Lord at every moment. On the one hand, we cannot reduce our spiritual life to prayer. If we do, prayer becomes our speech to God: a list of our needs, wants, and desires. And we do not hear his voice, his call, his word. On the other hand, we cannot simply go about our business without prayer, hoping the Lord will surprise us. We might not hear his voice. So, we need to prepare our hearts with prayer, but have open hearts to hear the Lord.

Like a gracious host, let us prepare to welcome the Lord. Pray for the gift of an open heart this week.

### Catholic Trivia

1. What was Jesus' blood type?
2. How was the death of the Apostle St. John unique among the apostles?
3. What is the title bestowed on a Roman Catholic Church because of its age or importance?



**Fr Richard**

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



**Sick:** Joan LOUIS, Mrs Thi Chuyen HOANG,  
Fr Jack SOULSBY, Danilo DE LEON, Janette SMITH,  
Jessie TREZEVANT, Jane GALEA, Joseph DEGUARA,  
Janelle CLIFTON, Isabelle CROUCHE,  
Giuseppina LETTIERI, Claudio Da SILVA, Bozana VUKOV,  
Diana VUKOV, Judy VELLA, Giuse,  
Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Giuseppe LETTIERI,  
Nancy VARTULI, Jessie ZAMMIT

**Recently Deceased:** Rueben FERNANDEZ,  
Casimero CASTOR, Angeline WALKER,  
Carmen MICALLEF, Martin SARTOR, Milan DRENOVAC

**Death Anniversary:** Edward CARUANA, Irena SMOLINSKI

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

# Saints of the Week



## Mary Magdalene

St Mary Magdalene is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we know she was present with Christ during his public ministry, serving Jesus and his Disciples. She was present at his death and was the first witness to His resurrection.

She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels. Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute but this is not supported in the scriptures. It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. Jesus saving her gave us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God.

After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude, in a cave.

**Feast Day: July 22**



## St James

Nothing is known of St. James the Greater's early life, though it has been established that he is the son of Zebedee and Salome and brother of John the disciple.

The title "the Greater" was added to St. James' name to help distinguish him from the Apostle James "the Less," who is believed to have been shorter than James "the Greater." Saint James the Greater was one of Jesus' first disciples. James was one of only three called by Jesus to witness his Transfiguration, and when he and his brother wanted to call fire upon a Samaritan town, both were rebuked by Jesus. Following Christ's Ascension, James spread the Gospel across Israel and the Roman kingdom as well. He travelled and spread the Word for nearly forty years in Spain. It is said that one day, as he prayed, The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him and asked him to build her a church, which he did. Later, James returned to Jerusalem and was martyred for his faith by King Herod.

**Feast Day: July 25**



## Sts Joachim and Anne

Saints Joachim (sometimes spelled "Joaquin," pronounced "wal-keem") and Anne, are the parents of the Virgin Mary. There are no mentions of them in the Bible or Gospels, what we know comes from Catholic legend and the Gospel of James, which is an unsanctioned, apocryphal writing from the second century AD.

Even the early Church fathers expressed scepticism about the Gospel of James in their writings. There are about 150 copies of the ancient manuscript which often have different titles, but tell the same story, that Mary was promised to Joachim and Anne by an angel, was consecrated to God, and she remained a virgin all her life. Naturally, there is plenty of room for scholarly debate about these saints. We have no true primary sources that prove they even existed, but certainly we can agree that Mary had parents. Mary had good, faithful parents who raised her with a love and devotion to God like none other except Jesus Christ Himself. Joachim and Anne serve as role models for parents and both deserve to be honoured and emulated for their devotion to God and Our Lady Mary, the Mother of God.

**Feast Day: July 26**



## 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 25th July at 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

## CHRIST OUR LIGHT YOUTH MINISTRY

(for Young Adults)

Presents

## GAME ON YOUTH NIGHT

Food, Games and Faith.

Name a better trio, we'll wait.

Admission is completely free! Just bring yourself, a friend and a fiery spirit as we go head-to-head in some classic board games and have a snag or two, to celebrate the catholic youth community.

**When: Friday, August 2nd**

**Where:** 45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights

**Time:** 7:30pm - 10:30pm

For more information, contact us:

christourlightyouth@gmail.com

Ph: 0490 518 369

Face Book: Christ our Light Youth

## CHRIST OUR LIGHT YOUTH MINISTRY

Find us on facebook and Like Us!!

## Ignite Conference Sydney: October 3-6

The Ignite Conference is one of Australia's most powerful Catholic youth and family conferences. For the first time ever this October 3-6, Ignite Conference will be held in Sydney (Freeman College).

The conference draws together a network of high schoolers, young adults, ministry leaders, families, teachers, priests and religious from around the country, sending them out with a passion for mission and authentic faith in Jesus. Students from all Sydney Catholic Schools are offered a 50% discount and special packages for families are available as well.

For more information, visit [www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/ignite19/](http://www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/ignite19/) or contact the team at Sydney Catholic Youth on (02) 9307 8152 or [info@sydneycatholicyouth.org](mailto:info@sydneycatholicyouth.org)



## RCIA – DO YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO WANTS TO BECOME CATHOLIC?

Many adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church each year through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA):

1. The non-baptised are suitably prepared are welcomed into the Catholic Church by the reception of the three Sacraments of Initiation, namely Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.
2. Those from other Christian denominations are received into full communion with the Catholic Church.
3. Any catholic adults (baptised) but not yet confirmed.

The course for the RCIA candidates for next year's Easter Vigil commences in October 2019.

For inquiries contact either the parish office, Fr Dominic or Fr Richard



## 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 4th August**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Hall.

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AND TAX RECEIPTS

The new envelopes for next Financial Year are now available outside the Church foyer. **Please ensure you pick up your correct envelope by checking both your name and address.** Tax receipts for this financial year are available for collection outside the Church foyer.

**Would you like to become a regular contributor to the Parish?** or would you like to change your contribution method from envelopes to monthly credit card giving?

If so, please contact the Parish Office on 9823 2572 or email Leanne at [info@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:info@johnthebaptist.org.au)

## JOHN THE BAPTIST COMMUNITY CARE

John the Baptist Community Care is a reasonably new initiative established to support those in need.

This initiative does not discriminate and will provide care and support for people of our community and beyond who are in need, irrespective of their faith or particular situation in life.

Such needs may be financial, social, emotional or spiritual. Finances to support this initiative are raised via the Church Piety Store and Poor Boxes, as well as donations, Plant and Cake/ biscuit sales and other fundraisers.

**If you are aware of a family in need, or if your own family is in need of support at this time, please phone the parish office on 9823 2572.**

**A member of the John the Baptist Community Care Group will contact you to discuss your situation.**

**All enquiries will be treated with respect and in confidence.**

## FR ROB GALEA COMING HOME CONCERT

At the O'Grady Auditorium, Neich Parade, Burwood on **Sunday July 28**. Bring your family and friends to be encouraged and inspired in prayer through great music and inspirational stories. All tickets \$55 through [frgministry.com/tickets](http://frgministry.com/tickets) by credit card or if you do not have internet access call Carol on 0408 149 962.

Ministries Next Week 27/28 JULY	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	E Vella J Oliveri	R Golubic M Jebrail	C Goodyer A Bautista	
<b>EXTRA- ORDINARY MINISTER</b>	A Gorla B Empeigne A Vlahadamis D Vella E Vella M Camilleri	D Sullivan J Finucane L Tononcelli S Xuereb D Triganza	G Dunn N Dubuisson S D'Cruz T Vatruli S Hambrook H Fenech	
<b>CHURCH COUNTER</b>	F Aloe	J Coiera	T Moriana	
<b>CLEANERS: CHURCH</b>				
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER</b>	28/07/2019 S Shabo	04/08/2019 D Triganza	11/08/2019 M De Luca	18/08/2019 S Leonello
<b>10AM MORNING TEAS</b>	28/07/2019 Group 4	04/08/2019 Group 1	11/08/2019 Group 2	18/08/2019 Group 3

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



### CONFIRMATION MEETINGS 2019

**Group Leader's Meeting** Tuesday 23rd July, commencing at 7.00pm in the Church.

**Parent Meeting** Tuesday 30th July, commencing at 7.00pm in the Church.



### JORDAN YOUTH GROUP

Primary School students in Years 5, 6 & 7 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.

**Our next session is on Saturday, 27th July.**

**3.30-5.15pm.**

Please contact the Parish office for further information. [info@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:info@johnthebaptist.org.au)

John the Baptist are starting a **Men's Group**, one Friday a month. The first meeting will take place on **2nd August in the Parish Hall at 7:00pm**. We will reflect on the scriptures and discuss how we can relate the Gospel in our lives and grow stronger in our Faith. All men are invited to be part of this Group.



### JB COMMUNITY FAIR - 27TH OCTOBER

**"Give and it will be given unto you"**

**Luke 6:38**

"Your Parish! Your Fair!" - offers food, fun rides, music market stalls and entertainment bringing the Parish Community and their families together.

This Fair is designed for our community and celebrates the delights of our Parish. We anticipate a huge turnout from our parish and school communities.

**WANTED:** We are looking talents/entertainment. Would you like to donate a prize or be a sponsor? Interested in marketing your service or products at our Fair? Please contact Caterina 0416 044 149.

**WANTED:** International Food Stallholders - Our Parish has a boundless array of multiculturalism. If you wish to support by volunteering in anyway possible please contact Susan 0419 606 683.

## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Friday 2nd August** - Game on Youth Night

**Friday 2nd August** - Men's Group

**Friday 13th September** - Confirmation

**Saturday 14th September** - Confirmation

**Sunday 29th September** - Annual Catechist Mass at St Mary's Cathedral

**Thursday 3rd October** - Ignite Conference

**Sunday 27th October** - JB Community Fair

**Tuesday 12th November** - First Reconciliation

**Thursday 14th November** - First Reconciliation

**Further information will be provided closer to the dates.**



This weekend our Parish is holding the annual Catholic Mission Church Appeal. This year we are invited to partner with the Church in Ghana, as they provide ongoing protection and development of children who are vulnerable.



## RAISE YOUR VOICES!

**Entrance Antiphon:** *See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.*

**Communion Antiphon:** *The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.*

### Next Sunday:

#### 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Second Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

### Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ When being present to Jesus, I am more like Martha when.....  
Like Mary when.....
- ♦ Jesus judges me ""anxious and worried about many things""  
when I.....
- ♦ The ""one thing"" I need is..... to receive it, I must surrender.....

#### First reading

Genesis 18:1-10

#### A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah.' 'Hurry,' he said 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail, and your wife will then have a son.'

#### The Word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue.

*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord.

*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

14:2-5

#### Second reading

Colossians 1:24-28

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

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my own body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

#### The Word of the Lord

#### Gospel Acclamation

cf. Luke 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart

and yield a harvest through perseverance.

Alleluia!

#### Gospel

Luke 10:38-42

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

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'



#### The Gospel of the Lord

#### Answers for the Catholic Trivia

1. Blood type AB (Samples taken from the Shroud of Turin, which wrapped Jesus' crucified body and Samples from the Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano in 711 A.D. tested in 1970s)
2. St. John was the only Apostle not to be martyred
3. Basilica

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