



# 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

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### 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

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 1

**Monday - 8:00am**

**Tuesday - 8:00am**

*St Monica*

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*St Augustine, bishop, doctor*

**Thursday - 9:10am**

*The Passion of St John the Baptist, martyr*

**Friday - 9:10am**

**Saturday - 9:10am**

#### NEXT SUNDAY

**SUNDAY 31 AUG/1 SEPT**

*(21st 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

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 24th & 25th August, 2019

### The narrow door

Many Australians make a decision when voting for a political Party from which a Prime Minister will lead the nation for a term of three years. The result is unpredictable. Then the Prime Minister will give his/her speech addressing and promising the whole nation, at the same time he/she will receive many congratulations for his/her winning. We are living in a world where value and success is often based upon winning, possessions, prestige and power. Even religion sometimes tends to follow this worldly trend. It measures its success by its possessions, the size of its buildings or the number of its followers. The purpose of religion is often seen as getting God on our side so that we can have what we want. It is often concerned with what we can get from God with how we can get God to be on our side and do our wills.

Today in the Gospel, Jesus encouraged his followers *"Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed."* Jesus' spiritual wisdom is different to the world. *"the seed must die, if it is to bear fruit."* *"Forgive your enemies and do good to those who hate you."* Jesus' message is not popular but for those who have faith and have been enlightened, it is where the true joy exists. It is surely harder to enter the narrow door if we have so much baggage on our back. Spirituality is a letting go of all trappings, all that is unnecessary and to move closer to God's will. In order to grow in spirituality we must detach and we must let go from many barriers that stop us moving towards the one who IS.

In his book 'New seed on Contemplation' (p.31-32) Thomas Merton writes: *"Trees and animals have no problem. God makes them what they are without consulting them and they are perfectly satisfied. With us it is different. God leaves us free to be whoever we like. we can be ourselves or not, as we please. We are at liberty to be real, or to be unreal. We may be true or false, the choice is ours. We may wear one mask now and then another, and never, if we so desire, appear with our own true face. But we cannot make these choices with impunity. Causes have effects, and if we lie to ourselves and to others, then we cannot expect to find truth and reality whenever we happen to want them. If we have chosen the way of falsity we must not be surprised that truth eludes us when we finally come to need it."* Freedom and truth are the keys. The choices are ours.

Let us reflect on 'the narrow door' of our lives and enter it with joy, hope and love.

#### Catechism of the Catholic Church

387 Only the light of the divine revelation clarifies the reality of sin and particularly of the sin committed at mankind's origins. Without the knowledge revelation gives of God we cannot recognise sin clearly and are tempted to explain it as merely a developmental flaw, a psychological weakness, a mistake, or the necessary consequence of an inadequate social structure, etc. Only in the knowledge of God's plan for man can we grasp that sin is an abuse of the freedom that God gives to created persons so that they are capable of loving Him and loving one another.

**Fr Dominic**

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



**Sick:** Sylvia HARDING, Frank AZZOPARDI, 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, Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Nancy VARTULI, Jessie ZAMMIT

**Recently Deceased:** (Michael) RICHARD Viet Quang Ly, Francesca JOHNSON, Chona VICTORINO, Stella DUFF, Guy JEAN-BAPTISTE, Rina FAVOTTO

**Death Anniversary:** Maryann FENECH, Ghazwan KOREAL, Joseph TRAN

**Other:** Agostino BADINO, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH, Special Intention, Thank you

# Saints of the Week



**St Monica** was an early Christian saint and the mother of St Augustine of Hippo. She is remembered and honoured in most Christian denominations, albeit on different feast days, for her outstanding Christian virtues, particularly the suffering caused by her husband's adultery, and her prayerful life dedicated to the reformation of her son, who wrote extensively of her pious acts and life with her in his *Confessions*. Popular Christian legends recall Saint Monica weeping every night for her son Augustine.

**Feast Day:** August 27

**Patron of wives and abuse victims**



**St Augustine** of Hippo is the patron of brewers because of his conversion from a former life of loose living, which included parties, entertainment, and worldly ambitions. His complete turnaround and conversion has been an inspiration to many who struggle with a particular vice or habit they long to break.

This famous son of St. Monica was born in Africa and spent many years of his life in wicked living and in false beliefs. Though he was one of the most intelligent men who ever lived and though he had been brought up a Christian, his sins of impurity and his pride darkened his mind so much, that he could not see or understand the Divine Truth anymore. Through the prayers of his holy mother and the marvellous preaching of St. Ambrose, Augustine finally became convinced that Christianity was the one true religion. Yet he did not become a Christian then, because he thought he could never live a pure life. After reading the book of the Letters of St. Paul it was just what Augustine needed, for in it, St. Paul says to put away all impurity and to live in imitation of Jesus. That did it! From then on, Augustine began a new life. He was baptized, became a priest, a bishop, a famous Catholic writer, Founder of religious priests, and one of the greatest saints that ever lived. He became very devout and charitable, too.

**Feast Day:** August 28

**Patron of brewers**



**The Passion of St John the Baptist** is seen as the last prophet of the Old Testament and the first prophet of the New. St. John has always been an icon of one who not only spoke the truth but also challenged his hearers with a call to action. He knew that truth always demanded a decision. John the Baptist was set apart by God from his mother's womb and called by His grace. Even before his birth, he leaped for joy as he came into the presence of the Son of God within Mary's womb. His burden was to awaken the people to this incredible good news letting them know that the one for whom they had been waiting - the Messiah - would be coming soon. St. John the Baptist also wanted to be sure that the way was prepared for His coming - recognizing the way that had to be prepared was not a road of stones and dirt, but a highway of the heart. He called for people to repent and be baptized, washed of the burdens of this life that they could hear the Words of the Master when He came. On this feast day, however, we are focused on martyrdom, his beheading. He died for the faith for which he lived. The consequences of his heralding the good news and a call to righteousness cost him his life. He was condemned by the decree of King Herod. St. John's martyrdom reminds us that the most important vocation for all Christians, Catholic and Protestant alike, is living out the Gospel. We are called to proclaim the Good News of Christ both in word and deed.

**Feast Day:** August 29

## 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*

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AND TAX RECEIPTS

The new envelopes for next Financial Year and the Taxation receipts for this financial year are now available for collection from the Parish Office.

**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)

## STANDING AUTHORITY FOR RECURRENT PERIODIC PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ (Mr & Mrs, Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms) Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Given Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Card: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Planned Giving Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Month ☐ Quarter ☐ Year ☐ Tax Receipt Required (30% tax deductibility)

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION

**Baptisms** - If you wish to Baptise your child here in the Parish you will need to attend **10:00am Mass next Sunday 1st September**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Hall.



We congratulate the families of Orlando MANUELE and Christian NGUYEN who will be Baptised here this weekend.

## Natural Fertility Awareness Week 19<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Did you know a woman's health is often reflected in her fertility? Learning The Billings Ovulation Method® can alert a woman to underlying health problems. If you would like to be able to manage your fertility naturally and to monitor your reproductive health, accredited Billing Teachers are available to assist you throughout Australia.

For further information ring Billings LIFE on 1800 335 860 or visit [www.billings.life](http://www.billings.life)



## JB COMMUNITY FAIR - 27TH OCTOBER

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

**Luke 6:38**

The Fair has the following:-

**RIDES:** Jumping Castle, Dodgem Cars, Large Slides & more...

**OTHERS:** Face Painting, Fairy Floss, Raffles, Bottle Stall, Photo Booth & more to come

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Tongan Choir, Children's fashion show, Armenian cultural dance & many more to come

**STALLS:** Coffee, Pizza, Gelato, Crepe, Kids Clothing, Religious Jewellery, Plants Bolivian, Herbal Tea, Fashion & Bag, Candles & Towels ... many many more

**WE ARE SEEKING MORE:** Talents of all ages, a DJ, singers and even dancers, Sponsors, Gift vouchers, Major prizes from major stores... please contact Caterina 0416 044 149

**FOOD:** Our own International Food stalls by lovely Parishioners are Assyria/Persia, Croatia, Holland, India, Italy, Philippines, Tongan & Vietnam and an International Cake Stall too. We have such an array of culture in our Parish where's our Middle Eastern Parishioners, please come and share your cultural foods contact Susan 0419 606 683.

Ministries Next Week 31 AUG/1 SEP	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	G Turnbull J Oliveri	L Barilla J Poljak	C Goodyer E Villegas	A Bautista
<b>EXTRA- ORDINARY MINISTER</b>	A Pace J Victorino A Jameson C Araco L Topic T Micali	D Sullivan J Finucane L Tononcelli S Xuereb D Triganza	N Laureti G Dunn N Dubuisson S D'Cruz T Vartuli S Hambrook	S Cook M Mai G Vanderwert D Pham
<b>CHURCH COUNTER</b>	M Davies			
<b>CLEANERS: CHURCH</b>				
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER</b>	01/09/2019 C Monteleone	08/09/2019 Z Penitani	15/09/2019 S Peters	22/09/2019 M De Luca
<b>10AM MORNING TEAS</b>	01/09/2019 Group 1	08/09/2019 Group 2	15/09/2019 Group 3	22/09/2019 Group 4

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



## RECONCILIATION ENROLMENT NIGHT

For information on enrolment about the **RECONCILIATION** Reconciliation Sacrament Program 2019 please attend the **parent information evening this Tuesday 27 August 2019 at 7pm at John the Baptist Catholic Church**.

To enrol in our Sacramental Program for 2019 your child must be in Grade 3 or above at school this year.

All parents must attend the information evening (it is preferable that children do not attend this meeting).

If you have any questions about the program, please do not hesitate to contact Kylie on 0473 779 338 or Tamara on 0424 166 248.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING (PPC)** will be held on Tuesday 3rd September.

## 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)



## You are invited

The Ascension Prayer Community is inviting everyone for a special evening of Praise and Worship and Teaching/Sharing and fellowship.

**Date:** 5th September

**Speaker:** Fr Richard Dumba

**Theme:** "I will not leave you unless you bless me"

**Where:** John the Baptist Parish Hall

**Time:** 7:00pm

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

George 0414 607 513

(Meetings take place on a fortnightly basis)

## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

**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.**



## CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS NEEDED

We are in need of a few more Children's Liturgy leaders for 10am Mass. This would only be a once a month commitment. If you are able to assist please contact our Children's Liturgy Co-ordinator Angela Galdas on 9606 8403 or 0410 964 196.



## RAISE YOUR VOICES!

**Entrance Antiphon:** *Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.*

**Communion Antiphon:** *The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.*

### Next Sunday:

#### 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

First Reading: Sirach 3:17-20

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

### Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ To be like Jesus and make my "way to Jerusalem," I must.....
- ♦ The "narrow gate" and locked door I encounter on my daily journey are.....
- ♦ The strength of God's very Self, God's very Life sustains me most clearly when.....

#### First reading

**Isaiah 66:18-21**

#### A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

#### The Word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

**116:1-2**

#### *Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.*

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples!

*Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.*

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever.

*Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.*

#### Second reading

**Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13**

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

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? *My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons.* Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So *hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread;* then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

#### The Word of the Lord

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**John 14:6**

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.  
Alleluia!

#### Gospel

**Luke 13:22-30**

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

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

#### The Gospel of the Lord

**O God, by Thy mercy, strengthen us who lie  
exposed to the rough storms of troubles and  
temptations. Help us against our own negligence  
and cowardice, and defend us from the treachery of  
our unfaithful hearts. Succor us, we beseech Thee,  
and bring us to  
Thy safe haven of peace and felicity.  
St Augustine**

