



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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Emergency: 0423 420 639

Assistant: Rev Fr Richard Ddumba

Email: curate@johnthebaptist.org.au
Emergency: 0451 910 634

Deacon: Rev Mervyn Francis

Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Parish Pastoral Centre:

45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

Office: 9823 2572

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 2

Monday - 8:00am

Tuesday - 8:00am

*St Gregory the Great, pope,
doctor*

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

Spring Ember Day

Saturday - 9:10am

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY 7/8 SEPTEMBER

*(23rd 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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 31st August & 1st September, 2019

You too are invited

In this weekend's gospel from St. Luke, Jesus calls for humility and teaches us to be generous toward every person especially the marginalized. In his teaching, he gives two pieces of advice about dinner invitations. Courtesy, good manners and avoidance of embarrassment are also Christian values, important in Luke's cosmopolitan environment.

The first is founded on a proverb from the Old Testament, "Do not exalt yourself in the presence of the king, and do not stand in the place of the great; better to be invited, 'come up here', than to be humiliated" (Proverbs 25:6-7). For Luke, a banquet is always a foretaste of the heavenly feast, and a due sense of one's own limitations is always advantageous. The rank-order at the heavenly banquet may come as a surprise: beggars may come before bishops and prostitutes before popes.

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the person who humbles himself will be exalted"

The second piece of advice is also typical of Luke: he applies to the situation of everyday Jesus' own teaching and behaviour to the poor, the outcasts and the neglected in society. This teaching is then illustrated by the parable of the Great feast: there the host invites the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame. Perhaps in this day and age more important than financial and social considerations is concern for the lonely, the unwanted and the unpopular.

"Do not invite those who can repay your courtesy but those who cannot because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again"

Jesus made the love for strangers and enemies a hallmark of the inclusive community of the children of God. We are called to be with the oppressed, the persecuted, the marginalised and the excluded in their suffering, their struggles and their hopes. We cannot desert the needy, nor set boundaries to compassion. For God, there are no boundaries to the welcome all of us receive by the unconditional gift of God's grace. So, let us not set boundaries and conditions ourselves. Freely we have received. Freely let us give.

You too have got the capacity to heal. A kind word can heal a wounded spirit; a kind deed can heal a wounded heart. But sometimes there is nothing we can do for the sufferer, and nothing we can say either. In that case our only ministry is that of simple presence, like that of Mary at the foot of the cross. Yet, just being there, by standing alongside, we save the sufferer from feeling abandoned, and offer something very precious, namely, human comfort.

Link from the Social Teaching of the Church: The Dignity of the Human Person

Whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where men are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others of their like are infamies indeed. They poison human society, but they do more harm to those who practice them than those who suffer from the injury. (Vatican II, *The Church in the Modern World... Gaudium et Spes*, no. 27)

When we fail to acknowledge as part of reality the worth of a poor person, a human embryo, a person with disabilities – to offer just a few examples – it becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself; everything is connected. (Pope Francis, *On Care for Our Common Home ... Laudato Si*, no. 117)

Fr Richard

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



Sick: Pamela LEVERS, Lorna WRIGHTMAN, Horace O'DWYER, 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

Death Anniversary: Margaret CARLON, Joseph BORG, Jozef TOMASZEWSKI, Krystyna TOMASZEWSKI

Other: Agostino BADINO, Michael SAFI, Gabriel SAFI, David FENECH, Tony CINI, Charlies FENECH, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Special Intention St Anthony and St Jude

RCIA – INFORMATION NIGHT

The Adults to be welcomed into the Catholic Church through the Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA course) will meet in the presbytery on **Thursday 19th September at 7:00pm.**

If you know of anyone in your family or a friend who could be interested in this program, do not hesitate to contact us.

For enquiries contact with the parish office, Fr Dominic or Fr Richard.

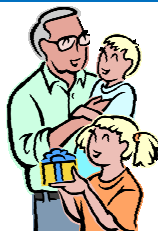
CATECHISTS: The CCD invites you to 'Faith Time' with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia on Friday 6th September 2019 from 10:30am - 12:30pm. RSVP essential: Teresa.culjak@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

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



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL DAD'S

The righteous man walks in his integrity;
His children are blessed after him.
Proverbs 20:7

Saints of the Week



St Gregory The Great

Pope Gregory was famous for the emphasis he put on missionary work. Pope Gregory made many changes to the Mass, some of which remain today. The position of the Our Father in the Mass remains where Pope Gregory placed it. Pope Gregory was well known for his alms to the poor, and he gave quite generously of the riches donated to the Church by the wealthy people of Rome. He ordered his clergy to go out into the streets to find and care for the poor in person. When a famine struck Rome in the 590s, Pope Gregory ordered the Church to use its assets to feed the poor. Instead of selling the produce of the land, Pope Gregory ordered it shipped to Rome and given away for free. In this way, he saved thousands of people from certain death. He also made certain to dine with a dozen poor people at each meal. Because of his great respect for the poor, it was Pope Gregory and the Church that became the most respected --and obeyed force in Rome and across Italy. Pope Gregory suffered from arthritis in his last years. He died on March 12, 604 AD. He was immediately proclaimed a saint by means of popular acclaim. Saint Gregory's relics remain in St. Peter's Basilica to this day. In 1969, the Second Vatican Council moved Saint Gregory's feast day from March 12 to September 3 so it would not fall during Lent. During Lent, there are no obligatory memorials.

Feast Day: September 3



Spring Ember Day

EMBER DAYS (from the German Quatember, 'quarter day'; the Irish used to speak of Quarter Tense) have been kept in the Roman Church since the fifth century to mark the beginning of each of the four seasons of the year. They are occasions of special prayer and penance, asking God's blessing on the new season. In Australia, as elsewhere, the practice fell into disuse, however, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference see now as an appropriate time for the Australian Church to begin again to observe the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring (March and September) as Ember Days. These will be special days of prayer to thank God for the many blessings in our lives and to ask God for the needs of all people and especially for the productivity of the earth and of human labour. Our prayer must never be selfish and must therefore be combined with some form of penance which allows us to stand in solidarity with those who suffer.

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 this Sunday 1st September**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Hall.



PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL

This Father's Day, please consider donating to the Priests' Retirement Foundation, and support our spiritual Fathers who have sacrificed and given so much to us. Your donation will assist our retired Priests to live with dignity, and support their basic needs like meals, accommodation and medical expenses. Please support those who have been there for us and donate today. Envelopes will be available in the Church this weekend, and next. Happy Father's Day.



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.



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 7/8 SEPT	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	L Krslovic A Pace	S Hely I O'Connor	N Dubuisson C Porreca	R Capolupo
EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTER	A Goria B Empeigne A Vlahadamis D Vella E Vella M Camilleri	R Morellini L Barilla M Jebrail M Esposito Delicia Vella	H Fenech E Villegas C Porreca T Nguyen M Aulsebrook R Hibbs	R Imbert M Abdal S Cook M Mai
CHURCH COUNTER	J Oliveri	V Baltazar		
CLEANERS: CHURCH				
ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER	08/09/2019 Z Penitani	15/09/2019 S Peters	22/09/2019 M De Luca	29/09/2019 J Sultana
10AM MORNING TEAS	08/09/2019 Group 2	15/09/2019 Group 3	22/09/2019 Group 4	29/09/2019 Group 5

Upcoming Parish Activities Save the date!



RECONCILIATION PROGRAM ENROLMENTS

Children who are Baptised and in Grades 3 and above at school are welcome to enrol in the parish reconciliation program.

To enrol your child please complete the online form at <https://www.trybooking.com/BDMFL>

To enrol as a Group Leader to lead a group of children please register at <https://www.trybooking.com/BDMFU>

Online registration closes 9th September 2019 at 5pm

Please bring your Baptism Certificate and \$30 contribution fee to the Enrolment weekend after Mass on either 14 September 5:30pm or 15 September 10am.

If you have any queries or need assistance, please call Core Group Leaders: Tamara Vella on 0424 66 248 or Kylie Farias on 0473 779 338.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT will be held next **Sunday 8th September** commencing at 11:15am. Parents please meet your Group Leader and sign the candidate in. Candidates will remain with their Group Leader. Parents please return at 2:15pm for any final information and also to sign that you have picked up your candidate.



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/ or contact the team at Sydney Catholic Youth on (02) 9307 8152 or 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 Ddumba

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.

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.*

Communion Antiphon: *How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.*

Next Sunday:

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18

Second Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

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

Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,
he accepts the homage of the humble.
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,
since an evil growth has taken root in him.
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

67:4-7, 10-11

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom:

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor..

Second reading

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Hebrews

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the

supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant and a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 11:29ab

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you;
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

The Gospel of the Lord

