



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

Office Hours: Tue- Fri 9.00am to 4pm

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 3

Monday - 8:00am

St Peter Claver, priest

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

The Most Holy Name of Mary

Friday - 9:10am

St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor

Saturday - 9:10am

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY 14/15 SEPT

(24th 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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

7th & 8th September, 2019

Discipleship

St Francis of Assisi was born in Italy, around 1181. He was a son of a wealthy cloth merchant. He was popular and fun-loving, spending his time and money throwing parties for his friends. He joined the army to seek adventure and glory. He returned to Assisi after a year imprisoned. He began to pray more and decided to serve Jesus. Francis' father was angry when he found out his son was giving clothes to the poor. Francis returned to his father everything he had received from him and declared that he was no longer dependent on him. Later on many men came to join him. Francis insisted they should not own anything. He lived the Gospel as perfectly and as joyfully as he could. He tried to live his life as Jesus did. For Francis true joy comes from loving God and patterning our lives on Christ.

In today's Gospel we heard that there were large crowds following Jesus with excitement and enthusiasm, these were people who had heard of or witnessed Jesus' miracles and wished for more of the same. Here we find Jesus confronting his disciples with the cost of discipleship and it is not a walk in the park. He tells them that if they want to follow him then they have to leave all family attachments behind. *"If anyone comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciples."* (The word "hate" that Jesus uses is a Semitic way of saying "love less") He then added that those who follow him must take up their cross daily: *"Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."* Cross means challenges, difficulties suffering which we have to face with daily; are we willing to face them? What is our attitude towards these?

Furthermore, Jesus uses two parables to clarify his requirement for his disciples. One is about a man who is building a tower and he should calculate first if he has enough fund to finish the job. The other is about a man going to war; when he becomes aware that the enemy has a much greater sized army, he should negotiate peace from a long way off. Jesus wants to tell his followers to becoming his disciples require commitment and clear understanding, a willingness to detach from possessions and facing challenges of daily living.

Let us pray that we can respond to Jesus' call with courage and wisdom and of course without counting the cost.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

2544: Jesus enjoins his disciples to prefer him to everything and everyone, and bids them 'renounce all that (they have)' for his sake and that of the gospel. Shortly before his Passion he gave them the example of the poor widow of Jerusalem who, out of her poverty, gave all she had to live on. The precept of detachment from the riches is obligatory for entrance into the kingdom of heaven.

Trivia Questions

1. Which sacraments can be received only once because they have a permanent effect?
2. Which sacrament can you receive everyday?

Fr Dominic

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: Rose VELLA, Aurora LAGAN, Guadalupe BALTAZAR, Angela MESSINA, Antonio PAPALIA, Giovanna CAMILLERI, Josie HOPE

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

Saints of the Week



St John Chrysostom

St. John, named Chrysostom (golden-mouthed) on account of his eloquence, came into the world of Christian parents, about the year 344. He studied rhetoric under Libanius, a pagan, the most famous orator of the age. In 374, he began to lead the life of an anchorite in the mountains near Antioch, but in 386 the poor state of his health forced him to return to Antioch, where he was ordained a priest. In 398, he was elevated to the See of Constantinople and became one of the greatest lights of the Church. But he had enemies in high places. His most powerful enemy, however, was the empress Eudoxia, who was offended by the apostolic freedom of his discourses. Several accusations were brought against him in a pseudo-council, and he was sent into exile. In the midst of his sufferings, like the apostle, St. Paul, whom he so greatly admired, he found the greatest peace and happiness. He had the consolation of knowing that the Pope remained his friend, and did for him what lay in his power. His enemies were not satisfied with the sufferings he had already endured, and they banished him still further, to Pythius, at the very extremity of the Empire. He died on his way there on September 14, 407.

Feast Day: September 13

Patronage: Constantinople, Education, Epilepsy, Lecturer, Orator, Preacher



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.

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal, and supported 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. If you still wish to donate envelopes are available in the Church. Thank you

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



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Saviour's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman. The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

Feast Day September 14

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 on Sunday 6th October**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Hall.



We congratulate the family of Marcus ALLEN who will be Baptised here this weekend.

Confirmation

This coming Friday evening and Saturday we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Tony Randazzo and the Vicar General Fr Gerald Gleeson. The candidates have been preparing over the last four weeks and will conclude their preparation with a **Spirituality day this Sunday**. We would like to thank all the group leaders and parents who have been preparing the children and especially our Sacramental Co-ordinator Linda Barilla and the core group, for their tireless commitment and assistance behind the scenes.



JB COMMUNITY FAIR - 27TH OCTOBER

Don't miss this year's FAIR—it promises to be bigger and better than ever!

Don't miss the Dodgem cars, Zoomer, Simulator, giant slides, face painting, live entertainment, cakes, as well as lots of things to keep the big kids happy. Other stalls include: Coffee & Cannoli, Pizza, Treasure Trove, Crepes, Gelato, Fairy Floss, showbags and Cultural food from Assyria, India, Italy, Philippines, Tonga, Vietnam, Croatia and Holland. All are welcome!

Wrist bands for the rides will be available after the school holidays. Prepaid wrist bands \$25 for all rides, \$30 on the day and \$5 per single ride.

Parishioners you can help too, by donating any kind of bottles e.g. cordial, soft drinks, sauces etc. for the Fair's bottle stall. Please place them in the basket provided in the meeting room located outside the church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - parking attendants, crowd control, sellers, floaters, setting up and cleaning up, etc. Please sign up on the list provided on the whiteboard outside the Church. Enquiries: Susan 0419 606 683 or Caterina 0416 044 149.

Ministries Next Week 14/15 SEPT	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	J Victorino G Turnbull	S Davies M Jebrail	M Aulsebrook J Habib	V Arbanas
EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTER	A Pace J Victorino A Jameson C Araco L Topic T Micali	S Liberatore F Foti B O'Connor D Sullivan J Finucane	J Habib A Bautista N Laureti G Dunn N Dubuisson S D'Cruz	G Vanderwert D Pham R Imbert M Abdal
CHURCH COUNTER	G Adam	E Villegas		
CLEANERS: CHURCH				
ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER	15/09/2019 S Peters	22/09/2019 M De Luca	29/09/2019 J Sultana	6/10/2019 S Shabo
10AM MORNING TEAS	15/09/2019 Group 3	22/09/2019 Group 4	29/09/2019 Group 5	6/10/2019 Group 1

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 166 248 or Kylie Farias on 0473 779 338.



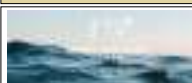
CONFIRMATION RETREAT

will be held this **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.

A reminder to all Group Leaders to return your books to the basket in the meeting room please.

Enquiries: Linda Barilla 9607 4993.

MEN'S GROUP MEETING will be held on **Friday 20th September at 8:00pm**. The Men's Group meetings will be held every third Friday of the Month at 8:00pm. All men who feel they want to grow in their faith and discuss the scriptures with other men are welcome.



CHRIST OUR LIGHT YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (16-35 years)

Are hosting a Talk with Seminarian Ben Saliba (who has worked in our Parish)

Presenter: Ben Saliba

Theme: What are you Searching for?

When: Friday, 27th September 2019

Time: 7:30pm

Where: John the Baptist Parish, Bonnyrigg Heights



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

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

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

Thursday 3rd October - Ignite Conference

Sunday 27th October - JB Community Fair

Thursday 14th November - First Reconciliation

Further information will be provided closer to the dates.

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.*

Communion Antiphon: *Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.*

Next Sunday:

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel: Luke 15:1-32

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ The price I must keep paying to be a disciple of Jesus is.....
- ♦ What I need to renounce in order to follow Jesus faithfully is.....
What I need to calculate more clearly is.....
- ♦ The next step for me in order to move beyond half-hearted to single-minded discipleship is.....

First reading

Wisdom 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

What man indeed can know the intentions of God?
Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure
and our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?
As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not
granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

89:3-6, 12-14, 17

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back to dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night.
In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You sweep men away like a dream,
like the grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades.
In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants.
In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands.
In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Second reading

Philemon 1:9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.'

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.'

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The Gospel of the Lord

Trivia Answers

1. Baptism, Confirmation
2. Eucharist