



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
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

Sts Simon and Jude, apostles

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

All Saints

Saturday - 9:10am

*The Commemoration of all the
Faithful Departed
(All Souls' Day)*

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY 2/3 NOVEMBER

*(31st 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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 26th & 27th October, 2019

True Righteousness

Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else. Luke 18:9

This Scripture passage is the introduction to the Parable of the Pharisee and Tax Collector. This parable offers quite a contrast between two general attitudes. First, the Pharisee's attitude reveals that he is very impressed with himself, thinking highly of his public image, and is unaware of his own sin. Second, the tax collector's attitude reveals that he is deeply aware of his own sin, is sorry for it and knows he is in need of God's mercy. The result of these two very different attitudes is that the tax collector went home justified whereas the Pharisee did not.

What does it mean to be justified? It means that the tax collector had a clear conscience and was grounded in the truth. He knew his need for mercy, begged for it and received it. He did not lie to himself, to others or to God. He knew who he was and it is this truth that allowed God to exalt him. The tax collector's justification came through the forgiveness of his sins and the bestowal of the mercy of God in his life.

The Pharisee may have felt good about himself to a certain extent in that he elevated himself for all to see. He was convinced of his self-righteousness but, in truth, was not righteous. He was living a lie and most likely believed that lie and even may have convinced others of that lie. But the fact remained, the Pharisee was not righteous and he was not truly justified.

What we must take from this passage is a profound realization of the importance of living in the truth. Those who paint a false image of themselves may fool themselves and may even fool others. But they will never fool God and they will never be able to achieve true peace in their soul. We each must realize the humble truth of our sin and weakness and, in that realization, beg for the only remedy, the mercy of God.

Reflect, today, upon the prayer of this tax collector: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). Make it your prayer. Admit your sin. Acknowledge your need for the mercy of God and allow that mercy to elevate you within the righteousness of God.

Deacon Mervyn Francis

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



Sick: Fr Paul STENHOUSE, Edelito VALERO, Paul VELLA, Anna PEZZUTO, Pamela LEVERS, Lorna WRIGHTMAN, Horace O'DWYER, Frank AZZOPARDI, Joan LOUIS, Mrs Thi Chuyen HOANG, Fr Jack SOULSBY, Danilo DE LEON, Janette SMITH, Jane GALEA, Joseph DEGUARA, Janelle CLIFTON, Isabelle CROUCHE, Giuseppina LETTIERI, Claudio Da SILVA, Bozana VUKOV, Diana VUKOV, Judy VELLA, Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Nancy VARTULLI, Jessie ZAMMIT

Recently Deceased: Joseph John DEL VALLE,

Death Anniversary: Clifford FERNANDES, Desiree BEVES

Other: Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Special Intention Thanksgiving to St Anthony and St Jude for favours received

Saints of the Week

Sts Simon and Jude



St. Simon the Apostle is often named St. Simon the Zealot, to distinguish him from St. Peter and St. Simeon. St. Simon was a Galilean, born at Cana in Galilee. He was called Simon the Zealot because of his great zeal to honour God and for purity of religion. The Zealots during this time were known for assassinating the noble and filling the temple with bloodshed and profanities.

He was one of the original followers of Christ. After his conversion and his call, there is no further mention of him in the Gospels. He became zealous for Christ and for the duties of Christianity. After receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, he went out to evangelize with great zeal and fidelity. He was martyred by the idolatrous priests and many say that he was crucified. His relics are with St. Jude's in St. Peter's basilica and the Cathedral of Toulouse.



St Jude

St Jude, known as Thaddaeus was the brother of the apostle St James the Lesser and a relative of Our Lord, nephew to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was also one of the Twelve, an Apostle of Jesus. One of the canonical epistles of the New Testament is attributed to St Jude, which has many common characteristics with the second letter of St Peter.

St. Jude (Thaddeus) is one of the most popular saints because of the numerous heavenly favours that he grants to his devotees who pray to him with faith, especially when seeking a job or a house. Ancient writers tell us that he preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Lybia. According to Eusebius, he returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, St. Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem. Saints Simon and Jude zealously preached to the nations and met with each other again in Persia. According to ancient tradition, they were martyred together - St. Simon was sawed in half and St. Jude was beheaded with an axe. Following his death, St. Jude's body was brought to Rome and left in a crypt in St. Peter's Basilica. Today his bones can be found in the left transept of St. Peter's Basilica under the main altar of St. Joseph in a tomb he shares with the remains of the apostle Simon the Zealot.

Patron of desperate causes, desperate situations, lost causes.

Feast day: October 28



WALK WITH CHRIST The Feast of Christ the King 2019 November 24 at 2:30pm

Meet at the corner of Martin Place and Pitt Street, Sydney

There is a Prayer Intentions book on the tables in the Church for you to write a prayer intention.

NOTRE DAME CHAPLAINCY ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT DAY

Tuesday December 3 9:00am to 4:30pm

The retreat is free of charge but bookings essential

Call (02) 8204 4189 or email: sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au

Parish Secretary, Our Lady of the Rosary, Fairfield

Our Lady of the Rosary is urgently inviting applications for the position of Parish Secretary. For enquiries, contact Priscilla, Parish Operations Manager: 9724 5997 or 0409 099 551 or priscilla@olrfairfield.org

The ACU Centre for Liturgy is offering a pastoral formation day for those ministering to the sick called **Be not afraid: preparing and celebrating sacraments of healing** on Saturday 9 November at Strathfield. Cost is \$60 (incl lunch). For more information and to register phone (02) 9701 4751.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND:

Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover your relationship!

8-10 November, 2019 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville

Book online at www.wmme.org.au or alternatively contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan 0409 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com



SEND A SEMINARIAN HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Please contact the Seminary on 9726 8114 for details on how to buy raffle tickets or visit our webpage seminary.org.au/raffle to help send an overseas-born Seminarian home for Christmas with his family. The draw will take place at Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary, 106 Gurney Road, Chester Hill on 24th November.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The new envelopes for next 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



All Saints

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. It is also a Holy Day of Obligation in the Catholic Church.

Feast day: November 1



The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)

All Souls Day is a holy day set aside for honouring the dead. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church, but it is also celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church and a few other denominations of Christianity. According to Catholic belief, the soul of a person who dies can go to one of three places. The first is heaven, where a person who dies in a state of perfect grace and communion with God goes. The second is hell, where those who die in a state of mortal sin are naturally condemned by their choice. The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go.

Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter into heaven. There is scriptural basis for this belief. The primary reference is in 2 Maccabees, 12:26 and 12:32. "Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out... Thus made atonement for the dead that they might be free from sin."

Feast Day: November 2



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



In November we pray for the dead. If you would like your loved ones names printed in our Memorial Book please contact the parish office. We will need to know their names and their date of death including the year. If you would like us to pray for your loved one and do not wish their names to be published please let us know. You may also like to place their names in our November Remembrance Book for All Souls Day. **You are welcome to bring in a photo to the Saturday Vigil Mass on 2nd November.**

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND PASTORAL APPEAL (CWF)



In the coming weeks, your parish will be asked to play an important role in supporting an important initiative of the Sydney Archdiocese: The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Pastoral Appeal, our premier charity. Appeal envelopes will be provided for your use so please keep an eye out for them. Let us show our Christian solidarity for one another by sharing what we can with our neighbours. Thank you.

MEN'S GROUP MEETING will be held on **Friday 15th November 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. For further information please contact Deacon Mervyn on 0405 805 978

Seminary Open Day—Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary will hold an Open Day on Sunday 10th November 2019 from 2pm until 4pm at 106 Gurney Road, Chester Hill. Afternoon Tea will be served at 3pm and the day will finish with Vespers sung by the Seminarians at 4pm. Details & Inquiries 9726 8114 or visit seminary.org.au/OpenDay

The Maltese Cultural Association of NSW - Invites all members of the community to attend our Annual Memorial Mass for our deceased members. You may bring friends who wish to commemorate their loved ones with this Mass to be held at **Our Lady Queen of Peace Greystanes, on 8th November at 7pm**. Refreshments will be served at St George Preca Centre afterwards. For more info. please ring Charles N Mifsud 9501 5525.

Ministries Next Week 2/3 NOV	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	A Pace L Krslovic	L Barilla S Davies	G Zangari M Zangari	A Vanderwert
EXTRA- ORDINARY MINISTER	A Gorla B Empeigne A Vlahadamis D Vella E Vella M Camilleri	R Morellini M Jebrail M Esposito Delicia Vella A Liberatore	J Habib A Bautista N Laureti G Dunn N Dubuisson S D'Cruz	R Imbert M Abdal S Cook M Mai
CHURCH COUNTER	M Davies			
CLEANERS: CHURCH				
ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER	03/11/2019 Z Penitani	10/11/2019 J Sultana	17/11/2019 D Triganza	24/11/2019 M De Luca
10AM MORNING TEAS	03/11/2019 Group 1	10/11/2019 Group 2	17/11/2019 Group 3	24/11/2019 Group 4

Upcoming Parish Activities Save the date!



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
DON'T FORGET! THIS WEEKEND!
JB COMMUNITY FAIR
27 OCTOBER 2019
FROM 11:00AM TO 4:00PM

\$5 PER PLATE ENTRY

Parishioners Food: Iran/Indian, Italian, Philippines, Vietnamese, Croatian, Tongan (BBQ Pig)
Parishioners: Cakes from difference countries and cakes from Holland for sale.

Rides - Rides wristbands will be on sale **this Saturday night for \$25 for unlimited rides after Mass** and on the day \$30 for unlimited rides or \$5 per ride.



The silent auction is no longer going ahead. At the owners request they would like to give this antique Piano (1930's/40's) to a good home. Contact: Susan on 0419 606 683.

CONFIRMATION PHOTOS will be available for collection on **Thursday 31st October and Friday 1st November** in the Parish Meeting Room between 7:00pm and 8:30pm.



If you have not collected your First Holy Communion Photos these will be also available for collection on the dates and times mentioned above.



RECONCILIATION 2019 IMPORTANT DATE
Children's Celebration Mass for reconciliation candidates will be held on
Saturday 9 November, 5:30pm Mass.

Please call Tamara Vella 0424 166 248 or Kylie Farias 0473 779 338 if you have any questions.



VOLUNTEERS THANKSGIVING MASS AND DINNER

We would like to thank everyone who has volunteered in the Parish this year and invite you to join us for a Thanksgiving Mass and Dinner on **Friday 22nd November at 7:00pm**.

If you are able to attend, please let your co-ordinator know or contact the Parish office on 9823 2572 for catering purposes. Thank you

RSVP: Friday 15th November

Please bring your name tag from last year on the night. If you do not have a name tag please let us know in advance so the one can be made for you.

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sunday 27th October - JB Community Fair
Saturday 9th November - Reconciliation Children's Celebration Mass
Thursday 14th November - First Reconciliation
Friday 22nd November - Volunteers Thanksgiving Mass and Dinner
Wednesday 27th November - Advent Mercy Night
Wednesday 18th December - Advent Mercy Night
Further information will be provided closer to the dates.

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.*

Communion Antiphon: *We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.*

Next Sunday:

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

First Reading: Wisdom 11:22-12:2

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ My spiritual practices lead me to humility and trust in God when.....
- ♦ God humbles me by..... God exalts me when.....
- ♦ I am led to lift God in prayer my relationships with others when.....
Prayer strengthens my relationship with others in that.....

First reading

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The Lord is a judge
who is no respecter of personages.
He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man,
he listens to the plea of the injured party.
He does not ignore the orphan's supplication,
nor the widow's as she pours out her story.
The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted,
his petitions will carry to the clouds.
The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds,
until it arrives he is inconsolable,
And the Lord will not be slow,
nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

33:2-3, 17-19, 23

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord hear the cry of the poor.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

The Lord hear the cry of the poor.

Second reading

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a

single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was *rescued from the lion's mouth*. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 18:9-14

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else: 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

The Gospel of the Lord

