



# St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish

## 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

### 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

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

St Anthony, abbot

Saturday - 9:10am

### NEXT SUNDAY

18/19 JANUARY

(Second Sunday in Ordinary

Time Year A)

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

## The Baptism of the Lord (Year A)

11th & 12th January, 2020

### THE BAPTISM

An old gentleman walked into the fashionable florist shop. "I want a beautiful corsage," he said, "not a big one, but just about the prettiest one you can make." he smiled broadly. "It's for my granddaughter, and she's having her first date tomorrow." The florist was all curious. "How old is the young lady?" he asked, eyeing his flowers speculatively. "Two weeks old," replied the grandfather. The florist turned in utter amazement. "Did you say... a date... a corsage... two weeks old?" "Precisely", said the old gentleman. "And I want a corsage that's exactly right. She'll never have a more important date than she has tomorrow. My little granddaughter will be baptized."

Today is the feast of 'The Baptism of the Lord' which marked the beginning of Jesus' mission. He felt the call of the Father to become active as a chosen One he went to John the Baptist for baptism. John knew exactly who Jesus was and he tried to dissuade Jesus, "It is I who need baptism from you, and yet you come to me." Jesus confidently listened well to the Father and reached out to fulfill his mission, likewise; John the Baptist knew about his role which was to introduce Jesus to people, he even sent his followers to go with Jesus, and told others to prepare themselves for Jesus' coming. At the river of Jordan, the Spirit of God was seen in the form of a dove and coming down on Him and the Son was affirmed by the voice spoke from heaven. "This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him." This affirmation is rested on each one of us as sons and daughters of the Father when we are baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray that we may find strength through our baptism to live out our commitments as an intentional disciple of Jesus, and be faithful to the call of the Father in our everyday living.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

535 Jesus' public life begins with baptism by John in the Jordan. John preaches 'a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins'. A crowd of sinners-tax collectors



and soldiers, Pharisees and Sadducees and prostitutes-come to be baptised by him. 'Then Jesus appears.' The Baptist hesitates, but Jesus insists and receives baptism. Then the Holy Spirit, in a form of dove, come upon Jesus a voice from heaven proclaims, "This is my Beloved Son." This is the manifestation (Epiphany) of Jesus as Messiah of Israel and Son of God.

Fr Dominic

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



**Sick:** Gary LOMAS, Col PURCELL, Michael PITTAS,  
Pamela LEVERS, Horace O'DWYER, Lorna WRIGHTMAN,  
Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

**Recently Deceased:** Bernadine BASTIANSZ,  
Andrew O'DWYER

**Death Anniversary:** Joseph PACE, Charlie SALIBA,  
Marianna FOTI

**Other:** Clifford FERNANDES, Gloria O'BRIEN,  
Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH,  
Thanksgiving to St Anthony and St Jude and Special  
Intentions.

## Collection at all Masses (Australia Day) for the St Vincent De Paul bushfire appeal

Friends, the sad tragedy of the bushfires has impacted upon our Catholic community across the Archdiocese of Sydney in a very real way. A brave Rural Fire Service volunteer Andrew O'Dwyer was farewelled at a Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Parish in Horsley Park this week. The parish is providing ongoing support to his widow Melissa and 19 month old daughter Charlotte and our prayers are with them. Amidst the devastation of the fires, it has been encouraging to witness the support of so many ordinary Australians, including so many men and women of faith. While much of the response must be at a local parish and diocesan level, such a great crisis also requires a national response. Alongside my brother bishops across the country, I encourage you to donate to a special parish collection at Masses over the Australia Day weekend (25 and 26 January) through the St Vincent De Paul Society. Through this bushfire appeal, you can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected, whether that be to cover basic clothing or the food bill for a family evacuated from their home. The support may also come through psychological counselling services for families left traumatised by the disaster or financial counselling as they struggle to pay unexpected bills. Together we can offer real comfort and long term support to families left struggling after the bushfires.

+ Anthony Fisher OP

## Wedding Congratulations

**Andrew Van Thien Nguyen & Anna Tran Tram Anh Chau** are married at St John the Baptist church this weekend. Please keep them in your prayers.



## Vocation Discernment Weekend Run By The Capuchin Friars 15-16th February 2020

Come away for a couple of days to consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This weekend retreat is for men aged 18-35. Begins 9am Saturday and concludes 4pm Sunday at the Marymount Mercy Centre, Castle Hill. There will be Mass each day, Adoration, quiet prayer, talks, confession available and quiet time. Come and reflect on God's will in your life, and these particular ways of making a gift of self for the glory of God and in service of His Kingdom. The cost is only \$50. Registrations required by 6th February. Please contact Father Thomas:  
[vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au](mailto:vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au) or 0432 362 052.  
<https://www.capuchin.org.au>

## Saints of the Week



### St Anthony

St Anthony the Abbot was born in Egypt in the 3rd century AD.

Following the death of his parents when he was about 20, Anthony insured that his sister completed her education, then he sold his house, furniture, and the land he owned and gave the proceeds to the poor. He was a very spiritual person who believed in living the Jesus life. He became a hermit and lived alone. When people eventually found him, he moved even further away, eating only bread and water, praying, fasting and wearing skins as clothing. Wise men from as far away as Greece sought his guidance. Some were healed physically, many were comforted by his words and others stayed to learn from him. He founded two monasteries on the Nile. He lived until 105 years of age, becoming the most famous monk of ancient Christendom, a noble example of an ascetic life of austerity, sacrifice and extreme solitude.

**Feast day: January 17**

**Patron of Butchers, basket weaving and Pontifical**



### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police.

Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

## 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 2nd February**. Following Mass Fr Dominic and Fr Richard will meet with you in the Parish Hall.

## Trivia Questions

1. Can you list the seven sacraments of the Church?
2. What three sacraments can only be received once?
3. Who can be a candidate or recipient for Baptism?



**Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout.**



## Tap Donation Device

There are two Tap Donation Devices at the Entrance of the church for people who want to use Credit Card or Phone App. Each time you tap, you donate \$5 to our parish. You can tap as many times as you wish but please give the machine 5 seconds to reset. Your donations are very much appreciated.



## VOLUNTEERS FOR 2020 SUPPER AND MORNING TEA ROSTERS

Every Saturday following the 5.30pm Vigil and Sunday following 10am Masses a group of volunteers help with setting up and serving at supper/morning tea. If you would like to become a volunteer in 2020 please contact Teresa Vartuli on 0413 835 250 so that your name can be added to the roster. You will only need to attend once a month. Thank you for your support.



## ATTENTION EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:

The new Roster is now available for collection after all Masses this weekend.

Ministries Next Week 18/19 JAN	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	A Vlahadamis J Victorino	J Poljak R Golubic	M Zangari G Zangari	R Capolupo M Vo
EXTRA- ORDINARY MINISTER	T Micali A Gorla B Empeigne A Vlahadamis D Vella E Vella	D Triganza R Morellini L Barilla M Jebrail M Esposito	S D'Cruz S Hambrook H Fenech E Villegas C Porreca T Nguyen	S Cook M Mai G Vanderwert D Pham
CHURCH COUNTER	G Adam	E Villegas		
CLEANERS: CHURCH				
ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER	19/01/2020 R Marciano	26/01/2020 Z Penitani	2/02/2020 J Sultana	0/02/2020 M De Luca
10AM MORNING TEAS	19/01/2019 Group 3	26/01/2020 Group 4	2/02/2020 Group 1	9/02/2020 Group 2

**St John the Baptist Parish**  
**Together we proclaim**  
**"Jesus the Good News"**

**We are seeking new members for Parish Pastoral Council 2020. (Yellow forms)**

Our parish needs Christian leadership to help make decisions about activities, pastoral life and growth of the community. If you are a person from our faith community who can enable others to develop and give life to our parish mission of together, proclaiming, inviting, sanctifying and transforming towards Jesus the Good News. Please consider to nominate yourself or you can nominate someone who have the mentioned gifts. **There are nomination forms at the entrance of the church, please fill it out and return to the office by 15 January 2020.**

On behalf of the parish I would like to thank you to the members of the Parish Pastoral Council who have served the community faithfully since I arrived to the parish two years ago, I hope that you will continue to serve the parish in other meaningful ways.

## The Baptism of the Lord. Feast. 10th January

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves," He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world."

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

— Excerpted from Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas





## Parish Contacts:

Parish Pastoral Council Chairman: Jeff Lai - 0409 288 812  
Finance Committee: Tanya Scarvelis - 9823 2572  
Community Care: Tina Dunn - 0439 492 920; Sharon Cook - 0410 494 700  
Readers and Catechists: Nina Laureti - 9823 3277  
Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers: : Linda Barilla - 9607 4993  
Confirmation: Linda Barilla - 9607 4993  
Reconciliation and First Communion: Tamara Vella - 0424 166 248 and  
Kylie Farias - 0473 779 338

Altar Servers: Fr Richard - 9823 2572  
Children's Liturgy: Angela Galdas - 9606 8403  
Church Linen: Michelle De Luca - 0400 374 277  
Church Cleaners: Ann Gorla - 0425 284 860  
Piety Stall: Millie Breaden - 9823 2572  
Morning Teas: Teresa Vartuli - 0413 835 250  
Jordan Youth Group: Silvana Scamardella - 9823 2572  
Housie and Money Counting: Yvonne Smolinski - 9823 2572  
Young Adults: Caitlin Pace - 0490 518 369

## Next Sunday:

### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ( Year A)

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel: John 1:29-34

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Baptism has changed me in that.....
- ♦ I witness to my relationship with God in these ways.....
- ♦ Baptised into Christ, I am God's "beloved", and the difference this makes in how I live is.....

### First reading

#### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom my soul delights.  
I have endowed him with my spirit  
that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,  
or make his voice heard in the streets.  
He does not break the crushed reed,  
nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;  
he will neither waver, nor be crushed  
until true justice is established on earth,  
for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;  
I have taken you by the hand and formed you;  
I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of  
the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind,  
to free captives from prison,  
and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

#### The Word of the Lord

### Responsorial Psalm

#### *The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

28:1-4, 9--10

O give the Lord, you sons of God,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Adore the Lord in his holy court.

*The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

The Lord's voice resounding on the waters,  
the Lord on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the Lord, full of power,  
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour.

*The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

The God of glory thunders.  
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'  
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits as king for ever.

*The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

### Second reading

#### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 10:34-38

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

#### The Word of the Lord

### Gospel Acclamation

cf. Mark 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

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

Jesus appeared: he came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

#### The Gospel of the Lord



## Trivia Answers

1. Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the sick, Marriage and Holy Orders
2. Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders
3. Any unbaptised person of any age.

Copyright © 1996-2015 Universalis Publishing Limited: see [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com). Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible are published and copyright © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). Used with permission of A.P. Watt Ltd. All rights reserved.