



# 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 2

Monday - 8:00am

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

St Peter Damien, bishop,  
doctor

Saturday - 9:10am

The Chair of St Peter, apostle

### NEXT SUNDAY

22/23 FEBRUARY

(Seventh 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

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

15th and 16th February 2020

# Be righteous

*"... if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven."*

A teacher asked, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into Heaven?" "NO!" the children answered. "If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?" Again, the answer was, "NO!" "Well," she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?" A five-year-old boy shouted out, "YOU GOTTA BE DEAD."

Jesus calls righteousness a requirement for getting into heaven. Christian righteousness is more than a polite agreement not to cause physical harm; it is a share in God's radical purity and love. Righteousness from union with Christ surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, for it is "righteousness from God, depending on faith to know him and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by being conformed to his death" (Phil 3:9-10). Thus, Christians are called to joyful obedience to His law out of love for Christ.

Christian righteousness restores order and harmony: between ourselves and God; between our reason, our passions, and our body; between ourselves and others. Jesus uses two analogies of reconciliation: worship and lawsuits. It is better to reconcile with an opponent than to worship God with a guilty conscience. It is better to be reconciled with an opponent than to be sued by him and thrown into debtor's prison. In either case, we must presume that the dispute Jesus implied had a public dimension; otherwise, the worship of the unreconciled and the civil case against a debtor would bring scandal.

*How do you try to live out God's law? How has the effort brought you closer to God?*

### Link in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: The Ten Commandments

2054 - Jesus acknowledged the Ten Commandments, but he also showed the power of the Spirit at work in their letter. He unfolded all the demands of the Commandments.

The first three commandment talk about respect for God. They are: **1.** I am your Lord and God. You will not worship anyone or anything except me. **2.** Do not use God's name in a way that shows disrespect. **3.** Keep God's day holy with worship and rest.

The final seven commandments tell us how to respect other people: **4.** Honour your parents. **5.** Do not kill. **6.** Do not commit adultery. **7.** Do not steal. **8.** Do not lie. **9.** Do not desire to take someone away from your neighbour. **10.** Do not desire to take something away from your neighbours.

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

**Sick:** Fr Emmanuel SEO, Gary LOMAS, Col PURCELL, Pamela LEVERS, Horace O'DWYER, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

**Recently Deceased:** Michael PITTAS, Christine EROKOTIKITOU, Carmelo PIRRELLO

**Death Anniversary:** Antonio and Nancy COSTA

**Other:** Michael GRIMA, Clifford FERNANDES, Gloria O'BRIEN, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Thanksgiving to St Anthony and St Jude, All the Souls in Purgatory, Special Intention

## Living in the Fathers Love

### Women's Parish Lenten Bible Study

In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? Living in the Father's Love will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all. This refreshing Bible Study is for women ages 18+, who can commit to the six weeks to discover how much God loves them! It will not disappoint!

**Date:** 7-8:30pm, Mondays  
(24 Feb, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Mar 2020)

**Place:** Teacher's Staff Room @ John the Baptist Catholic Primary School

**Cost:** \$50 (Dinner/ Workbook)

**RSVP Essential:** Monday 17th February 2020

**To register and for information contact:**

Teresa Culjak: 0419 218 130

Giovanna (Joanne) Rapisarda: 0408 705 613

## A letter from the Chancery on the Novel Coronavirus

A number of priests and parishioners have inquired about precautions in relation to the current health emergency caused by the Novel Coronavirus. At this point, health authorities have said that the risk of exposure to the public is low, especially if they have not travelled to one of the areas, nor had contact with someone who has. We will continue to monitor the Government's health advice.

Across the Church in Australia generally, and in the Archdiocese of Sydney in particular, there are as yet no mandated precautions beyond the common sense rule that people should stay home if they think they might be sick or infectious. Ministers of Holy Communion should wash their hands with soap or hand wash before distributing the Body of Christ.

Parishioners who wish further to minimise the risk of transmission are free not to put their fingers in the holy water stoop, not to shake hands at the Sign of Peace, not to receive Holy Communion on the tongue (but only in the hand), and/or not to receive Holy Communion from the chalice.



## 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.



## You are invited

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

**Speaker of the 27th February is Colin Calmiano** (International speaker) Colin is a full time Catholic lay evangelist, serving the Lord for the past 28 years.

**Topic:** "The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit"

**Where:** John the Baptist Parish Hall

**Time:** 7:15pm

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

George 0414 607 513

(Meetings take place every fortnight on a Thursday)



## Marriage Enrichment Weekend

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

**17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW**

**Book online at** [www.wvme.org.au](http://www.wvme.org.au)

**Alternatively contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on**

**0490 774 419 or** [adrian.janet1@bigpond.com](mailto:adrian.janet1@bigpond.com)

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

## THINKING ABOUT PRIESTHOOD?

### 'Come and See' Seminary Open Day 2020

A Seminary Open Day will be held on Sunday 23rd February at the Good Shepherd Seminary, 52-58 Abbotsford Road, Homebush starting with Morning Prayer at 9am and a public Mass at 10am. The day will include prayer, conversations with seminarians and priests, talks with information about the studies required of men training for the priesthood and a guided tour around the Seminary. Brunch will be provided. For registration and more information visit us at [vocationcentre.org.au](http://vocationcentre.org.au) or contact us at the Vocation Centre on **02 9307 8424** or email [vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org)  
**Please RSVP by Wednesday 19 February 2020**

## Mass to launch the Cause of Beatification and Canonisation of Servant of God, Eileen O'Connor

Thursday 20 February, St Mary's Cathedral at 5:30pm

Celebrant: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

All Welcome.

# Saints of the Week



## St Peter Damian

Peter was born in Italy in 1007. When his parents died, he went to live with one of his older brothers, who treated him cruelly. Sometimes Peter was forbidden to eat any of his brother's food. Another brother helped solve the problem by giving Peter money so that he could afford to go away to school. Peter did so well in school that he became a professor when he was only 25. Peter became a priest and then a Benedictine monk. He spent his days in prayer and study. After a short time Peter was elected abbot, or superior, of the community. Although this new responsibility took Peter away from his quiet life, he was an excellent leader. Peter was ordained the bishop of Ostia, a diocese near Rome. As bishop, Peter worked to solve problems in his diocese and to remind his priests of their mission. Pope Stephen X recognized Peter's gifts and asked him to represent the Church in settling disputes and helping to stop practices that were preventing the Church from doing Christ's work in the world. As a monk, a bishop, and a saint, Peter Damian lived one of the Benedictine Rules completely: "Do not prefer anything to the love of Christ." He died in 1072 and is considered to be a Doctor of the Church. St. Peter Damian helps us to remember that if we put Jesus first in our lives, the Lord will always guide us in living as his faithful disciples.

**Feast day: February 21**



## The Chair of St Peter

The actual chair of Peter in Rome, the wooden throne at St. Peter's Basilica, was given to Pope John VIII by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles the Bald in the year 875. It was encased in bronze by the artist GianLorenzo Bernini in 1647. This feast day also commemorates the primal authority of St. Peter.

**Feast Day February 22**



## 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 1st March**. Following Mass Fr Dominic and Fr Richard will meet with you in the Parish Hall.

## 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 \$10 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.



## JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY ENROLMENTS

**Catholic Schools Week begins on Monday 2nd March until Friday 6th March, 2020.**

Enrolment packs are available from the front office on this day. On Thursday there will be a liturgy at 9:30am, followed by a school tour.

## Awaken Youth Rally

Inviting all youth and young adults of Western Sydney to the Awaken Youth Rally on **Saturday 22 February at St Francis Xavier Parish School Hall, Lurnea from 6:30pm - 9:30pm**. Come and join us for an evening of community, speakers and entertainment. Bring your friends for food, prayer, adoration, reconciliation and the Awaken Band's praise and worship. The Rally will form an opportunity for youth and young adults to come together, share and learn. To register please visit our Facebook and instagram page @AwakenWRY.



## VOLUNTEERS FOR 2020 SUPPER AND MORNING TEA ROSTERS

If you would like to become a volunteer in 2020 we are in need of helpers for the suppers following the 5:30pm Mass on Saturdays. We are also starting morning tea after the 8:00am Mass on Sundays and are in need of helpers. If you can help 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 22/23 FEB	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	A Pace L Krslovic	L Barilla S Davies	G Zangari M Zangari	
<b>EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTER</b>	F Bushby M Camilleri E Vella A Pace J Victorino A Severi	M Esposito L Barilla R Morellini M Jebrail Delicia Vella	C Porreca T Nguyen M Aulsebrook R Hibbs J Habib A Bautista	
<b>CHURCH COUNTERS</b>	F Aloe	J Coiera	T Moriana	
<b>CLEANERS: CHURCH</b>				
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER</b>	23/02/2020	1/03/2020	8/03/2020	15/03/2020
	S Leonello	R Marciano	Z Penitani	J Sultana
<b>SUPPER 5:30pm</b>	22/02/2020	29/02/2020	7/03/2020	14/03/2020
	Group 1	Group 3	Group 1	Group 2
<b>MORNING TEA 10:00am</b>	23/02/2020	1/03/2020	8/03/2020	15/03/2020
	Group 4	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3

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

## MENS BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast at John the Baptist Bonnyrigg will be held on **Sat 14th March at 8am**.

Charbel Raish from Parousia Media will be giving his testimony and faith journey titled "How Islam led me back to Christ," so please join us for a morning of male fellowship, a meal, Mass, talk and discussion.

Details: John the Baptist Catholic Church, 45 Mount Street Bonnyrigg

07:45am Registration  
08:00am Adoration and/or Reconciliation  
08:30am Mass  
09:00am Breakfast  
09:30am Presentation  
10:00am Group discussion  
10:30am Q & A  
10:45am Prayer & Close

Please register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/JB-Mens-Breakfast>, or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/51620533902628>

If you are unable to commit, you can also register on the day - however, online bookings are preferred for catering. Details about Charbel and flyer for the event are also on the bottom of the Facebook page.

Please share these links with your friends and lets try to attract as many men as we can to this event.

For further information call David Moore on 0412 405 792

**Reminder :** The next regular monthly Men's meeting will be held on **Fri 21st Feb at 8:00am in the Parish hall**.

## RECONCILIATION AND COMMUNION INFORMATION 2020

If parents would like to enrol their child in our Reconciliation of Communion Sacrament program this year please attend the parent information meetings below:

**Sacrament of First Holy Communion - Tuesday 17th March 2020 at 7pm in our Church.**

(Children must be in year 4 or above and have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation).

First Holy Communion masses will be held 6-7 and 12-14 June 2020.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation - Tuesday 4th August 2020 at 7pm**

(Children must be in year 3 and above).

If you have any questions regarding the Reconciliation or Communion program please call Tamara Vella on 0424 166 248 or Kylie Farias on 0473 779 338.

## CATECHIST NEWS

1.2 workshop "Using the Authorised Curriculum" is on **Tuesday 18th February from 6:30 to 9:30pm in the JB Meeting room**. These two workshops are compulsory and must be completed before going into classes.

**Save the date: 1st Catechist Meeting is Wednesday 19th February, Mass at 7pm followed by the meeting.**

*Do something of eternal significance- be a Catechist or helper!* We invite you to join this mission and our wonderful JB Team .

Any enquiries please contact: Nina Laureti 0408465149



## 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 Breden - 9823 2572  
Morning Teas: Teresa Vartuli - 0413 835 250  
Jordan Youth Group: Silvana Scamardella - 9823 2572  
Housie and Money Counting: Yvonne Smolinski - 9823 2572

## Next Sunday:

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

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

## Reflection Questions.....

- Those who have taught me the real meaning of keeping the law are..... I realise I have failed to keep the meaning of the law when.....
- My actions reveal that the fundamental law is gift of self to others when.....
- Jesus fulfilled the law; I fulfill the law when I.....

## First reading

### A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,  
to behave faithfully is within your power.  
He has set fire and water before you;  
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.  
Man has life and death before him;  
whichever a man likes better will be given him.  
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;  
he is almighty and all-seeing.  
His eyes are on those who fear him,  
he notes every action of man.  
He never commanded anyone to be godless,  
he has given no one permission to sin.

## The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

### Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless,  
who follow God's law!  
They are happy who do his will,  
seeking him with all their hearts.

### Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

You have laid down your precepts  
to be obeyed with care.  
May my footsteps be firm  
to obey your statutes.

### Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Bless your servant and I shall live  
and obey your word.  
Open my eyes that I may see  
the wonders of your law.

### Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Teach me the demands of your statutes  
and I will keep them to the end.  
Train me to observe your law,  
to keep it with my heart.

### Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

## Second reading

1 Corinthians 2:16-20

### A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: *the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.*

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

## The Word of the Lord

## Sirach 15:15-20

## Gospel Acclamation

cf. Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 5:17-37

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

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not kill*; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: *You must not commit adultery*. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: *Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal*. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord*. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

## The Gospel of the Lord



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