



# 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 3

Monday - 8:00am  
Tuesday - 8:00am  
Wednesday - 7:00pm  
Ash Wednesday  
Thursday - 9:10am  
Friday - 9:10am  
Saturday - 9:10am

### NEXT SUNDAY

**29 FEBRUARY/1 MARCH**

(First Sunday of Lent 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

## Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

22nd and 23rd February 2020

# Forgive

A young man in the village had been badly insulted, and he hurried to his pastor to tell him about it, adding that he was going immediately to his offender and avenge his honour. "Better go home, son," said the pastor, kindly. "But I've been insulted!" protested the young man. "That's exactly why you should go home at this time. An insult is like mud." "I know that...and I'm going to clean it up." "Son, there is one thing you might as well learn now than later. Mud brushes off a lot more easier when it is dry."

In the Gospel today, Jesus said to his disciples: "You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well." The question of forgiveness is a most crucial one for all of us. That is why it is the most central, novel and challenging aspect of Christ's teaching. He talks about the need to forgive not just seven times but seventy times seven which implies always. He teaches us to pray, "Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us." He gives us the example of forgiveness from the Cross: "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they do." This is also the issue in the stories of healing of the blind and the paralysed. Our blindness and paralysis come from the bitterness and lack of forgiveness that is with in us.

Carl Jung, a well-known Psychologist, said that many people are suffering enormously now because they failed to suffer little things in the past. A person is hurt: he or she does not accept and deal with the hurt. It lies in the heart. Because of this the joys of the next day cannot be received and enjoyed. So the pile up continues. The doors of the heart are clogged. Only bitterness is experienced. "For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not?"

Let us pray that with the grace of God we can entrust all of our burden, grudges, hurt and anger in His hand and we will try to be more forgiving and understanding so that we can live our life in peace and love with others.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

2262 In the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord recalls the commandment, "You shall not kill," and adds to it the proscription of anger, hatred, and vengeance. Going further, Christ asks his disciples to turn the other cheek, to love their enemies. He did not defend himself and told Peter to leave his sword in its sheath.

How far you go in life depends on you being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these. George Carver.

**Make peace with your past so it won't spoil the present.**

Fr Dominic

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



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

**Recently Deceased:** Roydon Thomas THORPE, Col PURCELL, Francis Xavier VU van SUU, Michael PITTAS, Christine EROKOTOU, Carmelo PIRRELLO

**Death Anniversary:** Andrea and Maria PORTOLESI, Martha ABDALLAH

**Other:** Ghazwan KOREAL, Saro YONAN, Hana MANSOUR, Goro KHAMMO, Hani KHOSHABA, Gardani MANSOUR, Jihad HANA, Ghazala KOREAL, Hazim KOREAL, 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, Thanksgiving



### Old Palms

It is time to prepare for Ash Wednesday this week, Wednesday 26th February. We are asking parishioners to bring their old palms from last year to the church by Tuesday morning so they can be burnt on Shrove Tuesday to use as ashes. Please leave in them in the baskets at the back of the church.

## 2020 Archdiocesan Rite of Election and Presentation of Baptised Candidates for Full Communion

When: First Sunday of Lent, 1st March at 2pm.

Where: St Mary's Cathedral. All Welcome!

*About the Rite of Election:*

Every year hundreds of catechumens from our Catholic parishes and communities all over Sydney come together to celebrate the conclusion of the period of catechetical formation undertaken in their local parish and gather together to declare their readiness and desire to enter the Catholic Church by receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter.

In turn, the Church accepts their petition and the testimony of the Catholic community, and includes them as members of "the elect."

In addition, the Church also welcomes and celebrates the continuing conversion of those candidates who desire to come into full communion with the Church at Easter.

Among the many parishes and communities participating this year, St John the Baptist parish will be bringing 3 catechumen and 4 candidates. We congratulate and pray for them.



### Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held during Lent commencing Friday 28th February at 7.00pm in the Church, next First Friday at 6pm, then every Friday night at 7.00pm for each week thereafter.




### 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.



**PROJECT COMPASSION**  **SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY**



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **"Go Further Together"**. Your generosity will assist some of the world's most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)



### Living in the Father's 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



### JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY ENROLMENTS Catholic Schools Week

**Monday 2nd March until Friday 6th March, 2020.**

Enrolment packs for 2021 are available from the front office from 2nd March. There will be a liturgy at 9:10am on Thursday 5th March followed by a school tour at 9:30am. All are welcome to these events.



### 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!*  
**17th - 19th 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**



### 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.



## PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION

**Baptisms** - If you wish to Baptise your child here in the Parish you will need to attend **10:00am Mass** next **Sunday 1st March**. Following Mass Fr Dominic and Fr Richard will meet with you in the Parish Hall.



## The Season of Lent

Lent is the most appropriate time for celebrating the Sacrament of Penance. Already on Ash Wednesday the people of God have heard the solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the Good News*. It is therefore fitting to have several penitential celebrations during Lent, so that all the faithful may have an

opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbour and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts. RP13. The Sacrament of Penance is better celebrated before rather than after the Easter Triduum. *ORDO 2016*



## FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18<sup>th</sup> year, until the beginning of their 60<sup>th</sup> year; the law of abstinence (from items made with meat - includes all the Fridays of Lent) binds those who have completed their 14<sup>th</sup> year (CCL 97, 1251-52).



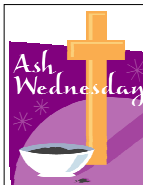
## VOLUNTEERS FOR 2020 SUPPER AND MORNING TEA ROSTERS

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 29 FEB/1 MAR	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	A Vlahadamis J Victorino	I O'Connor T Simpson	J Habib C Goodyer	V Arbanas M Vo
<b>EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTER</b>	A Jameson C Araco L Topic L Ago T Micali A Gorla	D Triganza A Liberatore F Foti T Simpson B O'Connor	N Laureti G Dunn N Dubuisson S D'Cruz S Hambrook H Fenech	R Imbert M Abdal S Cook M Mai
<b>CHURCH COUNTERS</b>	M Davies			
<b>CLEANERS: CHURCH</b>				
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER</b>	1/03/2020 R Marciano	8/03/2020 Z Penitani	15/03/2020 J Sultana	22/03/2020 D Triganza
<b>SUPPER 5:30pm</b>	29/02/2020 Group 3	7/03/2020 Group 1	14/03/2020 Group 2	21/03/2020 Group 3
<b>MORNING TEA 10:00am</b>	1/03/2020 Group 1	8/03/2020 Group 2	15/03/2020 Group 3	23/03/2020 Group 4

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



## Ash Wednesday Mass times

- 9:00am** - With John the Baptist School attending
- 11:00am** - with Freeman Catholic College (Liturgy only)
- 12:00pm** - Year 5 and 6 attending
- 7:00pm** - Parish Mass

## Lenten Program

The Lenten program will commence on Tuesday 3rd March at 7:00pm in the Church.

## 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.

## 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 **8:00pm** in the Parish hall.



## 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:

### First Sunday of Lent ( Year A)

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I am challenged to go beyond my finite human actions and limited love when.....
- ♦ I experience God's limitless love when..... through.....
- ♦ I am awed at the traces of God's glory I find in.....

## First reading

Leviticus 19:1-2

### A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them:

"Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

### The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

### The Lord is kind and merciful.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion.

### The Lord is kind and merciful.

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults.

### The Lord is kind and merciful.

As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

### The Lord is kind and merciful.

## Second reading

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

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

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As

scripture says: *The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are; or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise.* So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

### The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

I John 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,  
grows perfect in the love of God.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 5:38-48

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

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: *Eye for eye and tooth for tooth.* But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

### The Gospel of the Lord



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