



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
Emergency: 0423 420 639

Assistant: Rev Fr Richard Ddumba

Email: 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

Website: 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 - No Mass

Tuesday - No Mass

Wednesday - No Mass

Thursday - No Mass

Friday - No Mass

Saturday - No Mass

NEXT SUNDAY

4/5 APRIL

*(Palm Sunday of the Passion
of the Lord Year A)*

Saturday Vigil Mass:

5:30pm

Sunday Masses:

8:00am, 10:00am and

5:30pm

**CANCELLED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

4th Sunday of the Month:

5:30pm Mass in Tagalog

**Cancelled until further
notice**

1st Friday of the Month:

7:00pm Mass in

Vietnamese

**Cancelled until further
notice**

1st Saturday of the Month

Fatima Devotions 7.45am

Adoration/Benediction

8.30am

**Cancelled until further
notice**

Reconciliations:

Saturdays — 4:15 — 5:00pm

Sunday — 5:00 — 5:15pm

**Cancelled until further
notice**

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office
or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639
or Fr Richard 0451 910 634

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A)

28th & 29th March, 2020

Out of the Tomb

The pyramids of Egypt are famous because they contained the mummified bodies of ancient Egyptian kings. Westminster Abbey in London is renowned, because in it rests the bodies of English nobles and notables. Mohammad's tomb is noted for the stone coffin and the bones it contains. The Taj Majal was built as a memorial to a wife of one of India's Shahs. Arlington cemetery in Washington, D.C., is revered, for it is the honoured resting place of many outstanding Americans. The garden tomb of Jesus is famous not because of what is inside, but because it is empty!

We hear from the prophet Ezekiel God announcing, *"I am going to open your graves and bring you up, my people. I will put my spirit within you and you shall live."* These were people in exile with no hope in anyone or anything. God was not only their last hope but their only hope. In the Gospel story, Jesus also announces, *"I am the resurrection and the life"*. As a sign to demonstrate this, he calls Lazarus out of the tomb. So this is about a lot more than just whether Jesus can resuscitate his friend's corpse. It's about whether the message of God has anything to say in the face of deathliness, of lost causes, of decimated hope.

God is calling us out of our personal tombs but even so, from the current communal and global tomb. God is promising to open our graves, to give life to our drying bones. Abandonment is not God's way, but constantly inviting us out into life is God's relational pattern. Where there is blindness, He gives sight - for He is the Light. Where there is hunger, He provides bread - for He is the Bread of Life. Where there is thirst, He gives water - for He is the Living water. Here there is death and Jesus would bring "life" to this world - because He is the resurrection and the life.

When Lazarus was brought back to life, this was the turning point for many of the people who had accompanied Mary. When they saw what Jesus did, they put their trust Him. We too are invited to believe in Jesus as the Saviour. The One who will bring us out of the current tomb created by the Corona pandemic. Jesus called Lazarus, the Apostles, the man blinded, the adulterous woman, and the others to believe, not only in Him, but in their being sought out and sent out to live their beliefs.

Catechism of the Catholic Church: The Lord the Giver of Life

739 - Because the Holy Spirit is the anointing of Christ, it is Christ who, as the head of the Body, pours out the Spirit among his members to nourish, heal, and organize them in their mutual functions, to give them life, send them to bear witness, and associate them to his self-offering to the Father and to his intercession for the whole world.

Fr Richard



PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptisms - are cancelled until further notice.

RECONCILIATION AND COMMUNION INFORMATION 2020

The Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Reconciliation has been **postponed until further notice** due to Covid-19.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD has been **postponed until further notice**.



JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS 2021

Enrolment packs for 2021 are available from the school office during office hours. Applications are welcome from those families living within the parish and will need to be fully completed and returned the end of May. If you have any enquiries please call the school office on 9823 5042.

Freeman Catholic College Bonnyrigg Heights



ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING - Year 7, 2022 **CANCELLED**

Enrolment Applications can be collected from the College Office (8:00am - 3:30pm) from **Wednesday 25th March**

Siblings of the college may collect an Application form on your behalf.

Mount Street,
Bonnyrigg Heights NSW 2177
Ph: (02) 9823 2073
www.freemanbonnyrigg.catholic.edu.au



PARISH HOUSIE at Liverpool Catholic Club on Saturday afternoons has been **POSTPONED** until further notice.



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.



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. 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.

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

Sick: Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Fr Emmanuel SEO, Gary LOMAS, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

Recently Deceased: Fr Ray FARRELL, Hana JELINEK, Giuseppe CONDRO, Guido SOLIGO

Death Anniversary: Mark CAVALLARO

Other: Michael GRIMA, Clifford FERNANDES, Gloria O'BRIEN, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, All the Souls in Purgatory
Special Intention



Upcoming Parish Activities Save the date!



FASTING & ABSTINENCE

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

The Holy Gospel according to John continued.....

Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.
If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.'

Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'
When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!'

'The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

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:

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year A)

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Second Reading: Philippians 2nd 6-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ What in me needs to be untied is..... When I allow Jesus to unite me, the freedom I experience is.....
- ♦ The human experiences that hinder my freedom to grow in knowing Jesus better are.....
- ♦ My belief in Jesus looks like..... To never die means to me.....

First reading

Ezekiel 37:12-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

129:1-8

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

My soul is waiting for the Lord.
I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.)

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity.

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Second reading

Romans 8:8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in

you.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 11:25-26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 11:1-45

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?
A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling
because he has the light of this world to see by;
but if he walks at night he stumbles,
because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that



Copyright © 1996-2015 Universalis Publishing Limited: see 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.