

St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish



(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

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year A) 9th & 10th May, 2020

Easter - A time for renewal

A Priest walked into a pub and said to the men, "Those who want to go to heaven please come around." All the men except one stood up and gathered around the priest. He started to talk about the Good News but he noticed a man still drinking in a corner of the pub. He walked up to him, "Mr Murphy, do you want to go to heaven?" "No, I don't Father," he replied. The priest looked him right in the eye, and said, "You mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to heaven?" Murphy smiled, "Oh when I die, yes Father. I thought you were getting a group together to go right now."

In today's Gospel we heard that Jesus is about to leave his disciples. There is always a sense of sadness when we are separated. Jesus knows that so he wanted to comfort his disciples. "Do not let your heart be troubled." His words bring comfort and consolation to his apprehensive and fearful disciples. Jesus declares himself "I am the way and the truth and the life." Those who believe in Him will find meaning, direction and eternal life with God. Jesus reveals the truth that life is continuous, earthly life opening to a share in divine life, infinity. Being the way, he teaches his disciples not just with words but by action as well. He himself had gone through the painful process of passion, death and resurrection. The process reveals the truth in every one of us as humans, we all will die one day but death is not the end. God's love has endured everything for our sake. Jesus offers us genuine human renewal and intimate communion with the divine.

Let us pray that our faith will be deepened so that during trial and difficult times we can experience comfort, healing and hope.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1696 The way of Christ 'leads to life'; a contrary way 'leads to destruction'. The gospel parable of the two ways remains ever present in the catechism of the church; it shows the importance of moral decisions for our salvation: 'There are two ways, the one of life, the other of death; but between the two, there is a great difference.'

The heart of a mother is a deep abyss, at the bottom of which you will always find forgiveness.

Honore' de Balzac (1799-1850)

Fr Dominic

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 1

Monday - No Mass Tuesday - No Mass

St Nereus and Achilleus, martyrs

Wednesday - No Mass

St Matthias, apostle

Friday - No Mass Saturday - No Mass

NEXT SUNDAY 16/17 MAY

(Sixth Sunday of Easter 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

St Pancras, martyr Our Lady of Fatima Thursday - No Mass

LIVESTREAMING OF HOLY MASS AND SERVICES

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday: 10am

Please go to our Parish YOUTUBE channel - "John the Baptist Parish, Bonnyrigg Heights" to watch our live stream Masses. You may wish to SUBSCRIBE to this channel which will make it easier to access each week.

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.

PROJECT COMPASSION



If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home with cash/credit card, please bring them into the Parish Office or the Presbytery by **Friday 15th May**. Alternatively you can make your donation online at www.caritas.org.au

Thank you to those who have already handed in their

Caritas donations.

JTB Men's Ministry Monthly meeting

The next meeting of the Men's group will be held on Friday 15th May at 7:30pm via Zoom

This month we will be reflecting on the Gospel reading of John 14:15-21 as well as discussing the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist



Please join us!

Contact Either:
David Moore - 0412 405 792
Branko Poljak - 0411 281 299
for Zoom sign in details

Supporting our Seafarers during the Pandemic

Donations of personal hygiene products are urgently sought for Care Packages being put together for the thousands of seafarers trapped on ships coming into Sydney waters.

Chaplain to the Seafarers, Sr Mary Leahy, said donations of shampoo, body wash, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, knitted beanies and chocolates are desperately needed for the thousands of seamen currently stranded on ships on our waterfront due to the Coronavirus.

Sr Mary has spent the past 20 years helping those who earn a living on the seas and said she has never seen conditions so dire.

Donations can be dropped off at All Saints Catholic Parish Office, George Street , Liverpool.

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



Sick: Vikki MOXHAM, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Fr Emmanuel SEO, Gary LOMAS, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

Recently Deceased: Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Fr Peter MORRISSEY, Fr Patrick McAULIFFE (former Parish Priest at Cabramatta) Kathleen KENSEY, Fr Ray FARRELL

Death Anniversary:

Other: Michael GRIMA, Clifford FERNANDES,

Gloria O'BRIEN, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and

Maryann FENECH, All the Souls in Purgatory



The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the Love of a mother.

St Therese of Lisieux

Saints of the Week



St Nereus and Achilleus

Sts Nereus and Achilleus were soldiers in the Roman army. They helped carry out the persecution of Christians. After a miracle of faith, they were converted. They threw down their arms and uniforms and escaped from their camp. They were eventually captured and martyred with Flavia

Domitilla, the niece of Emperor Domitia.

Prayer: Saints Achilleus and Nereus, pray for those in the military and armed forces throughout the world that they may always see God as their authority and obey God's orders first.

Feast day: May 12th



St Pancras

We have no reliable historical information about this martyr. Legend tells us he was born at the end of the third century and brought up by an uncle in Rome after the death of his parents. Both he and his uncle became Christians. Pancras was beheaded in 304 during Diocletian's persecution. He was only 14 years old.

Prayer: St. Pancras, pray for all teenagers that their faith may be as strong as yours, strong enough to lead them through all the trials of their life

Feast Day: May 12th



Our Lady of Fatima

Our Lady of Fatima, is a Catholic title of the Blessed Virgin Mary based on the famed Marian apparitions reported in 1917 by three shepherd children at the Cova de Iria, in Fatima, Portugal. The three children were Lucia dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto.



St Matthias

The first act of the apostles after the Ascension of Jesus was to find a replacement for Judas. The criteria was the replacement had to have been a disciple from the beginning and baptised by John. The apostles cast lots and Matthias was chosen.

Feast day: May 14th Patron: Alcoholism

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

Children's Liturgy: Angela Galdas - 9606 8403 Church Linen: Michelle De Luca - 0400 374 277 Church Cleaners: Ann Goria - 0425 284 860

Altar Servers: Fr Richard - 9823 2572

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

Next Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A)

First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18 Gospel: John 14:15-21

First reading A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

He guides me along the right path;

he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness

no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;

with these you give me comfort.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

You have prepared a banquet for me

in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;

my cup is overflowing.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

1 Peter 2:4-9 Second reading A reading from the First letter of St Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See

Reflection Questions.....

- When my heart is troubled, Jesus...
- What I know of the Father because I know Jesus is.....
- The works of Jesus I do are.....

Acts 6:1-7 | how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

Gospel John 14:1-12 A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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