



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 WEEK 2

Monday - 8:00am

St Clement I, pope

St Columban, abbot

Tuesday - 8:00am

Sts Andrew Dung-Lac,

priest, and companions,

martyrs

Wednesday - 7:00pm

St Catherine of Alexandria,

virgin, martyr

Thursday - 9:00am

Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 9:00am

NEXT SUNDAY

28/29 NOVEMBER

(First Sunday of Advent

Year B)

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

Fatima First Saturday

Communion of

Reparation 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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year A)

21st & 22nd November, 2020

Christ the King

A professor was one day walking along a very narrow bridge when he came face to face with a rival. The bridge was too narrow for two to pass. The rival, pulling himself up to his full height, said naughtily, *"I never make way for fools!"* Smiling, the professor stepped aside and said, *"I always do."*

Today we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, Jesus is presented to us as the mocked king on the cross as well as the king of the universe. The greatest humiliation and the greatest victory are both shown to us in today's liturgy. It is an irony that our king is nailed naked on a cross, disgraced and powerless. He is challenged by the crowd, *"If you are the Son of God.....come down from the cross."* But Jesus will not succumb to the temptation to use his power for his own benefit or to prove himself. He is chided even by one of the condemned. *"Save yourself and save us too."* This humiliation is to fulfil God's will and to show how much God loves us through Jesus's suffering and death.

Furthermore, we have the image of Christ coming; *"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory."* Jesus shows us how to prepare for that day; *"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."* While the Pharisees reduced God to keeping the law. The Scribes identified God with theology and philosophical discussions. The Sadducees identified God with money (a sign of God's blessing). The high priests identified God with liturgy and temple services. Jesus identifies himself as the hungry and thirsty, the stranger, the sick and the poor and he calls us to do something about it. His kingship was about love, healing, reconciling and compassion.

The Feast 'Christ the King' reassures us how much God loves us and calls us to reach out to the 'needy' around us.

"May today there be peace within. May you trust that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith in yourself and others. May you use the gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content with yourself just the way you are. Let this knowledge settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us."

Mother Theresa

Gift Suggestions on the Feast of Christ the King

To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity.
To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect.

Fr Dominic

NSW eases restrictions to allow 300 in churches with 4m2 Rule

Up to 300 people is allowed to attend Mass provide the 4m² rule is observed

Parishioners who wish to attend Masses are required to provide their contact details (name and phone number or email address of one adult in each family) as they enter the Church.



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.

Faith Matters

THE FOUR LAST THINGS: DEATH, JUDGMENT, HEAVEN & HELL

The Church believes that a person faces the particular judgment at death. God judges our souls and finds us either able to enter heaven immediately, needing to go through further purification in purgatory or capable of hell because of our refusal to detach ourselves from sin and our unwillingness to repent. At the end of time, there will be a general judgment, at which time our bodies will be resurrected to join our souls in our eternal life, whether that be in heaven or hell.

What happens to us after death is an indication of our own personal, free choice to choose God and the path to holiness or to turn against Him. What happens after death also indicates who our God is - a God of both justice and mercy. As Christians, we should not fear death, but rather ready ourselves for it, by growing in holiness and striving for eternal life.



Parts of the Mass

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



Reaching Beyond 2020

People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your

assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes, and support on assignment.

See www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0431 995 058, or email palms@palms.org.au

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LIVESTREAMING OF HOLY MASS AND SERVICES

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Today will be our last livestream Mass as the restriction is eased we need to make physical connection because participation in Thanksgiving Mass is important to our faith (rather than watching). It requires us to make some preparations and effort, If there is a need for more Masses on the weekend we shall be happy to provide that need. Unless you are very sick and you can't attend Mass in person please advise your priest to visit and take Holy Communion to you at home.



Baptisms: If you wish to Baptise your child please contact the parish office to make an appointment with either Fr Dominic or Fr Richard.



We congratulate the family of Joseph WERNER who will be baptised here this weekend.

RCIA – INFORMATION NIGHT



Adults to be welcomed into the Catholic Church through the Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA course) will meet in the Parish hall on **Thursday, 26th November at 7:00pm.**

If you know of anyone in your family or a friend who could be interested in this program, do not hesitate to contact us. For inquiries contact either the Parish office, Fr Dominic or Fr Richard.

Advent 2020 with Bruce Downes The Catholic Guy

Join me and people all around the world and Expect the Unexpected! Sign up for a free daily email devotional that will guide you on a life-changing journey through Advent. Starting November 29th you'll receive daily emails with short inspirational videos from Bruce Downes, full of real life stories and practical ways to become all that God has created you to be! Register now or for more information: <https://brucedownes.org/registerforadvent>

Advent Reconciliations

Wednesday Nights

Wednesday, 2nd December
Wednesday, 23rd December

Holy Mass - 7:00pm
Eucharistic Adoration
&
Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:30pm—8:30pm

There was some expressions of anxiety in attending Mass in the church instead of watching Livestream.

What is Anxiety?

Anxiety is an uncomfortable feeling of worry or fear, and is a normal human response to a lot of situations particular during this pandemic time. Everyone feels some anxiety at different times in life. It's the way our body tries to keep us out of dangerous situations, and motivates us to solve problems. But if you feel so anxious that it gets in the way of you living your life, or causes a lot of distress— that's a problem.

We try our best to follow instructions from the Health Department to be safe and keeping everyone safe. Wash your hands with soap or use hand Sanitizer Gel before you enter the church. Keep physical distance unless you are from the same family. Keep a distance and reach out your hands when coming up to receive Communion which should be done with full attention and understanding. Please use face mask if that make you feel better.

It's important to chill out!

Despite all the issues going on around us, we need to find some relaxation which is good for our mental health and wellbeing. It's important to find some place and doing something to be relaxed and be prayerful. Take time out to relax and be reflective!



CONFIRMATION PHOTOS

Confirmation photos will be available for collection in the parish hall on **Saturday 28th November from 12:00pm - 2:00pm** and **Sunday 29th November from 9:00am - 10:30am.** For further enquiries please contact Maria on 0407 662 535.

Saints of the Week



Sts Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

Through the missionary efforts of various religious families beginning in the sixteenth century and continuing until 1866, the Vietnamese people heard the message of the gospel, and many accepted it despite persecution and even death. There are 117 martyrs in

this group and although they died at different times, they were all canonized by Pope John Paul II on June 19, 1988. Of the group, 96 were Vietnamese, 11 were Spaniards, and 10 were French. There were 8 bishops, 50 priests and 59 lay Catholics in the group. Of the priests, 11 were Dominicans, 10 belonged to the Paris Mission Society, and the rest were diocesan priests plus one seminarian. Certain individual martyrs were mentioned by name in the process of canonization: Andrew Dung-Lac, a diocesan priest; Remembered as representative of the thousands of Christians tortured and martyred in Vietnam between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries: bishops, presbyters, religious, and lay people, both children and adults. These martyrs gave their lives not only for the Church but for their country as well. They showed that they wanted the gospel of Christ to take root in their people and contribute to the good of their homeland.

Feast Day: November 24

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

Sick: John Da RIN, Raelene GARCIA, Aileen CLARKE, Melda MIZZI, Gabriel STORNELLI, Janelle CLIFTON, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Gary LOMAS, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

Recently Deceased: Mary GRECH

Death Anniversary: Reg McANDREW, Joseph Hai TRAN, May and James REILLY, Kate BIONDI, Xin Cau Cho Linh Hon, Guise Hoang Duy Nghi

Other: Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Thanksgiving St Anthony and St Jude



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 - 0408 465 149
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
Men's Group: Branko Poljak - 0411 281 299

Next Sunday:

First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ The bases for whether I help another or not are.....
- ♦ The limits to my care and concern for others are.....
- ♦ What this gospel affirms and challenges in me about my bases and limits for reaching out to others are.....

First reading

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest—it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

22:1-3, 5-6

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

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

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done

away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king *until he has put all his enemies under his feet* and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be *put under his feet*. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessing on him, who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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