



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 1

Monday - 8:00am

St Andrew, apostle

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:00am

St Francis Xavier, priest

Friday - 9:00am

*St John Damascene, priest,
doctor*

Saturday - 9:00am

NEXT SUNDAY

5/6 DECEMBER

*(Second 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

First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

28th & 29th November, 2020

Stay Awake & Keep Watch

The New Liturgical Year begins today with the First Sunday of Advent, which starts four Sundays before Christmas. Each year the Church tells the story of Jesus again. It is always the same yet ever new. In this Liturgical year, Cycle B, the Church meditates on the Gospel of Mark and uses it for most of Sunday readings. Each year we ought to understand the story of Jesus better and make it more our own. It is a continual reminder to us of the meaning of our lives as we travel towards the Kingdom of God in the footsteps of Jesus.

Advent is a time of preparation with a twofold characteristic: a time of preparation for the solemnities of Christmas, in which the first coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's second coming at the end of time. It is a time of active waiting, of expectation, of desire, of prayer, of evangelization, of joy.

The Gospel for this First Sunday of Advent from St Mark presents a discourse of Jesus at the end of his ministry. He speaks in imperatives to his disciples: "Be on your guard, keep alert, stay awake". These words set the mood not just for the Season of Advent, but for the whole Liturgical year. We must live in such a way as to be always ready to meet the Lord. For the faithful, the Lord's coming is not something to fear; it is something to look forward to because the Lord will come as a redeemer, not as judge.

Theme in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: The Character of Advent

524 - When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviour's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming.

Advent Wreath



The Circle of the Wreath: God Himself, His eternity and His endless mercy, without neither beginning nor end.

The Green of the Wreath: Our hope of newness, renewal and eternal life.

The Candles: The Light of God that came into the world through Christ to bring newness, life and hope.

Four Candles: The four weeks of Advent, representing the four centuries between the time of the Prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ.

Three purple Candles: A period of waiting, expectation & preparation.

One Pink Candle: It symbolizes joy for the promise is almost fulfilled.

Fr Richard

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

New Liturgical Year - New Goals: Participating in the Mass

Come to the Church at least 5-10 minutes early: Pray and familiarize with the readings and hymns of the Mass. Coming early will give you a much more calm and prayerful feeling.

Being friendly: Taking time before and after Mass to say hello, to greet others (not just your friends but especially visitors and people you do not know), these acts of hospitality are an essential part of our participation.

Familiarize yourself with the Church hymns: "I cannot sing! Why bother?" No worries, if you are not a good singer! No one will judge you as you are singing to praise God, not to please anyone.

Purchase a Sunday Missal: A Missal contains all the prayers and readings for Mass. Many Missals even provide extra prayers for daily and/or weekly use.

Read through the Readings of the Mass you are attending beforehand: This may help you understand the readings more deeply when they are read at Mass and perhaps may help you understand the priest's homily better.

Making the collection part of the action: Giving our hard-earned money in the collection is a very real element of our sacrifice - especially where the collection, or a proportion of it, is given to needs outside the parish.

Understand the Priest's gestures and the Order of Mass: There are so many books and online resources that can help. CatholicCulture.org also has a simple article about the gestures at Mass.

Consider joining a Parish ministry: Have you ever looked at the choir, Altar Servers or Eucharistic Ministers, etc., and wanted to do their job? Feel free to ask! You do not know until you try it!

RECONCILIATION SACRAMENT ENROLMENT 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

John the Baptist Catholic Church, Bonnyrigg, welcomes all Baptised children in our local community and parish to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Due to COVID19 we were unable to hold a reconciliation program in 2020, so next year in 2021 there will be 2 reconciliation programs.

1. Term 1 2021 - All students enrolled in Year 4 and above in 2021

2. Term 4 2021 - All students enrolled in Year 3 and above in 2021.

PLEASE NOTE - Year 4 students will make their reconciliation in the beginning of the year (Term 1) and then their communion mid-year (June 2021).

YEAR 4 2021 RECONCILIATION ENROLMENT

At this stage we are asking **ONLY** children enrolled in Year 4 and above in 2021 to enroll for reconciliation. We will hold a separate enrolment for Year 3 children for the second program in Term 3 2021.

If you wish to enroll your child please **complete the enrolment form by Sunday 6 December 2020**. Lessons groups will be arranged at the beginning of Term 1 2021, once enrolments are finalised.

To enroll your child please complete the online form at the link below (only year 4 2021).

Visit : <https://www.trybooking.com/BMZXM>

ENROLMENTS CLOSE 6 DECEMBER 5PM.

Attend the Enrolment Information Night

Once you have submitted your enrolment form, a parent will need to attend the information and enrolment evening in the John the Baptist church on **Tuesday 8 December at 7pm** (no children, due to number restrictions).

Please bring to the enrolment information night :

1. Your child's **baptism certificate** (showing date and parish); and
2. \$20 enrolment fee for program materials.

If you have any queries or need assistance, please call us we are happy to help you:

CORE Group Leaders: Tamara Vella on 0424 166 248 or Kylie Farias on 0473 779 338

New Seminarian

My name is Joseph Li and I am a second-year seminarian for the Good Shepherd Seminary in Homebush who will be living and helping out in this parish until Christmas. I originally come from Weinan Diocese in China. According to the requirement for the formation leading to the priesthood, I am asked to do one-month pastoral work in St John the Baptist Catholic Parish. This is my first parish placement as a seminarian and I am happy to have this opportunity to spend time with you as part of my formation. Thank you for accepting me into your parish. I hope that I will get to know many of you during my time here. Please pray for me!





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 Alana SETTINERI and Isaiah SUSNJA who will be baptised here this weekend.



CONFIRMATION PHOTOS will be available for collection in the parish hall **Sunday 29th November from 9:00am - 10:30am.** For further enquiries please contact Maria on 0407 662 535.

RCIA: The RCIA sessions will continue on **Thursday 3rd December at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.**

Advent Reconciliations

Wednesday Nights

Wednesday, 2nd December
Wednesday, 23rd December

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

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>

Email: info@brucedownes.org



We congratulate the following Children who are celebrating the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this weekend:

AGIUS, Zachary
AUDISHO, Ashur
AUDISHO, Ornella
AYOUB, Michael
BARTLEY, Piper
BLANDA, Addisyn
BORG, Daniel
BORG, Marcus
BRICENO, Benjamin
BUSHBY, Liam
CARION, Sebastian
CASTILLON, Monte
CAVICCHIA, Alessio
COX, Matilda
DAHDAH, Sofia
ELLIA, Analesia
FURIA, John
GRECH, Kobi
HADDAD, Sofia
HUYNH, Jayleen
JAJOU, Paris
JEAN-LOUIS, Isabella
JONG, Timorhya
KARROUM, Noah
LAGUZZA, Antonia
LAM, Vivien
LAZAR, Lily
LAZAR, Rosabella
LAZAR, Christopher
LOZELLE, Phoenix
MACNAMARA, Leon
MADJERIC, James

MANDUCA, Valentino
MARCIANO, Sofia
MELIS, Massimiliano
MILOSTIC, Dante
NAMO, Cililia
NGUYEN, Martin
OLIVERI, Emerson
ORAH, Jacob
PACE, Noah
PADILLA, Logan
PADILLA, Madeline
PANAGIOTAKIS, Alexia
PAYET, Noah
PETROS, Angela
PHAM, Dylan
PHAM, Daelan
POLISTINA, Ethan
ROMERO, Nicola
SERRA, Isabella
SEVERINO, Jordan
SHABO, Theresa
SORO, Eli
STIVALA, Adriana
SUAREZ, Jacinta
TSOLOMITI, Alexander
TWAL, Fares
VALERI, Dylan
VANDERWERT, Abbey
VONGKHAMCHANH, Jayden
YOUSIF, Jesica
ZANGARI, Nicola

Saints of the Week



CHURCH WORKING BEE

Saturday 12th December 8am-1pm

If you can spare anytime at all on the morning of Saturday 12th December we would love to get the church and gardens looking their best for the Christmas masses. **PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD** - we have to look our best!

There are some cobwebs to clear and statues to polish! And some gardening and tidying around the church grounds and carpark area. Please bring any tools you may require and remember to sign on and sanitise before beginning work.

Any enquiries please call Grant 0409 958744

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: Stephen ENGLISH, Mary GRECH

Death Anniversary: David SMOLINSKI, Mary D'CRUZ, Clement D'CRUZ, M.R. VARGHESE

Other: Christopher D'CRUZ, Iluminada MENDOZA, Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Thanksgiving St Anthony and St Jude



St Andrew

St. Andrew, also known as Andrew the Apostle, was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter. He was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman.

Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion in Patras. He was bound, rather than nailed, to a cross, as is described in the Acts of Andrew. He was crucified on a cross form known as "crux decussata," which is an X-shaped cross or a "saltire." Today this is commonly referred to as "St. Andrew's Cross." It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself "unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus."

Feast day: November 30

Patron of fishermen, singers, Scotland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and Patras



St Francis Xavier

St Francis Xavier was a Navarrese-Basque Roman Catholic missionary born in the Kingdom of Navarre on April 7, 1506. He was sent to study at the University of Paris and in 1530, Francis Xavier earned his master's degree, and went on to teach philosophy at the University of Paris. On August 15, 1534, Francis Xavier along with Peter Favre, and several other friends, made vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The men planned to travel to the Holy Land to convert non-believers. With St Ignatius Loyola became one of the seven who founded the Society of Jesuits. He preached for 6 months in Africa on his way to Asia where he spent the remainder of his life spreading the Word of God in India, Japan and the Philippines.

Feast day: December 3

Patron of Catholic missions; African missions; Goa, India; China; missionaries.

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:

Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I experience fatigue and weariness because.....
- ♦ Christian living seems too demanding when.....
- ♦ At times like these, Jesus comes to renew my discipleship by.....

First reading

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

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!
— at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord



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