



# 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 WEEK 2

**Monday - 8:00am**

**Tuesday - 8:00am**

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*St Fabian, pope, martyr*

*St Sebastian, martyr*

**Thursday - 9:00am**

*St Agnes, virgin, martyr*

**Friday - 9:00am**

*St Vincent, deacon, martyr*

**Saturday - 9:00am**

### NEXT SUNDAY

**23/24 JANUARY**

*(3rd Sunday in Ordinary  
Time 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

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

16th & 17th January, 2021

## Respond to God's call

A young man was in front of me coming out of the Church one Sunday, and as always the priest was standing at the door shaking hands as the congregation departing. He grabbed this young man by the hand and pulled him aside. The priest said to him, "*You need to join the army of the Lord!*" the man replied, "*I'm already in the army of the Lord, Father.*" The priest questioned, "*How come I don't see you here except for Christmas and Easter?*" He whispered back, "*I'm in the secret service.*"

In today's Gospel we hear the story about Andrew and another disciple of John who followed Jesus. Jesus questioned his disciples "*What do you want?*" and his call, "*Come and see.*" Jesus invites his disciples to the way, the inner truth and life that is in him and comes through him. "*They came and saw where he stayed and they stayed with him that day.*" The disciples visited Jesus physically, and after they experienced where he was interiorly and to some degree shared in his light, and life. And they responded to His call to the service of his gospel. Furthermore, Andrew shared what they had seen and heard with his brother Simon, and so Simon came to Jesus. This story gives us something to reflect upon as disciples of Jesus: to look for, to stay and to share.

The question of vocations is causing alarm in certain Church circles. The average age of the priesthood is rising steadily while the number of those entering the seminary continues to decline. Some speculate that if the present trends continue, large areas of the Church will be deprived of the services of a priest in the next few decades. I have no doubt that God calls everyone in some way or other. There is no shortage of vocations if we understand it in a broaden mean - a new call to live and witness to the Good News. We should become aware of the unique way that Jesus calls us.

Let us pray that we all will grow closer to the person of Christ by listening well to His call and may we commit ourselves to live and proclaim His Good News to the full.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

1694 Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, Christians are 'dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus' and participate in the life of the Risen Lord. Following Christ and united with Him, Christians can strive to be 'imitators of God as beloved children, and walk in love' by conforming their thoughts, words and actions to the 'mind....which is yours in Christ Jesus', and by following his example.

*Bestow upon me, O God, an understanding that knows you,  
wisdom in finding you, a way of life that is pleasing to you,  
perseverance that faithfully waits for you, and  
confidence that I shall embrace you at the last. Amen*

**Fr Dominic**

## NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Up to 100 people is allowed to attend Mass provide the 4m<sup>2</sup> rule is observed.  
The upper limit for outdoor weddings and funerals in Sydney is now 100 attendees.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Masks are compulsory in most indoor settings including churches.**
- **Parishioners who wish to attend Masses are required to provide their contact details as they enter the Church. Registration forms are available on tables at the entrance of the Church.**
- **You could also use the QR Code option to register before entering the Church.**

### Faith Matters

What is special about human beings?

Scripture testifies that human beings are unique in having a material body and a spiritual soul, and that each soul is *directly* created by God. Human beings are *persons*, not merely things or animals, and are therefore of the greatest worth and dignity.

The account in Genesis is not a scientific treatise, but is God's way of revealing to us certain truths about creation and our origins. It reveals that at some point time God created one man and one woman with a material body and, uniquely among animals, a spiritual soul. In Genesis these parents of the human race are called Adam, meaning 'man' and Eve '*the mother of all those who live*'. (Gen 1:20). This teaching does not exclude the possible evolution of the human body from already existing and living matter. While science has not reached a final conclusion on our biological origins, modern genetics has confirmed that the human race is a single, close genetic family.

*Evangelium p.3*



### 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.



#### **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.*

The **New Readers Roster** is now available for collection.

### 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.



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



**New Mission Plan  
for the Catholic  
Archdiocese of Sydney**

Please feel free to take a copy of the summarized version of the New Mission Plan. These books can be found on tables between the two entrances of the church.

For an electronic version of either **the summary** or **the full document**, visit:

<https://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/vision/#mission-plan>

## Pope Francis proclaims 2021 "Year of St Joseph"

With the Apostolic Letter "Patris corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as **Patron of the Universal Church**. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed 2021 a "Year of Saint Joseph".

## A father "in the shadows," centred on Mary and Jesus

Taking a cue from *The Shadow of the Father* — a book by Polish writer Jan Dobraczyński — Pope Francis describes Joseph's fatherhood of Jesus as "the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father."

"Fathers are not born, but made," says Pope Francis. "A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child." Unfortunately, in today's society, children "often seem orphans, lacking fathers" who are able to introduce them "to life and reality." Children, the Pope says, need fathers who will not try to dominate them, but instead raise them to be "capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities." This is the sense in which St Joseph is described as a "most chaste" father, which is the opposite of domineering possessiveness. Joseph, says Pope Francis, "knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the centre of things. He did not think of himself, but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus."

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: "In him, we never see frustration, but only trust," writes Pope Francis. "His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust." Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that "needs fathers," and not "tyrants"; a society that "rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction."

True fathers, instead, "refuse to live the lives of their children for them," and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that "he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes 'useless,' when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied." Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, "has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a 'sign' pointing to a greater fatherhood": that of the "heavenly Father" (7).

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



**Sick:** Enrique RAMOS, Julia CEFAL, Jacinto De SOUSA, Raelene GARCIA, Aileen CLARKE, Melda MIZZI, Gabriel STORNELLI, Janelle CLIFTON, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Gary LOMAS, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

**Recently Deceased:** Lourdes APO, Atilio FABIANO,

**Death Anniversary:** Stella DUFF, Peter TRAN, Umberton RUSSO

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

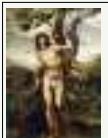
## Saints of the Week



### St Fabian

Pope Fabian born in 200AD in Rome, Italy. He was the bishop of Rome from 10 January 236 to his death on 20 January 250. He is famous for the miraculous nature of his election, in which a dove is said to have descended on his head to mark him as the Holy Spirit's unexpected choice to become the next pope. Being reminded of the Baptism of our Lord, the council elected Fabian Pope.

**Feast Day: January 20**



### St Sebastian

St Sebastian was born in Narbonne, France in 256AD. He was a captain in the Praetorian Guard. An early Christian saint and martyr, he was sentenced to die via bow and arrow for being a Christian. Left for dead he eventually healed only to be martyred again by the emperor, beaten to death by clubs and thrown into the sewers. His body was recovered by a Christian woman, named Lucina, and she secretly buried him in the catacombs beneath Rome. Nearly 80 years after his death, around 367, his remains were moved to a basilica in Rome. His body, or at least some relics from his body were reportedly removed and shared with a community of monks in France. His cranium was sent to a German monastery where it was placed in a special silver case in 934. The relics remains in its case today in a special reliquary in Ebersberg.

**Feast Day: January 20**



**St Agnes** of Rome was born in 291 AD and raised in a Christian family. Agnes was very beautiful and belonged to a wealthy family. Her hand in marriage was highly sought after. However, Agnes made a promise to God never to stain her purity. Her love for the Lord was great and she hated sin even more than death! Because Agnes refused to marry, she was sentenced to death.

She died a virgin-martyr at the age of 12 or 13 on 21 January, 304. She is one of seven women who, along with the Blessed Virgin, are commemorated by name in the Canon of the Mass. Her emblem is a lamb.

**Feast day: January 21**

**Patron** of young girls, chastity, rape survivors and the Children of Mary.



### St Vincent

St. Vincent Pallotti, Priest was born in Rome in 1795. St. Vincent became a priest and dedicated himself completely to God and cared for souls. He dreamed of gaining for Christ all non-Catholics, especially the Mohammedans. To this end he inaugurated a revolutionary program which envisaged the collaboration of the laity in the apostolate of the clergy. But St. Vincent was also well aware of the many deprivations in the natural sphere that hindered the spread of the Faith. He thus obtained and spent huge sums for the poor and underprivileged. He founded guilds for workers, agriculture schools, loan associations, orphanages and homes for girls - all of which made him the pioneer and precursor of Catholic Action. His great legacy was the congregation which he founded for urban mission work, known as the "Society for Catholic Action". This indefatigable labourer for Christ died in 1850 from a severe cold which he most likely caught on a cold rainy night after giving his cloak to a beggar who had none.

**Feast Day: January 22**



## 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:

### 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Second Reading: I Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I have heard God's call when..... What God has called me to is.....
- ♦ I have been helped to discern God's call by.....
- ♦ Responding to God's call has changed my life in that.....

## First reading

**I Samuel 3:3-10, 19**

### A reading from the first book of Samuel

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord, where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

**39:2, 4, 7-10**

*Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.*

I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God.

*Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.*

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I.

*Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.*

In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart.

*Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.*

Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.

My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord.

*Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.*

## Second reading

**1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20**

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

The body is not meant for fornication: it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; do you think I can take parts of Christ's body and join them to the body of a prostitute? Never! But anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

### The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

**John 1:41.17**

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

**John 1:35-42**

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

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

### The Gospel of the Lord

