



# 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 1

**Monday - 8:00am**

*St Jerome Emiliani*

*St Josephine Bakhita, virgin*

**Tuesday - 8:00am**

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*St Scholastica, virgin*

**Thursday - 9:00am**

*Our Lady of Lourdes*

**Friday - 9:00am**

**Saturday - 9:00am**

#### NEXT SUNDAY

**13/14 FEBRUARY**

*(6th 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

### 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

6th & 7th February, 2021

## Jesus heals us

Jim was dying from a massive heart attack. Jim remembers, "I could see everyone rushing into the room, but I couldn't hear the alarms going off. It's like I had gone under water. The hearing had just faded away. That's when I began to pray. I knew I was dying. I cried out to the Lord and said, 'Lord, I love you so much, but please let me go back.' I said, 'My wife needs me, my children need me so much. Please let me go back.'" The doctors and nurses didn't give up. They shocked Jim so many times that the flesh on his chest was burned. Then the doctors heard a heartbeat. "I came back to a world of pain," Jim said. "They shocked me so many times. It's like coming back out of the water." Since then, Jim realized that every day he has with his family is a blessing from Jesus Christ.

In this week's gospel we're given an account of Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law. This is followed by such statements as, "they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils." Those whom he cured who were variously afflicted were many, and so were the demons he expelled. Certainly, this indicates that the miracles of healing were very many. Jesus taught and healed in order to spread the Good news. It was his duty to reach as many people as possible with God's message, so they could enjoy God's presence.

As we read a gospel narrative such as this, do we realize that this Jesus is the same Jesus whom we meet at the Eucharist, whom we receive in Communion? I wonder whether we think of the fact that this Jesus of the Gospel, the God-man who has risen from the dead, is alive as God among us. If we do, then why are we often lonely, afraid, sad, as if nobody cared about our troubles, about our sickness, about our various concerns? Jesus certainly cares as much about us today as he did about the people who lived in Palestine during his sojourn on earth.

May we realize that Jesus is as much a healer today as in gospel times. We need not necessarily expect miracles to solve all our problems. But we certainly should have the confidence that with Christ's help our own efforts will either alleviate our troubles, or if it not be God's will, that Christ's grace will bring light to our understanding, help us to see his will in our trials and give us a peace and calm that no earthly crisis can take away. Let us bring our ills to Christ, the healer, as the people of old.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church: Sickness & Suffering (1500 – 1502)

Illness and suffering have always been among the gravest problems confronted in human life. In illness, the person experiences his/her powerlessness, his/her limitations, and his/her finitude. Every illness can make us glimpse death. Illness can lead to anguish, self-absorption, sometimes even despair and revolt against God. It can also make a person more mature, helping him/her discern in his/her life what is not essential so that he/she can turn toward that which is. Very often illness provokes a search for God and a return to him. Illness becomes a way to conversion; God's forgiveness initiates the healing.

**Fr Richard**

## NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Places of worship are now allowed to have one person per the 4m<sup>2</sup> with no maximum cap.  
Up to 300 people can attend funerals and weddings, providing a 4m<sup>2</sup> rule is observed.

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

### **Reading the Bible**

The Church encourages Catholics to make reading the Bible part of their daily prayer lives. Reading these inspired words, people grow deeper in their relationship with God and come to understand their place in the community God has called them to in himself.

Reading the Bible is not like reading a novel or a history book. It should begin with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to the Word of God. Scripture reading should end with a prayer that this Word will bear fruit in our lives, helping us to become holier and more faithful people.

The Bible is not intended to be read as history text, a science book, or a political manifesto. In the Bible, God teaches us the truths that we need for the sake of our salvation. When we read, we need to understand what the text says and how the faithful have understood its meaning in the past. In light of this understanding, we then ask: What is God saying to me?

Vinnies is proud to announce the 2021 edition of the Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP) for students in Years 4 – 6, who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time. For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>

This is the link to the **Vinnies Metropolitan Schools January 2021 Newsletter:**

[https://youthnsw.vinnies.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/School-Newsletter\\_Metro\\_Term-1-2021.pdf](https://youthnsw.vinnies.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/School-Newsletter_Metro_Term-1-2021.pdf)



### **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.



## **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.

### **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.



We congratulate the families of Lana MAZURKIEWICZ and Ariana DINH who will be baptised here this weekend.

### RECONCILIATION ENROLMENT 2021 (YEAR 4 CHILDREN)

If parents would like to enrol their child in our Reconciliation Sacrament program please complete the enrolment form at:

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

Lessons will begin in the week commencing 22 February 2021.

To enrol your child must have received the sacrament of Baptism and be in year 4 or above in 2021. Another program will be held in Term 3 for children in year 3 in 2021.

If you have any questions regarding the Reconciliation or Communion program please call Tamara on 0424 166 248 or Kylie on 0473 779 338.



### OLD PALMS

It is time to prepare for Ash Wednesday on 17th February. We are asking parishioners to bring in their old palms from last year to the church by Sunday 14th February so that they can be burned on Shrove Tuesday to use as ashes. Please leave them in the baskets at the back of the Church. Thank you



### LECTORS WORKSHOP

There will be a workshop for Lectors on **Saturday 20th February** following the 9:00am Mass for existing readers and for anyone who is interested in becoming a new reader.

The Ascension prayer community will run a Lenten programme commencing on Thursday 18th February in the Parish meeting room at 7:00pm. They will be using the booklets from the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong. For more information please contact Susan on (02) 9607 5137 or 0415 342 672

**RCIA:** The RCIA sessions will continue on **Thursday 11th February at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.**



**FOUND:** If any parishioners have lost a set of keys or an earring please contact the parish office on 9823 2572.

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

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

**Recently Deceased:** Tereso RGBUHAY, Corazon DUMAGUING, Paul SCIRIHA, Fr Stephen Barry SWIFT, Fr Isidore ANANTHARAJ, Toni ABOUD, Archbishop Philip WILSON, Michael COFFEY OAM

**Anniversary:** Courtney Jayde TOPIC, Joseph PACE, Les PACE, Rose VELLA, Gaeta PACE, Carmelo PIRRELLO, Cristina Del VALLE, William GEORGES

**Other:** Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Clifford FERNANDES, Gloria O'BRIEN, Thanksgiving St Anthony and St Jude



### YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD OR TOO YOUNG TO SHARE YOUR FAITH.

This weekend we celebrate *Catechist Sunday* at all Masses. This is the weekend we will acknowledge our 60 catechist/ helpers who teach over 1100 primary school students in **6 of our local public schools**. We recognise their response to their baptismal call to **evangelise**, their **generosity** in volunteering, their **commitment to half hour teaching** every week and their **love for the children** in a mission which is often unseen and unrecognized yet crucial and rewarding.

**We congratulate the following catechists** who will receive these awards at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 7th February for their years of dedicated service:

**20 Years** - Mrs Maria Giglio, **25 Years** - Mrs Lidia Krslovic and Mrs Anna Pace

**Congratulations** to the following catechists receiving certificates at our Masses this weekend:

**5 Years** service - Vicki Penna and Mayada Yousif, **10 years** - Jelica Ceic, **15 Years** - Margaret D'Arcy.

**To fill all our classes we are in need of 6 Catechists at: Bonnyrigg Heights Primary, Wednesdays, 12 to 12.30 - Year 1**

**Cecil Hills Primary, Wednesdays, 8.50 -9.20 Year 2, 9.20 to 10.00 Year 6**

**GPk Edensor Park, Tuesdays, 9am Kindy and Year 1, 9.30 - 10am am Year 4**

Any new Catechist /Helpers will need to do a compulsory Safeguarding Course before you enter the classroom – this can be done via Zoom or face to face at St Joseph's, Moorebank on Monday 15th February. Please see poster in alcove for details.

*Do something of eternal significance- be a Catechist or helper!* We invite you to join this mission and our wonderful JB Team .

Any enquiries please contact: Nina Laureti 0408465149 Vicki Scutella 0447 310 204 or Connie Dif 0413694007

**Catechist meeting will be held Tuesday 16th February commencing at 7pm in the Church. We will also be having our safeguarding refresher course. Please let your coordinator if unable to attend.**

## Saints of the Week



### St Scholastica

St. Scholastica, sister of St. Benedict, consecrated her life to God from her earliest youth. After her brother went to Monte Cassino, where he established his famous monastery, she took up her abode in the neighbourhood at Plombariola, where she founded and governed a monastery of nuns, about five miles from that of St. Benedict, who, it appears, also directed his sister and her nuns. She visited her brother once a year, and as she was not allowed to enter his monastery, he went in company with some of his brethren to meet her at a house some distance away. These visits were spent in conferring together on spiritual matters. On one occasion they had passed the time as usual in prayer and pious conversation and in the evening they sat down to take their reflection. St. Scholastica begged her brother to remain until the next day. St. Benedict refused to spend the night outside his monastery. She had recourse to prayer and a furious thunderstorm burst so that neither St. Benedict nor any of his companions could return home. They spent the night in spiritual conferences. The next morning they parted to meet no more on earth. Three days later St. Scholastica died, and her holy brother beheld her soul in a vision as it ascended into heaven. He sent his brethren to bring her body to his monastery and laid it in the tomb he had prepared for himself. She died about the year 543, and St. Benedict followed her soon after. **Feast Day: February 10**



## 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 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  
Men's Group: Branko Poljak - 0411 281 299

## Next Sunday:

### 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46  
Second Reading: I Corinthians 10:31-11:1  
Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ What needs healing in my life is..... I experience the healing power of Jesus when.....
- ♦ What helps me become more aware of the suffering of others is.....
- ♦ Jesus gives me hope by.....

## First reading

Job 7:1-4, 6-7

### A reading from the book of Job

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,  
his time no better than hired drudgery?  
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,  
or the workman with no thought but his wages,  
months of delusion I have assigned to me,  
nothing for my own but nights of grief.  
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'  
Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'  
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.  
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,  
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.  
Remember that my life is but a breath,  
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

### Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted.

146:1-6

Praise the Lord for he is good;  
sing to our God for he is loving:  
to him our praise is due.

*Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted.*

The Lord builds up Jerusalem  
and brings back Israel's exiles,  
he heals the broken-hearted,  
he binds up all their wounds.  
He fixes the number of the stars;  
he calls each one by its name.

*Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted.*

Our Lord is great and almighty;  
his wisdom can never be measured.  
The Lord raises the lowly;  
he humbles the wicked to the dust.

*Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted.*

## Second reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

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

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself

the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

### The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia!  
He bore our sickness,  
and endured our suffering.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

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

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

### The Gospel of the Lord



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