



# 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**

*The Chair of St Peter, apostle*

**Tuesday - 8:00am**

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

**Thursday - 9:00am**

**Friday - 9:00am**

**Saturday - 9:00am**

### NEXT SUNDAY

**27/28 FEBRUARY**

*(Second Sunday of Lent  
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 Lent (Year B)

20th & 21st February, 2021

## Say “No” to Temptation

A priest working in a countryside parish, was walking down an alley one evening on his way home. A young man came down the alley behind him and poked a knife against his back and said, “Give me your money.” The priest opened his jacket and reached into an inner pocket to remove his wallet, exposing his clerical collar. The young man said, “Oh, I’m sorry, Father,” “I didn’t see your collar. I don’t want your money.” Trembling from the scare, the priest removed a cigar from his shirt pocket and offered it to the young man and said, “Here, have a cigar.” The young man replied, “Oh, no, I can’t do that. I gave them up for Lent.”

We have started the season of lent. Lent recalls the forty days Jesus spent in the desert, fasting and praying. The example of Jesus struggling against temptation, should act as a spur to us in our struggles with temptation. We can say “No” to temptation. It is hard to reject temptation. Temptation makes evil attractive. It tricks us into thinking we can attain possessions, popularity, and power for ourselves. And we can have all this now! Temptation makes selfishness seem right.

The strong attraction we have to evil is called “Original Sin.” It is the universal temptation to focus only on the self and take the “easy way out.” This inclination to sin began at the Fall, when Adam and Eve were tempted by the devil and disobeyed God. When Adam and Eve said “No” to God, they found it easier to say “Yes” to temptation. Because it was easier to give into temptation, it was easier to sin. From that point on, people endured the results of evil: ignorance, suffering, and death.

Jesus came to restore the relationship people had with God. He showed us the way when he said “No” to the devil by saying “Yes” to God. He also gives us the power in the gift of the Spirit. The Spirit strengthens us to place our focus on God, not on ourselves alone. By example of Jesus and with the Spirit, we can reject temptation. Saying “Yes” to God can become a habit. Lent is the perfect time to strengthen this habit. During Lent, we focus on God in prayer, the needs of others with our charity, and away from our selfish wants with fasting. In this way, we can act like Jesus. We can say “No” to temptation and seek the will of God.

### Link in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Temptation

2847 The Holy Spirit makes us discern between trials, which are necessary for the growth of the inner man, and temptation, which leads to sin and death. God does not want to impose the good but wants free beings.... There is a certain usefulness to temptation. Temptations teach us to know ourselves, and in this way, we discover our evil inclinations and are obliged to give thanks for the goods that temptation has revealed to us.

**Fr Richard**

## NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

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

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Masks are no longer compulsory, but you are welcome to wear them if you feel more comfortable.**
- **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

### LENTEN PENANCE

The Church's law reaffirms the obligation to do penance – to interrupt the usual comforts of life, to rediscover in prayer the saving love of God, and to practice charity and justice towards those in need. The Archbishop of Sydney reminds us, "In this season of Lent, we seek to experience the mercy of God the Father, and to practice it in our daily lives. But first we must experience our need for mercy, that is our brokenness and, indeed, our sinfulness, insofar as we have failed to love God above all, and to love our fellow men and women as ourselves." During Lent, we do penance, not only on our own account, but also in the name of the Church and of the world. We must take seriously our penitential obligations and be sure to carry them out.

### PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, and Trinity Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

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.

**RCIA:** The RCIA sessions will continue on **Thursday 25th February at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.**

### RCIA – Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults

Please pray for the following Catechumens and Candidates who are preparing to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church at Easter this year: Kamol Kunatarakul; Thuan Nguyen; Lillian Lay; Thai Eu; Odeh Haddad; James Phanna & Anna Khamphet.

### FOCUS ON OTHERS BRINGS HAPPINESS TO RESIDENTS

A dedicated group of residents from the Scalabrini Village in Austral have been working to help raise funds for our Community Care program.

Under the guidance of one of our parishioners, Anna Condro, who is their Well-being Coordinator, the members of this group propagate and care for plants. They then donate them to be sold to help raise money for our Community Care program.

Anna tells us that working with nature has given them much joy. She also says that their well-being has been further enhanced because working for a purpose helps them focus more on the needs of others than on their own.

We are most grateful to Anna and her team for their selflessness and for their generosity.

Please support their efforts by purchasing one of their plants from the Piety Store ..... \$5 or by donation.



## Parts of the Mass

### 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 family of Alexander BECKER 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.

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

Please consider becoming a Catechist. We need 4 Catechists to fill all our classes.

**Bonnyrigg Heights Primary,**  
Wednesdays, 12 to 12.30 - Year 1

**Governor Phillip King, Edensor Park,**  
Tuesdays, 9am Kindy and Year 1, 9.30 - 10am Year 4

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



### CATECHIST SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Fr Richard Ddumba and Fr Michael McLean with award recipients:  
Mrs Anna Pace (25 years);  
Mrs Maria Giglio (20 years)  
and Mrs Lidia Krslovic (25 years)  
Congratulations and our sincere thanks for your dedicated service to our Parish.



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

We are hoping to resume our Children's Liturgy soon but we are in need of leaders and helpers for our 10am Mass. If you can assist in anyway please contact Angela Galdas on 9606 8403 or the parish office on 9823 2572.

**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:** Joseph ACUNA, Thip SAKOUNKHU, Cindy CALDEJON, 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:** Joyce FITZGERALD, Leonila BINAY, Enrique RAMOS, Bork HUONG, Tereso RGBUHAY, Corazon DUMAGUING, Paul SCIRIHA, Fr Stephen Barry SWIFT

**Anniversary:** Martha ABDALLAH, Michael GRIMA

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



### FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18<sup>th</sup> year, until the beginning of their 60<sup>th</sup> year; the law of abstinence (from items made with meat - includes all the Fridays of Lent) binds those who have completed their 14<sup>th</sup> year (CCL 97, 1251-52).



### Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held during Lent commencing Friday 19th February at 7.00pm in the Church. On Friday 5th March (First Friday of the month) Stations will be held at 6:00pm.

**PARISHIONERS:** Please take home a copy of the Lenten Companion from the Archdiocese of Sydney



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.



### First Sunday of Lent 21st February 2021



Jamila, 22, is a Rohingya woman living in the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh. She was forced to flee the armed conflict in Myanmar to save herself, her elderly mother and her eight-month-old baby.

With the support of Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila was able to access emergency food and shelter. She also received counselling, emotional support, and learnt sewing skills to help her earn an income.

Jamila now feels less alone, with a sense of community around her. She is able to 'Be More' to her little family. "Thank you, and thanks Caritas Australia," Jamila says. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

### LENT 2021 WITH BRUCE DOWNES THE CATHOLIC GUY

Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed!  
Come on a 40 day journey with me and I know this will be a powerful and prayerful Lenten journey together. Receive a short inspiring video each day during Lent. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>  
Call 1300 734 880 for more info

## Saints of the Week



### The Chair of St Peter

The actual chair of Peter in Rome, the wooden throne at St. Peter's Basilica, was given to Pope John VIII by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles the Bald in the year 875. It was enclosed in bronze by the artist Gian Lorenzo Bernini in 1647. This feast day also commemorates the primatial authority of St. Peter.

**Feast Day February 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 or 0409 914 083  
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 Lent ( Year B)

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ The desert to which I feel called by the Spirit is..... What I expect to encounter there is.....
- ♦ The conversion I need to tend to is.....
- ♦ The Good News my day-to-day Christian living proclaim is.....

## First reading

**Genesis 89:8-15**

### A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

## The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

**24:4-6, 7-9**

*Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.*

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.

*Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.*

Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
In your love remember me.  
because of your goodness, O Lord.

*Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.*

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
He guides the humble in the right path,  
He teaches his way to the poor.

*Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.*

## Second reading

**1 Peter 3:18-22**

### A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was

put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

## The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

**Matthew 4:4**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
No one lives on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

## Gospel

**Mark 1:12-15**

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

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

## The Gospel of the Lord

