



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 4

Monday - 8:00am

Our Lady, Help of Christians

Tuesday - 8:00am

*St Bede the Venerable, priest,
doctor*

St George VII, pope

*St Mary Magdalene de'
Pazzi, virgin*

Wednesday - 7:00pm

St Philip Neri, priest

Thursday - 9:00am

*St Augustine of Canterbury,
priest*

Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 9:00am

St Paul VI, pope

NEXT SUNDAY

29/30 MAY

*(The Most Holy Trinity
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

Pentecost Sunday (Year B)

22nd & 23rd May, 2021

Pentecost

There is a young boy who loves to play with the TV remote control. To annoy his brothers and sisters, he keeps changing channels when they are watching television, until they decided to take the battery out of the remote control. The young boy quickly gets bored because the remote control no longer works, he then abandons his toy. The remote control is useless without its battery (internal power).

Before Pentecost, the disciples of Jesus were looking for an external victory. They wanted Jesus to drive out the Roman occupying power and take over political supremacy. They had been hampered by their vision of a powerful Messiah who would fulfil their ambition with victories and easy promotion. All they could see was external. Jesus' death as a criminal had shattered their false expectations and only after Jesus resurrected, they discovered the meaning of their mission again. Jesus ascended into heaven after he promised his disciples the Holy Spirit will come to them. *"The Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name - he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you"* (Jn 14:26).

At Pentecost the disciples were able to see the real Jesus and the real message that had been there all the time. They became aware that the power was coming from within, that the message of Christ was about internal attitude, it was about uniting and removing barriers of language and race and domination. It was significant that they immediately began to reach beyond barriers. Language, culture and differences were no longer a block but the sources of enriching the gift of unity in diversity.

Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the church challenges us to overcome all barriers which prevent us from reaching out to share with others the fruit of the Spirit in us: *"love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self control"* (Gal 5:22). May we become the sharers of these gifts and be the witnesses of the presence of the risen Lord.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1076 - The church was made manifest to the world on the day of Pentecost by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The gift of the Spirit ushers in a new era in the 'dispensation of the mystery' - the age of the church, during which Christ manifests, makes present and communicates his work of salvation through the liturgy of his church, 'until he comes'.

Grace is one way Catholics describe the action of God in the world. God, through the Holy Spirit, is active in all creation. When we pray, serve others or participate in the sacraments, we share in God's life. Grace is the gift that helps us know God better, become stronger in faith and live a just life.

Catholics speak about two major kinds of grace, sanctifying grace and actual grace. Baptism takes away original sin and makes us a new creation. The action of the Holy Spirit in sanctifying grace makes us holy by giving us a share in God's life. Sanctifying grace is restored or strengthened when we received the other six sacraments. Actual grace helps us to know and do what is right at a particular time. It is a temporary action of the Holy Spirit.

Fr Dominic

NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Places of worship are now allowed to have one person per the 2m² with no maximum cap. From Monday, 29 March, no cap on numbers at funerals and weddings, provided a 2m² 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

WHO AND WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of God in the Blessed Trinity; for God is ONE in Essence/Substance and He is also THREE Persons. He was active in the Creation (Gen. 1:2, 26), was an active force throughout the Old Testament, and He continues to be of central importance in the New Covenant. He is the manifestation of the love of the Father and of the Son that they have for one another, which is why the Nicene Creed says that He proceeds from the Father and from the Son. He is the Sanctifier, the Helper, Comforter, the Giver of graces, he who leads persons to the Father and the Son. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, believers are saved, filled, sealed & sanctified. The Holy Spirit reveals God's thoughts, teaches & guides believers into all truth.

2021 Pentecost Message

A copy of the 2021 Pentecost Message from Archbishop Anthony Fisher is available in the Church Alcove. Please take one home to read. If you like to deliver a few to your neighbours please do so.

Children's prayers

A little boy told by his mother that he might go on a picnic she had previously forbidden sighed, "It's too late Mummy, I've already prayed for rain."

**Dear God: This is my prayer. Could you please give my brother some brains.
So far he doesn't have any.**

Dear Lord: Thank you for the nice day today. You even fooled the weatherman.

Dear God: Please help me at school. I need help in spelling, adding, history, geography and writing. I don't need help in anything else.

Dear God: I need a raise in my allowance. Could you have one of your angels tell my father. Thank you.

St. Joseph: A beloved father

The greatness of Saint Joseph is that he was the spouse of Mary and the father of Jesus. In this way, he placed himself, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, "at the service of the entire plan of salvation". St Paul VI pointed out that Joseph concretely expressed his fatherhood "by making his life a sacrificial service to the mystery of the incarnation and its redemptive purpose. He employed his legal authority over the Holy Family to devote himself completely to them in his life and work. He turned his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman oblation of himself, his heart and all his abilities, a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home".

Thanks to his role in salvation history, Saint Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. This is shown by the countless churches dedicated to him worldwide, the numerous religious Institutes, Confraternities and ecclesial groups inspired by his spirituality and bearing his name, and the many traditional expressions of piety in his honour. Innumerable holy men and women were passionately devoted to him. Among them was Teresa of Avila, who chose him as her advocate and intercessor, had frequent recourse to him and received whatever graces she asked of him. Encouraged by her own experience, Teresa persuaded others to cultivate devotion to Joseph.

(Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, PATRIS CORDE - "With a Father's Heart", no.1)



Our Parish **HOUSIE TEAM** is also in need of some new members to assist once a month at the Liverpool Catholic Club. The Parish Housie which is run on Saturday afternoons between 2pm and 4.30pm is our main form of **fundraising for our future new church** and is resuming on Saturday 13th March. **Prizes total at least \$6700 each week! IT is also a great social opportunity for catching up with friends!**

Duties include selling bingo books, reconciling cash and prizes- someone else calls the numbers and games- so please consider if you would love to contribute to the parish and community in this way- Contact Grant 0409 958744 or the parish office on 9823 2572.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

RECYCLE YOUR OLD GLASSES

Sr Marie Elena supporting residents at the Scalabrini Village in Austral, also organises support for a Mission in Manila and Mindanao in the Philippines where the disparity between the rich and the poor is extreme. Among other ways of supporting this mission Sr Marie Elena collects old glasses, both prescribed and non-prescribed (including sunglasses) for the benefit of those with poor vision who are unable to afford to have their eyes tested and then purchase the prescribed glasses they require. If you have any old glasses which you no longer require, and would like to donate them to this very worthy cause, Sr Marie Elena would be most grateful.

Donated glasses can be left at the Piety Store.

GARDNER NEEDED: We are looking for someone to assist us with parish gardens one day a week. Preferably someone retired or semi-retired but still strong. Let Fr Dominic or Fr Richard know if you're interested or call the parish office for more details.



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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS will take place on the weekends of 12th and 13th June, 19th and 20th June.



CONFIRMATION will take place on **Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th September at 7:00pm** in the Church. Please keep watching this space for changes and updates.

Any enquiries please contact Linda Barilla on 0409 914 083.

DISCERNMENT → PRIESTHOOD

Spend some quality time in prayerful silence with Daily Mass, Rosary, Prayer of the Church, Adoration and much more. This is a silent retreat weekend for young men considering a vocation to the Priesthood.

FRIDAY 4TH - SUNDAY 6TH JUNE 2021

Registration: \$75

Location: Mount Schoenstatt Retreat Centre, Mulgoa

For enquiries: Call 02 9307 8424 or E-mail vocations@sydneycatholic.org



VOCATIONCENTRE.ORG.AU

NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING

The National Catholic Men's Gathering for 2021 will be launched online on Saturday 31st July. Join a diocesan group with your Bishop, or with your Men's Ministry/Parish group or individually. Three sessions will be provided online, along with reflection questions for group discussion or individual reflection.

Aim: To inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish/diocese and the world.

Cost: FREE

Registration: www.catholicmensgathering.com.au

Program: Available from Saturday 31st July 2021

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

Sick: Arthur LANG, Paul NEWELL, Joe OLIVERI, Pamela LEVERS, Bozana VUKOV, Joyce SCHEMBRI, Bernadette DIMACALE, Lachlan BENSON, Rowena SANCHEZ, Gino BORG, Gung Jec MENG, Thip SAKOUNKHU, Cindy CALDEJON, Julia CEFAL, Raelene GARCIA, Melda MIZZI, Gabriel STORNELLI, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Gary LOMAS, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

Recently Deceased: Romeo CABILUWA, John Da RIN, Garapati Ashok KUMAR, Alberto ILLESCAS, Maureen CASTLE, Anabel LIE, Aileen CLARKE, Carmen ENRIQUEZ, Herminia LLANA

Anniversary: Jimmy FENECH, Antonino (Tony) PENNA

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



Feasts of the Week

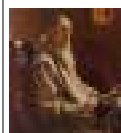


Our Lady Help of Christians

The Virgin Mary has often been invoked in times of religious strife under the title of Help of Christians. In thanksgiving for the release of Pope Pius VII from captivity in 1814, the feast was established the following year on the anniversary of his restoration.

The first Australian provincial synod held in Sydney in 1844 placed the Church in Australia under Mary's patronage invoked by the title Help of Christians. The solemn feast is an occasion to seek Mary's help and protection for our Church and nation.

Feast Day: 24th May



St. Bede the Venerable

Born in Jarrow, United Kingdom, Bede is one of the few saints honored as such even during his lifetime. His writings were filled with such faith and learning. Though his History is the greatest legacy Bede has left us, his work in all the sciences, especially in Scripture, should not be overlooked. During his last Lent, Bede worked on a translation of the Gospel of Saint John into English, completing it the day he died in 735.

Feast Day: 25th May



St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi

Born in Florence, Italy, 1566, Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi was so generously given this special gift of God that she is called the "ecstatic saint." Mystical ecstasy is the elevation of the spirit to God in such a way that the person is aware of this union with God while both internal and external senses are detached from the sensible world. She read the thoughts of others and predicted future events. During her lifetime, Mary Magdalene appeared to several persons in distant places and cured a number of sick people.

Feast Day: 25th May



St. Philip Neri

Born in Florence (Italy) in 1515. An outstanding proponent of Church reform after the Council of Trent. Worked among the young and the poor in Rome and founded the Congregation of the Oratory. Many people wrongly feel that such an attractive and jocular personality as Philip's cannot be combined with an intense spirituality. Philip's life melts our rigid, narrow views of piety. His approach to sanctity was truly catholic, all-embracing, and accompanied by a good laugh. Remembered as a spiritual director, for his pastoral initiatives, and for his humour, simplicity, and charity. Died at Rome on this day in 1595.

Feast Day: 26th May



St. Augustine of Canterbury

In the year 596, some 40 monks set out from Rome to evangelize the Anglo-Saxons in England. Leading the group was Augustine, the prior of their monastery. Work was sometimes slow and Augustine did not always meet with success. Attempts to reconcile the Anglo-Saxon Christians with the original Briton Christians who had been driven into western England by Anglo-Saxon invaders ended in dismal failure. The limited success Augustine achieved in England before his death in 605, a short eight years after his arrival, would eventually bear fruit long after in the conversion of England. Augustine of Canterbury can truly be called the "Apostle of England."

Feast Day: 27th May



St. Paul VI

Born near Brescia in northern Italy, he reigned as Pope from 1963 to 1978. Pope Saint Paul's greatest accomplishment was the completion and implementation of Vatican II. Its decisions about liturgy were the first ones noticed by most Catholics, but its other documents especially the ones about ecumenism, interfaith relations, divine revelation, religious liberty, the Church's self-understanding and the Church's work with the entire human family — have become the Catholic Church's road map since 1965.

Feast Day: 29th May

Parish Ministries:

Parish Pastoral Council Chairman: Jeff Lai
Finance Committee: Tanya Scarvelis
Community Care: Tina Dunn & Sharon Cook
Readers and Catechists: Nina Laureti
Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers: : Linda Barilla
Confirmation: Linda Barilla
Reconciliation and First Communion: Tamara Vella & Kylie Farias
Altar Servers - Fr Richard

Children's Liturgy: Angela Galdas
Church Linen: Michelle De Luca
Church Cleaners: Ann Gorla
Piety Stall: Millie Breaden
Morning Teas: Teresa Vartuli
Jordan Youth Group: Silvana Scamardella
Housie and Money Counting: Yvonne Smolinski
Men's Group: Branko Poljak

For any inquiries, please call the parish office.

Next Sunday:

The Most Holy Trinity - (Year B)

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40

Second Reading: Romans 8:14-17

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ The difference this Easter season has made in my life is.....
- ♦ The fruits of the Spirit that others can see manifested in my life are.....
- ♦ I most clearly experience Jesus' peace when.....

First reading

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

103:1, 24, 29-31, 34

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Second reading

Galatians 5:16-25

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you

do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires.

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia,

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 15:26-27, 16:12-15

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'When the Advocate comes,
whom I shall send to you from the Father,
the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father,
he will be my witness.
And you too will be witnesses,
because you have been with me from the outset.

'I still have many things to say to you
but they would be too much for you now.
But when the Spirit of truth comes
he will lead you to the complete truth,
since he will not be speaking as from himself
but will say only what he has learnt;
and he will tell you of the things to come.
He will glorify me,
since all he tells you
will be taken from what is mine.
Everything the Father has is mine;
that is why I said:
*All he tells you
will be taken from what is mine.*'

The Gospel of the Lord

