



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 Irenaeus, bishop, martyr

Tuesday - 8:00am

Sts Peter and Paul, apostles

Wednesday - 7:00pm

First Martyrs of Holy Roman Church

Thursday - 9:00am

Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 9:00am

St Thomas, apostle

NEXT SUNDAY

3/4 JULY

(14th 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
Rosary 7.45am
Adoration 8.30am**

**Reconciliations:
Saturdays – 4:15–5:00pm
Wednesday – 7:30–8:00pm**

**Anointing of the Sick
Contact the Parish Office
or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639
or Fr Richard 0451 910 634**

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) 26th & 27th June, 2021

Jesus the Healer

A young boy called a local parish church to ask the priest to come by to pray for his mother who had been very ill with the flu. The priest knew the family and was aware they had been attending another church down the road. So the priest asked, "Shouldn't you be asking Fr. Simon down the road to come by to pray with your mom?" The young boy replied, "Yeah, but we didn't want to take the chance that he might catch whatever this is that Mom has."

The synagogue official and the woman with the haemorrhage are convinced that God "formed man to be imperishable" - an imperishability that comes from union with Jesus. How can they be so sure? Because they have encountered Christ's graciousness and understand "that for our sake he became poor, so that by his poverty we might become rich." God made the human person "in the image of his own nature," capable of knowledge and love. We are perfected in his nature by grace, by which we know and love nothing less than God himself.

We live in a time when many people are sick, not just physically with covid19, cancer or mental illnesses but also spiritually. Jesus came to heal the whole person - body and soul. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith put it this way, "Christ's meeting with the sick is one of the most human aspects we find in the Gospels. This meeting is for the total, global salvation of the person. The meeting between Christ and the sick, is, both in the Gospels and still today, to heal the person in his or her totality, and hence with a dimension of eternity."

Jesus demonstrates that he is a compassionate Lord who has the ability to heal the sick and raise the dead. He also shows, however, that he hasn't just come to fix broken bodies but to give and strengthen saving faith. Like the synagogue official and the woman with the haemorrhage, let us implore Jesus in faith to have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Link in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Jesus' Love for the Sick

1503 - Christ's compassion toward the sick and his many healings of every kind of infirmity are a resplendent sign that "God has visited his people" and that the Kingdom of God is close at hand. Jesus has the power not only to heal, but also to forgive sins; he has come to heal the whole man, soul and body; he is the physician the sick have need of. His preferential love for the sick has not ceased through the centuries to draw the very special attention of Christians toward all those who suffer in body and soul.

Fr Richard

NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Places of worship are now only allowed to have one person per the 4m² rule.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Masks are now compulsory**, unless you are exempt to wear them.
- **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

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

In the Church's Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus who touches the sick to heal them from sin – and sometimes even from physical ailment. The core message of his healing tells us of his plan to conquer sin and death by his dying and rising. When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS: There will be no Vietnamese Mass in the Parish next Friday night 2nd July 2021.

Come, Follow Me: Discipleship Retreat Days with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia

The Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia are working with the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation to offer three **one-day retreats**. Come and experience the love and mercy of Jesus, and enter more deeply into your own experience of being His disciple. The talks include: *Making the most out of Mass*, *Prayer: How to Grow in your Relationship with Jesus*, *Breaking open Scripture* and *A Cloud of Witnesses: Growing closer to Mary and the Saints*. There will also be time for Adoration and the Sacrament of Confession.

Date and locations

17 July, Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Fairfield

Registration essential at

www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/

Cost: \$10 per person, with light lunch included. All welcome!

2021/2022 PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The new Planned Giving Envelopes commencing 3 July 2021 are now available outside the church. **Please ensure you pick up your correct envelopes by checking both your name and address and discard all envelopes from previous years.**

Contributions received from Planned Giving are the major source of income for the running expenses of the Parish. For example, running the office, Secretary's wages, expenses of pastoral initiatives, building and maintenance of the parish facilities, etc. Paying for the CWF deficit and insurance are also big expenses. I urge you to consider your support to our parish by joining **Planned Giving** either through weekly envelope giving or monthly **Credit Card** deductions, or consider increasing your current donations. One-off donations are also well received.

I offer my sincere thanks to everyone for your generosity in giving faithfully to the planned giving and other collections in the parish. Your generosity is inspiring and it allows us to plan and budget for the future of the parish. A special thanks to the Finance Committee members for your expertise and commitment. Once again I thank you for your generosity.

Yours in Christ,
Fr Dominic

Ps. Tax receipts for the end of this financial year will be available in July.

St Joseph: A Creatively Courageous Father (Part 1)

If the first stage of all true interior healing is to accept our personal history and embrace even the things in life that we did not choose, we must now add another important element: creative courage. This emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties. In the face of difficulty, we can either give up and walk away, or somehow engage with it. At times, difficulties bring out resources we did not even think we had.

As we read the infancy narratives, we may often wonder why God did not act in a more direct and clear way. Yet God acts through events and people. Joseph was the man chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true "miracle" by which God saves the child and his mother. God acted by trusting in Joseph's creative courage. Arriving in Bethlehem and finding no lodging where Mary could give birth, Joseph took a stable and, as best he could, turned it into a welcoming home for the Son of God come into the world (cf. *Lk* 2:6-7). Faced with imminent danger from Herod, who wanted to kill the child, Joseph was warned once again in a dream to protect the child, and rose in the middle of the night to prepare the flight into Egypt (cf. *Mt* 2:13-14).

A superficial reading of these stories can often give the impression that the world is at the mercy of the strong and mighty, but the "good news" of the Gospel consists in showing that, for all the arrogance and violence of worldly powers, God always finds a way to carry out his saving plan. So too, our lives may at times seem to be at the mercy of the powerful, but the Gospel shows us what counts. God always finds a way to save us, provided we show the same creative courage as the carpenter of Nazareth, who was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence.

If at times God seems not to help us, surely this does not mean that we have been abandoned, but instead are being trusted to plan, to be creative, and to find solutions ourselves.

(Pope Francis' *Apostolic Letter, PATRIS CORDE* – "With a Father's Heart", no.5)



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.



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 Blake NURTHEN who will be baptised here this weekend.



CONFIRMATION will take place on **Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th September at 7:00pm** in the Church.

Enrolments will be held in the Parish Hall on the following days and times:

Saturday 17th July 6:30-7:30pm and Sunday 18th July 9:00am - 11:30am

Please bring with you to enrolments a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate and \$25.00 to cover program costs.

Any enquiries please contact Linda Barilla on 0409 914 083.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Reconciliation sacramental program will be held for children in grade 3 and above in October, 2021. Enrolments will take place at the end of Term 3.

Key dates:

9 & 10 October - Sacrament Commitment Masses

Starting 11 October - Lessons commence for a period of 4 weeks (1 hr each week)

Any questions please call Tamara on 0424 166 248.

HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has invited parishes across the world to support the Holy Father's appeal on the Feast of Sts Peter and Paul for 2021, this will be **next weekend 3rd and 4th July**. This appeal, also known as Peter's Pence, is a gesture of solidarity with the universal Church.

Through the Appeal, the faithful can participate in the activity of the Pope as Pastor of the Universal Church. Your gift will assist communities impacted by floods, earthquakes, civil war and other disasters.

Sts Peter & Paul

'The blood of the Martyrs is the seed of the church'

These two great pillars of Christianity were both martyred for the faith. Their Feast is celebrated together. Priests and deacons throughout the entire world wear Red at the Liturgy, symbolizing that the blood of the Martyrs.

The Catholic Christian faith proclaims that the shedding of ones' blood in fidelity to Jesus Christ is the final witness to the Faith.

In the early Church, altars were built over the graves of the martyrs which the early Christians revered. They often became the place where the Eucharist was celebrated. The practice of reverencing the bones of the martyrs showed the respect with which the body was held by the early Christians and their absolute belief in the bodily resurrection, a tenet of the Christian faith.

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



Sick: Judy DIVANI, Orlando DAYOAN, Joe OLIVERI,

Bozana VUKOV, Lachlan BENSON, Gino BORG,

Gung Jec MENG, Thip SAKOUNKHU, Cindy CALDEJON,

Julia CEFAL, Melda MIZZI, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO,

Kristian SERIC, Gary LOMAS, Giuseppe LETTIERI,

Giuseppina LETTIERI

Recently Deceased: Mario CAMILLERI of Mgarr, Malta,

Adele BUDWEE, Natalino De SOUZA, Gabriel STORNELLI,

Emmanuel (Bill) TABONE

Anniversary: Virgilio SERNERO

Other: Serafina BADINO, Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH,

Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH

goodbye



My dear friends, the time has come to leave you! For the last three years I've been among you and you opened your hearts to receive me. For this, am grateful to God! Your love will always be in my heart and I promise to take it with me to my new appointment. I will be with you until the end of July and will move to **All Hallows Parish, Five Dock** at the beginning of August. You will always be in my thoughts and prayers and I hope you will all continue to pray for me.



JORDAN YOUTH GROUP

We wish to advise that the Jordan Youth Group gathering was cancelled for this weekend due to the current Covid-19 restrictions and for the safety and well being of all our children.

Feasts of the Week



St Irenaeus was a Greek bishop noted for his role in guiding and expanding Christian communities in what is now the south of France.

His early writings entitled him to a high place among the fathers of the Church and laid the foundations of Christian Theology. Originating from Smyrna he had seen and heard the preaching of Polycarp, the last known living connection with the Apostles, who in turn was said to have heard John the Evangelist.

Feast Day: 28th June



St Peter also known as Simon Peter, had humble beginnings and became one of the Twelve Apostles. He was the first Apostle to perform miracles in the name of the Lord. He was instrumental in bringing the Gospel to the Gentiles. Peter is considered the first Pope.

Feast Day: 29th June



St Paul is one of the most important and influential of all the saints. He even presided over the persecutions of the early Christians and was present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen. St Paul was converted from Judaism on the road to Damascus. He was the ultimate missionary, travelling throughout many countries and lands, preaching the Gospel of Jesus. He established numerous Churches during his travels and was even imprisoned several times.

Feast Day: 29th June



St Thomas was born a Jew and was called to be one of the twelve Apostles.

He was a dedicated but impetuous follower of Christ. At the Last Supper, when Christ told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them to which they also might come because they knew both the place and the way, Thomas pleaded that they did not understand and received the beautiful assurance that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Thomas, unwilling to believe other apostles had seen the Risen Lord, he earned the title "doubting Thomas."

On Christ's second apparition Thomas saw the wounds in our Lord's hands and side and proclaimed "My Lord and my God."

Feast Day: 3rd July

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:

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year B)

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:2-5

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Gospel: Mark 6:1-6

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Where I have learned the tenuous hold we all have on life is.....
- ♦ Being powerless before severe illness and death has brought me to faith because.....
- ♦ The comfort I gain by seeing Jesus as the Lord of life is.....

First reading

Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

Death was not God's doing,
he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.
To be – for this he created all;
the world's created things have health in them,
in them no fatal poison can be found,
and Hades holds no power on earth;
for virtue is undying.

Yet God did make man imperishable,
he made him in the image of his own nature;
it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world,
as those who are his partners will discover.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

29:2, 4-6, 11-13

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing:
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.
I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me

Second reading

2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15

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

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: *The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.*

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

2 Timothy 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death
and brought us life through his gospel.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 5:21-43

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I shall be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kumi!' which means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

The Gospel of the Lord

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