



# John the Baptist Catholic Parish

Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights

(incorporating Bonnyrigg Heights, Green Valley, Edensor Park, Abbotsbury, Cecil Hills & Elizabeth Hills)



**Parish Pastoral Centre:**  
45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

**Parish Priest: Rev Fr Dominic Dinh**  
Email: pp@johnthebaptist.org.au  
Emergency: 0423 420 639

**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 - No Mass**

**Tuesday - 8:00am**

*St Andrew, apostle*

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

**Thursday - 9:00am**

**Friday - 9:00am**

*St Francis Xavier, priest*

**Saturday - 9:00am**

## NEXT SUNDAY

4/5 December

*(Second Sunday of Advent  
Year B)*

**Saturday Vigil Mass:**  
**5:30pm**

**Sunday Masses:**  
**8:00am, 10:00am & 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

## First Sunday of Advent (Year C) 27th & 28th November, 2021

### *The Lord is coming*

Last week, we ended one liturgical year - year B and today the Church begins with a new liturgical year - year C with the first Sunday of Advent. The new liturgical year starts a new cycle of prayers and scriptural readings.

Derived from a Latin root, Advent means '**coming**' or '**arrival**'. It is traditionally a season of quiet and joyful expectancy. During the season of Advent, liturgical vestments are violet. Four weeks of Advent calls us to prepare for Christmas coming with special devotion as we prayerfully wait in hope for the coming of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. This is a wonderful time for us to prepare ourselves spiritually to welcome Baby Jesus into our lives, our families by following Jesus' advice "*Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen.*"

"**Advent**" also refers to the Lord's coming in glory at the end of time. Pope John Paul II noted that the calculation of the passing years begins almost everywhere with Christ's coming into the world: this is the sign that the birth of Jesus has an unparalleled effect on the history of humankind. This week-end in the third Gospel, Luke describes the Glory Coming of Christ and tells us to prepare to stand before the Son of Man. It will be the time of fright for those who live unprepared, but of joy and happiness for the meek and humble who live in God's ways. "*Men will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the earth.*" But those who live in God's way will "*stand up straight and raise your heads, for your salvation is near at hand.*"

This is a season for prophecy, calling us to conversion, preparation and a constant sense of watchfulness. It calls us to have hope and believe that history continues open to the plan of God and to human creativity.

Our preparation for the Coming of Jesus Christ is to acknowledge God's presence in all paths of life. It is important for us to reflect on the purpose of our lives and our relationship with God and with other people, here and now. Let's pray that we will continue to be the source of hope, joy and peace for others whom we meet in everyday life.

### **Catechism of the Catholic Church**

524 When the church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviour's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the church unites herself to his desire: '*He must increase, but I must decrease.*'



**Through the ages you strengthened your people with the promise of your reign of justice and love. This advent, light in our hearts your renewing hope  
So that we might be a light to others.  
We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord,  
Amen.**

## NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Places of worship are now allowed to have one person per the 2m<sup>2</sup> except if they are from the same household.

### 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.**

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES:** For those Parishioners who have not collected their Planned Giving Envelopes from the Church they are now be available for collection from the Parish office during office hours. Thank you

### Lights of Christmas 2021, St Mary's Cathedral forecourt, 9-25 December



Join in Sydney's favourite free Christmas tradition, uniting families, locals and tourists with a display of digital storytelling projected onto St Mary's Cathedral.

Find out more: <https://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>

### Christmas Carols

#### IN THE AUDITORIUM

A magical Christmas even hosted by Adam Scicluna with special guests Michael Montgomery, Belinda Marks & The Clancy Catholic College Singers with the Joseph Macri Band.

Visit from **Santa** and lucky door **prizes** to give away!

**Sunday 5th December 2021**  
**7pm**

**Tickets**  
**\$5**

Double vaccination **required** for people over 16yrs.  
Tickets available from the rear foyer or on [liverpoolcatholic.com.au](http://liverpoolcatholic.com.au) from 10/11/21  
For more information call 8784 4878 or email [infor@liverpoolcatholic.com.au](mailto:infor@liverpoolcatholic.com.au)



### FAREWELL FOR FR RICHARD Sunday 19th December 2021

Fr Richard will celebrate the 10:00am Mass and parishioners are invited to attend and stay for lunch afterwards.

If you wish to attend please complete the form below for catering purposes and hand it to Fr Dominic or the Parish office. Thank you

### THE 2021 IWITNESS CONFERENCE

iWitness is a jam-packed, Spirit-filled conference with inspiring talks, beautiful liturgy, perpetual adoration, food, awesome games and recreation, and opportunities for friendship and fellowship with other young Catholics aged 18-35ish from around Sydney and beyond. Come along and set aside some time from your busy schedule and nourish your faith.

When: 10th-12th December 2021

Where: The Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops

Who: young adults aged 18-39

Cost: \$240

For more information: [www.iwitnessconference.com](http://www.iwitnessconference.com)

More information can be found at our website and Facebook event: <https://www.iwitnessconference.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/896032817478035/>

### POSITION VACANT

#### The Patrician Brothers' Community Fairfield

Is seeking the services of a COOK commencing in February

This position is for 4 afternoons per week:

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**

**Commencing Time: 3:30pm Finishing Time: 6:30pm**

If interested please submit a Resume stating all your particulars and cooking experience to

Brother Thomas Rice (Community Leader)

Patrician Brother's Monastery

PO Box 980, Fairfield, NSW, 1860

or [thomasricefp@gmail.com](mailto:thomasricefp@gmail.com)

or you may contact him personally on 0432 751 384 to arrange an appointment/interview

**ALL APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 10**

**Covid requirements are mandatory for this position**



### 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](mailto: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.

### FAREWELL FOR FR RICHARD Sunday 19th December, 2021

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Mass

☐ Lunch



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



We congratulate the families of Oliver CEFAL and Milena ORLANDO who will be baptised here this weekend.



**CONFIRMATION** will be held on **Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th December at 7:00pm** in the Church.  
**Any enquiries please contact Linda Barilla on 0409 914 083.**



#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held in Term One 2022. Please watch this space for more details. Any questions please call Tamara on 0424 166 248.

#### CATECHIST NEWS:

**"You did not choose me, no, I chose you: and I commissioned you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last". ( John 15:16)**  
As we embark on our catechetical journey for 2022, this word proclaims and declares that **YOU** have been **CHOSEN** for this time and season to bring Christ to the little ones. I must 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 30<sup>th</sup> January for their years of dedicated service **20 years** – Mrs Vicki Scutella, **25 years** Mrs Nadia Pospischil and Mrs Trudi Simpson.

Due to the Covid situation last year and this year many of our scripture classes were cancelled and the students have missed out on almost a year of scripture. It is sad to announce that we have lost some amazing catechists due to health problems, others have needed to return to work, and the number of Catholic children in the classes has grown considerably. As such there are at least **6 vacancies** in our schools for 2022.

Being a **Helper** is an invaluable service, assisting the Catechist in the classroom and working as a team. The CCD offers all catechists/helpers a variety of support, in the form of training courses to help in what we teach, how to teach and why it has to age appropriate, resources, Retreats and Reflection Days.

*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 0447310204 or Connie Giannone 0413694007

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



**Sick:** Judy DIVANI, Orlando DAYOAN, 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:** Bishop Bill WRIGHT, Monika FULTON  
Giuseppe (Joe) OLIVERI, Felixberta RIVERA, Romeo MENDOZA

**Anniversary:** Joseph CAMILLERI, Mariela SOTO, Kue Soong LEE, Ngo Hai BUAI, Mr M R VARGHESE, Mrs Mary D'CRUZ

**Other:** Francisco Kim Van NGUYEN, John Kim Vinh NGUYEN, Maria Kim An NGUYEN, Joseph Vinh TRAN, Anna Ly TRAN, Elizabeth Linh TRAN and other Family members, Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH,  
Thanksgiving for favours received to St. Anthony and St Jude

Registration for the Campion College Summer Program is now open! If you know a 16-20 year old with an interest in history, literature, philosophy and theology, encourage them to sign up for one of the immersive four-day programs in January 2022. Attendance is fully funded but spaces are limited! Find out more and register on the Campion College website: [www.campion.edu.au/summer-program](http://www.campion.edu.au/summer-program)

## Feasts of the Week



**St Andrew**, also known as Andrew the Apostle, was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter. According to the New Testament, Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman.

Andrew's very name means strong and he was known for having good social skills. It is believed Andrew was one of the closer disciples to Jesus. It was he who told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes. Andrew was also present at the last supper. Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion in Patras. He was bound, rather than nailed, to a cross, as is described in the Acts of Andrew. He was crucified on a cross form known as "crux decussata," which is an X-shaped cross or a "saltire." Today this is commonly referred to as "St. Andrew's Cross." It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself "unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus." Andrew's remains were originally preserved at Patras. However, some believe St. Regulus, who was a monk at Patras, received a vision telling him to hide some of Andrew's bones. Shortly after Regulus' dream, many of Andrew's relics were transferred to Constantinople by order of Roman emperor Constantius II around 357. Regulus later received orders in a second dream telling him to take the bones "to the ends of the earth." He was to build a shrine for them wherever he shipwrecked. He landed on the coast of Fife, Scotland. In September 1964, Pope Paul VI had all of St. Andrew's relics that ended up in Vatican City sent back to Patras. Now, many of Andrew's relics and the cross on which he was martyred are kept in the Church of St. Andrew in Patras. St. Andrew is venerated in Georgia as the first preacher of Christianity in that territory and in Cyprus for having struck the rocks creating a gush of healing waters upon landing on the shore. His saltire cross is featured on the flag of Scotland and is represented in much of his iconography. He is commonly portrayed as an old man with long white hair and a beard, often holding the Gospel book or a scroll.

**Feast day: November 30**



**St Francis Xavier** was a Navarrese-Basque Roman Catholic missionary born in the Kingdom of Navarre on April 7, 1506. He was sent to study at the University of Paris and in 1530, Francis Xavier earned his master's degree, and went on to teach philosophy at the University of Paris. On August 15, 1534, Francis Xavier along with Peter Favre, and several other friends, made vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The men planned to travel to the Holy Land to convert non-believers. Francis Xavier started his study of theology that same year and was ordained on June 24, 1537. With St Ignatius Loyola became one of the seven who founded the Society of Jesuits. He preached for 6 months in Africa on his way to Asia where he spent the remainder of his life spreading the Word of God in India, Japan and the Philippines.

**Feast day: December 3**



## 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  
Altar Servers - Fr Dominic

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: Second Sunday of Advent - (Year C)

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9  
Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11  
Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ My response to how these readings connect Advent preparations to growing in fidelity to God and others is.....
- ♦ God has demonstrated being faithful by.....
- ♦ God's fidelity empowers me to be faithful to my commitments in that.....

## First reading

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

### A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time,  
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,  
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.  
In those days Judah shall be saved  
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.  
And this is the name the city will be called:  
The-Lord-our-integrity.'

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

**24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14**

### To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

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.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

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.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

His ways are faithfulness and love

for those who keep his covenant and law.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;  
to them he reveals his covenant.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

## Second reading

**1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2**

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

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you

learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

### The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

**Ps 84:8**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

**Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

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

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

### The Gospel of the Lord



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