



# 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: 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 2

**Monday - No Mass**

*St Anthony, abbot*

**Tuesday - No Mass**

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

**Thursday - 9:00am**

*St Fabian, pope, martyr*

*St Sebastian, martyr*

**Friday - 9:00am**

*St Agnes, virgin, martyr*

**Saturday - 9:00am**

*St Vincent, deacon, martyr*

### **NEXT SUNDAY**

**22/23 January**

**(3rd Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time Year C)**

**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**

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 15th & 16th January, 2022

### GOD'S PRESENCE IN MARRIAGE

One of the greatest wedding feasts ever recorded in the history of mankind was the wedding of Alexander the Great and princess Roxanne of Iraq in the 4th century BC. The feast lasted seven days and nights, everyone in the empire was commanded to celebrate and be merry; Alexander also organised sport competitions and I guess the Olympics began from there.

In every wedding feast the bride and groom are always the central focus, but the wedding of Cana tells us a good deal about Mary and the role she played *'the mother of Jesus was there... when they ran out of wine... the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."* She informed her Son that the wine had run out. She knows that it would be very embarrassing for the hosts and the newly wedded couple. Mary appears to be a considerate, caring and warm Jewish woman, who loves to help when others are in need. She tells the servants to put their trust in Jesus, *"Do whatever he tells you."* Even after Jesus apparently turns down her request, *"My hour has not come yet,"* Mary's faith remains firm and solid. Mary's prayer is effective with God because hers is a Mother's prayer and Jesus has immense love for his mother. The wedding feast was blessed when the couple invited Mary as their guest, and Our Lady acted as an intercessor even without being asked. I wonder what would she do if we asked her to intervene for us?

Let us pray that through the Good News today we can recognise Mary's love for us; she will intercede for us when we are in need, and if we invite her and Jesus into our home as guests we will certainly experience God's love and have life in abundance.

### Catechism of the Catholic church

1613 On the threshold of his public life Jesus performs his first sign – at his mother's request – during a wedding feast. The church attaches great importance to Jesus' presence at the wedding at Cana. She sees in it the confirmation of the goodness of marriage and the proclamation that thenceforth marriage will be an efficacious sign of Christ's presence.

### Scripture

It must be said that Christ himself 'is present in his word, since it is he who speaks when Scripture is read in Church.' Indeed, 'the liturgical celebration becomes the continuing, complete and effective proclamation of God's word. The word of God, constantly proclaimed in the liturgy, is always a living and effectively word through the power of the Holy Spirit. It expresses the Father's love that never fails in its effectiveness towards us.' The Church has always realised that in the liturgical action the word of God is accompanied by the interior working of the Holy Spirit who makes it effective in the hearts of the faithful.

*Verbum Domini (2010) 52.*

## 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.**

### Vocation of marriage and family

Christians understand marriage as a vocation. Like Baptism, marriage is a sacrament of service that calls people to a way of life, gives them the strength to live it well, and supports them to keep the promises they made to one another.

Most men and women are called to married life. They made life's journey not as "I", an individual, but as "we", a couple. They find meaning in life in the mutual loving relationship of marriage. At the same time, marriage is called to transmit the gift of human life, to have children and form a community of persons that is the basic living cell of society, in the family.

The complementary meaning of the difference between the two sexes, being a woman and being a man, is part of the divine plan for those who come together in marriage. This is why the word 'marriage' is used only to describe this unique bond between persons of different sexes. Each is different and complementary, needing the other. For the Christian the phrase 'opposite sex', does not mean 'oppose to one another'. It is understood that man and woman are made for one another as each is distinct and different. The Christian tradition has always taught that woman and man find completion and fulfillment in one another.

Finding the right partner in marriage is a matter for prayer, discernment, patience and trust. It is a matter of waiting, of not demanding everything right now. Rushing into a relationship that could lead to marriage is unwise. People usually reflect carefully once they realise that the vocation to marriage is a call to a life-long commitment.

Marriage is permanent and binding. It is meant to be the sharing of two lives 'until death do us part'. It is a call to be faithful to each other, a fidelity that excludes sexual relationships with anyone outside the bond of marriage. So the commitment of marriage cannot merely be the decision of one individual. Marriage is a mutual and equal commitment of two persons, willing to work together in harmony, willing to live together as 'one flesh' and 'one body'.



**His mother said to the servants,  
"Do whatever he tells you"**

The vocation to marriage is a call to form a new community, the family. Here a husband and wife find the great vocation of parenthood. For Christians, becoming a mother or father is a mission from God to raise and form children they have brought into the world. Once parents think of parenthood as a vocation, they understand that this is a serious responsibility.

They know it is also a great joy and privilege, for in the community of the family they pass on to their children the gift of the faith and the heritage of Christian life.

For Catholics, the Christian family is important. The Second Vatican Council taught: 'in what might be regarded as the domestic church, the parents, by word and example, are the first heralds of the faith with regard to their children.' (Lumen gentium, 11). In the family, children become aware that life is a vocation with meaning and purpose.

*To Know, Worship and Love, Catholic Studies for Senior Secondary Students p.112*

**Do you know any couples who have been happily married for a very long time? How are their relationships inspire you?**



### Are you studying law?

CatholicCare has an exciting volunteer opportunity for a Law student to gain experience by supporting a solicitor to provide advice on consent matters, record keeping and conflicts of interest.

If you are interested in this opportunity to volunteer with us for one day a week, please call 13 18 18 or

Email: [volunteers@catholiccare.org](mailto:volunteers@catholiccare.org)

**POSITION VACANT:** Province Bookkeeper, Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, Coogee. 3 days per week ideally Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. For further information contact Anthony Spata on 0402 210 055.

An agitated patient was stomping around the psychiatrist's office, running his hands through his hair, almost in tears. "Doctor, my memory's gone. Gone! I can't remember my wife's name.

Can't remember

my children's names. Can't remember what kind of car I drive. Can't remember where I work."

"Calm down. Calm down.

How long have you been like this?" "Like what?"



### 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.



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



### 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.

**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

### 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

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

The new roster is now available for collection.

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

**Sick:** Jessie ZAMMIT, John DEMICOLI,

Loryn Christina COETZEE, 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:** Joseph DUONG, Joanna LIE

**Anniversary:** Bill SULTANA, Francis FIELD, Fabiano NGUYEN,  
Alexander PAGE

**Other:** Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and  
Maryann FENECH, Thanksgiving for favours received to St.  
Anthony and St Jude



## Feasts of the Week



**St Anthony** the Abbot was born in Egypt in the 3rd century AD. Following the death of his parents when he was about 20, Anthony insured that his sister completed her education, then he sold his house, furniture, and the land he owned and gave the proceeds to the poor. He was a very spiritual person who believed in living the Jesus life. He became a hermit and lived alone. When people eventually found him, he moved even further away, eating only bread and water, praying, fasting and wearing skins as clothing. Wise men from as far away as Greece sought his guidance. Some were healed physically, many were comforted by his words and others stayed to learn from him. He founded two monasteries on the Nile. He lived until 105 years of age, becoming the most famous monk of ancient Christendom, a noble example of an ascetic life of austerity, sacrifice and extreme solitude.

**Feast Day: January 17**



**St Fabian** Pope Fabian born in 200AD in Rome, Italy. He was the bishop of Rome from 10 January 236 to his death on 20 January 250. He is famous for the miraculous nature of his election, in which a dove is said to have descended on his head to mark him as the Holy Spirit's unexpected choice to become the next pope. Being reminded of the Baptism of our Lord, the council elected Fabian Pope.

**Feast Day: January 20**



**St Sebastian** was born in Narbonne, France in 256AD. He was a captain in the Praetorian Guard. An early Christian saint and martyr, he was sentenced to die via bow and arrow for being a Christian. Left for dead he eventually healed only to be martyred again by the emperor, beaten to death by clubs and thrown into the sewers. His body was recovered by a Christian woman, named Lucina, and she secretly buried him in the catacombs beneath Rome. Nearly 80 years after his death, around 367, his remains were moved to a basilica in Rome. His body, or at least some relics from his body were reportedly removed and shared with a community of monks in France. His cranium was sent to a German monastery where it was placed in a special silver case in 934. The relics remains in its case today in a special reliquary in Ebersberg.

**Feast Day: January 20**



**St Agnes** of Rome was born in 291 AD and raised in a Christian family. Agnes was very beautiful and belonged to a wealthy family. Her hand in marriage was highly sought after. However, Agnes made a promise to God never to stain her purity. Her love for the Lord was great and she hated sin even more than death! Because Agnes refused to marry, she was sentenced to death.

She died a virgin-martyr at the age of 12 or 13 on 21 January, 304. She is one of seven women who, along with the Blessed Virgin, are commemorated by name in the Canon of the Mass. Her emblem is a lamb.

**Feast day: January 21**



**St Vincent** Pallotti, Priest was born in Rome in 1795, St. Vincent became a priest and dedicated himself completely to God and cared for souls. He dreamed of gaining for Christ all non-Catholics, especially the Mohammedans. To this end he inaugurated a revolutionary program which envisaged the collaboration of the laity in the apostolate of the clergy. But St. Vincent was also well aware of the many deprivations in the natural sphere that hindered the spread of the Faith. He thus obtained and spent huge sums for the poor and underprivileged. He founded guilds for workers, agriculture schools, loan associations, orphanages and homes for girls - all of which made him the pioneer and precursor of Catholic Action. His great legacy was the congregation which he founded for urban mission work, known as the "Society for Catholic Action". This indefatigable labourer for Christ died in 1850 from a severe cold which he most likely caught on a cold rainy night after giving his cloak to a beggar who had none.

**Feast Day: January 22**

## 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:

#### 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year C)

First Reading: Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

### Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Jesus' glory was shown in meeting the needs of the couple. Jesus' glory is shown through me whenever I.....
- ♦ Mary's concern became Jesus'. My concerns for our Church and world that I bring to Jesus are.....
- ♦ Giving myself to others glorifies me in Christ that.....

### First reading

#### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 62:1-5

About Zion I will not be silent,  
about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,  
until her integrity shines out like the dawn  
and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity,  
all the kings your glory,  
and you will be called by a new name,  
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.  
You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord,  
a princely diadem in the hand of your God;

no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',  
nor your land 'Abandoned',  
but you shall be called 'My Delight'  
and your land 'The Wedded';  
for the Lord takes delight in you  
and your land will have its wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin,  
so will the one who built you wed you,  
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,  
so will your God rejoice in you.

#### The Word of the Lord

### Responsorial Psalm

95:1-3, 7-10

#### Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

#### Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples.

#### Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.

#### Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.  
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'  
He will judge the peoples in fairness.

#### Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

### Second reading

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

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

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same

Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

#### The Word of the Lord

### Gospel Acclamation

cf. 2 Thess 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

John 2:1-11

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

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water', and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said; 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

#### The Gospel of the Lord

