



# 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](mailto:pp@johnthebaptist.org.au)  
Emergency: 0423 420 639

**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 4

Monday - No Mass  
Tuesday - 8:00am  
Wednesday - 7:00pm  
Thursday - 9:00am  
Friday - 9:00am  
Saturday - 9:00am

### NEXT SUNDAY

2/3 APRIL

(Fifth Sunday of Lent  
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

## Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C) 26th & 27th March, 2022

### UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

In New Zealand, a Maori known as “*Warrior Brown*” because of her violent temper, joined the Salvation Army. While addressing a group of Maoris, she was struck by a potato thrown by one of them. Retrieving it, she returned home, cut it up, planted it and harvested it. On visiting the village again, she *sought* out the man who had thrown the potato and gave him the potatoes she had harvested.

Most of us are familiar with ‘*The parable of the Prodigal Son*’ which is the story of a father who has total unchangeable love. His attitude to his sons is at all times 100% unconditional love. The younger son asks for his share of the inheritance which he converts into cash. He leaves and all goes well for him as he squanders it. Then, money-less he also becomes friend-less. He is reduced to the greatest indignity possible for a Jew i.e. attending pigs, unclean animals. There he “*comes to his senses*.” He knows that he must go back to his father. He prepares a speech of apology and a petition for his reinstatement in the household as a mere servant. He had totally underestimated his father who would not only embrace him in forgiveness but also declare a banquet to celebrate his return. What a compassionate father! What a loving God! What a challenge to our conventional way of looking at things. The story teaches us that we are loved for who we are, and not just for the way in which we behave.



The elder son also underestimated his father. This dutiful one is shocked and resented his father’s easy pardon for the erring brother. He feels outraged that there is a banquet for the sinner (whom he distanced himself from “*this son of yours*”) while he, who in his own eyes was so good, had never been given even a kid goat with which to celebrate. He is so resented that he may be deaf to his father’s assurance that “*all that I have is yours*”.

We are called to reflect on the attitude of both sons. The younger son who has fallen through human weakness but eventually comes to admit it and repents. And the elder son who holds himself up as paragons of virtue and who self-righteously rejected his brother. Most of us would have part of both sons in us, but we can trust in God’s unconditional love so that we be transformed into the compassionate father who is willing to stretch out to welcome all into his loving arms.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

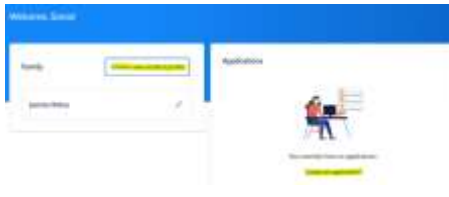
545 Jesus invites sinners to the table of the kingdom: ‘I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.’ He invites them to that conversion without which one cannot enter the kingdom, but shows them in word and deed his Father’s boundless mercy for them and the ‘vast joy in heaven over one sinner who repents’. The supreme proof of his love will be the sacrifice of his own life ‘for the forgiveness of sins’.



### Kindergarten 2023 enrolments are now open!

Sydney Catholic Schools invites new and existing families seeking enrolment for their Kindergarten child or other grade, to **submit an application online via our school website: <https://www.jbbonnyrigg.catholic.edu.au/> or [sydcatholic.schools.nsw.edu.au](https://sydcatholic.schools.nsw.edu.au).**

**You may do this by selecting the 'Enrol Now' button.** For our existing families wishing to enrol a sibling, you will be taken to your child/ren's Compass dashboard where you will find **'Family & Enrolments'** under your settings options. Your screen will appear as per this example below and you begin by selecting **'Create a new student profile'** button on the left of screen. After completing this section and your review, you must continue to finalise your application by selecting the **'Create an application'** to enter your child's enrolment grade, commencement year, your Declaration and finally, conclude with **'Submit'**.



**Should you encounter issues, you may call 9568-8601 or the school office.** Paper applications are also available from the office and any existing family wishing to request an enrolment pack may do so by emailing [info@jbbonnyrigg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@jbbonnyrigg.catholic.edu.au) with your eldest child's name and class and this will be sent home to you.

**Please note, KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS CLOSE 8th APRIL, 2022 and applications are to be submitted by this date.**



### ENROLMENT OPEN EVENING

**Year 7, 2024**

**Wednesday 16th March, 2022**

An invitation is extended to Grade 5 Students and one parent to an Open Evening on Wednesday 16th March.

A tour of the College will commence at 4pm every 1/2 hour until 8pm (Bookings Essential) on 9823 2073.

Enrolment Applications can be collected from the College Office from 4pm on Wednesday 16th March, or completed online.

Siblings of the College may collect an Application form on your behalf.

College website has links to the enrolment form and further details on the school.

Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights [www.freemancatholic.edu.au](http://www.freemancatholic.edu.au)



### Caritas Australia Ukraine Appeal

The escalating violence in Ukraine is rapidly becoming a dire humanitarian crisis. In a matter of days, over half a million people have been forced from their homes and at least 400 civilians have lost their lives.

Our long-standing partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground, supporting people in need during this unfolding humanitarian crisis. **Your urgent support today will help provide critical assistance including emergency shelter, food, clean water, transportation services, and psychological support to people affected by this crisis.**

**Donate today at [www.caritas.org.au/ukraine](http://www.caritas.org.au/ukraine) or call 1800 024 413 toll free.**



### Open Day

**Saturday 2nd April 2022  
11am - 1pm**

The Good Samaritan community extends an invitation to prospective parents and students wishing to enrol for Year 7, 2024.

401 Hoxton Park Rd, Hoxton Park NSW 2169  
Phone: 02 9625 9000  
[info@good-samaritan.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@good-samaritan.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.good-samaritan.nsw.edu.au](http://www.good-samaritan.nsw.edu.au)



### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**14TH APRIL, 2022**



Fr Dominic invites you to come and pray in front of the blessed sacrament during the night of Holy Thursday from 9:00pm to 9:00am.

You are welcome to pray by yourself, with your family or a friend.

We need someone to be present in the church at all times.

If you are interested please place your name against the time you would like to pray on the sheet provided on the noticeboard.



**RECONCILIATION:** The 2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be held on Wednesday 6th April at 7:30pm following Mass

**After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car.**

**His father asked him three times what was wrong.**

**Finally, the boy replied,  
'That preacher said he wanted us brought up  
in a Christian home,  
but I want to stay with you guys.'**



### Marriage Enrichment Weekend

*We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love!*

**Come and join us on April 22-24, 2022** at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville—a stunning and tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney.

Book online at [www.wmme.org.au](http://www.wmme.org.au) or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or [nswbookings@wmme.org.au](mailto:nswbookings@wmme.org.au)

### Ageing Well Masterclass in Liverpool

Practical advice and support to help navigate some of the issues around ageing, including vital information about available services.

**Where:** All Saints Parish Liverpool

**Time:** 10am – 11am from 29 March

Bookings are limited, please register your interest by visiting [www.catholiccare.org/ageingwell](http://www.catholiccare.org/ageingwell)



### 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.



We congratulate the family of Nicola MAC SZOKOLAI who will be baptised here this weekend.



To join the men's group or to find out more, email [bjbmensgroup@gmail.com](mailto:bjbmensgroup@gmail.com) or call/SMS Daniel on 0411 254 520.



### CHURCH WORKING BEE SATURDAY 2ND APRIL 8AM -1PM

It is time for us to work together to prepare the Church and grounds for Easter .

We need as many people as possible to clean the church and assist with gardening etc .

Please come along with any equipment that you have available .

We will be here from 8am-1pm and would appreciate any support you can give whether it is for the whole morning or just an hour of your day .

If you can assist in any way please contact Grant Dunn on 0409 958 744

(morning tea will be provided to thank all of our volunteers)



### ATTENTION READERS:

The new reader's roster is now available for collection.

### Lector and Acolyte

**Parishioners are encouraged to be involved in different ministries in the church.**

**There will be courses which help parishioners to deepen their knowledge in proclaiming the word God at Mass, taking Communion to the sick, serving at Mass. If you are interested in becoming a Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion or an Acolyte?**



Please speak to Fr Dominic or call the parish office on 9823 2572.

**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



**Condolences** Our condolences are extended to Yvonne Yates and extended family on the loss of her husband Thomas. Please keep the family in your prayers.



### 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 is at 7.00pm in the Church every Friday during Lent, except the 1st Friday.



### Fourth Sunday of Lent 26th and 27th March



**Rosalie 44**, is an ex-combatant who lives with her husband and seven children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Forced to join the army when she was just 15-years-old, Rosalie experienced significant trauma and hardship during her years in the military. After she was demobilised from the army, Rosalie, like other ex-combatants, was left to fend for herself in the community.

With your generous support and through our local partners, Rosalie was able to connect with other members of her community and participate in business skills training to help her to reintegrate into society.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help women like Rosalie to succeed in the future, providing hope For All Future Generations.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.



### The Season of Lent

Lent is the most appropriate time for celebrating the Sacrament of Penance. Already on Ash Wednesday the people of God have heard the solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the Good News*. It is therefore fitting to have several penitential celebrations during Lent, so that all the faithful may have an opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbour and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts. RP13. The Sacrament of Penance is better celebrated before rather than after the Easter Triduum. **ORDO 2016**

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

Sick: Alexander (Sandy) ANDERSON, Jessie ZAMMIT, John DEMICOLI, Loryn Christina COETZEE, Judy DIVANI, 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: Charlie GRIMA, Tom YATES, Kel CAMPBELL, Giuseppe OCCHIUTO, Joseph Tri Phuong MAI, Tony CINI, Maria Francesca VERSACE

Anniversary: Joseph Tsi Sing LAY, Mark CAVALLARO, Janelle CLIFTON

Other: Charles & Frances HIGGANS, Charlie SALIBA, Helena & Chester BRODA, Henryka & Vlad KROL, KROL Family, BRODA Family, Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Thanksgiving for favours received to St. Anthony and St Jude



## 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 Breden  
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:

### Fifth Sunday of Lent - (Year C)

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

Gospel: John 8:1-11

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Of the two sons, I am more like..... because
- ♦ The difference in my life when I experience the Father's forgiving embrace and kiss is.....
- ♦ I have been liked the extravagant forgiving father when.....

## First reading

### A reading from the book of Joshua

Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

## The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

### Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

33:2-7

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.

### Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free.

### Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called, the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress.

### Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

## Second reading

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

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

## The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.  
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Luke 15:18

## Gospel

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

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

## The Gospel of the Lord



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