



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
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Office Hours: Tue- Fri 9.00am to 4pm
Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang
Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER WEEK 2

Monday - No Mass
Anzac Day

Tuesday - 8:00am
St Mark, evangelist

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:00am
St Peter Chanel, priest,
martyr

Friday - 9:00am
St Catherine of Siena, virgin,
doctor

Saturday - 9:00am

NEXT SUNDAY

30 APRIL/1 MAY

(Third Sunday of Easter 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

Second Sunday of Easter (Year C) Divine Mercy 23rd & 24th April, 2022

Love & Forgive

At Grace Lutheran Church in Atlanta, worshippers annually celebrate the end of the old year and the beginning of the new one with what they call a “burning service”. Each member of the congregation brings to the altar a paper on which he or she has written failures and mistakes, plus changes to be made during the New Year. The paper is dropped into a flaming urn. One year, two men who had once been friends, but had quarreled over a business deal stood side by side at the altar. After dropping their papers into the urn, they got up, faced each other and shook hands.

The Gospel today recalls one such scene. For three years Jesus had been training his disciples. When the final crunch came they had behaved disgracefully. Judas betrayed Him, Peter who proclaimed that he would rather die than run away, actually denied Him three times, and all others deserted Him. Imagine the tension when the risen Jesus appears in their midst. Would he scold them? Would he fire the lot of them and seek replacements? They must have been very tense as they waited for a sign of how he was taking it all. Moreover, they are locked in and full of fear of the Jews. ‘Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I sent you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them”’ The risen Jesus appears to his disciples to encourage and commission them to go out to proclaim the Good News and gives them power to forgive sins and cure diseases.

This appearance of Jesus has another significant meaning in the faith life of the disciple Thomas who cannot accept that the Jesus who died is now alive, though his companions kept telling him “We have seen the Lord.” But Thomas said “Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe” (Jn20: 25). With his human reasoning, Thomas could not understand a Jesus, who had suffered, was scourged, nailed to and died on the cross, could rise again. It was impossible. The turning point was when Thomas saw the Lord who appeared and called his name. He was able to recognize Jesus’ voice and open his heart to the faith although he could not understand. With an act of faith he said, “My Lord and My God.” He now believed that ‘with God everything become possible.’

Let us pray that we shall always humbly accept ourselves as forgiven sinners and trust that we are loved by God so that we become capable of showing a similar love and forgiveness towards others.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

644 Even when faced with the reality of the risen Jesus the disciples are still doubtful, so impossible did the thing seem: they thought they were seeing a ghost. ‘In their joy they were still disbelieving and still wondering.’ Thomas will also experience the test of doubt and St Matthew relates that during the risen Lord’s last appearance in Galilee ‘some doubted.’ Therefore the hypothesis that the resurrection was produced by the apostles’ faith (or credulity will not hold up. On the contrary their faith in the resurrection was born, under the action of divine grace, from their direct experience of the reality of the risen Jesus.



LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC CLUB MEMBERS MASS & LUNCHEON

The 51st Annual Members Mass will be celebrated at

All Saints Catholic Church
(Cnr Elizabeth Drive and George Street) Liverpool
Sunday 22 May 2022

Mass will commence at 11:00am

At the conclusion of the Mass as luncheon will be served in the "Grand Ballroom" of the Club followed by entertainment.

Admittance to the luncheon is by ticket only
\$45.00 per member - Bookings are essential.

Tickets will be available from the club at:

Fr Mike Schmitz to Address the Archdiocese of Sydney | Live Online | Saturday 28 May 2022 | 10 – 11:30 AM

Fr Mike Schmitz, presenter of the 'Bible in a Year' podcast, will address the faithful of Sydney on the topic, 'Why make disciples? What our Tradition tells us about calling and forming disciples.'

In this fourth part of the *Reclaiming Evangelisation* series, Fr Mike will examine the great adventure of calling and forming disciples which saints and sinners have been living from the apostles until the present day.

Please register at www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events.

Inquiries: parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org



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 or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

Divine Mercy Sunday

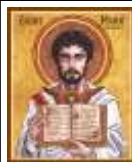


In the 1930's, Sister Faustina Kowalska received a message from Jesus of His infinite Mercy, which she was to spread around the world. We today know this as the Devotion of Divine Mercy. Saint Pope John Paul II declared that the Sunday after Easter Sunday would be called Divine Mercy Sunday.



"They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them."

Feasts of the Week



St Mark

Much of what we know about St. Mark, the author of the Second Gospel, comes largely from the New Testament and early Christian traditions. He was the son of Mary of Jerusalem whose home became a meeting place for the apostles. He is also the cousin of St. Barnabas a Levite and a Cypriot. Mark also held a close relationship with St. Peter and was not one of the twelve apostles. St. Mark lived for years in Alexandria, where he died as a martyr while being dragged through the streets. In 828, relics of St. Mark were stolen from Alexandria and taken to Venice, Italy. There they are enshrined in a beautiful cathedral dedicated to the saint. St. Mark's symbol is a winged lion.

Feast Day: April 26



St Peter Chanel

St Peter Chanel was born in 1803 in France. After ordination to the priesthood, he desired to become a missionary. He was assigned to his hometown. Finally in 1836, he led a small group of missionaries to the New Hebrides in the South Pacific. After a few years of converting the natives, the jealous island king had Peter killed. However, within 5 months of his death, the entire island had been converted to Christianity.

Feast Day: April 28



St Catherine of Siena was born in 1347. In her childhood she consecrated her virginity to God and she had mystical experiences, seeing guardian angels of others. At 18 she became a Dominican. She devoted herself heroically to the care of the infected. She was one of the most brilliant theological minds of her day. She continued to have visions of Christ, Mary and the Saints. She was given the Stigmata which became visible after her death. St Catherine's letters are considered the most brilliant writings in the history of the Catholic Church. The life of the Saint who had been glorified by God with wondrous gifts and miracles was brought to a close on 29th April, 1380 at the age of 33. She was canonised in 1461 by Pope Pius II. In 1970 Pope Paul VI declared her a doctor of the Church.

Feast Day: April 29

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



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.



Smithfield Catholic Club Netball is looking for players who are turning 10 or 12 years of age in 2022. Training is on Wednesday nights at Marconi Netball courts and games are played at Woodward Park Liverpool on Saturday. If you are interested in playing please contact Tracey - Club Secretary on 0411 370 381 or email sccnetball@hotmail.com



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 Valencia VELARDI, Xavier and Lorenzo GEORGEES and Valentina PAGANO who will be baptised here this weekend.



First Holy Communion Sacrament Enrolment

Enrolments are open for our Communion Sacrament program please complete the enrolment form at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BYQUZ>

Lessons will begin in the week commencing 9 May 2022.

Children must have received the sacrament of Reconciliation and be in year 4 or above.

Children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 31 March 2022 are already enrolled and do not need to complete this enrolment form.

If you have any questions please call Tamara on 0424 166 248



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



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are very pleased to announce that Children's Liturgy will commence at the 5:30pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 30th April and 8:00am and 10:00am Masses on Sunday 1st May, 2022.

We are in need of helpers and leaders for the 8:00am Mass on Sunday. If you are interested in helping please contact Angela Galdas on 9606 8403 or 0410 964 196.



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 or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wmme.org.au



PARISH MORNING TEAS

After Easter we will be recommencing our Parish morning teas following our 8:00am and 10:00am Masses. We are in need of volunteers to assist with setting up and cleaning up.

If you are interested in helping please call Teresa Vartuli our coordinator on 0413 835 250 and you will be placed on a roster once a month. Thank you.



ATTENTION READERS:

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



Thank You!



Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2022. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit lent.caritas.org.au and donate online.

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

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, or by calling 1800 024 413.



CATECHIST NEWS

CCD has added more **On-Line (via Zoom) Induction Training** for new Recruits or those who missed out on a particular course.

Here are the details:

Thursdays:

28 April - Unit 1.1,
5 May - Unit 1.2, 1
2 May - Unit 1.3
26 May - Unit 1.4,
2 June - Unit 1.5

Saturdays:

30 April - Unit 1.1,
7 May - Unit 1.2,
14 May - Unit 1.3



REGISTRATION is essential.

Two ways to REGISTER.

1. Email CCD Office – office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au with Full Name, Parish Name, Telephone Number and Email
2. Visit the CCD Website, select the course and Register - <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/catechist-resources/courses-and-registration/>

All catechists and helpers are most welcome to attend the **Western Region Mass** on April 20 at All Saints, Liverpool at 11am (Parking available by Elizabeth Street). Lunch will be provided - Pizza food truck.

Training for Level 1.4 is on Monday June 20 and **level 1.5** on Monday 27 June in the Parish Hall, Bonnyrigg from 6 to 9 pm. Registration is necessary.

- <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/catechist-resources/courses-and-registration/>

Enquiries: Nina Laureti 0408465149

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

Sick: Alexander (Sandy) ANDERSON, Jessie ZAMMIT, John DEMICOLI, 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: Loryn Christina COETZEE, Rosa PEROVIC, Jean ZAMMIT, Rogelio VILLEGAS Jr, Victor CASSAR, Milka HRVATIN

Anniversary: Fernando Lemos LAY, Maddalena GAGLIARDI, Tarcisius ZAMMIT

Other: Toncka SUSANJ, Lucia, Maria, Phaolo and all the souls, Charles & Frances HIGGANS, Charlie SALIBA, 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:
Third Sunday of Easter - (Year C)
First Reading: Acts 5:27-32, 40-41
Second Reading: Rev 11-14
Gospel: John 21:1-19

Reflection Questions

- ♦ I can identify with Thomas in that
- ♦ Some ways I have witnessed Jesus' persistence in bringing me to faith are
- ♦ If I wrote an Easter gospel, signs of Christ's resurrection I would highlight are

First reading **Acts 5:12-16** **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm **117:2-4, 22-27** **Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.**

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.'

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord, grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord God is our light.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

Second reading **Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19** **A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

**Look for the things that are in heaven,
where Christ is**

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have

died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation **John 20:29** Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel **John 20:19-31** **A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John**

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord

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