



# 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

### Fr Dominic Dinh

Email: [pp@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:pp@johnthebaptist.org.au)

Emergency: 0423 420 639

### Fr Benjamin Saliba

Email: [Benjamin.saliba@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:Benjamin.saliba@sydneycatholic.org)

## 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: Victoria Baltazar

## MASSES THIS WEEK

### PSALTER WEEK 2

Monday - No Mass

St Anthony Claret, bishop

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:00am

Friday - 9:00am

Sts Simon and Jude, apostles

Saturday - 7.30 & 9:00am

## NEXT SUNDAY

29/30 OCTOBER

(31st 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:

Wednesday 7.30pm

Saturday 4:15 — 5:00pm

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office

or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639

## 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

22nd & 23rd October, 2022

# Humility

In the car on his way to bless an opening of a new chapel, an elderly bishop was telling his young assistant seminarian, the story of his eventful life. He then turned to the young seminarian and asked him to tell the story of his vocation. "Oh, that's very simple told," he smugly replied. "All I can say is that the Lord had need of me." "That's a remarkable coincidence, young man," observed the bishop. "So far as I can remember, only once in the Gospels did the Lord ever say that He had need of anything. In Lk 19:34 on the occasion of his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, He said that he had need of an ass."

Today's gospel is one which we can experience everyday life. We often like to tell others that we are doing well and that we have many accomplishments, we think that God is expecting the same from us in our prayer. We live in a world where one has to present one's curriculum vitae and where one tries to make it look as impressive as possible. One tries to be better than the rest of people even at the early age. This is precisely what the Pharisee did, he prayed to himself. God does not need to be impressed, but knows who we are already. What impressed God is not what we show ourselves to be, but the extent to which we know ourselves as we really are. "God, be merciful to me, a sinner."



The Pharisee made two mistakes; firstly he thought he can impress God by his boasting: "I thank you God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous..." secondly he thought that he was better than others, particularly: "I am not like this tax collector." Madness or (abnormal) has been defined as having a sickness different to everyone else. Sanity is an awareness of who we are in relating to others. When we feel afraid or insecure we tend to show off our power and control, or even condemn others. Most of us have a neurotic compulsion which leads us to believe that when we put others down we will look better ourselves. But trying to put others down, to elevate ourselves, is a self-destructing waste of energy. It is like a nervous and bad swimmer who exerts enormous energy to keep head and shoulders above water. Confident swimmers will allow themselves to go under and allow just enough of themselves to appear above water so as to be able to breathe.

Let us pray for the gift of humility towards God and each other and may we always be truthful to ourselves.

## The catechism of the Catholic Church

2559 'Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God.' But when we pray, do we speak from the height of our pride and will, or 'out of the depths' of a humble and contrite heart? He who humbles himself will be exalted: humility is the foundation of prayer. Only when we humbly acknowledge that 'we do not know how to pray as we ought' are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer; 'Man is a beggar before God.'

## Annual Deceased Priest + Religious Memorial Mass

**Wednesday 23 November 2022**

12pm

At the Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel,  
Rookwood Catholic Cemetery

Please RSVP by 11 November to [team@griefcare.com.au](mailto:team@griefcare.com.au)

## The Month of the Holy Rosary

October is the month of the most Holy Rosary. Therefore we should pray the Rosary every day, but especially during this month of October. The "mysteries" of the Rosary are meant to help us meditate on the life, ministry and passion of Jesus Christ. The Rosary comprises 20 mysteries, which are based on the events in the lives of Jesus and Mary. The Joyful mysteries are said on Monday and Saturday. The mysteries of Light are recited on Thursday. The Sorrowful mysteries are said on Tuesday and Friday. And finally, the Glorious mysteries are recited on Wednesday and Sunday.

October is also to pray for our family relationships. It is a fact that for almost all of us, the relationships we have with family members will be the most important of our lives. Even though we may take our parents and brothers and sisters for granted, we realise often, particularly as we get older, how important they are to us. The family is still at the heart of Australian life, so it is good and will bring us joy when we appreciate and show



## Human needs seem to be without end!

We are called to exercise Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. The Corporal Works of Mercy include: feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, burying the dead and giving alms to the poor. The Spiritual Works of Mercy pertain helping our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs, such as; instructing, advising, consoling, comforting, forgiving, as well as bearing wrongs patiently. Nonetheless, we are not required to meet every human need ourselves. The Church is a spiritual body in which persons have distinct roles. We should not be anxious, therefore, that we cannot perform every kind of service, but we should aim to fulfil the tasks of our own vocation in fidelity and love (1Cor 12:27-31). We must not reject those around us who need our help, when we can and should give help (Mt 25:31-46)



## ASCENSION PRAYER COMMUNITY

Meets fortnightly on a Thursday.

Our next meeting will be held on 27th October.

For further details please contact Susan on 0415 342 672

## "Pre-Advent" Weekend Parish Retreat to the Snowy Region

Friday morning 11 November 2022 to  
Sunday evening 13 November 2022

Visiting Cooma, Dalgety, Jindabyne, Thredbo, Berridale

Ring 9604 8927, or see Details on the brochure in the foyer or from Father.

Ministries Next Week 29/30 Oct	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	M Camilleri G Turnbull	T Simpson S Hely	V Buhajiar M Aulsebrook	R Capolupo J Lentini
<b>Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCHARIST:</b>	A Severi T Vartuli A Vlahadamis	D Sullivan J Finucane S Xuereb	M Aulsebrook R Hibbs J Habib	G Vanderwert D Pham

## ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE TO SEE BEYOND SELF

A mother challenged with mental health issues is making Christmas cards with a Christian theme. As you are aware, cards with a Christian theme are hard to find. However, thanks to this courageous lady, these are now available for sale in our Piety Store.

Furthermore, this brave lady wishes to donate all profits from these cards to our Community Care Program to help other people struggling to cope with life.



**COLUMBAN CALENDARS** are now available to purchase from the Piety store for \$10.00 each.

## Feasts of the Week



### St Anthony Claret

Claretian archbishop and founder. Anthony was born in Salient in Catalonia, Spain, in 1807, the son of a weaver. He took up weaving but then studied for the priesthood, desiring to be a Jesuit. Ill health prevented his entering the Order, and he served as a secular priest. In 1849, he founded the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, known today as the Claretians, and the Apostolic Training Institute of the Immaculate Conception, Claretian nuns. From 1850 to 1857, Anthony served as the archbishop of Santiago de Cuba, Cuba. He returned to the court of Queen Isabella II as confessor, and went into exile with her in 1868. In 1869 and 1870, Anthony participated in the First Vatican Council. He died in the Cistercian monastery of Fontfroide in southern France on October 24, 1870. Anthony Mary Claret had the gift of prophecy and performed many miracles. He was opposed by the liberal forces of Spain and Cuba and endured many trials.

**Feast Day: October 24**

### Sts Simon and Jude



**St. Simon** the Apostle is often named St. Simon the Zealot, to distinguish him from St. Peter and St. Simeon. St. Simon was a Galilean, born at Cana in Galilee. He was called Simon the Zealot because of his great zeal to honour God and for purity of religion. The Zealots during this time were known for assassinating the noble and filling the temple with bloodshed and profanities.

He was one of the original followers of Christ. After his conversion and his call, there is no further mention of him in the Gospels. He became zealous for Christ and for the duties of Christianity. After receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, he went out to evangelize with great zeal and fidelity. He was martyred by the idolatrous priests and many say that he was crucified. His relics are with St. Jude's in St. Peter's basilica and the Cathedral of Toulouse.



### St Jude

St Jude, known as Thaddaeus was the brother of the apostle St James the Lesser and a relative of Our Lord, nephew to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was also one of the Twelve, an Apostle of Jesus. One of the canonical epistles of the New Testament is attributed to St Jude, which has many common characteristics with the second letter of St Peter. St. Jude (Thaddeus) is one of the most popular saints because of the numerous heavenly favours that he grants to his devotees who pray to him with faith, especially when seeking a job or a house. Ancient writers tell us that he preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Lybia. According to Eusebius, he returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, St. Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem. Saints Simon and Jude zealously preached to the nations and met with each other again in Persia. According to ancient tradition, they were martyred together - St. Simon was sawed in half and St. Jude was beheaded with an axe. Following his death, St. Jude's body was brought to Rome and left in a crypt in St. Peter's Basilica. Today his bones can be found in the left transept of St. Peter's Basilica under the main altar of St. Joseph in a tomb he shares with the remains of the apostle Simon the Zealot.

**Feast Day: October 28**





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

### Baptism:

This week, we welcome into the Catholic faith:

*Adriana Bellucci*

May she always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout her life.



**CONFIRMATION PHOTOS** will be available for collection from the Church Meeting Room on **Monday 24th and Wednesday 26th October between 7:00pm and 8:30pm**. Any enquiries please contact Maria on 0407 662 535.



- This is the link to the Metropolitan Vinnies Schools and Youth Newsletter Term 4 2022:  
<https://bit.ly/MetroNewsTerm4-2022>
- The 2022 edition of the Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP) for students in Years 4 – 6 is available for those who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time. For more information please go to  
<https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>

Men put faith on display. To join the men's group or to find out more, email [jbm@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:jbm@johnthebaptist.org.au) or call/SMS Daniel on 0411 254 520.



### CATECHIST NEWS

There are always **vacancies** at our schools due to work commitments or well earned travel holidays. **We are in need of a Yr 3 or 4 Catechist at Governor Philip King Primary on Tuesdays from 9:30-10:00am. If you are interested please contact Connie Giannone on 0431 694 007.**

Any enquiries regarding the Catechist Ministry please feel free to contact me 0408 465 149.

Together we proclaim the Gospel to little children.

Nina



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

**Can you help?** 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.



### PARISH MORNING TEAS

Our Parish morning teas have commenced 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.



### PARISH HOUSIE VOLUNTEERS:

We are in need of volunteers to help with our Parish Housie at the Liverpool Catholic Club on **Saturdays from 12:00pm to around 4:45pm on a monthly roster**. If you can assist in anyway please see Fr Dominic or contact the Parish

### UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

**Friday 2nd December - Christmas Carols**

Further information will be provided closer to the dates.

### GOD, LIFE, UNIVERSE, EVERYTHING (G.L.U.E) WITH FR BEN

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION** - Are you interested in learning more about the faith you profess? Scripture, Tradition, Church Teaching, Prayer and life's hard questions etc will all be covered.

This series of conversations are not for RCIA candidates, they are for Catholics who want to learn more and ask further questions. Please express your interest by emailing Fr Ben - [Benjamin.Saliba@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:Benjamin.Saliba@sydneycatholic.org) or phoning the parish office to leave your details - 9823 2572.



**FOUND: Credit Card** in the carpark.

**Set of Keys** in the Church.

Please contact the parish office on 9823 2572



### 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.

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

Sick: Theresa MERCIECA, Avelino San BUENAVENTURA, Guiseppina ANDRONACO, Mariola, Rita DALLI, Alexander (Sandy) ANDERSON, Jessie ZAMMIT, John DEMICOLI, Judy DIVANI, Bozana VUKOV, Lachlan BENSON, Gino BORG, Gung Jec MENG, Cindy CALDEJON, Julia CEFAL, Melda MIZZI, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Gary LOMAS

Recently Deceased: Dick JORDAN, Laurecina FAVOTTO, Philip WALSH, Milan DRENOVAC, Doris MICALLEF

Anniversary:

Other: Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryanne FENECH, Thanksgiving for favours received to St Anthony and St Jude, Souls in Purgatory



## Parish Ministries:

Parish Pastoral Council Chairman: Jeff Lai  
Finance Committee: Rosa Marciano  
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: Victoria Baltazar  
Men's Group: Branko Poljak

**For any inquiries, please call the parish office.**

## Next Sunday:

### 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year C)

First Reading: Wisdom 11:22-12:2

Second Reading: 2 Thess 1:11-2:2

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ My spiritual practices tempt me to self-exaltation (like the Pharisee) when.....
- ♦ My spiritual practices lead me to humility and trust in God when.....
- ♦ My spiritual practices have united me more deeply to "the rest of humanity" by.....

## First reading

**Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19**

### A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The Lord is a judge  
who is no respecter of personages.  
He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man,  
he listens to the plea of the injured party.  
He does not ignore the orphan's supplication,  
nor the widow's as she pours out her story.  
The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted,  
his petitions will carry to the clouds.  
The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds,  
until it arrives he is inconsolable,  
And the Lord will not be slow,  
nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

**33:2-3, 17-19, 23**

### *The Lord hears the cry of the poor.*

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.

### *The Lord hears the cry of the poor.*

The Lord turns his face against the wicked  
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.  
The just call and the Lord hears  
and rescues them in all their distress.

### *The Lord hears the cry of the poor.*

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;  
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.  
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.  
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

### *The Lord hears the cry of the poor.*

## Second reading

**2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18**

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

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted

me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was *rescued from the lion's mouth*. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

**2 Corinthians 5:19**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;  
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

**Luke 18:9-14**

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

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else: 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

### The Gospel of the Lord



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