



# 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

## MASSSES THIS WEEK

### PSALTER WEEK 3

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 8:00am & 7pm

All Saints

Wednesday - 9 am &

7:00pm

The Commemoration of all the

Faithful Departed (All Soul's

Day)

Thursday - 9:00am

St Martin De Porres,

religious

Friday - 9:00am

St Charles Borromeo, bishop

Saturday - 7.30 & 9:00am

## NEXT SUNDAY

5/6 NOVEMBER

(32nd 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

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

29th & 30th October, 2022

## Acceptance

In his famous book 'Les Miserables' Victor Hugo portrays a young convicted man Jean Valjean who escaped from prison as a desperate man. He knocks on doors but no one receives him for he looks terrible. Bishop Myriel took him in the cathedral for the night. During the night, Jean stole some silver plates and ran away. The police suspected a poor looking man with expensive silver plates which were marked 'cathedral' so they caught him and brought him back to the bishop. "Your Grace, we caught this man with silver plates which belong to you." They excitedly reported. Bishop Myriel looked at Jean for one second and without hesitation he said, "I gave them to him and actually I have a few more silver candle holders to give him but he left so early." Jean Valjean was released, and from that moment his life changed completely.

Today we read in the book of Wisdom (11:23) "You overlook people's sins so that they can repent." This is exactly the way Jesus deals with Zacchaeus, who was an object of hatred and considered a traitor by his fellow Jews because he worked for the Roman oppressors as the head tax collector. Zacchaeus was a wealthy outcast. He lived a lonely and isolated life among his people. He just wanted to see Jesus whom he heard of as a prophet from Nazareth and of his reputation for compassion towards outcasts and sinners. The Gospel does not say that Zacchaeus wants to meet Jesus (he's probably aware of his bad reputation). He got more than what he expected. Jesus overlooks his bad reputation but his need to be healed. Jesus takes the initiative and calls Zacchaeus by name "Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today." By entering Zacchaeus' house, Jesus gave back to him the dignity that he felt he had lost. Jesus freed him from the feeling of being the despised one.



In our daily living, we tend to exercise control over others by keeping them prisoners of their past mistakes. Many families and relationships have been broken because people refused to overlook the past wrong. We tend to demand repentance before we can start the process of reconciling, then we disappoint ourselves that reconciliation does not happen.

Let us pray that we can open ourselves to God's unconditional love and forgiveness. When we feel joyful at home within ourselves then we will be able to accept others, as Jesus accepts Zacchaeus and leads him to new life.

## Catechism of the Catholic Church

2447 The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour...giving alms to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity: it is also a work of justice to God.



The next **Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Parish Appeal** will be held **next weekend (5th-6th November)**. The CWF supports a range of charities and ministries, including the Good Shepherd Seminary, CatholicCare, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, the Ephpheta Centre for the deaf and hearing impaired, Aboriginal Catholic Ministries, and university, hospital and prison Chaplaincies. Appeal envelopes will be provided for your use, so keep an eye out for them. You can also make a donation and find out more at [www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf](http://www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf)

**ALL SAINTS MASS - Tuesday 1st November**  
8:00am and 7:00pm

**ALL SOULS MASS - Wednesday 2nd November**  
9:00am and 7:00pm



In November we remember our Faithful Departed. At the front of the church you will see a cross swathed in fabric. You are invited to take a Purple Heart from the foot of the cross, write the name of your lost loved ones and pin it onto the Fabric as we remember them on this coming All Souls Day and throughout the month of November.

### 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 gratitude for our family relationships.



**Willoughby Antioch 40 years Reunion.** Spread the word.

21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 St Thomas' Willoughby.

Info: [willoughbyantioch@gmail.com](mailto:willoughbyantioch@gmail.com)



### ASCENSION PRAYER COMMUNITY

Meets fortnightly on a Thursday.

Our next meeting will be held on 10th November.

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 5/6 Nov	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	A Pace L Krslovic	L Barilla L Agoo	M Zangari G Zangari	A Vanderwert V Arbanas
<b>Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCCHARIST:</b>	D Vella M Camilleri A Pace	L Agoo L Barilla Delicia Vella	N Laureti G Dunn S D'Cruz	R Imbert M Abdal

### 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.

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## Feasts of the Week



### The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)

All Souls Day is a holy day set aside for honouring the dead. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church, but it is also celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church and a few other denominations of Christianity.

According to Catholic belief, the soul of a person who dies can go to one of three places. The first is heaven, where a person who dies in a state of perfect grace and communion with God goes. The second is hell, where those who die in a state of mortal sin are naturally condemned by their choice. The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go.

Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter into heaven. There is scriptural basis for this belief. The primary reference is in 2 Maccabees, 12:26 and 12:32. "Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out... Thus made atonement for the dead that they might be free from sin."

**Feast Day: November 2**



**St Martin de Porres** was born in Lima Peru on December 9, 1579. He was the illegitimate son to a Spanish gentleman and a freed slave from Panama. He was raised in poverty and bore the stigmas of both his illegitimate birth and his mixed race. He was placed to study with a barber-surgeon, where he learned bloodletting and the administration of medicines.

Compassionate and eager to serve, he began to volunteer with the Dominicans at age 15 and helped care for the sick in the monastery infirmary. He became a Dominican oblate, or lay monastic, in 1601. Although it was not customary then to receive a mulatto into a religious order in Peru, Martín was considered an exception and became a Dominican lay brother in 1610. He was noted for his work on behalf of the poor, establishing an orphanage and a children's hospital. He maintained an austere lifestyle, which included fasting and abstaining from meat. He was friends with St Rose of Lima. He died on 3rd November 1639 and many miracles were said to have occurred after his death.

**Feast Day: November 3**



### St Charles Borromeo

Saint Charles Borromeo was born on October 2, 1538 at the castle of Arona on Lake Maggiore near Milan. He suffered from a speech impediment that made him appear slow to those who did not know him. Despite this challenge, he performed well at school. He earned a doctorate in canon and civil law in 1559. At the age of 22 he was made Archbishop of Milan and became a Cardinal of the Church. Together with Saint Ignatius of Loyola and Saint Philip Neri and others, led the effort to fight the Protestant Reformation. He is credited with the founding of seminaries for the education of priests. He is also celebrated as a Saint of learning and the arts.

**Feast Day: November 4**





**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:

*Milania D'Agostino*

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



## CATECHIST NEWS

1. CCD Sydney will be conducting another **MEGA TRAINING** after the success of the last 1.4 Mega Training.

Here are the details:

**1.5 Mega Training (Classroom Skills & Resources)**

**Nov 21 | MONDAY**

**9.45am – 2pm**

**All Saints Liverpool, Parish Hall**

**Morning Tea will be Provided**

**ALL** Catechists, especially **NEW RECRUITS!!** are welcome. To RSVP – email [juliette.morched@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au](mailto:juliette.morched@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au)

2. The **Annual Catechist's Mass** is on **Sunday 6th November** at **2pm** at **St. Mary's Cathedral**. All are welcome.

**We congratulate Teresa Micali** who will receive her certificate for 25 years of Catechetical service. Thank you Teresa for being such a committed and loving Catechist.

Any enquiries

Nina laureti

0408 465 149

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.



## 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, Laurencina FAVOTTO, Philip WALSH, Milan DRENOVAC, Doris MICALLEF

Anniversary: Desire BEVES

Other: Michael GRIMA, Gloria O'BRIEN, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryanne FENECH, Thanksgiving for favours received to St Anthony and St Jude



## 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:

### 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year C)

First Reading: 2 Macc 7:1-2, 9-14

Second Reading: 2 Thess 2:16-3:5

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ What I have done in order to encounter Jesus is.....
- ♦ How I have experienced Jesus' seeking me in order to save me is.....
- ♦ I permit others to change and have a "second chance" like Zacchaeus when I.....

## First reading

Wisdom 11:22-12:2

### A reading from the book of Wisdom

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust that tips the scales,  
like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground.  
Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things and overlook men's sins so that they can repent.  
Yes, you love all that exists, you hold nothing of what you have made in abhorrence,  
for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it.  
And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist,  
how be conserved if not called forth by you?  
You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord, lover of life,  
you whose imperishable spirit is in all.  
Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend,  
you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned,  
so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14

### *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

I will give you glory, O God my king,  
I will bless your name for ever.  
I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.

### *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.

### *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God.

### *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

The Lord is faithful in all his words  
and loving in all his deeds.  
The Lord supports all who fall  
and raises all who are bowed down.

### *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

## Second reading

2 Thess 1:11-2:2

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

We pray continually that our God will make you worthy of his call, and by his power fulfil all your desires for goodness and complete all that you have been doing through faith; because in this way the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him, by the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To turn now, brothers, to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we shall all be gathered round him: please do not get excited too soon or alarmed by any prediction or rumour or any letter claiming to come from us, implying that the Day of the Lord has already arrived.

### The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

John 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,  
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Luke 19:1-10

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

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance: he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: 'Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.' And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully. They all complained when they saw what was happening. 'He has gone to stay at a sinner's house' they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, 'Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.' And Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost.'



### The Gospel of the Lord

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