



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

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Office Hours: Tue- Fri 9.00am to 4pm

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Victoria Baltazar

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER WEEK 1

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday 7:00pm

St Andrew, apostle

Thursday - 9:00am

Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 9:00am

St Francis Xavier, priest

NEXT SUNDAY

3/4 DECEMBER

(Second Sunday of Advent
Year A)

Saturday Vigil Mass:
5:30pm

Sunday Masses:
8:00am, 10:00am & 5:30pm

4th Sunday of the Month:
5:30pm Mass in Tagalog

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

First Sunday of Advent (Year A) 26th & 27th November, 2022

Waiting

Advent is a season of patient waiting, of quiet and joyful expectancy. The word Advent derives from a Latin root, meaning 'coming' or 'arrival'. Advent has a two-fold character: recalling the first coming of God's Son to the world and a period of reflection pointing us to Christ's second coming at the end of time. This is a season for prophecy, calling us to conversion, preparation and a constant sense of watchfulness. *"So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming."*

For many people waiting is hard, and they easily become restless and agitated. They want to get out of it by doing something (even silly things). Drivers get upset when waiting in their car during a traffic jam; customers become rude when they have to wait in a long queue at the cashier; many people grumble when they are waiting for transportations. We see this happen everyday! So a contented waiting person is a patient person. The word '**patience**' means the willingness to stay where we are and live the situation out to the full in belief that if there is something hidden then it will manifest itself to us. Impatient people are always expecting something to happen the way they want so for them the waiting moment is simply empty. For patient people, waiting means to live actively in the present. It requires an understanding of, what is happening in me in relation to people and what is happening around me.

Today, the First Sunday of Advent, we prepare to celebrate Christmas-the coming of Christ. But beyond that we look forward to the Second Coming which Christ speaks about in the gospel. *"Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."*

Let us pray that the Advent season will offer us the opportunity to deepen our understanding of God's love "**Emmanuel**" (*God is with us*) and look to the future with joy while we wait for the fulfilment of time to come.



Advent Wreath

The origins of the Advent wreath are apparently from Germany. It is one of the pre-Christian practices adopted by Christians. During the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, the Germanic people gathered wreaths of evergreen and lit fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light.

Christians kept these popular traditions alive, and by the 16th century Catholics and Protestants throughout Germany used these symbols to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the everlasting Light. From Germany the use of the Advent wreath spread to other parts of the Christian world.

Traditionally, the wreath is made of four candles in a circle of evergreens. Three candles are violet (or blue) and the fourth could be rose (or pink), but four violet (or blue or white) candles can also be used.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP invites you to

CHRISTMAS at the Cathedral

PRESENTED BY **paynterdixon**

8-25 DECEMBER 2022

Festivities begin at 7pm with:
Christmas market stalls, food, fun activities for the kids and live entertainment

The first Friday Vietnamese Mass is changed to 1st Thursday this week due to clashing with the Christmas Carols.

Catholic Weekly

Is available to purchase for \$2.00. Please place the money in the poor box.

The Symbols

The Circle of the Wreath: God Himself, His eternity and His endless mercy, without neither beginning nor end.

The Green of the Wreath: Our hope of newness, renewal and eternal life.

The Candles: The Light of God that came into the world through Christ to bring newness, life and hope.

Four Candles: The four weeks of Advent, representing the four centuries between the time of the Prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ.

Three Coloured (purple or blue) Candles: A period of waiting, expectation and preparation.

The First Candle: A time of expectation and hope.

The Second Candle: The peace that is to come.

The Pink (or Rose) Candle: for the Third Week: It symbolizes joy for the promise is almost fulfilled.

The Fourth Candle: The love of God for mankind.

Feasts of the Week

Hi everyone, my name is Adrian Suyanto. I am currently in my sixth year of my training to be a priest for the Archdiocese of Sydney. As part of my training, I have been assigned to be at St John the Baptist, Bonnyrigg until Christmas Day. Being at the parish is one of the things that I look forward to every year: I hope to get to know and serve you for the next four weeks.

I also enjoy having conversations with people, so please feel free to contact me via email if you would like to arrange a time for us to talk. This is my email: adrian.suyanto@my.nd.edu.au

In Christ,
Adrian

St Andrew also known as Andrew the Apostle, was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter. According to the New Testament, Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman. Andrew's very name means strong and he was known for having good social skills. It is believed Andrew was one of the closer disciples to Jesus. It was he who told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes. Andrew was also present at the last supper. Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion in Patras. He was bound, rather than nailed, to a cross, as is described in the Acts of Andrew. He was crucified on a cross form known as "crux decussata," which is an X-shaped cross or a "saltire." Today this is commonly referred to as "St. Andrew's Cross." It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself "unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus." Andrew's remains were originally preserved at Patras. However, some believe St. Regulus, who was a monk at Patras, received a vision telling him to hide some of Andrew's bones. Shortly after Regulus' dream, many of Andrew's relics were transferred to Constantinople by order of Roman emperor Constantius II around 357. Regulus later received orders in a second dream telling him to take the bones "to the ends of the earth." He was to build a shrine for them wherever he shipwrecked. He landed on the coast of Fife, Scotland. In September 1964, Pope Paul VI had all of St. Andrew's relics that ended up in Vatican City sent back to Patras. Now, many of Andrew's relics and the cross on which he was martyred are kept in the Church of St. Andrew in Patras. St. Andrew is venerated in Georgia as the first preacher of Christianity in that territory and in Cyprus for having struck the rocks creating a gush of healing waters upon landing on the shore. His saltire cross is featured on the flag of Scotland and is represented in much of his iconography. He is commonly portrayed as an old man with long white hair and a beard, often holding the Gospel book or a scroll.

Feast Day: November 30

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.

St Francis Xavier

St Francis Xavier was a Navarrese-Basque Roman Catholic missionary born in the Kingdom of Navarre on April 7, 1506. He was sent to study at the University of Paris and in 1530, Francis Xavier earned his master's degree, and went on to teach philosophy at the University of Paris. On August 15, 1534, Francis Xavier along with Peter Favre, and several other friends, made vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The men planned to travel to the Holy Land to convert non-believers. Francis Xavier started his study of theology that same year and was ordained on June 24, 1537. With St Ignatius Loyola became one of the seven who founded the Society of Jesuits. He preached for 6 months in Africa on his way to Asia where he spent the remainder of his life spreading the Word of God in India, Japan and the Philippines.

Feast Day: December 3

Ministries Next Week 3/4 DEC	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	M Camilleri L Krslovic	L Agoo T Simpson	M Aulsebrook S Ives	A Vanderwert R Capolupo
Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCHARIST:	A Pace A Jameson C Araco	A Liberatore F Foti B O'Connor	S D'Cruz S Hambrook E Villegas	R Imbert M Abdal S Cook



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:

*Isabelle Tablizo, Felix Smilek and
Eva Kane-Wong*

May they always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout their life.



LIVERPOOL CATHOLIC CLUB PRESENTS

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday 4th December

Main program commences at 7:00pm
At the Liverpool Catholic Club

Traditional Christmas Carols compered by
Adam Scicluna, featuring Special Guest Artists.



Animal Farm • Food Stalls • Family Fun • Fireworks at 9:00pm

CONFERENCE 2022

TRUST IN THE LORD

THURS 15TH DECEMBER -
SUN 18TH DECEMBER 2022
THE TOPS CONFERENCE CENTRE,
STANWELL TOPS

FULL CONFERENCE
& WEEKEND ONLY
TIX AVAILABLE

SCAN FOR MORE
INFO ABOUT IW2022

iWitness Conference
 @iWitnessAustralia
 iWitnessConference@gmail.com



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.

Men put faith on display. To join the men's group or to find out more, email 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 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

Reconciliation and Communion Sacrament 2023
Enrolment for Reconciliation and Communion Sacrament program for children in Grade 4 and above will be held early Term 1 in 2023. Dates will be announced in the Church bulletin. Any questions please contact Tamara on 0424 166 248.

GOD, LIFE, UNIVERSE, EVERYTHING (G.L.U.E) ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Thank you for your initial interest in this Faith Formation program. To help Fr Ben coordinate timing of talks please fill out the following form -

<https://forms.gle/SVQBW8bVwesC9v7K8>

Once the details have been collated we will advertise the first talks in the series.

Thank you.

JB PRIMARY, JB PARISH
&
FREEMAN PRESENT

Carols 2022!

FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER FREEMAN OVAL

3PM FOOD TRUCKS
7PM CAROLS



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.

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

Sick: Brian AULSEBROOK, Theresa MERCECA, 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, Nolita HERBERT

Recently Deceased: Andre Avelino DE SOUSA, Adam BRADLEY, Stefano ROSITANO, Christopher BAIG, Amos VALLERI, Gloria ANDRES, Roxanne CAVANAGH

Anniversary: Joseph CAMILLERI, Elsie ANDREAZZA, Monika FULTON

Other: Rina FAVOTTO, Michael GRIMA, 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:

Second Sunday of Advent - (Year A)

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Like Noah, I know the future: the coming of the Son of Man. When I live aware of this future, my daily actions and choices are like.....
- ♦ I understand Jesus' command "Stay awake" to mean.....
- ♦ I am growing in my preparedness for when "the Son of Man will come" by.....

First reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.
All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.
Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!'

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second reading

Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord

