



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

Emergency: 0423 420 639

Fr Benjamin Saliba

Email: Benjamin.saliba@sydneycatholic.org

Office:

9823 2572

Email:

info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Website:

www.johnthebaptist.org.au

Office Hours: Tue- Fri 9.00am to 4pm

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Victoria Baltazar

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER WEEK 1

Monday - No Mass

St Paul Miki and
companions, martyrs

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday 7:00pm

St Jerome Emiliani

St Josephine Bakhita, virgin

Thursday - 9:00am

Friday - 9:00am

St Scholastica, virgin

Saturday - 9:00am

Our Lady of Lourdes

World Day of Prayer for
the Sick

NEXT SUNDAY

11/12 FEBRUARY

(Sixth Sunday in Ordinary

Time 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

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

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

4th & 5th February, 2023

Shine

A missionary bound for India sat one evening in his cabin, feeling miserably sea sick, when suddenly he heard the cry, "*Man overboard.*" On the deck above he heard the trampling of feet as the crew rushed about to locate the man in the water. "*What can I do?*" the missionary asked himself, concluding that he would simply be in the way if he went on deck. As he kept asking himself that question, he noticed the lamp swinging from the ceiling. He unhooked it and held it near the small port-hole of his cabin so that it might shine on the water near the boat. In a moment, he heard a shout above, "*There he is.*" Not until the next day did he learn that the light of his lantern fell directly on the man struggling in the water. With the help of that light they threw a knotted rope to him and pulled him to safety.

In the Gospel today Jesus says, "*You are the light of the world.*" He did not say when we are something better then we will be light but right now, within ourselves, shine the light for the world. We need to look for that light in us. Are we willing to look for that light? It is something that

others see in us that is beautiful. It is God's gift for us. And it certainly will bring us joy. Our light is not only for us but for others to see as well. Jesus cautions against hiding our light. "*Do you turn on the lights in your house and then cover them with blackout fabric?*" No! You turn on that light so it can shine out and light up everything nearby. Our own light, put within us by our God, is already turned on, already shining. So we are called to shine out so the Father may be glorified.

Let us pray that we will be in touch with our inner brightness that deep within us so that no matter what is happening around us, we will continue to shine as 'the light for the world.'

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Respect for the human person entails respect for the rights that flow from his dignity as a creature. These rights are prior to society and must be recognised by it. They are the basis of the moral legitimacy of every authority: by flouting them, or refusing to recognise them in its positive legislation, a society undermines its own moral legitimacy. If it does not respect them, authority can rely only on force or violence to obtain obedience from its subjects.

**God sends children to enlarge our hearts, and make us
unselfish and full of kindly sympathies and affections.**

Mary Howitt



CATECHIST SUNDAY

YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD OR TOO YOUNG TO SHARE YOUR FAITH.

This weekend we celebrate *Catechist Sunday* at all Masses. This is the weekend we acknowledge our 55 catechist/ helpers who teach over 1100 primary school students in **6 of our local public schools**. We recognise their **generosity** in volunteering, their **commitment to half hour teaching** every week and their **love for the children** in a **mission** which is often unseen and unrecognized yet crucial and rewarding.

Catechist Opening Mass and Meeting will be on Wednesday 15th Feb 7pm – all must try to attend.

Congratulations to the following catechists receiving certificates at our masses this weekend
Gloria Nguyen – Completion of Level 1 Course
5 years service – Charlie Alveyra and
15 years Service- Nicole Debuissou Perrine

Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper. We need 3 catechists to cover all our classes. These are the lesson times for the schools we teach at.

School	Day	Time of lesson
Governor Phillip King Edensor Park	Tuesdays	9.00 -9.30am Kindy to Year 2 9.30 -10 am Year 3 and 4 10-10.30 am Year 5 and 6
Bonnyrigg Heights Primary	Wednesdays	11.35am-12.05pm Year 5 and 6 12.05 -12.35pm Kindy to Year 2 12.35- 1.05pm Year 3 and Year 4
Cecil Hills Primary	Wednesdays	8.50-9.20am Kindy to Year 2 9.20 - 9.50am Years 3 to 6
Edensor Park Primary	Wednesdays	9- 9.30 am
Green Valley Primary	Wednesdays	2- 2.30pm
Busby West Primary	Fridays	9.10-9.40am Kindy to Year 2 9.45-10.15 Years 3 to 6

All new recruits are to attend 3 Training Workshops before entering the classroom. These workshops will be at JB on Tuesdays from 6.30 -9 pm in the Parish Hall.
1.1 on Tuesday 7th February, 1.2 on 14th February and 1.3 on the 21st February.

Do something of eternal significance- be a Catechist or helper! We invite you to join this ministry and our wonderful JB Catechist Team.

Any enquiries please contact: Nina Laureti 0408 465 149 or Fr Dominic or Fr Ben.

Ministries Next Week 11/12 FEB	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	A Vlahadamis J Victorino	S Davies L Barilla	M Hourmozi S Ives	J Lentini V Arbanas
Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCHARIST:				

Feasts of the Week



St Paul Miki

Paul was the son of a Japanese military leader. He was born at Tounucumada, Japan, was educated at the Jesuit college of Anziquama, joined the Jesuits in 1580, and became known for his eloquent preaching. He was crucified on February 5 with twenty-five other Catholics during the persecution of Christians under the Taiko, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, ruler of Japan in the name of the emperor. They were all canonized as the Martyrs of Japan in 1862.

Feast Day: February 6



St Josephine Bakhita

also known as 'Mother Moretta' (our Black Mother) bore 144 physical scars throughout her life which were received after she was kidnapped at the age of nine and sold into slavery. Such was the trauma experienced that she forgot her birth name and her kidnappers gave her the name Bakhita meaning 'fortunate'. She experienced the moral and physical humiliations associated with slavery. In 1882 her suffering was alleviated after she was bought for the Italian Consul. With Italian families Bakhita received kindness, respect, peace and joy. A change in the family's circumstances meant that she was entrusted to the Canossian Sisters of the Institute of the Catechumens in Venice. It was there that Bakhita came to know about God whom, 'she had experienced in her heart without knowing who He was' since she was a child. She was received into the Catholic Church in 1890, joining the sisters and making final profession in 1896. The next fifty years of her life were spent witnessing to God's love through cooking, sewing, embroidery and attending to the door. When she was on door duty, she would gently lay her hands on the heads of the children who attended the nearby school and caress them. Her voice was pleasing to the little ones, comforting to the poor and suffering. Bakhita was a source of encouragement to many and her constant smile won people's hearts. **Feast Day: February 8**



St Scholastica

sister of St. Benedict, consecrated her life to God from her earliest youth. After her brother went to Monte Cassino, where he established his famous monastery, she took up her abode in the neighborhood at Plombariola, where she founded and governed a monastery of nuns, about five miles from that of St. Benedict, who, it appears, also directed his sister and her nuns. She visited her brother once a year, and as she was not allowed to enter his monastery, he went in company with some of his brethren to meet her at a house some distance away. These visits were spent in conferring together on spiritual matters. On one occasion they had passed the time as usual in prayer and pious conversation and in the evening they sat down to take their reflection. St. Scholastica begged her brother to remain until the next day. St. Benedict refused to spend the night outside his monastery. She had recourse to prayer and a furious thunderstorm burst so that neither St. Benedict nor any of his companions could return home. They spent the night in spiritual conferences. The next morning they parted to meet no more on earth. Three days later St. Scholastica died, and her holy brother beheld her soul in a vision as it ascended into heaven. He sent his brethren to bring her body to his monastery and laid it in the tomb he had prepared for himself. She died about the year 543, and St. Benedict followed her soon after. **Feast Day: February**



Our Lady of Lourdes is a Roman Catholic title of the Blessed Virgin Mary venerated in honour of the Marian apparitions that reportedly occurred in 1858 in the vicinity of Lourdes in France. The first of these is the apparition of 11 February 1858, when 14-year old Bernadette Soubirous told her mother that a "lady"

spoke to her in the cave of Massabielle (a kilometre and a half from the town) while she was gathering firewood with her sister and a friend. Similar apparitions of the "Lady" were reported on seventeen occasions that year, until the climax revelation of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception took place. In 18 January 1862, Pope Pius IX authorized Bishop Bertrand-Sévère Laurence to permit the veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Lourdes. On 3 July 1876, the same Pontiff officially granted a Canonical Coronation to the image that used to be in the courtyard of what is now part of the Rosary Basilica. The image of Our Lady of Lourdes has been widely copied and reproduced in shrines and homes, often in garden landscapes. Bernadette Soubirous was later canonized as a Catholic saint. **Feast Day: February 11**



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

Enrolment for Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Enrolments are open for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion program commencing 27 February. All children who are baptised and in grades 4-6 are welcome to enrol.

Please visit this website link or scan the QR Code to register your child.

Visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/CFNBY>

Please complete the enrolment form and attend the **Enrolment Night on Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 7pm** inside the church.



Any questions please call Tamara on 0424 166 248.

The Significance of the Eucharist

The Eucharist is the most significant celebration in the church liturgy. It is the source and basis of all Catholic life. In one celebration, it encompasses the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Eucharist is a celebration of praise and thanksgiving to the Father, remembering and celebrating the actions of Jesus Christ, and given power by the Holy Spirit. The whole assembly worships and celebrates the liturgy in the unity of the Spirit: everyone has a function and ministry.

This celebration is based on the belief that the Eucharist is a sacrifice making present the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the real presence of Christ under the appearance of bread and wine. The Eucharist makes present again the sacrifice that Jesus made when he offered his life for humanity.

The Last supper in the Scriptures is presented as a unique event, but in fact one activity which typified Jesus' ministry was the constant sharing of meals with men and women of all types and levels of society. Food is necessary for life; it comforts people; and it draws them together. Spiritual food does the same, at a different level.

Symbols and symbolic actions

Symbols and symbolic actions have been used throughout the centuries in Christian liturgy and art to represent ideas contained in the sacraments. The bread and wine are symbols of nourishment. In many cultures, bread is the main support of life: consecrated bread becomes the body of Christ and thus the main support of the spiritual life. Similarly, wine is the main drink used at meals in many cultures: consecrated wine is the blood of Jesus Christ; to ancient and modern people, blood is associated with life; the consecrated wine is essential nourishment to the spiritual life. This nourishment can be individual; but the communal nature of the Eucharist also means that it is a symbol of communal nourishment. Breaking of the bread, and taking the cup (the body and blood of Christ) and sharing it (the Christian community) are both symbolic actions.

To know, Worship and Love Yr. 10 p.157



Talk title: "The most important message you will ever hear"

Tuesday 28th Feb | 9am and 7pm

JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, BONNYRIGG HEIGHTS

"Advantaged Care at Edensor Park is an aged care home. In addition to Fr Ben's weekly visits, the manager is in need of volunteers to spend time with residents. If you want to know more please contact Kerriane on - 9774 6777. If you would like any formation on pastoral care of the sick or elderly please contact Fr Dominic or Fr Ben."



THE ASCENSION PRAYER GROUP

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 16th February.**

Followed by **Lenten program from 23rd February.**



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.



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: Essa, Pamela MARTIN, Ivy FERNANDES, Royala & Gayle, Michael, Churchill VANDERWERT, Joyce AZZOPARDI, Brian AULSEBROOK, Theresa MERCIECA, Avelino San BUENAVENTURA, Guiseppina ANDRONACO, Mariola, Rita DALLI, Alexander (Sandy) ANDERSON, Jessie ZAMMIT, John DEMICOLI, Judy DIVANI, 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: Dianne SALTER, Rosario CRUZ, Lolita ORTEGA, Luigi Di APOLO, Liam CANTARELLA, Francisco PALMERO, Bozana VUKOV, Baby Angelique, Sam FENECH

Anniversary: Cristina DEL VALLE

Other: Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryanne FENECH, St Anthony, St Jude and St Rita, Thanksgiving



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:

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year A)

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

Reflection Questions.....

- The temptations most prevalent today in the world are.....
- The Lenten practices I have chosen strengthen me against these temptations by
- What temptation has taught me about human vulnerability is.....
- What temptation has taught me about dependency upon God is.....

First reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and do not turn from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour.

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory.

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Isaiah 58:7-10

111:4-9

Second reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.

John 8:12

Gospel

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord

