



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

MASSSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER WEEK 2

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:00am

St John I, pope, martyr

Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 9:00am

St Bernadine of Siena, priest

NEXT SUNDAY

20/21 MAY

(The Ascension of the Lord
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

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A)

13th & 14th May, 2023

Easter - A time for love

There was a domestic argument. Father and mother exchanged heated loud words. The children were dumbfounded. Then suddenly the 12 year old girl ran upstairs, took out her mobile phone and rang her parents' number. The father took the call and was astounded to hear a feminine voice say, "Good evening, sir. I'm a reporter and am doing a survey for one of the magazines. Do you love your wife?" The father is taken completely off guard, stuttered and stammered, "Yes. Of course...naturally." Then he called out to his wife, "Jenny, come here a minute." The girl again asked, "Excuse me, but I'm gathering statistics for a study. Could you tell me, do you love your husband?" As she answered "Yes", she recognized her own daughter's voice... "Thank you," said the voice at the other end... After that the father took out his handkerchief and wiped the sweat off his forehead, sank into a chair and said, "Jenny, what we need is a cup of coffee."

Today's Gospel says "Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him." Jesus wants us to feel God's love by keeping his commandments. Unfortunately, we often portray God as a harsh judge who demands discipline and who will punish us if we do not behave. This understanding tends to make God part of the problem instead of part of the solution when we are in crisis. But today we are told of another mode of God's presence which Christ left with us. "The Spirit of Truth...he is with you, he is in you." Jesus presented a God who is more intimate to us than we are to ourselves. This God is the bedrock of our being, or in computer terms, the default mode of our being. When we remove all the garbage and fear, all the artificial settings and try to live Jesus' commandments, we find the Spirit God at the centre of our being. Living Jesus' commandments calls us to claim God's eternal love for ourselves so that we can live our temporal loves - for parents, brothers, sisters, teachers, friends, spouses, and all people who become part of our lives.

Let us pray that we can understand more about God's perfect and unconditional love so that we can truly open and show our love towards others.

DEAR MUM

When you take care of me I love you,
When you kiss and hug me I want more.
Ever since you brought me into this world,
You've guided me through it all.

You always make me laugh with you,
That is something I'll always love to do.
You're like an angel from heaven above,
The feeling I have for you is known as love

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

From Christian





BEGIN THE PATH TO DISCOVERING YOUR CHARISMS!

Join international author and speaker, **Sherry Weddell**, as she presents on the topic: **"Charisms: The Power of the Holy Spirit Unleashed."**

These events will be dedicated to exploring the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives and renewing the Church for mission. Endowed with spiritual gifts, each of us is chosen by God in a special way to witness to Christ in the world and to build His Kingdom here on earth.

Monday 22 May 2023 | 6:00pm – 9:00pm | Liverpool Catholic Club
Wednesday 24 May 2023 | 6:00pm – 9:00pm | Australian Catholic University Strathfield

Cost: \$30 plus booking fees. Refreshments served from 6:00pm - 6:45pm. Talk commences at 7:00pm.

Registrations close Sunday 14 May, and places are limited.
Register now at <https://gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/>

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PENTECOST CELEBRATIONS

Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in celebrating Pentecost 2023 with an uplifting, inspiring, encouraging Holy Spirit afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies, Hearing the Word of God, and Prayer Ministry on **Saturday 27th May** at Servants of Jesus Centre, 15 Park Road Seven Hills. **2pm-5.30pm**. Enquiries 9810 2499.

CWF Parish Appeal The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) May 2023

Thank you to everyone who so gave so generously to the Appeal to the vital ministries of the Church in service to those who need it most.

In hospitals, churches, schools, communities and families, your donation is making our world a loving, caring and compassionate place. Your tax-deductible gift changes lives. Thank you!
 You can still donate at www.ourfaithourworks/give-to-cwf or complete the parish envelope and return next weekend. All donations contribute to our Parish target.



PROCESSION FOR THE FEAST OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS (Patroness of Australia) SATURDAY 20 MAY 2023

Peace through Prayer with Bishop Daniel Meagher

10am Mass at St Peter's Surry Hills

Followed by Pilgrims Blessing by Bishop Daniel Meagher. Then join us as he leads us on a street procession to St Mary's Cathedral

12pm Mass at St Mary's Cathedral

In Honour of Mary Help of Christians

ANNUAL SCHOENSTATT MARIAN PILGRIMAGE SUNDAY 21 May 2023 230 Fairlight Road Mulgoa



9:30am Sacrament of Reconciliation available (Family Hall)

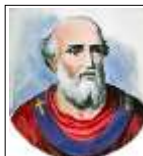
10:15am Pilgrim Prayer and Welcome

10:30am Pontifical Mass with Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv.

2:00pm Eucharistic Procession, Anointing of the Sick (shrine) Final Benediction

THIS IS AN OUTDOOR EVENT - PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS
LUNCH - Hot food, tea & coffee available for sale or BYO

Feasts of the Week



St. John 1 - Pope

A native of Tuscany in Italy, John was elected Pope while he was still an archdeacon upon the death of Pope Hormisdas in 523. What is known is that he succeeded in persuading the Emperor to mitigate his treatment of the Catholics and thus avoid reprisals against the Catholics in Italy. The Pope's visit also brought about the reconciliation of the Western and Eastern Churches. **Feast Day: May 18**



St Bernardine of Siena

A Franciscan friar and preacher, St. Bernardine is known as "the Apostle of Italy" for his efforts to revive the country's Catholic faith during the 15th century. He demonstrated a remarkable concern for the poor as an outgrowth of his love for God. He always travelled on foot, sometimes speaking for hours in one place, then doing the same in another town. **Feast Day: May 20**

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM REQUEST FORM

Would you like to become a regular contributor to the Parish?

Or would you like to change your contribution method from envelopes to monthly credit card giving?

If so, please fill in this slip and return it to the Parish Office. Otherwise send an e-mail to Leanne at info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Name: Telephone No.:

Address:

Email :

☐ I wish to commence Planned Giving Program.

☐ I wish to change from envelopes to Credit Card monthly giving. Current envelope No:

(a credit card authority form will need to be completed)

Ministries Next Week 20/21 May	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5.30 pm
READERS:	J Victorino A Vlahadamis	L Agoo T Simpson	M Aulsebrook J Mataele	J Lentini V Arbanas
Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCARIST:	M Camilleri A Pace A Jameson	D Sullivan J Finucane S Xuereb	R Hibbs J Haib N Laureti	R Imbert M Abdal S Cook



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 safeguardingquiries@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.

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



CONFIRMATION 2023

Confirmation will be held on Sunday 17th September at St Mary's Cathedral at 3:30pm.
Please keep watching this space for further details as they become available.
For any enquiries please contact Linda Barilla on 0409 914 083.



Invites you to our May Men's Group meeting

Friday 19th May at 7:30pm

This month, we have our gospel reading and reflection followed by Father Ben Saliba's testimony.

This month please bring your teenage and older sons along for a father/son evening.

Together we empower each other to become Christ-like role models in our families and community.

To join the men's group or to find out more, email jbmj@johnthebaptist.org.au or call/SMS Daniel on 0411 254 520

Mother's Day Cake/Biscuit Stall

The piety Store is organizing a cake/biscuit stall on the weekend of 13/14 May.

All items are home made by the ladies of our parish.

Monies raised through this, goes to support the poor and disadvantaged of our community.

Jesus Light of the World Communities

27 May 2023 (Saturday) 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

"Day of OUTPOURING"

Ron Maldigri - Speaker

Catholic Lay Evangelist in Sydney

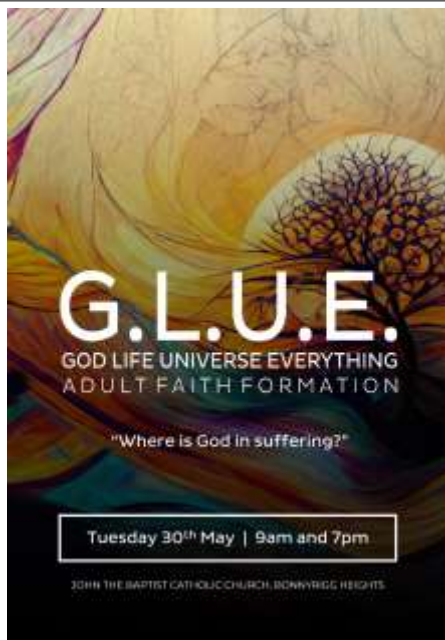
St Joseph's Parish Hall

Walz St, Rockdale, NSW (Parking Entry at Parker St.)

Booking Essential, FREE Lunch & Afternoon Tea

Enquiries: Helen – 0433 455 114 Ida – 0424 267 500

Email: jlowcommunity@gmail.com



Novena of Rosaries to Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia since 1844.

We are seeking to arrange a pledge of 100,000 participants to pray the Novena of Rosaries to Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia 9 days before the feast of Mary Help of Christians on 24 May 2023.



UPDATE! JB SPRING FAIR 22nd October 2023



Your Parish Fair offers food, fun, FREE jumping castle, music, market stalls and entertainment. This Fair is designed for our community and celebrates the delights of our Parish, bringing the Parish Community and their families together after Covid.

WANTED: Volunteers. One or two hours of your time to volunteer would be greatly appreciated.

WANTED: Talent and entertainment.

MARKETING: Interested in marketing your products e.g. Costume Jewellery, Perfume, etc or your services e.g. Fitness, Insurance etc. We are offering \$25 per spot when you market your products or services.

WANTED: International Food Stallholders run by parishioners – Our Parish has a boundless array of multiculturalism. Currently some international food stalls confirmed by our Parishioners are Holland, Italy, Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Australia. We need more parishioners to come forward to showcase their country of origin. Spot provided are Free Of Charge.

WANTED: New members to join our JB Spring Fair Committee.

Our next meeting is 24th May at 7:15pm

Please contact: Susan 0419606683 (after 3:30pm) or Sharon 0410494700 (after 5:30pm)

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

Sick: Olivia TOOLE, Despina JOANNIDES, Benito CARBONE, Leilah DANIEL, Dominic EMPEIGNE, Essa, Pamela MARTIN, Ivy FERNANDES, Royala & Gayle, Michael, Brian AULSEBROOK, Theresa MERCECA, 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: Charles ELLUL, Sr Shirley AGOO ICM, Peter AWIT, Ann KARAKATSANIS, Patrick LEE, Billy POMARE, Toni Di MARTINO, John JOANNIDES, Teresa SAID, Rolando QUIJANO

Anniversary: Maria SAFI, Fortunata CATARROTTA, Edgardo NAVARRO, Paul Xeng SAYAVONGSA, Mary Tien SAYAVONGSA, Arcadio NAPULI and Maria NAPULI, Joan PURCELL

Other: Milan DRENOVAC, Vincenza GAGLIANO, Giuseppe GAGLIANO, 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:

The Ascension of the Lord - (Year A)

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I regard "commandments" as.....
- ♦ For me, the relationship between loving Jesus and keeping his commandments is.....
- ♦ What it means to me that the "Spirit of truth" remains with me and is in me is.....

First reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14

-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

65:1-7, 16, 20

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me.

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved

wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 14:15-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.

On that day you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them
will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will
be loved by my Father,
and I shall love him and show
myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord



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