



# 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 1

Monday - No Mass

St Thomas, apostle

Tuesday - 8:00am

St Elizabeth of Portugal

Wednesday 7:00pm

St Anthony Zaccaria, priest

Thursday - 9:00am

St Maria Goretti, virgin,  
martyr

Friday - 9:00am

Bl Peter To Rot, martyr

Saturday - 9:00am

## NEXT SUNDAY

8/9 JULY

(14th 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

## 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 1st & 2nd July, 2023

### Freedom through Detachment

A gambler, who often lost in one moment more than he earned in a week, usually while walking his dog stopped at a club and played poker machines. A friend met him one day at the club without the dog and wondered what had happened to the dog. The man replied, *"The last time I brought him to the club at which I lost all the money, he got a hard kick that he has not forgotten it, and nothing will make him go to the club again."* *"Then your dog is wiser than his master, who so often facing the pain of losing but returns again and again to the same place."* said his friend.

It is always hard to detach from what or whom we know so well, but life is a journey not a destination. If we hold on to anything and are unwilling to let go we can not move on in life. We will be imprisoned in the same situation without freedom to choose and decide what to do with our life.

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that we must detach ourselves from our families if we are to follow him. *"Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me."* He also says, *"anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it."* It is like every year when the Kindy children begin their primary school, they have to let go of their parents and joining their class in order to learn and develop their personality. The more they let go the more freedom they become who they are. When parents allow their children the freedom to detach from them, the relationship is deepened in meaning rather than dependency. What is imposed can never be true relationship. Jesus calls his disciples to detach from all things and especially from our families. Having detached from them we will be free to love and having a meaningful relationship with them. So that when we are called to commit our life on God's work and separate ourselves from all distractions we can achieve more than what we expected and the joy of fulfilment. Even when we don't get what we expected we will get on with our life without so much pain.

Let us pray that we can put our trust in God's providence, and with courage to reach out to do God's work without much calculation of the cost involved.

### Link in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: CHARITY

1827 - The practice of all the virtues is animated and inspired by charity.

- It "binds everything together in perfect harmony"
- It is the form of the virtues
- It articulates and orders them among themselves
- It is the source and the goal of their Christian practice
- Charity upholds and purifies our human ability to love
- And raises it to the supernatural perfection of divine love.



## Jesus Light of the World Communities – Day Retreat

29 July 2023 (Saturday) 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

**"You are VICTORIOUS"**

Marina George - Speaker

A devoted Catholic lady who loves sharing her deep relationship with God the Father, the love of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

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: [jlcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlcommunity@gmail.com)



### SEA SUNDAY 2023

Next week is Sea Sunday, when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be an Appeal for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. Funds collected will be used to provide practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. As it is dependent on voluntary donations, please give generously. To donate or for more information, visit: [www.stellamarisaustralia.org](http://www.stellamarisaustralia.org)

### Overshadowed: Filled with the Power of the Holy Spirit, 18-20 August 2023

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat exploring what happens we say yes to the Holy Spirit. Experience the life-changing power of deepening in God's love, surrendering to Jesus and living under the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Venue: Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW

Booking: <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBQX> (by 11 August)

Contact: Katherine - [mgl sisters.sydneym@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydneym@gmail.com)



### PARISH SUPPERS

Our Parish is in need of volunteers to assist with suppers after the Saturday 5:30pm Mass.

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.

Ministries Next Week 8/9 JULY	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5.30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	L Krslovic A Pace	L Agoo J Poljak	M Aulsebrook V Buhajiar	V Arbanas J Lentini
<b>Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCHARIST:</b>	A Pace A Jameson B Empeigne	L Barilla L Agoo Delicia Vella	J Habib N Laureti G Dunn	M Mai G Vanderwert D Pham



### 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.

# Feasts of the Week



**St Thomas** was born a Jew and was called to be one of the twelve Apostles. He was a dedicated but impetuous follower of Christ. At the Last Supper, when Christ told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them to which they also might come because they knew both the place and the way, Thomas pleaded that they did not understand and received the beautiful assurance that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Thomas, unwilling to believe other apostles had seen the Risen Lord, he earned the title "doubting Thomas." On Christ's second apparition Thomas saw the wounds in our Lord's hands and side and proclaimed "My Lord and my God."

**Feast Day: July 3**



**St Elizabeth Of Portugal** was born in 1271, the daughter of Pedro III who would become king of Aragon. From her youth, Elizabeth was a devout child who attended daily mass, prayed regularly, and fasted. She was married at age 12 to Denis, King of Portugal. Though Denis was fond of his young wife, he did not share her piety and often strayed into sin, resulting in several illegitimate children. These children were lovingly cared for by Elizabeth along with her own two children. Elizabeth served as peacemaker between her son and husband, resulting in their ultimate reconciliation. Denis, too, was the object of many of her peace endeavours. Elizabeth long sought peace for him with God, and was finally rewarded when he gave up his life of sin. He apologized to his wife in front of everyone and began to have a great respect for her. In his last sickness, she never left his side, except for Mass, until he died a holy death. After Denis' death in 1325, Elizabeth retired to the convent of the Poor Clares, which she had founded in 1314 and lived for eleven more years, doing even greater charity and penance and devoted the rest of her life to the poor and sick. **Feast Day: July 4**



**St Anthony Zaccaria** was born in 1502 in Cremona, Italy, Anthony became a medical doctor. In 1528 he was ordained a priest and cofounded the Barnabites, the religious congregation so called because it was headquartered in St. Barnabas Monastery in Milan.

The Barnabites occupied the monastery in 1538, having been approved in 1533. Anthony popularised the forty-hour prayer ceremony, promoted the use of altar sacraments, and introduced the ringing of church bells on Friday. He died in 1539.

**Feast Day: July 5**



### St Maria Goretti

On July 5, 1902, Maria was sitting outside the steps of her home concentrating on sewing Alessandro's shirt when he tried to rape her. Maria cried that it was a mortal sin and warned he would go to hell. He stabbed her 14 times. St Maria Goretti forgave her attacker on her death bed. One night during his 27 years in prison, her attacker dreamt of Maria giving him flowers. Upon awakening he repented his life of crime and sought the forgiveness of Maria's mother after his release from prison. Maria Goretti was beatified by Pope Pius XII in a ceremony at Saint Peter's Basilica on April 27, 1947. Three years later, on June 24, 1950, Maria was declared a saint. **Feast Day: July 6**

## 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](mailto: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)

**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:

*Olivia & Jeremy Pham, Georgia Agostino & Hunter & Levi Mattiello*



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



### CONFIRMATION 2023

Confirmation for John the Baptist Parish will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at St Mary's Cathedral. A parent meeting will be held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July commencing at 7.00pm in the Church with enrolment to follow. Enrolment forms are available from the Parish Office. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Linda on 0409 914 083.

### HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL 2023

The annual Holy Father's Appeal is on this weekend. The appeal highlights the global charitable causes spearheaded by Pope Francis, and is aimed at alleviating the suffering of those affected by natural disasters, wars, refugee crises, and poverty. It is an opportunity for us to get involved in an important initiative of the Catholic Church on a local level, and we humbly ask you to give what you can.

Give today at [www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-holy-fathers-appeal](http://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-holy-fathers-appeal), phone 1800 753 959 or through our parish collection.

### WESTERN REGION CATECHIST MASS

All catechists, helpers and student catechists are invited to the Area Mass which we at John the Baptist are hosting on **Friday 7th July**.



Mass is at 11am followed by lunch provided by the parish and we are bringing sweets to share.

For catering purposes please let your coordinators know.

Hope to see you there.

Thankyou for your commitment and dedication to this ministry.

Nina Laureti

*During July—We pray*

*That conflicts everywhere may be resolved by peaceful means.*

*For peace in our homes and communities.*

*For peacemakers that their work may bear fruit.*

**Father of peace and love, you gave St Elizabeth the gift of reconciling enemies. By the help of her prayers give us the courage to work for peace among men, that we may be called children of God.**

### MORE UPDATES!! JB SPRING FAIR 22nd October 2023



**BARISTA** wanted parishioners or local business.

We need volunteers - One or two hours of your time to volunteer would be greatly appreciated.

Any entertainers out there? Please contact Fr Dom Our Marketing Stalls are slowly coming together. We have Gloria Lorlina Floral & Gifts, Maria handbags and Wattle Lane Designs. We need more! Hurry secure your spot!

**International Food** stalls are run by our parishioners - Holland, Italy, Indian, Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, and Australia.

We need more parishioners to come forward to showcase their country of origin. Spot provided are Free of Charge.

JB Spring Fair Committee is happy to welcome a new member, Amanda Newell.

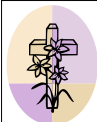
Any enquiries please contact: Josie 0407203593

### 2023-2024 Planned Giving Envelopes

The new Planned Giving Envelopes commencing 1st July 2023 are now available in the Church foyer. Please ensure you pick up your correct envelopes by checking your name and address and discard all envelopes from previous years as they may no longer be used. Contributions received from Planned Giving are the major source of income for the running expenses of the Parish. For example, running the office, Secretary's wages, expenses of pastoral initiatives, building and maintenance of the parish facilities, etc. Paying for the CWF deficit and insurance are also big expenses. Thank you to all Parishioners who already support the Parish, the tax receipts for the end of this financial year will be available in July. If you are not yet a member and would like to join our Planned Giving Program with 35% tax deduction, please complete the form on this bulletin and return it to the Parish Office or contact Leanne at the office on 9823 2572.

### CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Don't forget to buy your Catholic Weekly after Mass this weekend for just \$2.00.



### Condolences

Our condolences are extended to Jim and Kathy Finucane and their extended family on the loss of Jim's sister Agnes. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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

Sick: Rivan POULS, Gerald BOSOKY, Dominic ATTARD, Antonietta De MARTIN, 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: Kathleen RAVEN, Agnes BURKE, Carlos LAY, Chris DUNCAN, Vincent HENDRICKS, Giovanni SACILOTTO (Biona Italy)

Anniversary: Marcial LAVARRO, Casimero CASTOR, Thip SAKOUNKHU

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





## 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:

### 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year A)

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

Second Reading: Romans 8:9, 11-13

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ What was your immediate reaction to hearing or reading this passage.....
- ♦ When you have had to choose between conflicting priorities in your life.....
- ♦ How might you 'offer a cup of water' and welcome a disciple who comes in an unlikely form.....
- ♦ How might you discuss these 'hard teachings' of Jesus with a modern audience.....

## First reading

**2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16**

### A reading from the second book of the Kings

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.' One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. He said to his servant Gehazi, 'Call our Shunammitess. Tell her this: "Look, you have gone to all this trouble for us, what can we do for you? Is there anything you would like said for you to the king or to the commander of the army?"' But she replied, 'I live with my own people about me.' 'What can be done for her then?' he asked. Gehazi answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. This time next year,' he said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

## The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

**88:2-3, 16-19**

### For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

### For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Happy the people who acclaim such a king,  
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,  
who find their joy every day in your name,  
who make your justice the source of their bliss.

### For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength;  
by your favour it is that our might is exalted;  
for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;  
our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel.

### For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

## Second reading

**Romans 6:3-4, 8-11**

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

## The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

**1 Peter 2:9**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people.

Praise God who call you out of darkness and into his  
marvellous light.

Alleluia.

## Gospel

**Matthew 10:37-42**

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

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

## The Gospel of the Lord



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