



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 2

Monday - No Mass

The Holy Guardian Angels

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday 7:00pm

St Francis of Assisi

Thursday - 9:00am

St Faustina Kowalska, virgin

Friday - 9:00am

St Bruno, priest

Saturday - 9:00am

Our Lady of the Rosary

NEXT SUNDAY

7/8 OCTOBER

(27th 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

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)
30th September & 1st October, 2023

Do you practice or preach?

There is a story told of a husband and wife both of whom are doctors - one is a doctor of theology and the other is a doctor of medicine. When their doorbell is rung and the maid answers, the inquirer would often ask for 'the doctor'. The maid's interesting reply was: "*Do you want the one who preaches or the one who practices?*"

Word versus action is what Jesus reminds us in today's parable about the man who had two sons. He went and said to the first, "*My son, you go and work in the vineyard today.*" He answered "*I will not go.*" But afterwards he thought better of it and went. The man went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "*Certainly, sir*" but did not go. Sometimes I wonder who is serving God most? the one who is preaching the word of God or the one who is doing God's work?



We live in a fast changing world where work place is the centre of most people's lives, next comes the family. Then the Church, if it comes in at all, is usually a poor sixth or seventh. Most Churchgoers simply do not have time to get involved with the Church's activities. They just want the worship service to be pleasantly uplifting. Meanwhile there is a minority who do generously invest their volunteer time in the Church. They want to actualise the Church as a place of the kingdom of God on earth. It is wonderful to see more involvement from the laity, people who see themselves as a part of the living church.

Jesus tells us in the Gospel today. "I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. John came to you, a pattern of righteousness, but you did not believe in him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe him."

Let us pray that we will never use religion to exclude others and may we be conscious of God's work and try to respond to it generously and courageously.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

546 Jesus' invitation to enter his kingdom comes in the form of parables, a characteristic feature of his teaching. Through his parables he invites people to the feast of the kingdom, but he also asks for a radical choice: to gain the kingdom one must give everything. Words are not enough, deeds are required.

Smiles are like two-for-one coupons.

Each time you let them spread across your lips,

They light up someone else's face and heart.

Sooner or later a smile will come back to you just when you need it most.

And it's something anyone - everyone - can do well!



Pregnancy & Infant Loss Remembrance Day

We invite you to gather
at 7.30 pm, on Thursday, 12 October
in All Saints Catholic Church
48 George Street, Liverpool
to remember our babies.



As part of
International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day.
Supper will be provided after the liturgy.
Off-street parking is available via the Elizabeth Street gate.



RSVP Monday, 9 October 2023
Phone 9753 6500 Email: info@cpasl.org.au
Remembering Our Babies October 12th



JORDAN YOUTH GROUP



Years 5 & 6 Primary School students & Year
7 High School students are welcome to join
the Jordan Youth Group at John the Baptist Parish hall.

Our aim is to encourage young people within our community to come
together to engage, learn, pray, and become involved in spiritual life
and explore our Catholic faith.

Our next meeting is Saturday, 28th October.

Location: John the Baptist Parish Hall

Time: 3.00pm-5.00pm

Cost: Free

Afternoon tea will be provided.

Dates for the remainder of the year are as follows:

Saturday, 18th November

Saturday 9th December

If you have any further queries or would like to volunteer your time and
assist with the Jordan Youth group, please contact Tina Dunn on
0439 492 920 or Silvana Scamardella on 0417 197 357.

2024 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS FOR SALE \$10

Ministries Next Week 7/8 OCT	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	J Victorino A Vlahadamis	S Davies T Simpson	E Villegas V Buhajiar	A Vanderwert J Lentini
Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCARIST:	T Vella T Vartuli D Toma	J Finucane L Barilla L Agoo	S D'Cruz S Hambrook E Villegas C Porreca	R Imbert C Vella



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.

Feasts of the Week



The Holy Guardians

The Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels is a
memorial of the Catholic Church officially observed on
2 October. Catholics set up altars in honour of
guardian angels as early as the 4th Century, and local
celebrations of a feast in honour of guardian angels go
back to the 11th Century. **Feast Day: October 2**



St Francis of Assisi

Saint Francis of Assisi, born Giovanni di Pietro di
Bernardone, informally named as Francesco, was a
wealthy young man of privilege, served as a soldier
and was a prisoner of war. He heard God's call and
became a Catholic friar, deacon and preacher. He
founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's
Order of Saint Clare, the Third Order of Saint Francis and the
Custody of the Holy Land. He went on to be one of the most
venerated Catholic Saints. He designed the first Nativity set and
was the first man ever recorded to receive the Stigmata, the
wounds of Christ. **Feast Day: October 4**



St Faustina Kowalski was a young, uneducated nun in
a convent of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of
Mercy in Poland during the 1930s. She came from a
poor family that struggled during the years of World
War I. She had only three years of simple education,
so hers were the humblest tasks in the convent, usually
in the kitchen or garden. However, she received extraordinary
revelations — or messages — from our Lord Jesus. Jesus asked
Sr. Faustina to record these experiences, which she compiled into
notebooks. These notebooks are known today as the *Diary of
Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*, and the words contained within
are God's loving message of Divine Mercy. Though the Divine
Mercy message is not new to the teachings of the Church,
Sr. Faustina's *Diary* sparked a great movement, and a strong and
significant focus on the mercy of Christ. Saint John Paul II
canonized Sr. Faustina in 2000 making her the "first saint of the
new millennium." Speaking of Sr. Faustina and the importance of
the message contained in her *Diary*, the Pope called her "the
great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time." **Feast Day: October 5**



St Bruno

Bruno was born in Cologne of the prominent
Hartenfaust family. He studied at the Cathedral school
at Rheims. He was ordained in 1055 and became a
professor of theology. He was one of the most
remarkable scholars and teachers of his time. He and
six companions built a monastery and founded the
Cathusians order in 1084. They embraced poverty, manual
labour, prayer and transcribing manuscripts. Their fame spread
and Bruno became an advisor to the Pope. After 6 years he
founded St Mary's monastery in Calabria. He passed away in
1102. **Feast Day: October 6**



Our Lady of the Rosary also known as Our Lady of the
Holy Rosary, is a title of the Blessed Virgin Mary in
relation to the Rosary. The Feast of Our Lady of the
Rosary, formerly known as Our Lady of Victory
and Feast of the Holy Rosary, is a feast day of
the Roman Catholic Church. **Feast Day: October 7**

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)

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:

Kilisitina Langi



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

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

To whom do we go for advice? With whom do we spend our free evenings? With whom are we going on vacation? Sometimes we speak or act as if we have little choice in the matter. Sometimes we act as though we will be lucky if there is anyone who wants to be our friend. But that is a very passive and even fatalistic attitude. If we truly believe that God loves us with an unlimited, unconditional love, then we can trust that there are women and men in this world who are eager to show us that love. But we cannot wait passively until someone shows up to offer us friendship. As people who trust in God's love, we must have the courage and the confidence to say to someone through whom God's love becomes visible to us: "I would like to get to know you. I would like to spend time with you. I would like to develop a friendship with you. What about you?"

There will be no's, there will be the pain of rejection. But when we determine to avoid all no's and all rejections, we will never create the milieu where we can grow stronger and deepen in love. God became human for us to make divine love tangible. That is what incarnation is all about. That incarnation not only happened long ago, but it continues to happen for those who trust that God will give us the friends we need. But the choice is ours!

Henri Nouwen

RCIA – DO YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO WANTS TO BECOME CATHOLIC?

Many adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church each year through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA):

1. The non-baptised are suitably prepared are welcomed into the Catholic Church by the reception of the three Sacraments of Initiation, namely Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.
2. Those from other Christian denominations are received into full communion with the Catholic Church.



3. Any catholic adults (baptised) but not yet confirmed.
- RCIA will commence Thursday 12th October 7.30pm in the parish meeting room.**

For inquiries contact either the parish office, or talk to the

**22nd October 2023
JB SPRING FAIR**

DON'T MISS OUT THIS EXCITING DAY OF FUN AND LAUGHTER!!

3 SUNDAYS TO GO!!

Jumping Castles, Popcorn, Fairy floss, Face Painting, for a gold coin donation only.

There will be Snow Cones, a Barista for coffee lovers and for food lovers an array of cultural food from Italy, Croatia, Australia, Holland, Thailand, Vietnam, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Tonga and Assyria.

To entertain you on the day, we have, Studio 5 School of Dance, West Dance Co, Philippines and Tongan Choir, a Singer, and a Pianist.

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help.

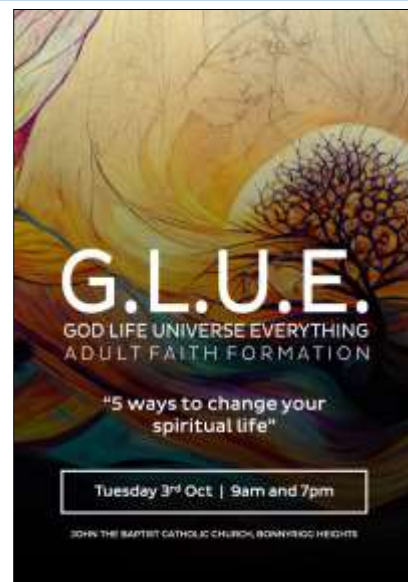
WANTED More Volunteers!! If you can help please place your name and contact number on the sign up sheets on the Church noticeboard outside the Church or contact Susan 0419 606 683.

Mauritius parishioners why not come forward to share your cultural cuisine.

Contact: Susan 0419 606 683 (after 3:30pm) or Sharon 0410 494 700 (after 5:30pm)

DAYLIGHT SAVING REMINDER:

Parishioners please remember to turn your clocks forward one hour this Saturday evening 30th September before you go to bed.



PARISH HOUSE 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 office on 9823 2572.

If you know of anyone who can no longer attend mass due to illness; or if you have noticed one of our parishioners is no longer attending mass, could you please let the priests or the office know.

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

Sick: Isaac BOYLEN, Kathy BOWLING, Alex, Levi ONG, Carmen CARUANA, Fernanda CHUNG, Errol O'DWYER, Rivan POULS, Gerald BOSOKY, Dominic ATTARD, Antonietta De MARTIN, Olivia TOOLE, Benito CARBONE, Leilah DANIEL, Dominic EMPEIGNE, Essa, Pamela MARTIN, Ivy FERNANDES, Royala & Gayle, Michael, Brian AULSEBROOK, Theresa MERCECA, Avelino San BUENAVENTURA, Giuseppina 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: Maria Rosa CAPASSO, Peter DUNDOVIC, Matthew BENTLEY, Paolina TORRESAN

Anniversary: Sam Ivan PERINICH, Iluminada MENDOZA, Linda DELLE-VEDOVE, Maria DUNDOVIC

Other: Antonio DELLE-VEDOVE, Vincenza GAGLIANO, Giuseppe GAGLIANO, Michael GRIMA, Jimmy FENECH, Marion FENECH, Maryanne FENECH, St Anthony, St Jude and St Rita, Holy Souls in Purgatory



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 - F r 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:

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year A)

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ What it means to me to be a *tenant* (and not the owner) of God's vineyard is.....
- ♦ That fruit that I have produced for the Lord is.....
- ♦ I assist other to produce fruit for the Lord by.....

First reading

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

24:4-9

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Philippians 2: 1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God

but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings in the heavens,
on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord



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