



# 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

## MASSES THIS WEEK

### PSALTER WEEK 3

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:00am

*The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica*

Friday - 9:00am

*St Leo the Great, pope, doctor*

Saturday - 9:00am

*St Martin of Tours, bishop*

## NEXT SUNDAY

11/12 NOVEMBER

(32nd 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

## Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

4th & 5th November, 2023

# Be wise & honest

One of two women riding on a bus suddenly realised she hadn't paid her fare. "I'll go right up and pay it," she said. "Why bother?" her companion replied. "You got away with it, so what?" "I've found that honesty always pays," the other said virtuously, and went up to pay the driver. "See, I told you honesty pays!" she said when she returned. "I handed the driver \$10 and he gave me \$17 change."

In the Gospel today, Jesus castigates the Scribes and Pharisees who "do not practise what they preach." "Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take place of honour at banquets and front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi." We are often shocked when we discover good people that are bogus, phoney, and plastic.

But if we honestly, and deeply self-reflect about ourselves then we will certainly discover some parts in us are bogus. As we grow up we learn that it is not socially acceptable to show ourselves for what we are in the raw, so we do it subtly. We often do or say one thing when our meaning or purpose may be contrary. We become Pharisees. It takes great courage and deep understanding to recognise and cure the Pharisee's pretence within us. It's always very uncomfortable to name something we don't like about ourselves. But like Jesus who said that the truth will set us free.



Let us pray for the gifts of wisdom and honesty to discover the bogus and phoney in ourselves. May we accept the darker side of ourselves so that we can overcome it and become more integrated and less bogus.

**If you plant honesty, you will reap trust**

**If you plant goodness, you will reap friends**

**If you plant humility, you will reap greatness**

**If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment**

**If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective**

**If you plant hard work, you will reap success**

**If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation**

**So, be careful what you plant now; it will determine what you will reap later.**

**Pope Francis has called for peace:** "Terrorism and extremism do not help reach a solution to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, but fuel hatred, violence, revenge and only cause each other to suffer. The Middle East does not need war, but peace, a peace built on dialogue and the courage of fraternity... Please do not shed any more innocent blood, neither in the holy land, nor in Ukraine, nor anywhere else! Enough! Wars are always a defeat, always!"



Thank you for your generous partnership with life-changing mission programs, like supporting Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters and their work through the Maria Auxiliadora Clinic in Venilale, Timor-Leste.

**Your gift is helping the Sr Carolina continue to provide life-saving treatment and access to resources on health and well-being. Your gift also supports mission programs around the world that reach our and give life to those in most need.**

To learn more about the impact of your support, visit [catholicmission.org.au/our-work](http://catholicmission.org.au/our-work), where you can also sign-up for our regular newsletter.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at [catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor). Your action will make a real, lasting impact.



In November we pray for the dead. If you would like your loved ones names printed in our November Book of Remembrance please contact the parish office or write their names on the November Mass Offering envelopes provided in the Church and either place it onto the plate at Mass or pop it into the parish office. If you would like us to pray for your loved one and do not wish their names to be published please let us know. Thank you!

**Dear Jesus our Redeemer,**

*On this day we prayerfully remember our loved ones who have died. May they be at peace in God's loving hands eternally. Thank you for our memories of them and the good times we shared.*

*We ask you to deepen our faith, strengthen our hope and increase our love that we, too, may someday stand before You, ready to enter Your Holy Kingdom. Amen*

## RECONCILIATION & COMMUNION SACRAMENT PROGRAM 2024

Enrolment for the Sacrament Program for Reconciliation and Communion is now open. Children who have been Baptised and are in Year 4 or above in 2024 are welcome to enrol.

### LESSON INFORMATION

**Reconciliation Lessons** - 4 weeks in Term 1, 2024 (1hr each week held in the Church) ending in March.

**Communion Lessons** - 4 weeks in Term 2, 2024 (1hr each week held in the Church) ending in June.

**Enrolment Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 6**

**February 2024 at 7pm in the Church.** Parents can select their lesson times in early February 2024.

To enrol complete the form by visting <https://www.trybooking.com/CNAHI>



## Immaculata Mission School 2024: FISHERS OF MEN

Start the new year by going deeper in God's love through awesome speakers on the Catholic faith, daily Mass, Adoration and the Rosary, praise and worship, fellowship and more! There are two different programs, so there is something for everyone ...

**Youth & adults (14 years & up):** 1-6 January 2024

**Married couples & families (specifically designed for married couples. Includes children's and teens program):** 7-10 January 2024

**Special guest speakers:** Dan & Stephanie Burke from the USA (co-founders of the Avila Institute, presenters on EWTN & Dan is an author of over 15 books on Catholic spirituality)

**Where:** NEGS (New England Girls' School), Armidale NSW

**For costs, additional information and TO REGISTER visit:**

<http://www.immaculata.org.au/ims>



### 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 office on 9823 2572.

## Feasts of the Week



### Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

The feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of St John Lateran is celebrated by the entire Church. It marks the dedication of the cathedral church of Rome by Pope Sylvester I in 324. This church is the cathedral (or chair) of the bishop of Rome, who is the Pope. A Latin inscription in the Church reads: "omnium ecclesiarum Urbis et Orbis mater et caput." Translated, that means, "The mother and head of all churches of the city and the world." The Basilica was originally named the Archbasilica of the Most Holy Saviour. However, it is called St John Lateran because it was built on property owned by the Church by the Laterani family, and because the monks from the monastery of St John the Baptist and St John the Divine served it.

**Feast Day: November 9**



**St Leo the Great**, also know as Pope Saint Leo I, was born into a Roman aristocratic family in Tuscany. He was Pope between 440 and 461 and he was the first Pope to be given the title "the Great". Pope Leo was responsible for important changes in the Church year. He added new feasts and placed greater importance on the celebration of Christmas.

He was well known for his great eloquence and writing skills. For his great gift of teaching, Pope Leo has been given the title of Doctor of the Church. Pope Leo was also a peacemaker. He personally convinced Attila the Hun to turn back at the gates of Rome from his planned invasion of the city. Leo is best known for being a good shepherd and paster for all the people of the Church, from bishops to the poor who begged for food on the streets of Rome. He reached out to the poor and neglected people of the world and urged the bishops to do the same. His homilies helped people know how to live their faith because they were full of practical advice. Leo died on November 10, 461.

**Feast Day: November 10**



**St Martin of Tours** was born in Savaria, Pannonia in either the year 316 or 336 AD. At the age of ten he attended the Christian church against the wishes of his parents and became a catechumen. When Martin was fifteen he was required to join a calvary. About the age of 20, Martin made it clear to his superiors that we would no longer fight, following his formed Christian conscience.

In 371, the city of Tours needed a new bishop and the people decided to call Martin to the office. He was the third bishop of Tours. As a bishop Martin established a system of parishes to manage his diocese. Martin longed for more prayer and wanted to pursue a monastic life. In the year 372 Martin established an abbey at Marmoutier so he could retreat there and live as a monk with the many disciples he had attracted. The Monastery would be inhabited by the Benedictines. Martin died in Candes-Saint-Martin, Gaul in 397. He has become one of the most popular and recognizable Catholic Saints. Many miracles have been attributed to him. He even had a confrontation with Satan.

**Feast Day: November 11**

Ministries Next Week 11/12 NOV	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	J Victorino A Vlahadamis	S Hely T Simpson	S Ives M Hourmozi	J Lentini A Vanderwert
<b>Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCARIST:</b>	M Camilleri A Pace M Finn	D Sullivan J Finucane L Barilla	S D'Cruz S Hambrook E Villegas C Porreca	G Vanderwert 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](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.



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



## Baptism:

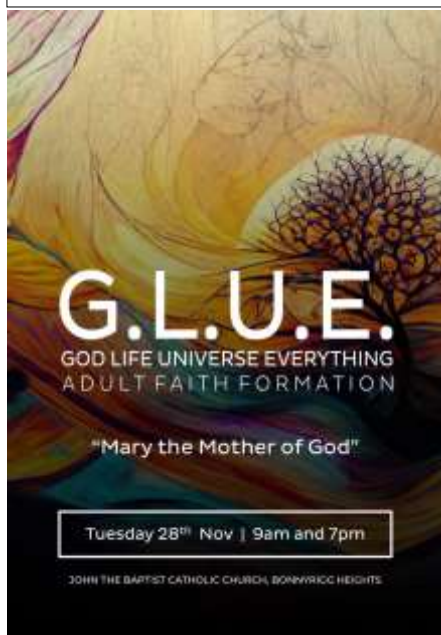
This week, we welcome into the Catholic faith:

*Romeo Rigger and Emilia Talarico*

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



Fr Ben has a podcast!  
Move your phone camera over the QR code to be linked to the Youtube page.



## CATECHIST NEWS

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

**Become a Catechist or Helper in 2024.** Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public schools. Here at Bonnyrigg we teach over 1100 children in 6 different public schools on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Share the hope and joy that Jesus brings with them and become a catechist or helper, you'll hand out activity books and help the Catechist in class. It is a commitment to teaching half an hour every week.

You will need a WWCC number and attend some training sessions.

**New Recruit training** will be held over TWO evening sessions on **Wednesday 8th and 15th November** at the St Augustine Centre (demountable behind the Montefano Hall, driveway is opposite the Smithfield RSL Club). **Time – 6.30PM -8.30PM.** New recruits will need to attend **both** sessions.

*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, Vicki Scutella 0447310204 or Connie Dif 0413 694 007



**Condolences** Our condolences are extended to Antionette and Rocco Demasi and family on the loss of Antoinette's mother Silvana Maiolo. Please keep the family in your prayers.



## CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF)

**PASTORAL APPEAL.** The final Appeal for the year will be held this weekend (4-5/11). The CWF is an essential partner in delivering vital social, advocacy and training programs in our local Sydney communities and we ask for your generous support of this appeal. Thank you.

## THANK YOU



Thank you so much to ALL the volunteers for generously giving your time to assist in our Spring Fair. Our volunteers are so valuable, and we are so grateful for your dedication and commitment.

We thank the following:

**Multicultural Food Stalls** - Assyrian/Chaldean, Australia, Croatia, Holland, India, Italy, Philippines, Tongan and Vietnam.

**Marketing Stalls** - Barista, Blessed Creation, Fairy Floss, Glimaglam, Hawaiian Snow Cone, Lolina Floral & Gifts, M & M Cakes, Maria's Handbags, Peach & May, Rick's Candles and Wattle Lane Designs.

**Our talented entertainers:** Philippine Choir, St Peter & St Paul, Tammy & Trish, Tongan Dancers and West Dance Co.



We also thank the Police Force for their support entertaining the kids, the Plant Stall for the abundance of beautiful plants, the JB Men's Group, and our MC on the day Guy Zangari.

We especially would like to thank the Committee with our deepest gratitude for their commitment to serve and for all their hard work and dedication in organizing this great day.



Each one of you brought not only success to the Spring Fair but a community togetherness of fun and joy. Our tummy was full of lovely, delicious food from our generous parishioners. Our entertainers added flair, grace and enjoyment especially those dancers from 2 years old upwards. Most of all thank you for all those who came to support and join in the fun.

**THANK YOU**

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

Sick: Ed & Rita MALAPITAN, Flossy RODROM, Isaac BOYLEN, Kathy BOWLING, Alex, Levi ONG, Carmen CARUANA, Fernanda CHUNG, 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, 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

Recently Deceased: Silvana MAIOLO, Teresita BORTHWICK, Angelina Carigma CRUZ, Lloyd HOPE, Marilyn PALMER, Azaleayah MIKAERE

Anniversary: Reg McANDREW, Amos VALLERI,

Other: Milan DRENOVAC, Milan DRENOVAC (ACT), Tomislav Johny PELICAN, 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:

### 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year A)

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I know I have failed to practice what I preach when..... The strongest preaching I do by the way I live is.....
- ♦ What my behaviour reveals about who I am is.....
- ♦ As a disciple I am genuinely a learner when..... a child of the Father when..... a humble servant when.....

## First reading

**Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10**

### A reading from the prophet Malachi

I am a great king, says the Lord of Hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of Hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. But you, you have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of Hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

**In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.**

O Lord, my heart is not proud  
nor haughty my eyes.

I have not gone after things too great  
nor marvels beyond me.

*In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.*

Truly I have set my soul  
in silence and peace.

A weaned child on its mother's breast,  
even so is my soul.

*In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.*

O Israel, hope in the Lord  
both now and forever.

*In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.*

## Second reading

**1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13**

### A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living

power among you who believe it.

### The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

**Matthew 23:9, 10**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have one Father, your Father in heaven;  
you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia

## Gospel

**Matthew 23:1-12**

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

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

### The Gospel of the Lord

