



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
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Emergency: 0423 420 639

Office: 9823 2572
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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 3

Monday - No Mass
St Vincent, deacon, martyr
Tuesday - 8:00am
Wednesday 7:00pm
St Francis de Sales, bishop,
doctor
Thursday - 9:00am
The Conversion of St Paul,
apostle
Friday - 9:00am
Australia Day
Saturday - 9:00am
St Angela Merici, virgin
Sts Timothy and Titus

NEXT SUNDAY 27/28 JANUARY

(4th Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year B)

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

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
20th & 21st January, 2024

Follow Jesus

A woman was trying on some bracelets and earrings in a jewellery shop. She also had her twelve year old daughter with her. The young girl asked, "Mommy, can I have ten dollars?" "What did you say?" she asked, still looking at a set of earrings. Respectfully the girl replied, "You'll look so beautiful with that set of earrings." The woman reached in her purse and gave her daughter the money.

In today's Gospel we read Jesus beginning his ministry by announcing the good news. "The Kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News." Repent simply means a change of one's mind and heart with regard to an unfulfilling way of living. We need to understand ourselves, what is happening deep within our mind and heart so that we can open our eyes to our true selves. Furthermore, the Good News is that we are loved by God and this love is unconditional.

Later, Jesus called the disciples to "follow me and I will make you into fishers of men." And at once they left their nets and followed him. The disciples experienced a change in their career from 'fishermen' to 'fishers of men'. To follow Jesus they must accept change of life. They followed Him not just to be observers but to share his life and his mission.

Today we continue to hear Jesus' call, "follow me." Following Him could mean a long adventure in faith which involves doubts, joy, pain and consolation. But a happy ending is assured because Jesus has taken the path and has overcome for all of us.

Let us pray that we may have the courage to live his way of life and be the witness to the Good News which he preached.

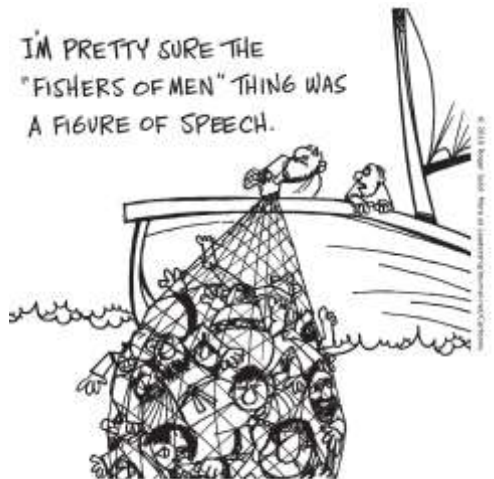
Catechism of the Catholic Church

785 'The holy People of God shares also in Christ's prophetic office', above all in the supernatural sense of faith that belongs to the whole people, lay and clergy, when it 'unfailingly adheres to this faith... once for all delivered to the saints', and when it deepens its understanding and becomes Christ's witness in the midst of this world.

Trivia Question

How many letters of St Paul in the New Testament can you name?

St Paul wrote many of the letters in the New Testament. There are other letters that have been named after St Paul. Some scholars hold that he wrote all or most of those that bear his name. Other scholars argue that he may not have written several letters or that these were edited later. These are described as "Pauline".



HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY

A Celebration of Many People, but One Nation
**O God, powerful and gentle,
 you love this southern land
 and all its peoples, old and new.
 As the Cross shines in our heavens
 so may Christ bring light to our nation.
 As the waves encircle our shores
 so may your mercy enfold us all.
 Amen**



The Letter to the Romans

- The First and Second letter to the Corinthians
- The letter to the Galatians
- The letter to the Philippians
- The First letter to the Thessalonians
- The Letter to Philemon

Pauline Letters

- The Letter to the Colossians
- The Letter to the Ephesians
- The Second Letter to the Thessalonians

Pauline Pastoral Letters

- The First and Second Letters to Timothy
- The Letter to Titus.

Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. Don't hate others.

Make peace with your past so it won't spoil the present.

No one is in charge of your happiness except you.

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main."

John Donne



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 contact Valerie Buhajiar on 0417 244 285

Ministries Next Week 27/28 JAN	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	J Victorino L Krslovic	S Hely T Simpson	S Ives M Hourmozi	
Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCARIST:	T Vartuli T Oraha T Vella	A Liberatore F Foti S Sullivan	R Hibbs J Habib N Laureti G Dunn	



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



St Vincent Pallotti, Priest was born in Rome in 1795. St. Vincent became a priest and dedicated himself completely to God and cared for souls. He dreamed of gaining for Christ all non-Catholics, especially the Mohammedans. To this end he inaugurated a revolutionary program which envisaged the collaboration of the laity in the apostolate of the clergy. But St. Vincent was also well aware of the many deprivations in the natural sphere that hindered the spread of the Faith. He thus obtained and spent huge sums for the poor and underprivileged. He founded guilds for workers, agriculture schools, loan associations, orphanages and homes for girls - all of which made him the pioneer and precursor of Catholic Action. His great legacy was the congregation which he founded for urban mission work, known as the "Society for Catholic Action". This indefatigable labourer for Christ died in 1850 from a severe cold which he most likely caught on a cold rainy night after giving his cloak to a beggar who had none. **Feast Day: January 22**



St Francis de Sales was born to a noble family at Chateau de Sales in the Kingdom of Savoy near Geneva, Switzerland on August 21, 1567. He was a Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Francis was both intelligent and gentle. From a very early age, he desired to serve God. He knew for years he had a vocation to the priesthood, but kept it from his family.

His father wanted him to enter a career in law and politics. In 1580, Francis attended the University of Paris, and at 24 years-old, he received his doctorate in law at the University of Padua. All the time, he never lost his passion for God. He studied theology and practiced mental prayers, but kept quiet about his devotion. To please his father, he also studied fencing and riding. God made this will clear to Francis one day while he was riding. Francis fell from his horse three times that day. Every time he fell, the sword came out of the scabbard, and every time it came out, the sword and scabbard came to rest on the ground in the shape of the Christian cross. After much discussion and disagreement from his father, Francis was ordained to the priesthood and elected provost of the Diocese of Geneva, in 1593, by the Bishop of Geneva. **Feast Day: January 24**



St Paul is the patron saint of missionaries, evangelists, writers, journalists, authors, public workers, rope and saddle makers, and tent makers. His feast day is on June 29 when he is honoured with Saint Peter, although he is also honoured on other days throughout the year, **January 25, for his conversion**, February 16, for his shipwreck, and November 18 for the dedication of his Basilica. **Feast Day: January 25**



St Angela Merici was an Italian religious educator, who is honoured as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. She founded the Company of St Ursula in 1535 in Brescia, in which women dedicated their lives to the service of the Church through education of girls. While making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 1524, she stopped on the island of Crete, suddenly fell ill and went blind! Determined not to let a small thing like blindness stop her, she insisted she continue with her journey and visited the Holy sites "seeing" them with her mind and heart! On her return trip, she once again stopped at the exact spot where she went blind, and while praying before a crucifix, her eyesight was miraculously restored to her. **Feast Day: January 27**



Sts Timothy and Titus

St. Timothy, born in Galatia in Asia Minor, was baptized and later ordained to the priesthood by St. Paul. The young Galatian became Paul's missionary companion and his most beloved spiritual son.

St. Paul showed his trust in this disciple by consecrating him bishop of the great city of Ephesus. St. Timothy was stoned to death thirty years after St. Paul's martyrdom for having denounced the worship of the goddess Diana.

St. Titus, a convert from paganism, was a fellow labourer of St. Paul on many apostolic missions. St. Paul later made him bishop of Crete, a difficult charge because of the character of the inhabitants and the spread of erroneous doctrines on that island. St. Paul's writings tell us that St. Titus rejoiced to discover what was good in others and drew the hearts of men by his wide and affectionate sympathy. **Feast Day: January 27**

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



Baptism:

This week, we welcome into the Catholic faith:
Harlee Divine Hout



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

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 visiting
<https://www.trybooking.com/CNAHI>

Any questions please call Tamara 0424 166 248



TEEN CREED

Don't let your parents down,
They brought you up.
Be humble enough to obey;
you may give orders someday.
Choose companions with care,
you become what they are.
Guard your thoughts;
what you think, you are.
Choose only a date
who would make a good mate.
Be master of your habits
or they will master you.
Don't be a show-off
when you drive, drive with safety & arrive.
Don't let the crowd pressure you;
stand for something or you'll fall for anything.

Anonymous

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

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

Please place the money in the poor box.

God will provide the friends we need

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 J M Nouwen

MARTINEZ left handed guitar, hardly used. This is available free to someone learning to play.

Contact: the Parish Office, Tuesday to Friday.

Community Care

Do you need help at the moment?

We Can Help!

Do you need help at the moment or know someone else who needs help?

Please let us know.

Contact Leanne at the Parish Office **9823 2572** or via email info@johnthebaptist.org.au or ring Fr Dominic on 0423 420 639

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: Rosalinda Marcelo GANDO, Nada BIRKIC, Remedios BALANSAY, Matthew AZZOPARDI, Gabriella, Alexandra, Charles, Robert and Michael, Peter CASEY, Ed & Rita MALAPITAN, Kathy BOWLING, Alex, Levi ONG, Carmen CARUANA, Fernanda CHUNG, Rivan POULS, 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, 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: Geraldine JANSEN, Joseph & Anna FRANCKIEWIOZ, Basil SALAMANDAR, Consuelo DEL VALLE, Rita Jimenez OLANO, Francis AGIUS, Brendan BLAHA

Anniversary: Gerald TRINIDAD, Michael GRIMA, Sam FENECH

Other: Clifford FERNANDES, Gloria O'BRIEN, Michael GRIMA, Jimmy FENECH, Marion FENECH, Maryanne FENECH, St Anthony, St Jude and 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 - 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: Valerie Buhajiar /
Money Counting: Victoria Baltazar
Men's Group: Branko Poljak

For any inquiries, please call the parish office.

Next Sunday:

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year B)

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I hear God calling me to change..... I find myself resisting this call because.....
- ♦ I find it easy to repent when..... I find it difficult to repent when.....
- ♦ My belief in Jesus strengthens my discipleship by.....

First reading

A reading from the prophet Jonah

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour, and God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Teach me your ways, 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.

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

Teach me your ways, 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.

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Second reading

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

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near:

believe the Good News!

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:14-20

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.



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