



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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Office Hours:
Tues, Wed & Fri - 9.30am to 4:30pm
Thursday - 9:00am to 4:00pm

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang
Bookkeeper: Victoria Baltazar

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER WEEK 2

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday 7:00pm

Thursday - No Mass

*Christm Mass at St Mary's
Cathedral 10:30am*

Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00pm

Friday - 10:00am

Morning Prayer and
Stations of the Cross

3:00pm The Lord's Passion

NEXT SUNDAY

30/31 MARCH

*(Sunday of the Resurrection
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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year B) 23rd & 24th March, 2024

Unite with Christ

Palm Sunday begins our Holy week, the celebration of the Paschal mystery of Christ, the climax of the history of salvation and the greatest of the Christian feasts. Pope John Paul II wrote: *"What God accomplished in Creation and wrought for His people in the Exodus has found its fullest expression in Christ's life, Death and Resurrection, though its definitive fulfilment will not come until the Parousia, when Christ returns in glory"* (Dies Domini, n18).

The Passion reading from the Gospel of Mark deepens our understanding of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. Why did the high priests and the Pharisees plot to get rid of Jesus? Mark makes it clear that these men were motivated by hatred, jealousy and insecurity. They were trying to pose as devout religious men but Jesus exposed them as hypocrites who manipulating their people for their own glory. What they doing were not for God's glory but their own selfishness. At the same time the people were disappointed and later became angry because Jesus did not do what they expected i.e. to free them (by using force) from the domination of the Roman empire and restore Israel back to its past's glory.



With Palm Sunday, we celebrate the beginning of our liberation from sin and death by uniting our lives to Christ crucified. We need to see Him not as a powerful and domineering king, who will show forth power and strength, but He is a gentle and humble king, who is willing to suffer for others. Marks tells us plainly that though Jesus showed himself as Son of God by the wonder of his works, it was through obedience to the Father, dying the death of a criminal that he proved himself as the Son (15:39).

During the Holy week, we recall the events of Christ passing from this world. It is a solemn passage through loneliness, betrayal, injustice and brutal suffering. It is a movement from life to death which then opens to new life. Through this week we are invited to accompany Christ on his final journey, bearing our own crosses, embracing our own loneliness, depression and struggle in faith with complete trust in the healing presence of God.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

613 Christ's death is both the Pascal sacrifice that accomplishes the definitive redemption of men, through 'the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world', and the sacrifice of the new Covenant, which restores man to communion with God by reconciling him to God through the 'blood of the covenant, which was poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins'.



FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year, until the beginning of their 60th year; the law of abstinence (from items made with meat - includes all the Fridays of Lent) binds those who have completed their 14th year (CCL 97, 1251-52).

EASTER VOLUNTEERS

We are in need of Volunteers for Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Altar Servers etc. for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Masses. If you can assist in any way please place your name and contact details on the sign up sheets on the Church noticeboard. Thankyou



CANDLES FOR THE EASER VIGIL will be available for sale next weekend from the Piety Store for \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. The candles can also be used when praying together as a family at home throughout the year.

Behold, I make all things new.
(Rev. 21:5)

A EUCHARISTIC RETREAT DAY
for those involved in Liturgical Ministries

11 May 2024, 10AM - 4PM
St Martha's, Leichhardt





Register using [Trybooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com)
Questions: sydney@op-tn.org

All liturgical ministers are invited, e.g. Ushers, Greeters, Collectors, AV Operators, etc. Liturgical ministers, such as Readers, Acolytes, Cantors and Musicians, Sacristans, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

READERS WORKSHOP St Martha's

38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt

2nd and 9th May 2024

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Ideal for any new readers

Ministries Next Week 30/3' MARCH	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	Readers	will	be	notified
Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCHARIST:	Please	see	Church	Noticeboard



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.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
16th & 17th MARCH



This year, we shared with you the story of three inspiring women from across the globe, who overcame challenges to complete their education, access water and find secure employment. With the support of compassionate people like you, they are now forging a path to a better future for their families and their communities.

Ronita from the Philippines has now graduated high school and secured a job at a call centre. This job was only possible because of a certificate she gained from completing her studies.

Leaia and her family now have a water tank at their home in Samoa. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.

Memory completed her vocational training course in carpentry and joinery. After completing a work contract at one of the largest electrical companies in Malawi, Memory now plans to return to her village and provide carpentry services to people in her community.

It's through the generosity of people like you that we can continue to support people like Ronita, Leaia and Memory.



Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

There is still time to donate! Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Good Friday Collection 2024

The annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land and is also used to maintain 74 Churches and Shrines associated with the life of Jesus.



Your donation on Good Friday will be greatly appreciated.



The Office of Safeguarding has updated the voluntary roles that require a Working With Children Check as follows:

- ◆ Youth Ministers, Workers and Leaders
- ◆ Catechists in State Schools
- ◆ Children's Choir Leaders
- ◆ Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
- ◆ Sacramental Group Leaders
- ◆ Children's Liturgy Leaders
- ◆ Acolytes, Senior Altar Servers

If you volunteer in any of these ministries a WWCC needs to be submitted to the Parish Office before commenting in the role. WWCCs are renewed every 5 years and the updated WCC also needs to be submitted to the Parish Office. Your date of birth and address is also required to allow the parish secretary to verify the WWCC with the Office of Child Protection.

Thank you

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



JORDAN YOUTH GROUP

Years 5, 6 and 7 students are welcome to join the Jordan Youth Group in our Parish commencing **Saturday March 23rd 2024 at 3-5pm in the Parish Hall.** Afternoon Tea will be provided at no cost.

Our aim is to encourage young people within our community to come together to socialise and learn about our Catholic faith. Children will participate in prayer, social activities, games, short films and group discussions. The Jordan Youth Group is run by a group of regular parishioners from our community who hold current Working with Children checks.

To register complete the form at:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CQATW>

Youth Group will be held on:

SATURDAYS		
23rd March	29th June	28th September
20th April	27th July	26th October
25th May	31st August	23rd November
End of Year Jordan Group Celebration - Saturday 14th December		

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

Monday 25th March - No Mass
Tuesday 26th March - 8:00am Mass
Wednesday 27th March - 7:00pm Mass
Holy Thursday 28th March - No morning Mass, Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 10:30am. Everyone is invited to the Mass.
7:00pm Mass of the Lords Supper, Prayers until Midnight
Good Friday 29th March - 10am Morning Prayer and **Stations of the Cross**
3:00pm The Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday 30th March - 9:00am Morning Prayer
Easter Vigil 7:00pm Mass
Easter Sunday 31st March - 8:00am, 10:00am & 5:30pm



JOHN THE BAPTIST OPEN DAY 2024

Enrolments are now open for current year **5 students** for Catholic Secondary Schools for Year 7 2026 and will close in late March.

Catholic School Open Day times are available at <https://sydcatholicsschools.nsw.edu.au/enrolment/visit-a-school>

Start your child's application for Year 7 now at <https://sydcatholicsschools.nsw.edu.au/enrolment/enrol-now>.

Our Catholic Secondary Schools are high-performing and incredibly popular. The vast majority of SCS Secondary Schools will fill all their places for Year 7 2026 in this enrolment period. If you would like your child to attend an SCS Secondary school we recommend applying now.

Enrolments are now also welcome at John the Baptist Catholic Primary School for kindergarten 2025. Please see attached link.

<https://jbonnyrigg.syd.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/enrol-now>



YOUTH MASS

We will be holding a Youth Mass in the parish on Sunday evenings commencing at **5:30pm on Sunday 7th April** for all young people.

Following Mass pizza will be served.

Please bring your friends along.



CHILDRENS LITURGY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Children's Liturgy has begun for 2024 but we are in need of a few more helpers for the 10:00am Mass. If you are able to assist please contact Angela Galdas on 0410 964 196. Thank you

FIRST RECONCILIATION THANK YOU

First Reconciliation on Tuesday night was a great success. Many thanks are extended to all the leaders and volunteers who helped prepare for this special occasion and especially **Tamara Vella** for her organisation and preparation with the candidates.

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.

PIETY STORE – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED SUNDAY MORNINGS

All the Piety Store profits go towards our Community Care Fund. The fund is there to help people and in some cases charities, who are in need. (e.g. Bushfire and Flood relief).

With sufficient interest in this important ministry in our church, we are hoping that you would only be rostered, in pairs, once a month for approx. half an hour before mass and approx. 20 minutes after mass.

If you are interested please leave your name and contact details with the current volunteers in the Piety Store or phone Leanne in the Parish Office on 9823 2572

We look forward to hearing from you, Pauline and Millie.



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

Sick: Wilfred TAMAYO, Rosley, Angel & Andrea, Nada BIRKIC, Matthew AZZOPARDI, Gabriella, Peter CASEY, 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, 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, Gary LOMAS

Recently Deceased: Elizabeth Sabayanon GAMO, Vinh NGUYEN, Wayne PEARN

Anniversary: Tom YATES

Other: Michael GRIMA, Jimmy FENECH, Marion FENECH, Maryanne FENECH, Thanksgiving, St Anthony, St Jude and St Rita & 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 Breaden
Morning Teas: Teresa Vartuli
Jordan Youth Group: Tamara Vella
Housie: Valerie Buhajiar /
Money Counting: Victoria Baltazar
Men's Group: Branko Poljak
Ascension Prayer Group: Susan D'Cruz
For any inquiries, please call the parish office.

Next Sunday:

Sunday of the Resurrection - (Year B)

First Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47

Reflection Questions

- ♦ My response when the cross of Jesus visits one of my loved ones is..... Abandoned like the disciples...assist like Simon the Cyrenian...mock like passers-by...suffer with the like of the women at the foot of the cross.....
- ♦ The circumstances in my life that bring me to declare "Truly this is the Son of God!" are.....
- ♦ The steps I need to take in my everyday life in order to enter deeply into the mystery I celebrate this Holy Week are.....

First reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The Lord has given me
a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.'

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet
I can count every one of my bones.

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me!

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second reading

Philippians 2: 6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

His state was divine,
yet Christ Jesus 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

Philippians 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death,
dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

Mark 14:1-15:47

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

[Please see overheads for the Gospel reading](#)

It was two days before the Passover and the feast of Unleavened Bread, and the chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by some trick and have him put to death. For they said,

It was now evening, and since it was Preparation Day (that is, the vigil of the sabbath), there came Joseph of Arimathaea, a prominent member of the Council, who himself lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God, and he boldly went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate, astonished that he should have died so soon, summoned the centurion and enquired if he was already dead. Having been assured of this by the centurion, he granted the corpse to Joseph who bought a shroud, took Jesus down from the cross, wrapped him in the shroud and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb. Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Joset were watching and took note of where he was laid.



The Gospel of the Lord.

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