



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

Monday - No Mass
Tuesday - 8:00am
Wednesday 7:00pm
Thursday - 9:00am
Friday - 9:00am
Saturday - 9:00am

NEXT SUNDAY 6/7 APRIL

*(Second Sunday of Easter
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

Sunday of the Resurrection (Year B) 30th & 31st March, 2024

From Acceptance to Transcendence

Elena Frings, a young woman in her 20s, was informed by her doctor that her heart was so weak that she had only six months to live. She decided to leave her office job in Santiago, Chile, and work as a volunteer community organizer among the city's slum-dwellers. "That way I will die happy," she said to a friend. Ms Frings worked so effectively that she was invited to New York to give talks about the programme. There, she met a surgeon who successfully operated on her defective heart. Elena Frings is now back in South America, helping the poor who live on the margins of society. It was her expectation of death-not the operation that gave new meaning and direction to her life.

If you were given six months to live, what effect would the news have on your life? The way each of us responds to that question is actually our answer to the question, "What is death?" Is it the end or is it a transformation of life?

In the Passion of the Christ we see Jesus faced the horrible suffering and death freely and willingly. "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it." In accepting the will of his Heavenly Father, Jesus was able eventually to transcend the limits of his humanity and rise from the dead to a new life.

In the post resurrection Gospel stories we see Mary Magdalene and the disciples caught up in their sense of grief and failure. Because they want the facts of the case to be other than what they actually are, they cannot recognise the resurrected Jesus. Mary can only assume that the body has been stolen and that the man she meets outside the tomb is the gardener. Whereas, "the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed." He accepted the reality of the historical Jesus, and that his former type of relationship with Jesus is dead then he can accept the risen Lord and the new form of relationship with Him.

Easter is about new life that is about acknowledging the reality of the ordinary patterns of our lives with a transcendent outlook, with the hope and joy of resurrection. Let us pray that we will be able to live our life with an open heart and mind to the will of God so that we can recognise the wonder and beauty in us and in others.

There will be Blessed Water available in small containers at the Baptismal font. You are welcome to take **one** for your family to bless your home and family members.

Home Blessing prayer is used with candles in a glass jar can be lit before a meal or family prayers.





On behalf of the Community Care Group, we would like to sincerely thank you for your contribution to the Jesse Tree - \$2,860 was raised. The money raised will go towards assisting families in our parish who are facing hardship. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Fr Dominic & Community Care Group.

YOUTH MASS

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

Following Mass pizza will be served.

Please bring your friends along.



EASTER SUNDAY 31ST MARCH



Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations.**

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2024 Lenten appeal.



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.

A huge thank you to Nina, the Youth, students from Freeman Catholic College who prayerfully led our Parish Community through an emotional and moving Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. More photos can be seen on our website and facebook page



Have you just retired or have been retired for a while?

Then join us!

Thursday 18th April 2024

For a morning tea after 9am mass or at 9.45am at the church. It will be a chance to meet people from our parish and an opportunity to discuss how our parish can assist you and involve you in our parish. Any questions or enquires please call Josie 0407 203 593.



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.

Ministries Next Week 6/7 APRIL	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	G Turnbull M Camilleri	J Finucane L Agoos	J Mataele E Villegas	V Arbanas R Capolupo
Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCHARIST:	F Bushby T Oraha M Camilleri	L Barilla F Foti A Liberatore	V Buhajjar M Aulsebrook S D'Cruz G Dunn	S Cook G Vanderwert

NEW MEN IN CHRIST

To become new men means losing what we are now call “ourselves”. Out of ourselves, into Christ, we must go. His will is to become ours and we are to think His thoughts, to “have the mind of Christ” as the Bible says. And if Christ is one, and if He is thus to be “in” us all, shall we not be exactly the same? It certainly sounds like it; but in fact it is not so...

Suppose a person who knew nothing about salt. You give him a pinch to taste and he experiences a particular strong, sharp taste. You then tell him that in your country people use salt in all their cookery. Might he not reply, “In that case I suppose all your dishes taste exactly same: because the taste of that stuff you have just given me is so strong that it kill the taste of everything else. “But you and I know that the real effect of salt is exactly opposite. So far from killing the taste of the egg and the tripe and the cabbage, it actually brings it out...

It is something us. The more we “ourselves” out of us over, the more There is so much millions of “little still be too few to



made them all. He invented - as an author invents characters in a novel - all the different men that you and I were intended to be. In that sense our real selves are all waiting for us in Him... It is when I turn to Christ, when I give myself up to His Personality, that I first begin to have a real personality of my own...

But there must be a real giving up of the self. You must throw it away “blindly” so to speak. Christ will indeed give you a real personality: but you must not go to Him for the sake of that. As long as your own personality is what you are bothering about you are not going to Him at all. The very first step is to try to forget about the self altogether. The real, new self (which is Christ’s and also yours, and yours just because it is His) will not come as long as you are looking for it. It will come when you are looking for Him. Does that sound strange? The same principle holds, you know, for more everyday matters. Even in social life, you will never make a good impression on other people until you stop thinking about what sort of impression you are making. Even in literature and art, no man who bothers about originality will ever be original: whereas if you simply try to tell the truth (without caring tuppence how often it has been told before) you will, nine times out of ten, become original without ever having noticed it. The principle runs through all life from top to bottom. Give up your self, and you will find your real self. Lose your life and you will save it. Submit to death, death of your ambitions and favourite wishes every day and death of your whole body in the end: submit with every fibre of your being, and you will find eternal life. Keep back nothing. Nothing in you that has not died will ever be raised from the dead. Look for yourself, and you will find in the long run only hatred, loneliness, despair, rage, ruin and decay. But look for Christ and you will find Him, and with Him everything else thrown in.

Mere Christianity Book IV Chapter 11 C.S LEWIS

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.

RCIA: Welcome those who have completed the RCIA program and are being received into the Catholic faith this weekend;

Jordan Christian Taranto, Joshua Luke Naughton Saunders, Carla Giuliani-Bruno, Benjamas Mary Hannarong, Linda Rita Walandow, Jayden Vong, Thi Kim Lien Cap, Ryan Ambrose Pham, and fully Catholic Carmelo Sebastian Petrulla and Vincenzo Joseph Petrulla. May they always feel the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout their life.



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 MIZZU, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO, Gary LOMAS

Recently Deceased: Deun HANNARONG, Elizabeth Sabayanon GAMO, Vinh NGUYEN,

Anniversary: Charles ELLUL, Victor CASSAR, Mark CAVALLARO

Other: Paul Xeng SAYAVONGSA, Mary TIAN, Kenneth JIANG, 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:

Second Sunday of Easter - (Year B)

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I experience the contradictions of the gospel most acutely when.....
- ♦ I experience the joy of Christ's risen life most surely when.....
- ♦ I experience the unity of paschal mystery dying and rising most clearly when.....

First reading

Acts 10:34, 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second reading

Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:1-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.



The Gospel of the Lord.

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