



# 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

**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:**  
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 2

Monday - No Mass  
*The Annunciation of the Lord*  
Tuesday - No Mass  
Wednesday 7:00pm  
Communion Service  
Thursday - No Mass  
*St Stanislaus*  
Friday - 9:00am  
Saturday - 9:00am

## NEXT SUNDAY

13/14 APRIL

(Third 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

## Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) (Year B) 6th & 7th April, 2024

# "Blessed are those who have not seen but believe."

The interviewer asked Joseph of Arimathea, "Now the grave you lent is yours again. What are you planning to do with it?" Joseph took a long look at him, and then confided, "When I heard that He had risen, naturally I raced to the tomb. He was not there. He had given my tomb back to me. So what I did after that was: I placed a comfortable bench under the trees just opposite the opening of the tomb. In the evening, as the sun is going down, I go and sit there and I think to myself, 'Jesus of Nazareth has slept in this tomb, and what will God do with him?' Jesus had said, "I live and you shall live." I believe in those words.

In today's Gospel we read about the other disciples who have seen the Lord and are convinced but Thomas cannot accept that Jesus who died is now alive. He is caught between fidelity to his inner sense of truth - he who has died cannot be alive - and his tendency to conform and accept the words of others. His sense of inner integrity demands that he does not give just for the sake of peace, yet he does not protest just for the sake of controversy. He knew that Jesus was crucified, and now his friends say that Jesus had visited them. It just did not fit.



Jesus appears to Thomas. During his lifetime Jesus had consistently refused to authenticate himself by marvellous doings, turning stones into bread, taking over power, jumping from the top of the temple, coming down from the cross. But now the risen Jesus volunteers to authenticate himself by showing his wounds. And Thomas is convinced. He is set free to accept the paradox. He says, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus responds, "Blessed are those who have not seen but believe."

We all have a desire to experience the extraordinary; miracles and dancing sun, statues shedding oil or blood but Jesus is often found in the ordinary. Faith is ultimately in the graceful acceptance of paradox. Let us pray that our faith in the resurrection will help us to accept joyfully of what is apparently contradictory i.e. love instead of hatred; hope instead of despair, light instead of darkness.

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

644 Even when faced with the reality of the risen Jesus the disciples are still doubtful... St Matthew relates that during the risen Lord's last appearance in Galilee 'some doubted.' Therefore the hypothesis that the resurrection was produced by the apostles' faith (or credulity) will not hold up. On the contrary their faith in the resurrection was born, under the action of divine grace, from their direct experience of the reality of the risen Jesus.

*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: [sydneyeop-tn.org](mailto:sydneyeop-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 13/14 APRIL	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	J Victorino L Krslovic	S Hely T Simpson	J Tekiko M Hourmozi	J Lentini A Vanderwert
<b>Extraordinary MINISTERS EUCHARIST:</b>	B Empeigne N La Rosa T Jameson	D Sullivan Delicia Vella D Triganza	J Habib S Hambrook R Hibbs N Laureti	R Imbert C Vella



**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



**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.



THANK YOU



Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2024. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) and donate online.

**Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.**

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](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Divine Mercy Sunday (also known as the Feast of the Divine Mercy) is celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter, which concludes the Octave of Easter. The feast day is observed by Roman Catholics as well as some Anglicans.[1] It is originally based on the Catholic devotion to the Divine Mercy that Sister Faustina Kowalska reported as part of her encounter with Jesus, and is associated with special promises from Jesus and indulgences issued by the Catholic Church.

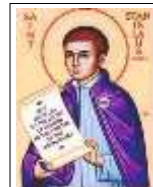
The feast of Divine Mercy, according to the diary of Sr Kowalska, receives from Jesus the biggest promises of grace related to the Devotion of Divine Mercy, in particular that a person who goes to sacramental confession (the confession may take place some days before) and receives holy communion on that day, shall obtain the total expiation of all sins and punishment. That means each person would go immediately after death to heaven without suffering in purgatory. Additionally, the Roman Catholic Church grants a plenary indulgence (observing the usual rules) with the recitation of some simple prayers. *From Google source.*

**Feasts of the Week**



**The Annunciation of the Lord**

The Annunciation is a day of celebration for Christians throughout the world. Many religious including the Catholic Church, the Lutheran Church, the Greek Orthodox religion, and others hold the Annunciation as a very important day of religious life. The day commemorates the visit of the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he informed her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is celebrated on 25 March each year. In the Roman Catholic Church, when 25 March falls during the Paschal Triduum, it is transferred, even if it falls on Pascha (Easter). The concurrence of these two feasts is called Kyriopascha. **Feast Day: March 25**



**St Stanislaus**

Stanislaus was born of noble parents on July 26th at Szczepanow near Cracow, Poland. He was educated at Gnesen and was ordained there. He was given a canonry by Bishop Lampert Zula of Cracow, who made him his preacher, and soon he became noted for his preaching. He became a much sought after spiritual adviser. He was successful in his reforming efforts, and in 1072 was named Bishop of Cracow. He incurred the enmity of King Boleslaus the Bold when he denounced the King's cruelties and injustices and especially his kidnapping of the beautiful wife of a nobleman. When Stanislaus excommunicated the King and stopped services at the Cathedral when Boleslaus entered, Boleslaus himself killed Stanislaus while the Bishop was saying Mass in a chapel outside the city on April 11. Stanislaus has long been the symbol of Polish nationhood. He was canonized by Pope Innocent IV in 1253 and is the principle patron of Cracow. **Feast day: April 11**



**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:

*Valentina Kristan, Ilaria Romeo,  
Zahara Georges and Hazel Nguyen*



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



**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:

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



**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.



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.

**Attention Parishioners**

The will be **NO morning Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** this week

**Wednesday evening** will be **Communion Service** not a Mass at 7pm.

St. John the Baptist Parish Hall  
45 Mount St, Bonnyrigg Heights

Thursday  
11 APRIL

7.15 PM - 9.15 PM

**CHRIST'S RESURRECTION & OUR'S**

Guest speaker: Abraham George

PRaise & WORSHIP · WORD OF GOD · PRAYER MINISTRY

**You are invited**

ASCENSION PRAYER COMMUNITY

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH  
45 MOUNT ST, BONNYRIGG HEIGHTS

FOR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:  
SUSAN O'NEILL 0410 942 677  
TRISH SIMPSON 0414 660 130

**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.

**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.



**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.

**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 Fr Dominic or the office know.**

*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: Romualdo UYANGUREN, John ZAMMIT, Deun HANNARONG, Elizabeth Sabayanon GAMO, Vinh NGUYEN

Anniversary: Edgardo NAVARRO

Other: David FENECH, Ghazwan KOREAL, Gazala KOREAL, Hazem KOREAL, Mansour HANNA, Jehad HANNA, Gardani HANNA, Sara HANNA, Margo HANNA, Varto HANNA, Hezni HANNA, Goro KHAMMO, Hani KHAMMO, Ashraf, Samah, Michael GRIMA, Jimmy FENECH, Marion FENECH, Maryanne FENECH, 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:

### Third Sunday of Easter - (Year B)

First Reading: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

Second Reading: 1 John 2:1-5

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I struggle, like Thomas, with belief when..... I experience Jesus coming to me and strengthening my belief when.....
- ♦ Jesus incarnates peace for me when.....
- ♦ Jesus forgives me..... I forgive others.....

## First reading

Acts 4:32-35

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24

### Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love has no end.'

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

## Second reading

1 John 5:1-6

### A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ  
has been begotten by God;  
and whoever loves the Father that begot him  
loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children  
if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;  
this is what loving God is –  
keeping his commandments;  
and his commandments are not difficult,  
because anyone who has been begotten by God  
has already overcome the world;  
this is the victory over the world –  
our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God:  
Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,

not with water only,  
but with water and blood;  
with the Spirit as another witness –  
since the Spirit is the truth.

### The word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

John 20:19-31

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

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see  
me.

Happy are those who have not  
seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

### The Gospel of the Lord.



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