



St. John the Baptist Catholic

Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights



(incorporating Bonnyrigg Heights, Green Valley, Edensor Park, Abbotsbury, Cecil Hills & Elizabeth Hills)

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Dominic Dinh

Email: pp@johnthebaptist.org.au
Emergency: 0423 420 639

Assistant: Rev Fr Richard Ddumba

Email: dumbrich@live.com

Deacon: Rev Mervyn Francis

Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Parish Pastoral Centre:

45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

Office: 9823 2572 Fax: 9822 9954

Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Website: www.johnthebaptist.org.au

Office Hours: Tue- Fri 9.00am to 4pm

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 2

Monday - 8am

Tuesday - 8am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

*St Peter Damian, bishop,
doctor*

Friday - 9:10am

The Chair of St Peter, apostle

Saturday - 9:10am

St Polycarp, bishop, martyr

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY 23/24

FEBRUARY

*(Seventh Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year C)*

Saturday Vigil Mass:

5:30pm

Sunday Masses:

8:00am, 10:00am and

5:30pm

4th Sunday of the Month:

5:30pm Mass in Tagalog

1st Friday of the Month:

7:00pm Mass in
Vietnamese

1st Saturday of the Month

Fatima Devotions 7.45am
Adoration/Benediction
8.30am

Reconciliations:

Saturdays – 4:15–5:00pm

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office
or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

16th & 17th February, 2019

LET GOD RESPOND TO OUR NEEDS

A multi-millionaire died after a massive heart attack, during his extravagant funeral service a question was asked: "How much did he leave behind?" "Everything!" "And look at his hands, both are emptied, he brings with him nothing." A man is murmuring to himself.

In the Gospels we generally have a biased balance. We have parables that urge us to provide for the future, to plant and to reap, and to use the talents that we have been given. This weekend we are told in the Beatitudes of Saint Luke "How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God." Another translation says, "Blessed are those who know their need for God." Blessed means deep-down peaceful and contented. Being blessed may not mean we have everything we want, but we are contented, joyous and grateful for our life. If we are blessed, everything in our life contributes to our love of life and of God. This first of the Beatitudes is very much disputed if we treasure the material world rather than the spiritual qualities. What Jesus meant by this kind of poverty is not always easy for us to grasp. The reason for the difficulty, however, lies not in our intelligence or in the cleverness of our scholarship. The difficult lies in our pride.

What does it mean then to be poor? We are poor when we know that we do not have enough. When we turn inward we know that of ourselves we aren't enough. We know that we are in need. What do we need? Money? Look at rich people, do they need money? Why do they still want more? We need more than just material things! We need love and relationship. we need sharing and giving. We need guidance. We need harmony and peace. We need a sense of direction and inner growth. We know we need these things. We are willing to see our needs imply change. That can make us uneasy because of our pride. But if we turn and trust in God who will fulfil and respond to our needs then God's reign is established in our living. 'The Sermon on the Mount' is the fundamental teaching of Jesus about life as it is possible to us.

Let us pray that we will be eager in exchanging our pride for open-handed dependency, so that God can direct our everyday living with peace, guidance, loving security and all the rest.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church

1723 The beatitude we are promised confronts us with decisive moral choices. It invites us to purify our hearts of bad instincts and to seek the love of God above all else. It teaches us that true happiness is not found in riches or well-being, in human fame or power, or in any human achievement - however beneficial it may be - such as science, technology or art, or indeed in any creature, but in God alone, the source of every good and of all love.

Bible Trivia

1. What event does the Jewish Passover recall and celebrate?
2. Which three gospels imply that the Last Supper of Jesus was a Passover Meal?



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



Sick: Janelle CLIFTON, Isabelle CROUCHE, Giuseppina LETTIERI, Peter ANDERSON, Inez BUGEJA, Claudio Da SILVA, Bozana VUKOV, Diana VUKOV, Judy VELLA, Giuse, Giuseppe PIGNATARO, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Nancy VARTULI, Jessie ZAMMIT

Recently Deceased: Dale HARRIS, Ronald William FENTON, Charlie SALIBA, Manuela REGO, Merita AGUDO

Death Anniversary: Anthony CAMILLERI, Daniel MICALI

Other: Pacifico and Spiranza CAMILLERI, Daniel VELLA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy and Maryann FENECH, Special Intention

Saints of the Week



St Peter Damian

Peter was born in Italy in 1007. When his parents died, he went to live with one of his older brothers, who treated him cruelly. Sometimes Peter was forbidden to eat any of his brother's food. Another brother helped solve the problem by giving Peter money so that he could afford to go away to school.

Peter did so well in school that he became a professor when he was only 25. After the school day was finished, Peter often invited students and poor people to his home for dinners that he served himself. He remembered what it felt like to be hungry.

Peter became a priest and then a Benedictine monk. He spent his days in prayer and study. After a short time Peter was elected abbot, or superior, of the community. Although this new responsibility took Peter away from his quiet life, he was an excellent leader. So many men were attracted to religious life because of his example that he established five new monasteries. Peter was ordained the bishop of Ostia, a diocese near Rome. As bishop, Peter worked to solve problems in his diocese and to remind his priests of their mission.

Pope Stephen X recognized Peter's gifts and asked him to represent the Church in settling disputes and helping to stop practices that were preventing the Church from doing Christ's work in the world. Peter was so skilled as a peacemaker and reformer that he advised seven popes and travelled to many places representing the Holy Father. He worked with priests, bishops, kings, and emperors—all to serve Jesus.

As a monk, a bishop, and a saint, Peter Damian lived one of the Benedictine Rules completely: "Do not prefer anything to the love of Christ." He died in 1072 and is considered to be a Doctor of the Church. St. Peter Damian helps us to remember that if we put Jesus first in our lives, the Lord will always guide us in living as his faithful disciples.

Feast day: February 21

PARISH WORKING BEE: Thank you to everyone who attended our Church working Bee.

CATECHIST NEWS

Catechist Meeting Tuesday 19th February

A catechist meeting has been organised for all catechists and helpers for **Tuesday 19th February** in the **Church at 7pm**. Please all try to attend, if unable to attend, please let your coordinator know. Blessings to all as we begin to start a new year.

6 Catechists + many helpers needed to cover all classes this year

Due to work and family commitments and some catechists teaching 2 or 3 classes we need **6 catechists to cover all classes in 2019**.

Cecil Hills Primary, Wednesdays 9:20am to 9:50am, Year 3 and Year 6

Edensor Park Primary, Wednesdays 9:00am to 9:30am, Kindy and Year 4

What is involved? You are invited by the Church to share our faith with over **1100** children in our **6 public schools** who receive **30 minutes of Scripture** each week during the school term. Classes are on Tuesday mornings, Wednesday mornings and afternoons and Friday mornings.

If you would like more information about the mission of a Catechist or Helper, please contact Nina Laureti on 0408465149 or speak to Fr Dominic or Fr Richard or contact the Parish Office on 98232572.

NSW Special Religious Education Teacher Training for Parish Catechists and Helpers

Monday 11 February

6:30pm to 9:30pm - JB Meeting Room

1.1 Training - Safeguarding and Role of the SRE Catechist (mandatory for all new catechists/helpers)

Monday 18 February

6:30pm to 9:30pm - JB Meeting Room

1.2 - Using the authorised curriculum

Monday 25 February

6:30pm to 9:30pm - JB Meeting Room

1.3 - Classroom Management

To book courses, please contact the CCD Office 9307 8330 or email office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au



The Chair of St Peter

The actual chair of Peter in Rome, the wooden throne at St. Peter's Basilica, was given to Pope John VIII by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles the Bald in the year 875. It was enclosed in bronze by the artist GianLorenzo Bernini in 1647. This feast day also commemorates the primatial authority of St. Peter.

Feast day: February 22



St Polycarp

Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, disciple of Saint John the Apostle and friend of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, was a revered Christian leader during the first half of the second century.

Saint Ignatius, on his way to Rome to be martyred, visited Polycarp at Smyrna, and later at Troas wrote him a personal letter. The Asia Minor Churches recognized Polycarp's leadership by choosing him as a representative to discuss with Pope Anicetus the date of the Easter celebration in Rome—a major controversy in the early Church.

His *Letter to the Philippians* was a significant foundation of early Christian literature, establishing the role of Apostle Paul and referencing the existence of other texts of the Bible's New Testament. Only one of the many letters written by Polycarp has been preserved, the one he wrote to the Church of Philippi in Macedonia.

Polycarp's dedication to religion ultimately led to his death. He was arrested and killed at the age of 86 by the Romans for refusing to abandon Christianity. He was led into the crowded Smyrna stadium to be burned alive. The flames did not harm him and he was finally killed by a dagger. The centurion ordered the saint's body burned. The "Acts" of Polycarp's martyrdom are the earliest preserved, fully reliable account of a Christian martyr's death. He died in 155.



LOST after 8pm Christmas Eve Mass black shopping bag (with red love hearts on the front) containing cables and four microphones in cases belonging to the Tongan Choir. If found please contact the Parish Office on 9823 2572.

PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION



Baptisms - If you wish to Baptise your child here in the Parish you will need to attend **10:00am Mass on Sunday 3rd March**. Following Mass Fr Dominic, Fr Richard and Deacon Mervyn will meet with you in the Parish Hall.



We congratulate the families of Gabriella HALWAGY and Alexander AL HADDAD who will be baptised here this Sunday 17th February.



CHANGES TO MORNING MASSES AT JOHN THE BAPTIST

Monday and Tuesday Mornings at 8:00am starting 4th February

Wednesday Evening 7:00pm

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Mornings 9:10am

The weekend Masses will remain the same.



MEMORIAL BOOK: Parishioners are invited place their loved ones names in the permanent Memorial Book which will be left in the Church for the whole year.

Please call or email the Parish Office with their names and date of their death so that we can add them to the Book. Thank you

'Of Life and Love' Marriage Preparation Course: The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is offering marriage preparation courses for engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Each course will be held over 3 consecutive Wednesdays. 2019 dates include: March 13, 20, 27 and October 16, 23, 30. To book online visit <https://www.trybooking.com/ZWSU> or please contact LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org

MARCH RETREATS AT MT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE

Please see Church noticeboard for more information.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Fr Dominic would like to hold on the **First Sunday of each Month** a supper after the 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass and a morning tea after the 8:00am Sunday Mass. If you are able to assist please contact Teresa Vartuli on 0413 835 250.

Ministries Next Week 23/24 FEB	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	M Abdal J Victorino	I O'Connor J Poljak	G Zangari M Zangari	A Bento R Capolupo
EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTER	L Topic T Micali A Gorio B Empeigne A Vlahadamis D Vella	L Barilla R Morellini M Jebrail Delicia Vella A Liberatore	G Dunn N Dubuisson S D'Cruz T Vartuli S Hambrook H Fenech	
CHURCH COUNTER	F Aloe	J Coiera		
CLEANERS: CHURCH				
ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER	25/02/2019 M De Luca	4/03/2019 C Monteleone	11/03/2019 J Sultana	18/03/2019
10AM MORNING TEAS	24/02/2019 Group 4	3/03/2019 Group 1	10/03/2019 Group 2	17/03/2019 Group 3

Upcoming Parish Activities Save the date!

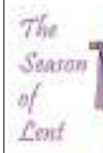


FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Do you have a child older than Year 4 who is needing to make the First Holy Communion? If so please contact Tamara Vella on 0424 166 248 or Kylie Farias on 0473 779 338.



OLD PALMS: We are asking parishioners to bring their old palms from the previous year, so that they can be burnt on Shrove Tuesday, to use as ashes on Ash Wednesday. Please leave your palms at the back of the Church. Thank you



LENTEN GROUPS

If any Parishioners are interested in leading a Lenten Group or you wish to join a Lenten group please contact the parish office on 9823 2572 so that we can order the appropriate Lenten Resources Thank you



YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES

Youth gatherings for young adults are held at John the

Baptist Parish on Friday nights fortnightly at 7.30pm for an hour. Next gathering: 1st March

We gather to pray, socialize and to support each other.

During LENT, we shall have weekly gatherings for a special youth Lenten program on Fridays at 7.30pm (after the Stations of the Cross). Beginning on Friday, 8th March

We hope you can join us. Bring a friend along!



CHILDREN'S LITURGY HELPERS URGENTLY NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers to help with Children's Liturgy at the 10:00am Mass once a month. If you are able to help please contact Angela Galdas on 9606 8403 or 0410 964 196. Thank you

MEN'S WEEKEND: All Saints Catholic Senior College, Casula, Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th March. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/menalive-liverpool-registration-55619636831>. See noticeboard for more.

The Bishop's Blend: Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals and learn how to live your faith in the workplace? The join the Most Reverend Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on **Monday, 11 March 2019 at 7:00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney** for the Bishop's Blend, a quarterly breakfast series for young professionals. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <https://thebishopsblendseventhedition.eventbrite.com.au> or contact us at bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

Communion Antiphon: *Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

Next Sunday:

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year C)

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Jesus is the source of blessedness for me when..... through.....
- ♦ The manner of life to which the Beatitudes call me is..... Those who model this for me are.....
- ♦ My manner of life reveals the presence of God's kingdom when.....

First reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,
who relies on things of flesh,
whose heart turns from the Lord.
He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:
if good comes, he has no eyes for it,
he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,
a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,
with the Lord for his hope.

He is like a tree by the waterside
that thrusts its roots to the stream:
when the heat comes it feels no alarm,
its foliage stays green;
it has no worries in a year of drought,
and never ceases to bear fruit.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind.
for the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

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

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached,
how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection
of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not
been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in

Jeremiah 6:1-8

your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 6:17, 20-26

A reading from the Holy Gospel according Luke

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

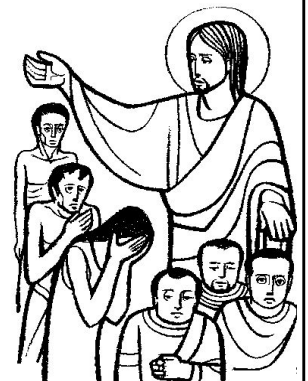
'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Trivia Answers

1. It recalls the Exodus, the Pasch and it celebrates the deliverance of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt.

2. The synoptic gospels Matthew, Mark and Luke present the Last Supper that Jesus Christ shared with his disciples as a Passover meal.



Copyright © 1996-2015 Universalis Publishing Limited: see www.universalis.com. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible are published and copyright © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). Used with permission of A.P. Watt Ltd. All rights reserved.