



John the Baptist Catholic Parish

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: curate@johnthebaptist.org.au
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Parish Pastoral Centre:

45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

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: Yvonne Smolinski

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER WEEK 4

Monday - 8:00am

Tuesday - 8:00am

The Presentation of the Lord

Wednesday - 7:00pm

St Blaise, bishop, martyr

St Ansgar, bishop

Thursday - 9:00am

Friday - 9:00am

St Agatha, virgin, martyr

Saturday - 9:00am

St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs

NEXT SUNDAY

6/7 FEBRUARY

(5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B)

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

Fatima First Saturday

Communion of

Reparation 7.45am

Adoration/Benediction

8.30am

Reconciliations:

Saturdays – 4:15 – 5:00pm

Sunday – 5:00 – 5:15pm

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office

or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639

or Fr Richard 0451 910 634

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
30th & 31st January, 2021

Choose words wisely

Suffering from a bad case of the flu, the outraged patient yelled, "Two weeks??? The doctor can't see me for three weeks? I could well be dead by then." Calmly the voice at the other end of the line replied, "If so, would you have your wife call to cancel the appointment."

We often use words to teach, to convince, to console, to heal and to encourage or we can use words to deceive, to fight etc. In today's Gospel we see the very first miracle recorded by Mark, Jesus is interrupted while teaching in the synagogue by the shouts of a possessed man, a man who is controlled by an evil power. "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?" Jesus' words command the power that dominates the man's life to leave him alone." At once the man becomes freed by the authority of Jesus' words. "And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant." During election periods, we always listen well to the candidates for president or prime minister, whose words give people some hope for a better economy, better services etc. It is good for us to think about what we can do within our community, our family, for our neighbours and our children, by the use of our words.

God's word is indefinitely more powerful than anything human beings can ever conceive of. God speaks and the world comes into being. His word creates life. Likewise Jesus' word draws people to faith. It heals people of their sickness and drives away the demons. It forgives and gives life.

Let us pray that we may always use our words wisely, so that what we say would bring about better results.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

888 Bishops, with priests as co-workers, have as their task 'to preach the gospel of God to all men', in keeping with the Lord's command. They are 'heralds of faith, who draw new disciples to Christ; they are authentic teachers' of the apostolic faith 'endowed with the authority of Christ'.

Forget issues of the past. Don't remind your partner with His/her mistakes of the past. That will ruin your present happiness.

We pray

That conflicts everywhere may be resolved by peaceful means.

For peace in our homes and communities.

For peacemakers that their work may bear fruit.

Trivia quiz (answers in this bulletin)

1. What is prayer?
2. Can you list three types of prayer?
3. In which century was the rosary first said?

Fr Dominic

NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Places of worship are now allowed to have one person per the 4m² with no maximum cap.
Up to 300 people can attend funerals and weddings, providing a 4m² rule is observed.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Masks are compulsory in most indoor settings including churches.**
- **Parishioners who wish to attend Masses are required to provide their contact details as they enter the Church. Registration forms are available on tables at the entrance of the Church.**
- **You could also use the QR Code option to register before entering the Church.**

Faith Matters

Sacraments of Service (Part 2 - The Sacrament of Matrimony)

There are two sacraments that are dedicated to serving others: Holy Orders and Matrimony. In the sacrament of Matrimony, a man and a woman get married in the Church and grow together in love.

Many people get married. So, what is the difference between marriage and the Sacrament of Matrimony? When people get married, they sign a legal contract. In the eyes of the law, they form marital union that has certain rights and protections.

People who get married in the Church also sign this legal contract. But they do something more. They make promises to each other that forms a life-long relationship between the couple and God. God gives the couple extra help (called "grace") to love each other the way God loves them. With this grace, the couple can sacrifice for each other and for their family. As the love of the couple grows, their love of God, their children, and other people grows.

The Sacrament of Matrimony is a public event. The Sacrament tells everyone in the community what sort of relationship the couple wants to have. So, the sacrament should be celebrated in a church building, before a priest or deacon who acts as the Church's witness, and before a best man and a maid of honour who act as witnesses of the community.



Tap Donation Device

There are two Tap Donation Devices at the Entrance of the church for people who want to use Credit Card or Phone App. Each time you tap, you donate \$10 to our parish. You can tap as many times as you wish but please give the machine 5 seconds to reset. Your donations are very much appreciated.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Parts of the Mass

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



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



We congratulate the family of Oliver HILL who will be baptised here this weekend.

RECONCILIATION ENROLMENT 2021 (YEAR 4 CHILDREN)

If parents would like to enrol their child in our Reconciliation Sacrament program please complete the enrolment form at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BMZXM>

Lessons will begin in the week commencing 22 February 2021.

To enrol your child must have received the sacrament of Baptism and be in year 4 or above in 2021. Another program will be held in Term 3 for children in year 3 in 2021.

If you have any questions regarding the Reconciliation or Communion program please call Tamara on 0424 166 248 or Kylie on 0473 779 338.

RCIA: The RCIA sessions will continue on **Thursday 4th February at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.**

YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD OR TOO YOUNG TO SHARE YOUR FAITH.

On Feb 6 and 7 we will celebrate **Catechist Sunday** at all Masses. This is the weekend we will acknowledge our 60 catechist/ helpers who teach over 1100 primary school students in **6 of our local public schools**. We recognise their response to their baptismal call to evangelise, their generosity in volunteering, their commitment to half hour teaching every week and their love for the children in a mission which is often unseen and unrecognized yet crucial and rewarding.

To fill all our classes we are in need of 6 Catechists at :
Bonnyrigg Heights Primary, Wednesdays, 12 to 12.30 - **Year 1**
Cecil Hills Primary, Wednesdays, 8.50 -9.20 **Year 2**, 9.20 to 10.00 **Year 6**

GPK Edensor Park, Tuesdays, 9am **Kindy** and **Year 1**, 9.30 am **Year 4**

Other classes are on at:
 Green Valley Primary, Wednesdays 2.00 to 2.30 pm
 Busby West Primary, Fridays 9.10 to 10.15 2 sessions

Any new Catechist /Helpers will need to do a compulsory Safeguarding Course before you enter the classroom – this can be done via Zoom or face to face at St Joseph’s, Moorebank on Monday 15th February. Please see poster in alcove for details.

Do something of eternal significance- be a Catechist or helper! We invite you to join this mission and our wonderful JB Team .

Any enquiries please contact: Nina Laureti 0408465149
 Vicki Scutella 0447 310 204 or Connie Dif 0413694007

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



Sick: Enrique RAMOS, Julia CEFAL, Jacinto De SOUSA,
 John Da RIN, Raelene GARCIA, Melda MIZZI,
 Gabriel STORNELLI, Janelle CLIFTON, Rita SHAH,
 Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Gary LOMAS,
 Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

Recently Deceased: Corazon DUMAGUING, Paul SCIRIHA,
 Fr Stephen Barry SWIFT, Fr Isidore ANANTHARAJ,
 Toni ABOUD, Archbishop Philip WILSON, Lourdes APO,
 Michael COFFEY OAM, Atilio FABIANO, Carmen MUSCAT

Other: Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and
 Maryann FENECH, Clifford FERNANDES, Gloria O’BIEN,
 Thanksgiving St Anthony and St Jude



OLD PALMS

It is time to prepare for Ash Wednesday on 17th February. We are asking parishioners to bring in their old palms from last year to the church by Sunday 14th February so that they can be burned on Shrove Tuesday to use as ashes. Please leave them in the baskets at the back of the Church. Thank you

LENTEN PROGRAM

If anyone is interested in joining the Lenten program please see Fr Dominic or Fr Richard or contact the parish office. You are also welcome to put your name down on the sign up sheet on the noticeboard.

Thinking About Priesthood?

A Seminary Open Day will be held at on Sunday 14 February 2021 at the Good Shepherd Seminary, 52-58 Abbotsford Road, Homebush starting with Morning Prayer at 9 am and a public Mass at 10:00 am. The day will include prayer, conversations with seminarians and priests, talks with information about the studies required of men training for the priesthood and a guided tour around the Seminary. Brunch will be provided.

For registration or more information visit us at vocationcentre.org.au or contact us at the Vocation Centre on 02 9307 8424 or email vocations@sydneycatholic.org.

Please RSVP by Friday 5 February 2021

Please see the Church notice board for the following information:

- * Open Days at Coogee to honour Servant of God, Eileen O’Connor
- * Sacramental Position Vacant All Saints Parish Liverpool

Saints of the Week



St Agatha also known as Agatha of Sicily, is one of the most highly venerated virgin martyrs of the Catholic Church. She was born around 231 in Sicily to a rich and noble family. From her very early years, the notably beautiful Agatha dedicated her life to God. She rejected the amorous advances of the Roman prefect Quintianus, who thought he could force her to turn away from her vow and marry him. His persistent proposals were consistently spurned by Agatha. He expected her to give into his demands when she was faced with torture and possible death, but she simply reaffirmed her belief in God. He had her stretched on a rack to be torn with iron hooks, burned with torches, and whipped. Noticing Agatha was enduring all the torture with a sense of cheer, he commanded she be subjected to a worse form of torture. This evil man ordered that her breasts be cut off. He then sent her back to prison with an order of no food or medical attention. But the Lord gave her all the care she needed. He was her Sacred Physician and protector. Agatha had a vision of the apostle, St Peter, who comforted her and healed her wounds through his prayers. Quintianus ignored the miraculous cure of her wounds and he had her stripped naked and rolled over hot coals which were mixed with sharp shards and returned to prison where she died.

Feast Day: February 5



St Paul Miki

Paul was the son of a Japanese military leader. He was born at Tounucumada, Japan, was educated at the Jesuit college of Anziquama, joined the Jesuits in 1580, and became known for his eloquent preaching. He was crucified on February 5 with twenty-five other Catholics during the persecution of Christians under the Taiko, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, ruler of Japan in the name of the emperor. They were all canonized as the Martyrs of Japan in 1862

Feast Day February 6

Parish Contacts:

Parish Pastoral Council Chairman: Jeff Lai - 0409 288 812
Finance Committee: Tanya Scarvelis - 9823 2572
Community Care: Tina Dunn - 0439 492 920; Sharon Cook - 0410 494 700
Readers and Catechists: Nina Laureti - 0408 465 149
Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers: : Linda Barilla - 9607 4993
Confirmation: Linda Barilla - 9607 4993
Reconciliation and First Communion: Tamara Vella - 0424 166 248 and
Kylie Farias - 0473 779 338

Altar Servers: Fr Richard - 9823 2572
Children's Liturgy: Angela Galdas - 9606 8403
Church Linen: Michelle De Luca - 0400 374 277
Church Cleaners: Ann Gorla - 0425 284 860
Piety Stall: Millie Breden - 9823 2572
Morning Teas: Teresa Vartuli - 0413 835 250
Jordan Youth Group: Silvana Scamardella - 9823 2572
Housie and Money Counting: Yvonne Smolinski - 9823 2572
Men's Group: Branko Poljak - 0411 281 299

Next Sunday:

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

First Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Second Reading: I Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I have come face-to-face with God when..... this astonished me because.....
- ♦ Jesus is speaking to me with authority about.....
- ♦ I speak with true authority and power when.....

First reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

94:1-2, 6-9

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us:
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

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

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and

spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord

Trivia Answers

1. Communication with God, Trust in God & God speaking to us.
2. Personal, liturgical, communal
3. Thirteenth century, by the Dominicans

