



# Joh4n 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  
Emergency: 0451 910 634

**Parish Pastoral Centre:**

45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

**Office: 9823 2572**

**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 WEEK 4

**Monday - 8:00am**

**Tuesday - 8:00am**

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*St Patrick, Bishop*

**Thursday - 9:00am**

**Friday - 9:00am**

*St Joseph, spouse of the*

*Blessed Virgin Mary*

**Saturday - 9:00am**

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**20/21 MARCH**

*(Fifth Sunday of Lent*

*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

**Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B)**

13th & 14th March, 2021

## See through the eyes of God

A little four year old girl was dying of a very rare disease. Her one hope was in having a blood transfusion, and the only possible person who could give matching blood was her six year old brother. The paediatrician handling the case talked very sensitively to the little boy. "Your little sister is very sick" she said, "and we think that if we can take out some of your blood and put it into her it might make her better. Would you be willing to let us take it?" the little boy paused for a moment and then nodded his head in consent. A few days later, when the little boy came back with his parents to visit his sister they met the paediatrician. She said to him, "It is so wonderful! Your blood saved your sister, she is going to be all right now." but the little boy's eyes filled with tears and he burst out crying. The doctor asked him what was wrong? "when," he asked her, "am I going to die?" all the time he had believed that he himself was going to die in giving his blood for his little sister but he had been willing to do it!

Today's Gospel tells us of this kind of love, "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life." Believing in that Son and in that Father is not always easy. Particularly for those who lose their family members, even children in death (the Abdallah's family), for those who suffer some kind of terminal illness; it is indeed very hard to see God's love and goodness behind it all. But God so loved the world that he sent his own son to be part of the world's conditions and he himself suffered grievously. It is through Jesus' life, death and resurrection that has given us hope and assurance when we are faced with difficulties, challenges in our life or even death itself.

Jesus came into the world as a light—"but people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. For whoever does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God." The great, mysterious truth of God needs to be brought into the light. It is always there like the sunlight behind the clouds. It is often hard for us to believe in the sunlight during a typhoon, so too it is often hard for us to believe in God's love in times of calamity.

Let us pray that our faith will help us not so much to see different things, but to see everything differently especially in times of trial with the eyes of faith.

**Catechism of the Catholic Church**

540 Jesus' temptation reveals the way in which the Son of God is Messiah, contrary to the way Satan proposes to him and the way men wish to attribute to him. This is why Christ vanquished the Tempter for us: 'For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sinning. 'By the solemn forty days of Lent the church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert.

**Fr Dominic**

## NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Places of worship are now allowed to have one person per the 2m<sup>2</sup> with no maximum cap. Up to 300 people can attend funerals and weddings, providing a 2m<sup>2</sup> rule is observed.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **Masks are no longer compulsory, but you are welcome to wear them if you feel more comfortable.**
- **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

### Mortal Sin and Venial Sin

It should be the goal of every Christian to strive, through steadfast prayer, acts of penance and works of charity, for a life free of sin.

- 1) For a sin to be mortal, three conditions must be present: grave matter, full knowledge of the evil of the act, and full consent of the will. Thus, to choose deliberately - that is both knowing it and willing it - something gravely contrary to the divine law and to the ultimate end of man is to commit a mortal sin.
- 2) Venial Sin does not destroy the divine life in the soul, as does mortal sin, though it diminishes and wounds it. Venial sin is a failure to observe necessary moderation, in lesser matters of the moral law, or in grave matters acting without full knowledge or complete consent. We must realize, however, that deliberate and unrepented venial sin disposes us little by little to commit mortal sin.

Ref: *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1855 - 1874



Our Parish Houseie Team is also in need of some new members to assist once a month at the Liverpool Catholic Club. The Parish Houseie which is run on Saturday afternoons between 2pm and 4.30pm is our main form of **fundraising for our future new church** and is resuming on Saturday 13th March. **Prizes total at least \$6700 each week! IT is also a great social opportunity for catching up with friends!** Duties include selling bingo books, reconciling cash and prizes- someone else calls the numbers and games- so please consider if you would love to contribute to the parish and community in this way- Contact Grant 0409 958744 or the parish office on 9823 2572.



CHURCH WORKING BEE and Palm Sunday Decorating!!!!  
**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 7am-11am**

If you can spare anytime at all on the morning of Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March we would love to get the church and gardens looking their best for the Easter masses. We need to decorate with Palms in readiness for Palm Sunday.

**PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD-** we have to look our best!

There are some cobwebs to clear and statues to polish! And some gardening and tidying around the church grounds and car park area. Please bring any tools you may require and remember to sign on and sanitise before beginning work. Any enquiries please call Grant 0409 958744.

### Feasts of the week

**17 March - St Patrick, bishop. Solemnity.**

Born in Roman Britain around the end of the fourth century. Died in Ireland about the middle of the fifth century. Faced hardship as a missionary bishop in Ireland, and opposition even from his friends and fellow Christians. Yet worked to conciliate, to evangelise, and to educate local chieftains and their families. Remembered for his simplicity and pastoral care, for his humble trust in God, and for his fearless preaching of the gospel to those who had enslaved him in his youth. Specially honoured in Australia because the many Irish people who came to settle here brought with them the faith and zeal of Saint Patrick.

**19 March - St Joseph, Husband of Mary. Solemnity.**

A carpenter, though born of the royal house of David, Joseph was an upright man who, as husband of the Virgin Mary, cared for Mary and the child Jesus. Venerated in the East after the fourth century, and his cult flowered in the West during the fifteenth century, following the development of medieval nativity plays, the Christmas crib, and increased devotion to Mary.



## Parts of the Mass

### 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.

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

**CONFIRMATION** will take place on Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th September at 7:00pm in the Church. Please keep watching this space for changes and updates.  
Any enquiries please contact Linda Barilla on 0409 914 083.

**JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**Enrolments for 2022 - NOW OPEN**  
Application packages for enrolment in 2022 kindergarten are now available from the school office Monday to Friday 9:30am-2:30pm. More information regarding the application process is also available on our school website or through our school Facebook page. You may ring 9823 5042 for any other enquiries. Application for older grades are also welcome and applicants will be placed on a waiting list.  
**The closing date for Kindergarten 2022 applications is Friday 30th April 2021.**

**FREEMAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE BONNYRIGG HEIGHTS**  
**ENROLMENT OPEN EVENING**  
**Year 7, 20-23**  
**Wednesday 17th March, 2021**  
An invitation is extended to Grade 5 Parents and Students to an Open Evening on **Wednesday 17th March**. A tour of the College will commence at 4pm every 1/2 hour until 8pm (**Bookings Essential**) on 9823 2073. Enrolment Applications can be collected from the College Office from 4pm on Wednesday 17th March. Siblings of the College may collect an Application for on your behalf.  
Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights [www.freemanbonnyrigg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.freemanbonnyrigg.catholic.edu.au)

**Good Samaritan CATHOLIC COLLEGE OPEN DAY**  
**Saturday 20 MARCH 2021**  
**11am – 1pm**  
The Good Samaritan community extends an invitation to prospective parents and students wishing to enrol for Year 7, 2023.  
Phone (02) 9825 9955 [info@gscchinbrook.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@gscchinbrook.catholic.edu.au)

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

**Sick:** Joseph ACUNA, Thip SAKOUNKHU, Cindy CALDEJON, 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:** Maria Phuong TRAN, Thelma RAMOS, Francesca GULLO, Bishop Bede HEATHER, Joyce FITZGERALD, Dominic

**Anniversary:** Philip PHAN, Rita SALIBA, Fr John B CHIANG

**Other:** Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH, Clifford FERNANDES, Gloria O'BRIEN, Thanksgiving St Anthony and St Jude.

**PROJECT COMPASSION BE MORE** **Fourth Sunday of Lent** **14th March 2021** 

Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet, so he and his family always had to walk into the forest to an open defecation area. His family was often sick and open defecation caused many neighbourhood disputes.



With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner, Laz Harfa, Arsad took part in hygiene, sanitation and financial management training. He then funded the building of a toilet in his house and helped other community members to save for toilets.

Now Arsad's family is healthier. Their community no longer practices open defecation and is more harmonious. Arsad inspired his community to 'Be More.'  
**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help improve health and wellbeing of communities in Indonesia so they can work towards eradicating poverty, providing a better future for all.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

**Stations of the Cross** will be held every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm in the Church. 7:00pm

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
Children's Liturgy has commenced at the 5:30pm Saturday Vigil and 10:00am Mass on Sunday.  
We are in **urgent need** of leaders and helpers for our 8am and 10am Masses. It is only a once a month commitment.  
If you can assist in anyway, please contact Angela Galdas on 9606 8403 or the parish office on 9823 2572.

**YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD OR TOO YOUNG TO SHARE YOUR FAITH.**  
Please consider becoming a Catechist. We need 4 Catechists to fill all our classes.  
**Bonnyrigg Heights Primary,** Wednesdays, 12 to 12.30 - Year 1  
**Governor Phillip King, Edensor Park,** Tuesdays, 9am **Kindy** and **Year 1**, 9.30 - 10am **am Year 4**  
Any enquiries please contact: Nina Laureti 0408465149 Vicky Scutella 0447 310 204 or Connie Dif 0413694007

**Join The Baptist MEN'S GROUP** Invites you to our **March Men Alive Weekend** **Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 March 2021, meet at the Church hall**  
**The menALIVE Men's Weekend is an opportunity for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive, through the Prodigal Son story, as we focus on our relationship with God our Father.**  
To register go to: <https://www.trybooking.com/BNMJB>  
To join the men's group or to find out more, email [jbmensgroup@gmail.com](mailto:jbmensgroup@gmail.com) or call/SMS Daniel on 0411 254 520

**ATTENTION EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:** The new Roster is now available for collection after all Masses this weekend.



**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 or 0409 914 083  
 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 Breaden - 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:**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent ( Year B)**  
 First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34  
 Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9  
 Gospel: John 12:20-33

**Reflection Questions.....**

- ♦ My daily living witnesses a preference for darkness or light when.....
- ♦ I might come closer to the Light during this Lent if I.....
- ♦ "God so loved the world..." (see second reading). How I have experienced this love of God for me is.....

**First reading****2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23****A reading from the second book of Chronicles**

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

They burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "the Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."

**The Word of the Lord****Responsorial Psalm****136:1--6****Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

By the rivers of Babylon  
 there we sat and wept,  
 remembering Zion;  
 on the poplars that grew there  
 we hung up our harps.

**Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

For it was there that they asked us,  
 our captors, for songs,  
 our oppressors, for joy.  
 'Sing to us,' they said,  
 'one of Zion's songs.'

**Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

O how could we sing  
 the song of the Lord  
 on alien soil?  
 If I forget you, Jerusalem,  
 let my right hand wither!

**Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

O let my tongue  
 cleave to my mouth  
 if I remember you not,  
 if I prize not Jerusalem  
 above all my joys!

*Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!***Second reading****Ephesians 2:4-10****A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians**

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

**The Word of the Lord****Gospel Acclamation****John 3:16**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
 God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,  
 that all who believe in him might have eternal life.  
 Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Gospel****John 3:14-21****A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up  
 as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,  
 so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.  
 Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,  
 so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
 but may have eternal life.  
 For God sent his Son into the world  
 not to condemn the world,  
 but so that through him the world might be saved.  
 No one who believes in him will be condemned;  
 but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,  
 because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only  
 Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced:  
 that though the light has come into the world  
 men have shown they prefer darkness to the light  
 because their deeds were evil.  
 And indeed, everybody who does wrong  
 hates the light and avoids it,  
 for fear his actions should be exposed;  
 but the man who lives by the truth comes out into  
 the light,  
 so that it may be plainly seen that what he does  
 is done in God.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**

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