



# 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

**Parish Priest: Rev Fr Dominic Dinh**  
Email: pp@johnthebaptist.org.au  
Emergency: 0423 420 639

**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 2

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 8:00am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:00am

*Sts Simon and Jude, apostles*

Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 9:00am

## NEXT SUNDAY

**30/31 OCTOBER**

*(31st Sunday in Ordinary  
Time Year B)*

**Saturday Vigil Mass:**  
5:30pm

**Sunday Masses:**  
8:00am & 10:00am

**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:**  
Saturdays – 4:15 – 5:00pm  
Wednesday – 7:30 – 8:00pm

**Anointing of the Sick**  
Contact the Parish Office  
or Fr Dominic 0423 420 639

## 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) 23rd & 24th October, 2021

### *Trust & have faith in Jesus*

John Newton was for many years a notorious 19th century English slave trader. He admitted that for many years he had been spiritually blind, then he had a sudden “*conversion experience*” that changed his life. It occurred to him what a terrible thing he was doing, hauling human beings to America to work as slaves. He decided to turn his life around by giving up slave trading and becoming an Anglican priest. He spent the rest of his life in the service of Christ and others. He composed the well known song which we sing so often in the church.

*“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that save a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.”*

We often talk about physical blindness but there are many forms of blindness. Injustice is one of them. And many others like fanaticism, hatred, anger, prejudice, spite. Often we can be blinded to the needs of others. In today’s gospel, we are touched by the story of Jesus reaching out to the blind man who sits alone by the roadside while the crowd are passing by. He never encountered, or met Jesus before, he might have heard of Jesus through other people. When he was told that Jesus is coming, he cries out to Jesus for help and is scolded by the crowd for doing so. “*Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!*” Through his faith the blind man recognised Jesus’ power and authority as the Son of David or the promised Messiah who can restore his sight, and heal his blindness. He is conscious of his need and finds his hope in Jesus’ healing.

Jesus challenged the blind man to make his request, “*What do you want me to do for you?*” let us think about this same question which Jesus put forth to his two disciples James and John from last Sunday’s gospel, “*What is it you want me to do for you?*” Unlike James and John who asked for power and honour to sit one on the left and one on the right of Jesus, this blind man’s request was “*Master, I want to see.*” with a strong faith he recognised Jesus’ healing power will serve his need.

Like John Newton and the blind man, we need to ask Jesus with great conviction ‘**I want to see**’ especially when we are faced with sins, lust, fear, anger, hatred, greed or failing to see the truth and justice. May we trust in the healing power of Jesus and let Him walk with us in our journey of faith.

### **Catechism of the Catholic Church**

1807 Justice is the moral virtue that consists in the constant and firm will to give their due to God and neighbour. Justice toward God is called the ‘virtue of religion’. Justice toward men disposes one to respect the rights of each and to establish in human relationships the harmony that promotes equity with regard to persons and to the common good.

**Before you criticize someone, walk a mile in their shoes;  
That way, when you criticize them, you will be a mile away  
and at least you will have their shoes.**

## NSW Restrictions for Churches due to Covid-19

Places of worship are now only allowed to have one person per the 4m<sup>2</sup> rule.

### PLEASE NOTE:

- **Masks are now compulsory**, unless you are exempt to wear them.
- **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.**

## For We CANNOT KEEP FROM SPEAKING about what we have SEEN & HEARD

ACTS 4:20

This week Catholic Mission will share the story of Churai\*, who having experienced much heartbreak in childhood, turned to the Mother and Babies Home run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok when her partner cast she experienced rejection as an adult, abandoned by her partner and pregnant.

Without this program, many vulnerable mothers like Churai will have nowhere to turn when they need love and care the most.

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand) or by texting 'GIVE' to 0488 854 436. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

\*Name and images altered to protect identity



Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand)



## 2021/2022 PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The new Planned Giving Envelopes commencing 3 July 2021 are now available outside the church. **Please ensure you pick up your correct envelopes by checking both your name and address and discard all envelopes from previous years.**

Contributions received from Planned Giving are the major source of income for the running expenses of the Parish. For example, running the office, Secretary's wages, expenses of pastoral initiatives, building and maintenance of the parish facilities, etc. Paying for the CWF deficit and insurance are also big expenses. I urge you to consider your support to our parish by joining **Planned Giving** either through weekly envelope giving or monthly **Credit Card** deductions, or consider increasing your current donations. One-off donations are also well received.

I offer my sincere thanks to everyone for your generosity in giving faithfully to the planned giving and other collections in the parish. Your generosity is inspiring and it allows us to plan and budget for the future of the parish. A special thanks to the Finance Committee members for your expertise and commitment. Once again I thank you for your generosity.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr Dominic

Ps. Tax receipts for the end of this financial year will be available in July.



### 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.

**catholic healthcare**

- Day to day living
- Clinical services
- Health and Wellness
- Connecting with others
- Residential Aged Care
- Respite care
- Downsizing or upcycling

Are you or a loved one in need of extra support?

Call now 1300 883 261 for a chat with our friendly team.

**Relationship REFRESH**

**FREE "Relationship Refresh" webinar**

Give your relationship the refresh it has been longing for!

**28 OCTOBER  
7PM-8PM ONLINE**

**REGISTER NOW**



**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 be held on **Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th December at 7:00pm** in the Church.

**The Confirmation Masses have changed since last week. Please see the new Mass dates above.**

**Enrolments** will be held in the Parish Hall on the following days and times:

**Saturday 30th October 4:30pm-5:15pm and 6:15pm-7:00pm**  
**Sunday 31st October 9:00am - 11:30am**

A completed enrolment form, **a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate and \$20.00 are required to successfully enrol.**

Classes will be over 4 weeks in November on a Tuesday evening, Wednesday afternoon or Thursday afternoon.

**Any enquiries please contact Linda Barilla on 0409 914 083.**

**Note: Due to the nature of the current climate of Covid, meetings and Sacrament Masses may need to change. You will be notified if this is the case.**



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held in Term One 2022. Please watch this space for more details.

Any questions please call Tamara on 0424 166 248.

**MASS UPDATE**

**All weekend Masses** are back to normal and the Saturday 5:30pm Mass will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend.

**Weekday Masses** will resume this Tuesday 26th October.

Please ensure you comply with the all Government Regulations regarding vaccinations before attending Masses.

**This is the link to the Vinnies Metropolitan Schools and Youth Term 4 2021 Newsletter:**

[bit.ly/VinniesSchoolYouthNewsTerm42021](http://bit.ly/VinniesSchoolYouthNewsTerm42021)

The 2021 edition of the **Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP)** for students in Years 4 – 6 is available for those who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time. For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>

**Catholic Mission** is seeking applications for a **Donor Relations Officer** role. Full-time or Part-time, the role is based in North Sydney in NSW and incorporates supporting Catholic Dioceses in NSW & ACT. This is an exceptional opportunity to join the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia, which supports children, communities and church leader both in Australia and overseas. For more information, please visit <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/jobs-at-catholic-mission>

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



**Sick:** Bishop Bill WRIGHT, Judy DIVANI, Orlando DAYOAN, Joe OLIVERI, Bozana VUKOV, Lachlan BENSON, Gino BORG, Gung Jec MENG, Thip SAKOUNKHU, Cindy CALDEJON, Julia CEFAL, Melda MIZZI, Rita SHAH, Virgilio MARIANO, Kristian SERIC, Gary LOMAS, Giuseppe LETTIERI, Giuseppina LETTIERI

**Recently Deceased:** Sylvia BALTAZAR, Elena BALDI, Flor OSOTIO

**Anniversary:** Joseph John DEL VALLE, Desiree BEEVES, Maryse CUNDASAMY

**Other:** Michael GRIMA, Marion FENECH, Jimmy FENECH and Maryann FENECH



A huge thank you to all those who helped in the parish during lockdown with livestreaming, liturgy and cleaning the Church. Your assistance was very much appreciated.



**Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal 2021**

This weekend marks the start of the Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal. Your generosity donations support our sick and retired priests, providing them with appropriate accommodation and assistance with transition into retirement, medical and dental care, pastoral and other practical support – to give them a life of relative comfort and dignity in retirement. To donate visit [www.ourfaithourworks.org/prf](http://www.ourfaithourworks.org/prf) or scan the QR Code.



*Feasts of the Week*

**Sts Simon and Jude**



**St. Simon** the Apostle is often named St. Simon the Zealot, to distinguish him from St. Peter and St. Simeon. St. Simon was a Galilean, born at Cana in Galilee. He was called Simon the Zealot because of his great zeal to honour God and for purity of religion. The Zealots during this time were known for assassinating the noble and filling the temple with bloodshed and profanities.

He was one of the original followers of Christ. After his conversion and his call, there is no further mention of him in the Gospels. He became zealous for Christ and for the duties of Christianity. After receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, he went out to evangelize with great zeal and fidelity. He was martyred by the idolatrous priests and many say that he was crucified. His relics are with St. Jude's in St. Peter's basilica and the Cathedral of Toulouse.



**St Jude**

St Jude, known as Thaddaeus was the brother of the apostle St James the Lesser and a relative of Our Lord, nephew to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was also one of the Twelve, an Apostle of Jesus. One of the canonical epistles of the New Testament is attributed to St Jude, which has many common characteristics with the second letter of St Peter. St. Jude (Thaddeus) is one of the most popular saints because of the numerous heavenly favours that he grants to his devotees who pray to him with faith, especially when seeking a job or a house. Ancient writers tell us that he preached the Gospel in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Lybia. According to Eusebius, he returned to Jerusalem in the year 62, and assisted at the election of his brother, St. Simeon, as Bishop of Jerusalem. Saints Simon and Jude zealously preached to the nations and met with each other again in Persia. According to ancient tradition, they were martyred together - St. Simon was sawed in half and St. Jude was beheaded with an axe. Following his death, St. Jude's body was brought to Rome and left in a crypt in St. Peter's Basilica. Today his bones can be found in the left transept of St. Peter's Basilica under the main altar of St. Joseph in a tomb he shares with the remains of the apostle Simon the Zealot.

**Patron** of desperate causes, desperate situations, lost causes.

**Feast day: October 28**

## Parish Ministries:

Parish Pastoral Council Chairman: Jeff Lai  
Finance Committee: Tanya Scarvelis  
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 & Kylie Farias  
Altar Servers - Fr Richard

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: Silvana Scamardella  
Housie and Money Counting: Yvonne Smolinski  
Men's Group: Branko Poljak

**For any inquiries, please call the parish office.**

## Next Sunday:

### 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year B)

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

## Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ I am like Bartimaeus in that.....
- ♦ What Bartimaeus can teach me about being a disciple of Jesus is.....
- ♦ If Jesus were to ask me, "What do you want me to do for you," I would respond.....

## First reading

Jeremiah 31:7-9

### A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!

Hail the chief of nations!

Proclaim! Praise! Shout:

'The Lord has saved his people,  
the remnant of Israel!'

See, I will bring them back  
from the land of the North  
and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
all of them: the blind and the lame,  
women with child, women in labour:  
a great company returning here.

They had left in tears,  
I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
I will guide them to streams of water,  
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.  
For I am a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

### The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

125:1-6

**The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing;  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

## Second reading

Hebrews 5:1-6

### A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: *You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.*

### The Word of the Lord

## Gospel Acclamation

cf 2 Timothy 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death,  
and brought us life through his gospel.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Mark 10:46-52

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

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.



### The Gospel of the Lord