



## CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907

532 New Canterbury Road, Dulwich Hill NSW 2203

PO Box 149 Dulwich Hill NSW 2203 Ph: 9558-3257 Fax: 9559-3752

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StPotC](https://www.facebook.com/StPotC) Website: [dulwichhillparish.org.au](http://dulwichhillparish.org.au)

Email: [church@dulwichhillparish.org.au](mailto:church@dulwichhillparish.org.au), or  
[secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au](mailto:secretary@dulwichhillparish.org.au)



**Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)**

**Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi**



Second Sunday of Advent / C

5 December 2021

**PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**



Ph: 9558 5308

**Principal:**

Ms Frances Stewart

**REC:** Ms Jo-Anne Ross

Email:

[info@stpedulwichhill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpedulwichhill.catholic.edu.au)

**With St Paul of the  
Cross we pray ...**

### For the sick

Leonor Delgado

Noel Nacua

Patricia Stack

Jovito Redaja

Raul Cabrera

Angela Di Donato

Sr Julianne Murphy

Natalina Gallace

Ruth Wilson

Raymond Hudson

Fr Jim Duggan

Pat Allport

Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat

Franceska Bechara

Robyn, Eimy & Helen

Angelis Alima & Charlie

Jan Lawson

Genaro Villanueva

### Recently Deceased

Carmen Noche

Catalina Bolo

Jimmy Boiser

Cecilia Codera

Nelson Velasquez

Edgar Labela

### Death Anniversary

### For the Souls

Antonino & Concetina

Trovato

Veneranda Moschetto

All forgotten Souls and Holy  
Souls in Purgatory

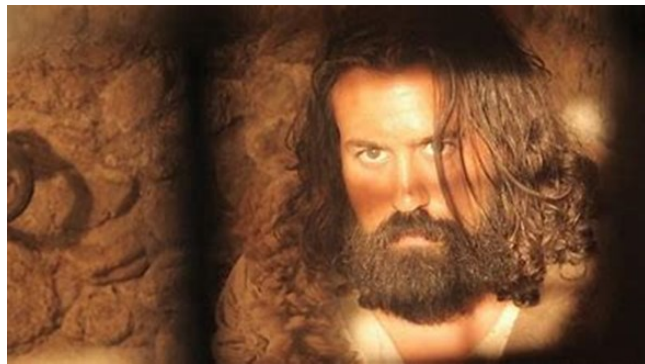
### Special Intentions

Henry & Tina and Family

Leah Tillam

## The wild faith of John the Baptist

There is something otherworldly about John the Baptist. Plonked down in the Judean desert, adorned in skins, and munching on locusts, he was an affront to civilization. You can almost hear polite society whisper to him, "There are customs, John. There are ways of doing things. Surely, your life can be a bit easier if you simply go along a bit. Clean yourself up. Wait your turn. Soften your message. We'll introduce you to the right people. And in time, John—in time—you'll *earn* credibility and people will begin to listen to you and even admire you. Now, wouldn't that be nice, John? Wouldn't that be easier?" Honeyed words, like those whispered to Christ.



But John the Baptist didn't care. He didn't care about fashion or fancy friends. He didn't need high cuisine or sophisticated small talk. The man was ratty and dirty. He smelled and had bad teeth. It wasn't that John was an eccentric with a lot of weird habits. He didn't hate people. Not at all. In fact, he earnestly loved the motley rabble who listened to his prophecies and ambled to his river baptisms. He pitied them. But he had no time for the superficial practices or the empty words of daily life. John the Baptist didn't care about anything—anything but the Truth.

John the Baptist was his own man. He was afraid of no one. He told uncomfortable truths and rubbed people the wrong way. Four centuries of pent-up prophetic silence since Malachi were released in the thundering God-ordained declarations made by this seemingly feral man. *Justice is here.* Make straight! Prepare! Repent! Here is the winnowing fan! Here the unquenchable fire! *But so is mercy.* The rough will be made smooth! The kingdom is at hand! And with it fullness and grace!

John the Baptist was his own man, except that he was God's. He was there to prepare the way for the Lord, to be "a witness for the light." He wasn't simply a wild-eyed howling figure barking from some lone rock in the dusty outskirts of Jerusalem. He could see what others couldn't—what others needed for their salvation, their peace, even though so many didn't know what they needed. And his fondness for yelling was simply a matter of urgency. It was like screaming "Fire!" in the middle of the night or, as the writer Flannery O'Connor said, "To the hard of hearing you shout, and for the almost-blind you draw large and startling figures."

But what is most striking about this saint is not his stubborn refusal to follow the norms and styles of the day, but rather his radical conformity to God. While everyone else was breaking faith, he was keeping it. His language was fiery but he did not seek to destroy. He sought only to build. In all of this saint's lack of domestication, in all of his alien starkness, we miss how utterly obedient John the Baptist was to the will of God. He was a revolutionary who followed all the rules.

In an age of rage and destruction, indifference and uncertainty, we need St. John the Baptist. We need to be shaken from our self-importance and shocked out of our self-indulgence. We need to be arrested in our needless destruction and pried from our self-serving narratives. We must listen and hear. "Wake up! The kingdom is at hand! The kingdom of Christ—the Prince of Peace, the Saver of Souls, the God-man comes to bathe you in truth and grace. For God's sake, wake up!"

**St. John the Baptist, in all of your wildness and penetrating sight, pray for us.**

Adapted from *The wild faith of John the Baptist* Dr.Tod Worner Word on Fire blog 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020

**Choir Practice** on Monday at 7pm in the Church every fortnight. Next choir rehearsal is on the **13th December 2021.**

**"Break Open the Word"** (the book for readers) now available at the Sacristy.

### **A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney**

**Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes 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.**

### **Parish Office**

Maria - Mondays

Cecilia - Wed-Friday

9.30am - 2:30pm

### **Parish & Hall enquiries**

9558 3257

### **Mass Times**

**Sat:** 5:30pm (Vigil)

**Sun:** 8am & 10am

**Mon to Fri:** 9:00am

**Sat:** 9:30am

### **Family Mass with**

### **Children's Liturgy**

3rd Sunday of the

Month 10am Mass

Find out more: <https://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>

### **Family Rosary & Morning**

**Tea** - 2nd Sunday of the

Month after 10am Mass in

the Church Hall

### **Filipino Mass**

1st Sun 11:30am

### **Sacraments**

### **Confession**

Sat 8:30-9:20am, 4:45pm

or any time by

appointment

### **Baptism**

Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th

Sunday 11.15am

### **Marriage**

At least 6 months notice

required

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Any time on call

### **Devotions**

### **Holy Hour & Rosary**

Sunday - Friday

before morning mass

### **Rosary & Benediction**

Sat 8:30-9:30am

### **Novena to Our Lady of**

### **Perpetual Help**

Wednesday 7pm



★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
★ Holy Day Mass for the Feast of the ★  
★ Immaculate Conception ★  
★ 9:00am Wednesday 8th December ★  
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

### **Lights of Christmas 2021**

### **St Mary's Cathedral forecourt**

**9-25 December**

Join in Sydney's favourite free Christmas tradition, uniting families, locals and tourists with a display of digital storytelling projected onto St Mary's Cathedral.

Find out more: <https://lightsofchristmas.com.au/>

### **Cathedral Christmas Celebration**

17 December 2021

11am and 7pm

The St Mary's Cathedral Choir and the Sydney Youth Orchestra perform some of the most loved Christmas music at two concerts that have become an annual tradition.

Tickets available online:

[www.cathedralchoir.sydney/concerts](http://www.cathedralchoir.sydney/concerts)

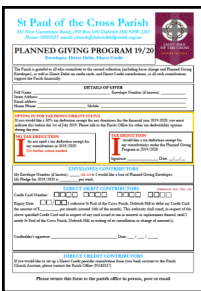
It is not too late yet for those who would like to donate to the CWF Parish Appeal. Envelopes are at the back table of the church.



### **Thank you for supporting the CWF Parish Appeal**

For more information about the Catholic Work

Fund, please visit [www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf](http://www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf)



### **Planned Giving Program Form 2021/2022**

Please return urgently the **Form** for the Planned Giving Envelope and tick/sign whether you are opting for **30% Tax Deduction** or **No Tax Deduction**. This form will also enable us to update your details such as address, email and phone number.

Email:

[church@dulwichhillparish.org.au](mailto:church@dulwichhillparish.org.au)

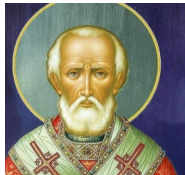
*Also, please do not use your old envelopes (2020/2021).*

### **Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (6-11 Dec 2021)**

Mon	6/12	St Nicholas, bishop
Tue	7/12	St Ambrose, bishop, doctor
Wed	8/12	The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Thu	9/12	St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin, hermit
Fri	10/12	Our Lady of Loreto
Sat	11/12	St Damasus I, pope

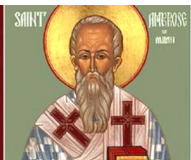
### **St Nicholas**

A Christian monk who lived in the third century A.D. He became the bishop of a city called Myra in Turkey. He was probably martyred during the Diocletian persecutions. St Nicholas was known for his generosity and kindness for the poor. He is considered the model for our Santa Claus.



### **St Ambrose**

Born in Gaul, Ambrose became a barrister at Rome, then was appointed governor of Liguria and Aemilia with headquarters in Milan. He was elected bishop by acclamation.



He is known for his excellence as an administrator, as a writer, a protector of the poor, and as the "hammer of Arianism" the heresy in vogue at that time. He is one of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church.

### **The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

MARY the Mother of God is venerated on 8th December as the Immaculate Conception. This feast commemorates the preservation of the Blessed Virgin from the stain of original sin from the first moment of her conception.



### **PARISH WEEKEND MASS ROSTER 11th & 12th December 2021**

Readers:	5:30pm	R Lazarus P Allport
	8:00am	P Tan M Portell
	10:00am	J Duru V Simms

'It's the most wonderful time of the year' - Your local **St Vincent de Paul** Conference is now holding it's Christmas Appeal!

Your kindness can help us feed families, help with essentials and support those in crisis. Together we can give practical and emotional support to those who are vulnerable in our community.

This year we have our very own website - we have a target of \$1,500 if you can help please go to our website here <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/dulwich-hill-conference-christmas-appeal>

You can also:

- Fill an envelope and return to us or via poor box
- Over the phone on 13 18 12

All donations over \$2 or more are tax deductible - please see us for a receipt

