



John the Baptist Parish

Bonnyrigg Heights

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

YEAR OF GRACE

"Starting afresh from Christ"

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER WEEK 2

'Prayer of the Church' prayed at John the Baptist 10 minutes before weekday Masses Morning and Evening Prayer

Monday - No Mass
Tuesday - 9:10am
Wednesday 7:00pm
Thursday - 9:10am
Friday - 9:10am
Saturday - 9:10am

SUNDAY 22/23 DECEMBER

(Fourth Sunday of Advent)

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30pm
Sunday Masses : 8:00am & 10:00am

1st Sunday of Month:
5:30pm Youth Mass

4th Sunday of the Month:
5:30pm Mass in Tagalog

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.15 - 5.00pm

Advent



2012

Gaudete Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent (Year C)
15th & 16th December, 2012

Dear Parishioners,

This week we had the first meeting of the Youth Ministry Committee led by our Youth Ministry Coordinator. Thank you to those who have shown an interest in this important area of Ministry in our parish community. We look forward to the new initiatives that were discussed and planned. Please keep an eye on "Youth Corner" in the bulletin and support our initiatives. Those interested in this area of Parish life please contact Tomasz.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Hampers which will be distributed by the St Vincent de Paul Society to those in need in our own area. Your generosity is outstanding and is greatly appreciated. Thanks to those who prepared the hampers for delivery, and those who will deliver them over the next few days. This is an enormous task at a very busy time of year – a big thank you to our local Vinnies group who do so much throughout the year to bring help and kindness to those in need.

This week we start the early morning Mass at 5.30am, followed by a simple breakfast for those who would like to make a Novena of Masses as a spiritual preparation for Christmas. We also have the Sacrament of Penance with ten priests available from 6-7pm Wednesday evening followed by Mass at 7pm for all the deceased family and friends we wish to remember at this special time of year. Please remember to use your Little Blue books for your daily reflection and prayer.

This week we farewell our Fijian visitors who return home for Christmas- they have been with us for two weeks. They have enjoyed their visit to Australia, and have been very appreciative of the hospitality and of the generous support of the Parishioners and schools of our area. Thank you to all who assisted them in any way.

On this Rejoice Sunday – the liturgy of the Church focuses more on the coming of Christ at Christmas. May we all, as the Entrance antiphon says "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." May his coming bring us deep peace and joy – may we share that with others.

Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ,
Fr Michael L McLean, PP

What's coming up in the Parish.....

- Advent Catechesis after Wednesday evening Mass on 5th, 12th and 19th December.
- Advent at John the Baptist see inside for more details.
- Reconciliation Wednesday 19th December 6:00 - 7:00pm in the Church (10 priests)
- Special Memorial Mass for those who have lost loved ones Wednesday 19th December.
- The Catholic Guy - Lenten Mission 6th-12th March, 2013

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ When the question, "What should we do?" arises in me, I turn to.....
- ♦ What instils expectation in me is.....
- ♦ What I expect is.....
- ♦ The Good News for me is.....

JOHN THE BAPTIST 25TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK - LIMITED EDITION

A book chronicling the first 25 year history of our Parish has been published. The book includes many colour pictures and stories during the period from 1985 until the end of 2010. The book will be on sale after each Mass this weekend and will make great Christmas present. The cost is \$30 to cover the printing and binding costs. Even Fr. Epeli makes an appearance in a couple of the photos from when he was a Seminarian and visited our Parish, can you spot him in the book? 

Mount Street,
BONNYRIGG HEIGHTS 2177

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Michael McLean
Email: pp@johnthebaptist.org.au

Assistant: Rev Fr Epeli Qimaqima
Email: curate@johnthebaptist.org.au

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator: Tomasz Juszcak

Contact: The Parish Office on 9823 2572 Email: tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au

Parish Pastoral Centre:
45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights
Presbytery: 9823 2572
Fax: 9822 9954
Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au
website: www.johnthebaptist.org.au

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

Sick: Janelle BRYCE, Hazel BROOKES, Apollo, Ceasat, Evangeline, Helen, Olive, Divina, Agustin, Hiroshi, Amber, Valentin, Siliako LOLESIO, Natalie DUNN, Anne RILEY, Presley PETILLA, Kui LAI, Bob Antoni MILCZARSKI, Leah FERNANDEZ, Robyn EBERL, Angela ROMEO, David SHAW, Frank CAPARROTTA, Colleen BROOK, Marianna FOTI, Salvatore Giuseppi FOTI, Rocco AGOSTINO, Geoff MASTERTON, Rina FAVOTTO, Grace KENNY, Michela GIORGIO, Jack KELLY, Michelle CARUANA, Leonora MENDOZA, Evelyn MAGRI

Recently Deceased: Linda TREUER, Judith FORMOSA (Malta), Remedios CARATING, Ashley CHATTO, Kristina STEVANJA, Adele AYOUB, Theresa TURO, Saad NOHRA

Anniversary: Vita PREVITERA, Sarina FIORI

Other: Veronica BRITO, Silvestre TCHEN, Beryl BOWE, All the deceased relatives of CAMILLERI & VELLA families, Very Special Intention



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We need more Children's Liturgy Leaders and Helpers for 2013.
If you are interested in joining our team, please contact Angela (9606 8403 or 0410 964 196).

To all our Children's Liturgy Leaders and Helpers of 2012.
The community of John the Baptist would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank you for the commitment and care you have given the children of our Parish. Thankyou for sharing your faith with our children and helping them in their journey of faith, to know and love God more. May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you and your family. God bless you.

Please let Angela or your co-ordinator know (this week if possible) whether you would like to continue being a Children's Liturgy Leader in 2013.

After your final Children's Liturgy for the year, please leave your folder and photocopies for 2012 in the Children's Liturgy cupboard.

Thank you
Angela Galdas

World Youth Day Cake Stall

 JB parish will be holding a cake stall on the weekend of the 22nd-23rd December to raise funds for youth from the parish travelling to WYD Rio! We ask for your generous support in helping our youth get to World youth day next year! If anyone would like to showcase their great cooking skills, we would sincerely appreciate donations of cakes, cupcakes, biscuits or anything else that's sweet and delicious! If anyone can assist with the donations, please contact Tomasz or let the office know on 9823 2572, or email Tomasz on tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au. We would prefer to receive the donations before Saturday vigil mass on 22nd December. Thank you so much for your support!

CAR PARKING

Could we please ask all Parishioners to respect the safety and courtesy of others and only park in the designated parking bays of the car parks. Please do not park in any of the restricted access ways or driveways. This will ensure that traffic can flow in and out of the church grounds as efficiently and safely as possible.



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH LENTEN MISSION
Presented by THE CATHOLIC GUY

John the Baptist Church
on 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th and 12th March, 2013

5 Inspiring Sessions—Choose from Morning or Evening

<i>Session One:</i>	<i>Wednesday 6th March</i>	<i>7:30pm</i>
	<i>Thursday 7th March</i>	<i>9:45am</i>
<i>Session Two:</i>	<i>Thursday 7th March</i>	<i>7:30pm</i>
	<i>Friday 8th March</i>	<i>9:45am</i>
<i>Session Three:</i>	<i>Friday 8th March</i>	<i>7:30pm</i>
	<i>Monday 11th March</i>	<i>9:45am</i>
<i>Session Four:</i>	<i>Monday 11th March</i>	<i>7:30pm</i>
	<i>Tuesday 12th March</i>	<i>9:45am</i>
<i>Session Five:</i>	JOINT FINAL SESSION:	
	<i>Tuesday 12th March</i>	<i>7:30pm</i>

Discover for yourself the event that has changed thousands of people

St Patrick's Institute of Education
(Formerly St Patrick's Business College)

Have limited places available for the January 2013 intake for the Diploma of Business Administration and Diploma of Business. Nearly all graduates commence employment at around \$40,000 per year after 40 weeks training. Students receive individual attention with a focus on pastoral care.

Students can 'study now and pay later' with a VET FEE-HELP loan. For full details and to apply, visit www.spie.edu.au. Hurry as places are limited.

YOUTH CORNER

YOUTH FAMILY MASS
Attention all High School aged and older students and their families!

The next Youth Group Family Mass will be held at 5.30pm on Sunday 3rd February, 2013. All are welcome to attend!

For more information see the WYD/Youth Group bulletin board or call Mary Fraser on 0403 647 399 or Tomasz on 9823 2572

YOUTH GROUPS

We are proud to confirm that JB Parish have two permanent youth groups up and running!

Antioch
Antioch is a parish-based ministry run by youth where teens and young adults are able to express their Catholic faith in various ways. The Antioch youth group is continuing to flourish within the Parish and youth between the ages of 16-24 are more than welcome to join! Antioch runs every Sunday from 6:30pm-8:30pm. For more information about Antioch, please contact Tomasz on 9823 2572 or tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au

Galilee Youth Group
The Galilee youth group has ceased for this year. The Group will resume next year. Keep watching this space for details.

World Youth Day

JB Parish is looking to organise a WYD pilgrimage to Rio! The pilgrimage packages have come out and they look absolutely fantastic! If any youth in the Parish are interested at all, please contact Tomasz on 9823 2572 or tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au. For more information on packages, please check the bulletin board or visit www.wydtours.com

Immaculata Mission school
Immaculata mission school is a retreat that will run from January 1-14, 2013. It is a two-week formation course to discover the beauty of the Catholic faith through amazing teachings, grow in prayer and missionary spirit through spiritual formation, live the joy of community life, grow as a true disciple, nurture your gifts and talents for the service of the Church, share and be challenged through small groups ... and lots more! It is for youth aged 16-35 and if you require any further information, please grab a pamphlet from the outside table or visit www.immaculatacomunity.org for more information and to register.

ADVENT AT JOHN THE BAPTIST

Novena of Masses for Christmas

Dawn at 5:30am

(followed by a light Breakfast for those headed to work)

Monday 17th December

Tuesday 18th December

Wednesday 19th December

Thursday 20th December

Friday 21st December

Saturday 22nd December

Monday 24th December



Advent Mass and Catechesis

Wednesday 7:00pm Mass 8:00pm Catechesis

December 5th, 12th and 19th (Including Memorial Mass remember loved ones)

Day Retreat - with Sr. Rosa, Spiritual Director

Wednesday 19th December - 9:00am - 4:00pm

Theme: "Emmanuel - God With Us"

Cost : Donation Please bring your own lunch

To book and for further details please contact Sr. Rosa on 0419 779 262

Eucharistic Adoration - Holy Hour

Thursday 6th December 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Little Blue Books: Daily Reflections, Scripture and Meditation for Advent/Christmas Tide are available to take home.

PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptisms are usually held on Sundays however, it is necessary to make a booking through the Parish office on 9823 2572 as occasional parish events require the need for changes to baptism dates and times.

Baptism preparation meetings are held on the first Sunday afternoon of each month commencing at 4:00pm in the Parish Hall. For further information please contact the presbytery on 9823 2572.

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation/Confession took place on 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th November, 2012.

First Holy Communion took place on 2/3, 9/10, 16/17 and 23/24 June, 2012.

Confirmation took place on 15th and 16th September, 2012.

Baptism Preparation:

All parents wishing to have a child baptised in January, February or after are asked to attend a preparation session on Sunday 6th January, 2013 at 4:00pm in the parish hall.

Congratulations to the families of Emily HOWLAND and Ellen LEONELLO who will be Baptised here this weekend.



BIBLE STUDY: Every **Thursday 10:00am - 11:00am** in the **Church Meeting Room** (after the 9:10am Mass and Rosary). For further information please contact Meding on 9823 7121 or 0410 177 673.



RCIA Program: Would you like to become a Catholic or learn about the Catholic Faith. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office 9823 2572.

We will meet every Tuesday at 7:30pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre, 45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights.

Bereavement Support Group:

Our parish has a group to assist people who have lost someone dear to them whether it has been recently or a while ago to help them cope with their loss. We will meet fortnightly and our **next meeting is Tuesday 12th March at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre**. This group will be fairly informal but we will have resources to guide us through.

If you need any information please do not hesitate to contact Josie on 9607 3973. You are able to join this group at anytime.

CHURCH LINEN HELPERS NEEDED:

We need volunteers to help with the cleaning of the Church Linen. It only takes about half an hour every 6-8 weeks. If you are interested in joining the linen roster for the Church please contact Tina Orchard on 0408 448 700 or

Email: tina.paulorchard@bigpond.com Thank You



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Reconciliation: Wednesday 19th December 6:00 - 7:00pm
(10 priests available)

Christmas Eve: 5:30pm Children's Mass
8:00pm
Midnight

Christmas Day: 7:00am
9:00am
11:00am



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS

Any child who wishes to be involved in the acting out of the Christmas Story during the Children's Christmas Mass on 24th December at 5:30pm, please attend rehearsal on Monday 17th December from 5:00pm-7:00pm at the Church. Any queries please contact Virginia O'Connor on 0403 353 733 or Rosalie 0404 276 332



SPECIAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Wednesday 19th December at 7:00pm



For those who have lost loved ones. Please bring a photo and a candle and a plate of food to share for supper afterwards. The Advent Catechesis will follow at 8:00pm.

ADVENT CATECHESIS

Fr. Epeli will be holding an Advent Catechesis after Wednesday Evening Masses on 5th, 12th and 19th December. Supper will follow Mass and the Catechesis will commence at 8:00pm.

The topic of the Catechesis will be on "The Year of Faith".

AN UPDATE FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

- Welcoming Ministry – To all our parishioners who, welcome before mass by handing out bulletins, directing worshipers to empty seats at busy times, collectors and assist with closing church. We ask you to nominate which mass you will be attending for Christmas. Plus we have updated special instructions for Christmas Masses please collect information sheets as you leave the church.
- Parish Mission Event is planned for March 2013. This will be a new experience, different to Missions of the past, with a lay team from the Catholic Guy Events. Father is being assisted by the PPC however this is a well planned and organised event which has been broken down into small teams so that there are many small tasks. We will be requesting in early 2013 that all parishioners to offer to assist in only a small way to support out Faith Community of John the Baptist.
- 25 Year Anniversary book as on sale for \$30.00, has been a very large task over the past 2 years lead by Chris Smith and assisted with all the magnificent photos by Father John Langtry and Maria Giglio. Many blessings in the Year of Grace to them and thank you on behalf of our Parish Community.

Michael O'Mara on behalf of PPC

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2012/2013

Your Planned Giving Envelopes for 2012/2013 financial year are available for collection after all Masses this weekend. We thank you for your support.

If you would like to join the envelope system please place your name on the clipboard and envelopes will be prepared for you or you can contact the parish secretary on 9823 2572. You can also contribute through Credit Card with periodic deductions. These can be organised by filling in a yellow Standing Authority form. These forms can be picked up from the Church or Parish Pastoral Centre, at any time, and should be returned to the Presbytery. If you have changed your address this year could you please advise the parish secretary so that we can adjust our parish records. Thank you

To existing Planned Giving Members please ensure you write the amount you have given on the front of your envelope to ensure that it is recorded correctly.



THANK YOU to everyone who came and helped at the Parish Working Bee this weekend. Your time and efforts were very much appreciated.