



# 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 1

'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**

*Ash Wednesday*

**Thursday - 9:10am**

**Friday - 9:10am**

*The Chair of St Peter, apostle*

**Saturday - 9:10am**

## SUNDAY 23/24 FEBRUARY

*(Second Sunday of Lent)*

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

**Sunday Masses : 8:00am & 10:00am  
5:30pm**

**1st Sunday of Month:**

5:30pm Youth Mass

**4th Sunday of the Month:**

5:30pm Mass in Tagalog

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4.15 - 5.00pm



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

- The Catholic Guy - Lenten Mission 6th-12th March, 2013
- Parish Supper and Morning tea will be held next weekend 22nd/23rd February after all Masses. Please bring a plate to share

### Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ When I remember that Jesus is both fully divine and fully human, his temptations in the desert seem like.....
- ♦ I find myself struggling most with temptations about..... They tell me this about myself.....
- ♦ I find myself drawing on my relationship with God when.....

## First Sunday of Lent (Year C)

16th and 17th February, 2013

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you to the parishioners who helped out with cooking the Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, as many of the parishioners came to be Shriven (go to Confession,) in preparation for receiving the ashes on Ash Wednesday and making a great start to Lent. Thanks also to the visiting Priests Frs Kelvin, Denis, Harry, and Tibebeselassie who assisted Fr Epeli and myself with over an hour of celebrations of the Sacrament of Penance (Confession, Reconciliation). On Wednesday evenings from 6pm till 6.50pm a priest will be available in the Church during Lent for parishioners as well as our normal Saturday afternoons. Lent is a real time of repentance and penance.

The Bishops of our State have issued a Lenten Pastoral Letter to the Church of our area. It deals with the response to the Royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. This is an important document and we as Catholics of our Church, need to be informed and aware of the Churches response to these issues. If any parishioner wishes to speak about these issues FR Epeli and myself are happy to speak to you. The Bishops invite us to acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving especially for those affected by these sins within the Church.

The news of the resignation of the Pope surprised everyone. There is a process for the election of a new Pope in which Cardinal Pell our Bishop will have the privilege of participating. Please pray for the Holy Father who has made this momentous decision for the good of the church and also pray for the Cardinal electors who will gather in Rome in conclave to elect a new Pope.

Jesus is tempted in the desert and has to face many challenges before he takes up his public ministry – may we take up the challenge of living our Christian way of life in this world with courage and faith. I encourage you to make sure you have put aside time on the days of the Parish Lenten Mission, the Catholic Guy Event to come along to the event. We still need help with staging this event and providing hospitality for those who come. Please see the notice board outside the Church and check the parish bulletin.

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

### ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

Please take home a copy of "Sowing in Tears" - Lenten Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of New South Wales in response to the Royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

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:** Robyn MUSOLINI, Frank MUSOLINI, Elizabeth VELLA, Pedro AMPARO, Carmelo EMANOELE, Michael SUAREZ, 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, Marianna FOTI, Salvatore Giuseppe FOTI, Rocco AGOSTINO, Geoff MASTERTON, Rina FAVOTTO, Grace KENNY, Michela GIORGIO, Michelle CARUANA, Leonora MENDOZA, Evelyn MAGRI

**Recently Deceased:** Donna GAAL, Helena Carion BRITES, Aveen WATSON, Colleen BROOK, Jack KELLY, Grace VELLA (in Malta), Elisha Nadia FOTI, Christina CILIA from Mellieha, Malta (tal' Pampalaw), Fr John McSWEENEY (Kingsgrove Parish), Fr Paschal CHANG OFM (Chinese Catholic Community)

**Anniversary:** Nicola Giovanni LIBERATORE

**Other:** Gaetanna PACE, Joseph PACE, Melana MENOLOTTO, Very Special Intention



**NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY TRADITION CONFERENCE – 02 TO 05 July 2013.** The 2013 conference hosted by the University of Notre Dame Australia with the generous support from the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, aims to bring together prominent national and international scholars in Philosophy and Theology to explore "Tradition" in its multiple forms. The conference will explore 4 key ideas: The concept of tradition in Catholic thought; How tradition relates to the many traditions that contribute to the faith; How tradition can guide and explain human relationships and Whether tradition is a defensible and valuable concept. For more information please ring Trish Egan on **02 8204 4390** or visit <http://www.nd.edu.au/tradition>.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.** The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Office for the Participation of Women have designed a resource to assist parishes in celebrating the International Women's Day on **Sunday, 10 March 2013.** Comments and feedback are welcome. Please direct to the Director of the Office for Participation of Women [director.opw@catholic.org](mailto:director.opw@catholic.org). To download the attached resource please visit [www.opw.catholic.org.au](http://www.opw.catholic.org.au).

**THE GREAT GRACE - RECEIVING VATICAN II TODAY: CONFERENCE, SYDNEY 20-23 MAY 2013.** To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the commencement of the Second Vatican Council, a national conference will be held in Sydney. 'The Great Grace' will be a wonderful opportunity for Catholics involved in all fields of Church life to come together and gain a renewed appreciation of the 'great gift' of Vatican II. Featuring international speakers Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Archbishop Allen Vigneron, Archbishop Arthur Roche and more. Lay people, clergy and religious all welcome. Venue: Australian Technology Park Redfern. For more information see [www.thegreatgrace.org.au](http://www.thegreatgrace.org.au).

**FROM LATINO HEART-THROB TO HOLLYWOOD MISSIONARY.** Meet Eduardo Verastegui. Be inspired. Australian Catholic University, presents the inaugural *Eduardo Verastegui Australian tour*. The Catholic Hollywood actor and film producer is coming to Australia to tell his story from fame to faith and launch his latest film. Well known for his starring role in the award winning film "Bella", Eduardo produces films that reflect his faith, inspire and bring hope. Do not miss the opportunity to meet Eduardo and hear his inspiring testimony on **Monday, 25 February 2013 @ 7.30pm.** St Mary's Cathedral School Hall, Cathedral Street, Sydney. For more information please contact Yvette Nehme [yvette.nehme@acu.edu.au](mailto:yvette.nehme@acu.edu.au).

POSITION VACANT

**Director, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking applications for the role of **Director, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine**. This role is a full time position and is based at the Polding Centre, Sydney. Further detail about this position is available at [www.catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.com.au). Applications to Anthony Spata by email at [anthony.spata@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:anthony.spata@sydneycatholic.org) by 17 February 2013.

 **PRAYER REQUESTS:** Could you please let the Parish Secretary know if any names can be taken off our prayers for the sick. Thank you

 **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:** A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!  
**Weekend date:** 15 – 17 March at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW  
**Bookings:** Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel. 02 4283 3435 or [wsharpe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wsharpe@bigpond.net.au)  
**Information:** website [www.wvme.org.au](http://www.wvme.org.au)

**A NEW BEGINNING**

Beginning Experience is a personal encounter weekend for those who are grieving the loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce. Closing the door on the past gently by getting in touch and dealing with the feelings resulting from the end of the relationship is an important part of making a new beginning.  
**The next Beginning Experience weekend is on 1, 2 and 3 March, 2012.**  
 For more information and an application form please contact: Lee (02) 9449 5317, Lynne (02) 4627 2084 or Kevin (02) 4981 0626

On March 24, Passion Sunday, commencing at 2pm *The Gregorian Schola of Sydney* will present, with scholarly introductions, a broad range of Gregorian chants from this rich centuries-old tradition. The venue is St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Road, Arcadia, and tickets are \$25. Bookings can be made by contacting [johnandcarol@ozemail.com.au](mailto:johnandcarol@ozemail.com.au), tel. 9419 5838 and/or sold at the door. See [www.gchants.org.au](http://www.gchants.org.au). See flyer on the Church noticeboard.

***"Faith and Grace in Everyday Life:***  
*A conversation with Michael Leunig and Fr David Ranson"*

**Saturday, 13th April, 2013**  
**10:00am – 12:30pm**  
**The Light of Christ Centre**  
**End of Yardley Avenue, Waitara**

**Please RSVP by 5th April, 2013**  
 Go to [www.trybooking.com/40300](http://www.trybooking.com/40300) to register online or phone Patty Thomas on 9847 0518  
 This is a free event - registration is essential

A sausage sizzle is available after the event with all proceeds going to support the good works of the St Vincent de Paul Society

**“We Wish to See Jesus”  
2013 Lenten Programme**

During the Year of Grace we have been invited to listen to the Spirit in our lives and to ‘start afresh from Christ’. This has been a call to become one with Christ, taking on his mind and his way of life.

The season of Lent calls us to deepen that journey as we walk with Jesus from the temptations in the wilderness to the glory of the cross.

To help us on that spiritual journey this resource, “We Wish to See Jesus”, provides materials such as Sunday gospels and reflections, discussion questions, opening and closing prayers and ‘Lives of Grace and Service in God’s World’ for a ‘weekly retreat’ of 1 ½ hours for the six weeks of Lent.

**The programme will commence the week of 11th February leading to Passion Sunday 24th March.**

If you are interested in joining our Lenten Program please contact Nina Laureti 9823 3277 or Josie Barilla 9607 3973.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE SYDNEY 2013 CAMPAIGN**

40 Days for life is a pro-life effort involving prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil and community outreach. **During Lent we will be praying every day from 6am-8pm** outside the abortuary on the corner of Elizabeth St and Randle St, Surry Hills, bringing a prayerful presence to the streets. We need you to join us in solidarity as we defend the defenceless and pray for an end to abortion. For more information on *40 Days for Life* and our group vigil session times, please contact **Family Life international** on **9519 9111** or email: [mail@fli.org.au](mailto:mail@fli.org.au) . To sign up for your vigil shift, please visit [www.fli.org.au](http://www.fli.org.au) and click on the 40days link on the homepage.

**LIFE, MARRIAGE & FAMILY CENTRE**

*An Afternoon for Couples Hoping to Conceive* will take place on Saturday, 23rd March at the Catholic Adult Education Centre, (3 Keating Street, Lidcombe) from 2:00 to 5:00pm. The afternoon will feature talks, a testimony, a special blessing for couples given by Bishop Peter Comensoli, time for questions and afternoon tea. For further information and to RSVP, please contact the Life, Marriage and Family Centre on 9390 5283, [lmfevents@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:lmfevents@sydneycatholic.org) or visit [www.lifemarriagefamily.org.au](http://www.lifemarriagefamily.org.au)

The *World Congress of Families 2013* will take place on the 15-18 May here in Sydney, at the Australian Technology Conference Centre. Founded in 1997, it has become a significant world gathering for the support of the natural family, providing educational and network opportunities for those seeking to strengthen and promote family life. For further information and for early registration by Thursday 28th February, please visit [wcf Sydney 2013.org.au](http://wcf Sydney 2013.org.au) or contact the event organiser on 8251 0045 or see the Church noticeboard for more.

***Day of the Unborn Child: Sunday, 17th March***

Bishop Julian Porteous will lead the annual procession from St Mary’s Cathedral through the Sydney CBD in celebration of the Day of the Unborn Child on Sunday, 17th March. The day will be a prayerful and joyful commemoration of the preciousness of human life. Please see Church noticeboard for more details.

A new resource *for Expectant Parents* has recently been published by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. The booklet addresses the issues surrounding prenatal screening and diagnostic testing during pregnancy. It communicates the Church’s teachings with honesty and compassion and provides practical guidance for couples facing decisions about prenatal screening and diagnostic testing. These booklets are available in the Church alcove.



**First Sunday of  
Lent**



Your support for Project Compassion gives expression to the Gospel imperative to help those suffering from poverty and disadvantage.

This week we meet 12-year old Ditosa, an orphan who lost her parents to HIV/AIDS. The Matuba Children’s Centre in Mozambique, run by Caritas Chokwe, offers orphaned and vulnerable children food, clean water, educational support, livelihood training and a place where children can be safe, happy and healthy.

Your solidarity means children like Ditosa have a brighter future.

**Please donate to Project Compassion today.**

**Little Black Books**

Please pick up your “Little Black Book”, and your Project Compassion material this weekend in preparation for the beginning of Lent on Wednesday and then we will be signed with the ashes and reminded we are “dust to dust” “ashes to ashes” and to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.

*Please take home your copy of our  
Parish LENTEN BULLETIN*

**MOUNT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE**  
247 St Andrew’s Road, Varroville

**Day Retreat: Saturday 2nd March**

**“Thirsting for the Word”**

Australian Catholic poets prepare us to hear God’s Word. - Steven Miller

Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm

(Tea/Coffee provided, bring your own lunch)

Retreat Contribution: \$20

For Booking, please call the secretary at (02) 8795 3400 or email us at: [retreats@carmelite.com](mailto:retreats@carmelite.com) or visit our website: [www.carmelite.com](http://www.carmelite.com)

**MOUNT CARMEL RETREAT CENTRE VARROVILLE**  
**Retreat Programme 2013**

See Church noticeboard for full list of Retreats available

**The Grace of Discernment:**

**Retreat for Men Exploring the Priesthood**

A retreat to help men in their discernment of a vocation to the Priesthood at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush on Friday evening to Sunday afternoon (8–10 Mar). This retreat is for men at all stages of their discernment. Retreat programme:

[www.vocationcentre.org.au](http://www.vocationcentre.org.au) under “Important Dates.”

It’s free, but RSVP is required for catering & accommodation.

Enquiries/RSVP: 9390-5970 or:

[vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org)

Every enquirer’s details are kept confidential. More

information is on the poster on the Parish notice board.

**Catholic Schools Guide Sydney:**  
**featuring Faith and Spirituality**

Copies of the guide are in the Church alcove for your perusal.

# "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  
Sunday 3rd March, 2013. All are welcome to attend!

For more information see the WYD/Youth Group bulletin board or call

## 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](mailto:tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au)

### Galilee Youth Group

Galilee Youth will resume at a completely new time this coming school year! It will now run on **SATURDAY nights after 5:30pm Mass** (from 6:30pm to 8:30pm) on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. One of the Saturdays will consist of a Galilee youth program in the parish hall, whilst the other Saturday of the month we will have an outing.

- Our first Galilee youth meeting will be this **Saturday 23rd February (6:30pm-8:30pm)**. It will include games, activities, prayer, talks and snacks and drinks. **Parents are also invited at this time for an information night with coffee and supper to find out more about Galilee youth and its structure.**

Galilee youth is open to all youth in years 7-10 at school. Regarding the outings, anyone in year 7 onwards is welcome to attend.

## WANTED



JB needs a name and logo for a new year 5-6 youth group to join our already established Galilee and Antioch youth groups, and **WE WANT YOU!**

If you are under the age of 18, simply design a name for "The new youth group", add your catchy logo and make it **COLOURFUL!** Enter your submission by the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013 on an A5 or A4 piece of paper in the competition box placed at the entrance of the church and don't forget to write your name and age on the entry!

Submissions will be judged by Fr Michael, Fr Epeli and Tomasz. The winning name and logo will be on display forever more on the youth activity board inside the church!

The winner will receive a **\$50 Westfield voucher** and will be announced at the masses on the weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> March. Happy designing! **ENTER NOW!**

Please contact Tomasz Juszczak for any enquiries:  
[tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au) or call 9823 2572.



### World Youth Day

JB Parish is looking to organise a WYD pilgrimage to Rio 2013!

The pilgrimage will travel via Mexico, Brazil and Iguazu Falls! If any youth in the Parish are interested in joining this pilgrimage or simply want more information, please contact Tomasz on 9823 2572 or [tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au).

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity so I encourage all who are interested to make yourself known and at least find out some more information!

## LENTEN YOUTH PROGRAM

Many people normally "give up" something for Lent such as food or drink (which is great to do!), however, you can also make a commitment during Lent which increases your relationship with Christ in other ways. One way to do this is by attending our weekly Lenten youth program!

### Afterschool program

We will be running an afterschool Lenten program for all high school students on **Friday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm**. It will consist of six sessions which will run from Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, at the **Parish hall**. All students are welcome to attend and sessions will include **DRINKS** and **SNACKS!** Please sign up on the sheet hung up on the noticeboard if you are interested.

### Young Adults Program

We will also be running a Lenten program for young adults from the ages of 18-35. This program will run every **Thursday evening from 6:00pm-7:00pm** at the **Parish hall**.

The sessions will run from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Light snacks and drinks will also be provided, so I encourage all of you to give it a go! Please sign up on the sheet hung up on the noticeboard if you are interested.

# 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*

*Session One:    Wednesday 6th March        7:30pm*  
*Thursday 7th March            9:45am*

*Session Two:    Thursday 7th March            7:30pm*  
*Friday 8th March                9:45am*

*Session Three:   Friday 8th March                7:30pm*  
*Monday 11th March            9:45am*

*Session Four:    Monday 11th March            7:30pm*  
*Tuesday 12th March            9:45am*

*Session Five:    JOINT FINAL SESSION:*  
*Tuesday 12th March            7:30pm*

*Discover for yourself the event that has*  
*changed thousands of people*

## CATHOLIC GUY MISSION HELPERS NEEDED

Helpers needed for Catholic Guy Mission, 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March, 2013

Outside the Church there is a notice board with all different areas we need help to make the Catholic Guy Mission Event a success. These include:

- \* Catering
- \* Organising the Church house for the Catholic Guy Team to sleep in
- \* Setting up
- \* Parking attendants
- \* Child care
- \* Collectors for the sessions

And many more, if you can help in some way, even for an hour at one of the sessions it would be a huge help to everyone.

For more information please contact Sue Xuereb on 0434 487 222 or the Parish Office on 9823 2572.

Thank you!

**N.B. Are there any parishioners who can assist with a skip bin and any parishioners who are carpet cleaners? Your assistance would be very much appreciated. If you can help please contact Sue Xuereb on 0434 487 222 or the Parish Office on 9823 2572.**

## THANK YOU!!!! CATHOLIC GUY PARISH WORKING BEE

Thank you to everyone who so kindly attended our Parish working bee on Saturday. Your help cleaning inside and outside the white house was very much appreciated.. We now have a lovely presented place for the Catholic Guy Mission Team to stay.

## LENTEN MISSION - HOSTED BY THE CATHOLIC GUY

'The Catholic Guy' is a weekly television program that screens around Australia and overseas on Foxtel and in some places on free to air TV.

The team that present this program is coming to this parish of 6th - 12th March. The Catholic Guy event will run here on each of these days at 9:45am and each night from 7:30pm.

The Catholic Guy event is also an ideal opportunity to invite people who don't attend the parish, and even those who aren't Catholic. Everyone will love it, no matter how young or old they are.

There will be someone at the back of the Church after Mass and would love to give you some flyers with all the details of the event. Thank you

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

**Do I need to come to all sessions?** No, come to as many as you wish. However, you will have the best experience if you come to all five sessions as they do follow a journey.

**Will I have to do anything?** No. Nobody will put you on the spot and nothing will be awkward or threatening. Come just as you are.

**Who is this event for?** Everyone. Women, men, young, old, Catholic and non-Catholic. Everyone will love this event.

**How long do the sessions go for?** Each session is approximately 1.5-2 hours in length.

**What actually happens at the sessions?** Each session includes a mix of talks, prayer, music and the arts. Some sessions will also include interviews and other special items. You will also laugh more than you expect.

**If admission is free, how is it funded?** A collection will be taken from anyone who wishes to contribute. The Catholic Guy Ministry also receives additional donations that enable these events to take place.

## CATECHIST NEWS

Four catechists are needed to cover all classes in our six local State Primary Schools. Classes are for 30 minutes on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday morning.

Please consider joining this beautiful ministry of spreading the Good News to many State children who would otherwise not hear of God's immense love for us all. If you are interested in becoming a Catechist please contact Fr Michael or Fr Epeli or Nina Laureti, Parish Catechist coordinator on 9823 3277.

To commence the new school year our **FIRST and only CATECHIST meeting** for the term will be on **WEDNESDAY 20TH FEBRUARY at 7:30pm.**

Fr Michael will celebrate and dedicate the 7:00pm Mass to all catechists, their families and the students they will teach in 2013. Supper will be provided. Venue will be either the Parish Hall or courtyard outside Church. Any new catechists or helpers are most welcome to attend.

Catechists are invited to attend the following free courses in the coming weeks. It is very important to book ahead. Some courses might be cancelled or rescheduled if there are not enough bookings. To book phone 9390 5122 or email [mimi.rivera@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mimi.rivera@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au)

### **Basic One Accreditation Course**

(for new catechists a must.)

Feb 18 & 19 (Monday & Tuesday) 10am to 2pm, run by Teresa Culjak at St Gertrude's (demountable), 6 Justin Street, Smithfield

### **Intermediate Accreditation Course**

(Catechists who have completed Basic One and Two.)

Feb 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25 (Mondays) 10am to 2pm, run by Teresa Culjak at St Gertrudes Parish, 6 Justin Street, Smithfield

Enquiries: Nina Laureti (Parish Coordinator) 98233277

## CHILDREN'S LITRUGY

Children's Liturgy for 2013 has commenced for the year.

Thank you to all our Children's Liturgy Leaders and helpers for volunteering to lead the children of John the Baptist Parish in prayer and sharing your Faith with them.



**Children's Liturgy Leaders please collect your folder from the Church Meeting Room.**

Please return any folders from 2012 to the Children's Liturgy cupboard in the Church Meeting Room.

Any questions please ring your coordinator or Angela on 9606 8403.or 0410 964 196

## FREEMAN SPORTS CLUB



### **Soccer Registrations**



Soccer Registrations will take place in the Parish Hall this Monday evening 18th February between 6:00pm and 8:00pm.

For all players and Soccer kidz.  
(Proof of age and ID required for all new players)

## 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** will take place on 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th November, 2013.

**Reconciliation Enrolments** - to be held on the weekends of 17th and 18th and 24th and 25th August, 2013 in the Parish Hall at the conclusion of the Saturday 5:30pm Mass and Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am Masses.

**First Holy Communion** will take place on 1st and 2nd, 8th and 9th, 15th and 16th and 22nd and 23rd June, 2013.

**Confirmation** will take place on 21st & 22nd September 2013 (First week of the School Holidays); Enrolments will take place on 15th and 16th June and 22nd and 23rd June, 2013 in the Parish Hall at the conclusion of the Saturday 5:30pm and Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am Masses.

### **Baptism Preparation:**

All parents wishing to have a child baptised in March, April or after are asked to attend a preparation session on Sunday 3rd March, 2013 at 4:00pm in the parish hall.

Congratulations to the families of Talia CAVICCHIA, Rafael ZANDARIN PIZARRO and Matthew and Racquel ESGUERRA who will be Baptised here this Sunday 17th February.



**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.



### **PARISH SUPPER AND MORNING TEA**

Parishioners are invited to stay after all Masses next weekend 23rd & 24th February for a cup of tea or coffee. Please bring a plate of food to share.

**The Sisters of Charity Companions** will meet this Sunday 17th February, 2013 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm at Loreto Place, Liverpool Parish. Anyone wishing to attend will be most welcome. Enquiries: Sr Jean Montgomery 9600 6056 or Kerry Kenny 0419 626 976

 **Condolences** Our condolences are extended to the family Donna Gaal who passed away on Friday morning. Donna worked as a teachers assistant in the classroom for many years at John the Baptist. Please keep the family and the students in your prayers.