



John the Baptist Parish

Bonnyrigg Heights

YEAR OF GRACE
"Starting afresh from Christ"

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

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

St Patrick, bishop

Tuesday - 9:10am

St Joseph, Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

Saturday - 9:10am

SUNDAY 23/24 MARCH

(Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord)

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.....

- Stations of the Cross 7pm in the Church every Friday during Lent
- Parish Supper after the Easter Vigil Saturday 30th March

Reflection Questions.....

- ♦ Like the gospel scribes and Pharisees, I tend to be self-righteous when.....
- ♦ Those I tend to make an example of are..... The good I came to see in them is.....
- ♦ I remain with Jesus when..... The new life I receive from him is.....

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year C) 16th and 17th March, 2013

Dear Parishioners,

We celebrate this weekend the election of the new Pope Francis. He has long experience as a teacher, Bishop and Cardinal where he showed great compassion for the poor and in his own life, lived simply. He was the leader of a very large Archdiocese in South America, and is well acquainted with the challenges of being a Christian in the modern world. On the balcony of St Peters he called people to pray and the over 100,000 people in front of him became quiet and prayerful. He then prayed the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be... . We might make these prayers our own and pray for him as he begins his ministry as the Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Jesus Christ.....(several other titles concluding with) Servant of the Servants of God.

We concluded our The Catholic Guy Event as our Parish Lenten Mission with a sausage sizzle and a final combined session on Tuesday evening. Most parishioners and visitors seemed to really enjoy the Event, and found they were spiritually enriched by the experience. The sound, light, music and teaching has had a profound and enlightening affect on many parishioners and visitors. The big question is "Where to from now?". I am open to suggestions, and invite parishioners to speak to Parish Pastoral Council members about these matters, so that we can together discern and nurture the way forward. It would be good to consider what would help you to deepen and enrich your faith, and what would help in your Christian living. The Event has had different affects in different parishes as people feel moved by the Holy Spirit in responding to the experience on the Event.

Thank you to all involved in the planning and day to day requirements of putting on such an event. To Sue Xuereb her family and the whole team we say thank you and well done. The team who came to stage the event worked very hard behind the scenes almost day and night to make things happen. It all seems so seamless and easy when we are sitting there. Living with the team, and seeing how much effort went into everything, you get some appreciation of how demanding and challenging this work is. Please keep the team in your prayers as they have said they will keep us in theirs.

Holy week approaches very quickly and we call for volunteers for the ministries during this most important time. Please check the notice board, and volunteer for a ministry, or some role of assistance during this most sacred time of the year. I do require some assistance with the preparation of the Altar of repose in the Parish Hall for Holy Thursday evening. We also need some assistance with preparing the Church and surrounding area next Saturday after morning Mass.

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

THANK YOU to the Catholic Guy Team for an inspiring Mission here at John the Baptist.

Our thanks to the team Bruce Downes, Julian Sieber, Justin Gimondo, Eddie Ferry, Chris Scharf, Sandra Purcell and Melissa and Scott Gee.

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 MUSOLINO, Frank MUSOLINO, 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 Giuseppi FOTI, Rocco AGOSTINO, Geoff MASTERTON, Rina FAVOTTO, Grace KENNY, Michela GIORGIO, Michelle CARUANA, Leonora MENDOZA, Evelyn MAGRI

Recently Deceased: Tristan EDOUARD, Rita CAMILLERI, Sayed KHAWAJA, Jane SALTAU, Phillip CRISAFULLI, Estanislo FERNANDEZ III

Anniversary: Lucy AZZOPARDI

Other: Mary VELLA, Very Special Intention



FR. ED CAMPION

Will hold a free public lecture title
“Clerical Celibacy in Context”

Thursday 11th April at 7:30pm

at the Catholic Institute of Sydney Ryan Auditorium
 99 Albert Road, Strathfield

RSVP: Veech Library 9752 9530

See Church noticeboard for more details

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

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, tel. 9419 5838 and/or sold at the door. See www.gchants.org.au. See flyer on the Church noticeboard.

WYD13 Raffle – Win \$10,000 In Shopping Or Travel! To support our pilgrims attending WYD13 in Rio de Janeiro, the Archdiocese is running a fundraising raffle to support our young people and the mission projects they will be undertaking in South America. Tickets can be bought online at www.cwf.org.au. You could win \$10,000 in shopping or travel vouchers!

CREDO

Will hold its **5th Colloquium on the New Evangelisation** at the Catholic Centre, Lidcombe.

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August

The Topic will be: **The Power of the Message:** The kerygma for the New Evangelisation

The Keynote Speaker: Fr Gerard Kelly (UK) BSc,MTh, STL

Please mark the dates in your diary and tell any friends who may be interested.

HAVE YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW BEEN HURT BY AN ABORTION EXPERIENCE? Rachel's Vineyard Ministries offers support and spiritual healing at a Catholic retreat. The next retreat is **April 5-7**. Call or SMS the **confidential voicemail: 0400 092 555**. See details at: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au

WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES

Sydney 15-18 May, 2013

Wcfsydney2013.org.au

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>.

Mary MacKillop Catholic College, Wakeley

Enrolling Now for Year 7 2014

Please pick up your application kit from the College office. Applications for 2014 enrolments due by Friday 3rd May. For enquiries please call 9725 4322 during school hours.

THE GREAT GRACE - RECEIVING VATICAN II TODAY: CONFERENCE, SYDNEY 20-23 MAY 2013. To commemorate the 50th 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 All en 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.

“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 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

POSTION VACANT:
Cleaner, Seminary of the Good Shepherd

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking applications for the role of **Cleaner, Seminary of the Good Shepherd**. Working hours are 9am to 4.30pm, Thursdays and Fridays. This role is based at the Homebush South. Further detail about this position is available at www.catholicjobsonline.com.au. Applications to Anthony Spata by email at anthony.spata@sydneycatholic.org by 26 March 2013. Enquiries: 02 9390 5317.

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 or visit 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-sydney2013.org.au or contact the event organiser on 8251 0045 or see the Church noticeboard for more.

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.

You are invited to a morning of quiet reflection at the Grail Centre, 22 McHatton St, North Sydney, on Tuesday 9 April from 10am to 12 noon. We will be reflecting on the theme of "costly grace" in the light of some passages in Luke. There will be time for silent meditation on scripture and the opportunity to share thoughts in a group. We ask for a small donation to cover costs. For more information or to register your interest, please contact the Grail Centre (9955 3053) or ruthcrowe@ozemail.com.au, or Tricia Gemmell (pgemmell@tpg.com.au).

"THE GIFT OF PRESENCE"

Please come to "Mass, talk and reflection" on Wednesday March 20th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at St Patrick's in the City. The focus of the talk is on "The Gift of Presence". This is part of the Marist Laity Australia monthly meetings. Mass will start in the Church and then move to the crypt. For more information contact info@maristlaityaustralia.com or just turn up.

SENIORS MASS AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Life Ascending Australia (LAA)

All Parishioners are invited to attend the Seniors Mass in the Crypt at St. Mary's Cathedral on Thursday, March 21, 2013 at 11:00am

It will be celebrated by Rev Geoffrey Plant who is the Spiritual Advisor to Life Ascending in Sydney. This movement is for senior and retired people and concentrates on Spirituality, Friendship and the Christian Mission of Loving Service.

Phone: Roy Cooke (02) 9771 3609 or look up the website: lifeascending.org.au for information.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS DANCING PROGRAM

Come along and give your child with special needs, (siblings welcome) a chance to dance, and groove to our SNAPP A GROOVE program, giving children with special needs the ability to be stars!



For more information see flyer on Church noticeboard or call the SNAPP President, Lucy Regio on 0419 698 157.



Fifth Sunday
of Lent



Your Project Compassion donations allow Caritas Australia to partner with communities to enhance their human dignity.

This week we meet Aboriginal man, Bernard. For many years, Bernard did not know his father and when his mother passed away, Bernard also lost direction in his life – turning to drugs and alcohol. With the help of Caritas Australia partner, Red Dust Healing, he has reconciled with his father and is now a father himself; dedicated to providing a safe and bright future for his baby daughter.

Please donate to Project Compassion today. Your support ensures that together, we are walking alongside Indigenous Peoples in Australia and around the world.

Please take home your copy of our Parish LENTEN BULLETIN

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. To sign up for your vigil shift, please visit www.fli.org.au and click on the 40days link on the homepage.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

19th May, 2013

11:30am Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church
198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes



"Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches"
(Rev 2:29)

Celebrant and Guest Speaker Fr Ken Barker MGL

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal and Emmaus Prayer Group invite members of Communities and Prayer Groups and all those who are eager to hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches at this time.

Fr Ken Barker is the Moderator of the Missionaries of God's Love, and is the chaplain of the Young Men of God Movement. He is also the director of the Disciples of Jesus Summer Schools of Evangelisation and of the biennial Light to the Nations pilgrimages, which have formed thousands of young people for over 20 years.

Enquiries: (02) 9634 1654, (02) 9810 2499
Email: email@ccrns.org.au

SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESE YOUTH CAMP "I BELIEVE" FOR YEARS 7-10

Attention Parents!! Looking for something for your teenagers to do these school holidays? Want to get them off the iPod, iPhone or iPad and interacting with others? Look no further—your prayers have been answered!!! On **Mon 22nd April—Wed 24th April** Catholic Youth Services Sydney is holding its annual Youth Camp at Blue Gum Lodge, Springwood. "I Believe" is all about helping young people encounter Christ while having a whole heap of fun in great company! The camp involves drama, music, sport, multimedia, testimonies, outdoor activities and more! Cost is \$120 which covers all accommodation, transport, meals and activities. To register download a registration form from www.cys.org.au and return ASAP to camp@cys.org.au Questions? Call CYS on (02) 9764 4357

"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 7th April, 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!

Galilee Youth Group

Galilee Youth will resume at a completely new time this 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 next youth group outing will be to "Flip-Out!" at Penrith Panthers on Saturday 23rd March! It is a new outing that has trampolines below and on the side walls where you simply jump around all over the place. It also has special lights and glow in the dark features for Saturday nights! Prices will be \$20 per person, \$35 for two kids and \$50 for three kids from the same family! There will also be an opportunity to purchase food from Maccas on the way there. We will be leaving JB at 6:30pm (after vigil mass) and be back by 10:30pm. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet up in the youth corner!

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.

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

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 23rd 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 10th March. Happy designing! **ENTER NOW!**

Please contact Tomasz Juszczak for any enquiries:
tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au or call 9823 2572.



World Youth Day

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

World Youth Day 2013 is approaching quickly. We invite all young people in the Parish to travel with us and the Archdiocese to Rio de Janeiro this July.

The pilgrimage will travel via Mexico, Brazil and Iguazu Falls! It is looking to be a life-changing experience filled with faith, immersion opportunities and a chance to celebrate our Catholic faith. Registrations close in a few weeks. 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 or log onto www.syd2rio.com today and reserve your place in WYD2013!

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 15th Feb - Friday 22nd 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.

HOLY WEEK

Monday 25th March, 2013: 9:10am Mass
7:00pm - 8:00pm Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation/Confession) (Several Priests available)

Tuesday 26th March, 2013: 9:10am Mass

Wednesday 27th March, 2013: 7:00pm Mass
Following the Mass a movie screening of "The Passion"

Holy Thursday 28th March, 2013: No morning Mass at the Parish.
* Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral 10:30am. Blessing of the Holy Oils. Oil of Catechumens, Oil of Chrism, Oil of the Sick. Everyone is invited to this Mass.

THE SACRED PASCAL TRIDUUM

7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper Thursday 28th March, 2013

- Washing of Feet
- Procession to Altar of Repose in old Church
- Children and Families making their First Holy Communion lead procession after Cross and Candles followed by Blessed Sacrament and all in the Church
- Adoration in Old Church Parish Hall till midnight

Good Friday - 29th March, 2013

10:00am Morning Prayer and Stations of the Cross

3:00pm - Commemoration of the Lord's Passion Friday 29th March, 2013

- Liturgy of the Word
- Veneration of Cross
- Holy Communion

The Cross stays in the centre of the Church till the Easter Vigil. We reverence the Cross with Genuflection.

Easter Saturday - 30th March, 2013:

9:00am Morning Prayer

- Blessing of the Easter food
- Preparation of the Church for Easter Vigil

Easter Vigil 7:30pm Saturday 30th March, 2013

- Blessing of Fire - Lighting Easter Candle
- Procession to Church - Lighting of Candles
- Liturgy of the Word
- Blessing of Water
- Baptism and Reception of New Catholics
- Easter Eucharist
- After Mass Easter Party. Please bring some food to share and leave it in the Meeting Room
- Please collect a Blessing and Holy Water after Mass (one per family)
- Please collect Little White Books and the Eastertide Bulletin

Easter Sunday 31st March, 2013 - 7:00am 9:00am 11:00am 5:30pm

- Renewal of Baptismal Promises
- Please collect a Blessing and Holy Water after Mass (one per family)
- Please collect Little White Books and Eastertide Bulletin

CATECHIST NEWS

New catechists and helpers are always needed to continue the Mission of sharing our faith with the 1,100 children from the 6 Primary State Schools in our area.

Scripture has started this week and there are a few vacancies.

- * Busby West Primary on a Friday morning 9:00am to 10:00am need helpers urgently.
- * Bonnyrigg Heights Primary on a Wednesday 12:00pm - 12:30pm need a catechist urgently.

This ministry is very suited for university students considering teaching. If you are free on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday morning please consider joining the JB Catechist Team.

If interested or you can help please contact Nina Laureti on 9823 3277.

Thank you.



TRAINING FOR ALTAR SERVERS OLD AND NEW!

Altar Servers Training Sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 3:15-4:15pm in the parish church. Parents are to choose which day is most convenient to their children. There will be two separate groups but both groups will be given the same training and formation.

New Altar Servers are required to attend all three sessions depending on their chosen day. Old Altar Servers are required to attend their two training sessions as well on their chosen days.

Dates

Tuesdays

- 26th February (For Old Altar Servers)
- 5th March (For Old Altar Servers)
- 12th March (For New Altar Servers)
- 17th March (For New Altar Servers)
- 26th March (For New Altar Servers)

Wednesdays

- 27th February (For Old Altar servers)
- 6th of March (For Old altar servers)
- 13th of March (For New Altar Servers)
- 19th of March (For New altar servers)
- 27th of March (For New Altar Servers)

Application Forms can be collected after each Mass and/or from the Parish Office.



LEGION OF MARY

"Our Lady of Good Counsel" Cabramatta Curia

Cordially invites you to celebrate our **Annual Acies Ceremony**

When: Saturday, 23rd March, 2013 (Rosary and Mass from 1:30pm)

Where: Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Carnes Hill

(25 Main Street, Horningsea Park—enter Main St from Cowpasture Road where McDonalds is)



The "ACIES" is a Latin word meaning "as it does an army ranged in battle array". It is the annual Central Function in which legionaries as a body assemble to renew their fealty to Mary, Queen of the Legion, and from her receive strength and blessing for yet another year's battle with the forces of evil. As a faithful Auxiliary member, you are encouraged to be present at this ceremony and, in union with active members, renew collectively and individually the Act of Consecration to Mary.

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 April, May or after are asked to attend a preparation session on Sunday 7th April, 2013 at 4:00pm in the parish hall.



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 26th 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

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP? We are in need of at least two people to help with the 10:00am Morning teas each month. If you can assist please contact the Parish Office on 9823 2572. Thank you!



Stations of the Cross During Lent

Stations of the Cross Fridays 7:00pm at John the Baptist Church.



PALMS NEEDED: We would be very grateful if parishioners could bring any palms or olive branches they have to Church during the coming week or next weekend for Palm Sunday. If you have any larger palms they would be also appreciated and used to decorate the Church.

On Saturday 23rd March we will need helpers to decorate the Church in readiness for Palm Sunday. All palms can be left in the Church courtyard before 9am on Saturday 23rd March. Thank you



**JOHN THE BAPTIST PRIMARY
KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2013**

The enrolment period for 2014 will have begun and will continue until Friday 31st May.

Enrolment packages will be available from the school office through this period and an application fee of \$25.00 applies. Upon receipt of your application, a group interview will be arranged with Mr Lo Cascio and Mrs Blake.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: Thank you for your contribution to the parish's mission and working costs through your Weekly Envelope. Could we make two requests?

1. Please **ALWAYS write the amount** of your contribution on the outside of your envelope; and
2. Please only put in one Envelope each week, even if it contains, say, three weeks' contributions.

Doing these two simple things will greatly help the counters track your giving accurately.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS: If you would like to begin using envelopes to give your support to the parish, please put your name on the envelope request forms provided. 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 presbytery, at any time, and should be returned to the Presbytery. If you wish you may contact the Parish Secretary on 9823 2572. Envelopes support the parish in the same way as the Second Collection, but they are Tax Deductible.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: 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

If any Parishioner is interested in joining our Planned Giving Envelopes there will be clipboards available for you to place your names on the request forms. If you wish to have your contribution direct debited there will be yellow Standing Authority forms available also. Thank you.

FREE CEDAR BLINDS

A Parishioner has kindly offered to give away 6 cedar venetian blinds completed with brackets and screws. The blinds are in very good condition.

If you are interested please call Mary Burton on 9825 9444 or 0402 991 441.

Sizes can be obtained by contacting Mary. She is also able to provide a contact number of a major concern in this city if you need to cut or adjust the blinds (at a small cost to yourself).

EASTER WORKING BEE SATURDAY 16TH MARCH

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parish Working Bee. Your valued time and assistance was very much appreciated.



PARISH SUPPER AND MORNING TEA

This month's Parish Supper and Morning Teas will not be held due to the Easter weekend. Instead

Parishioners are invited to stay after all the Easter Vigil Mass for a cup of tea or coffee. Please bring a plate of food to share. If any Parishioners can help in any way with setting up and providing food please place your name on the sign up sheets on the Church noticeboard.

EASTER VOLUNTEERS

We are in need of Volunteers for Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers etc. for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and the Easter Masses. If you can assist in any way please place your name and contact details on the sign up sheets on the Church noticeboard. Thankyou

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SPONSORSHIP STILL AVAILABLE - \$100 and \$500 PIPES

Great Gift Idea for First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Baptisms etc.



Application forms are available inside the church for the pipe sponsorship. If you have any questions or are interested in sponsoring any of the above items or require further information, please contact Rita Fenech on 0410 484 420.

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

Lord,
 Make Pope Francis an instrument of Your peace.
 Where there is hatred, let him sow love;
 Where there is injury, pardon;
 Where there is doubt, faith;
 Where there is despair, hope;
 Where there is darkness, light;
 And where there is sadness, joy.
 O Divine Master,
 Grant that he may not so much seek
 To be consoled as to console;
 To be loved as to love;
 For it is in giving that we receive;
 It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
 And it is in dying that we are born
 to eternal life. Amen.

