John the Baptist Parish

Bonnyrigg Heights

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

Mount Street,
BONNYRIGG HEIGHTS 2177

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Kelvin Lovegrove
Email: pp@johnthebaptist.org.au

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

Deacon Candidate: Mr Mervyn Francis
Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator: Tomasz Juszczak
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

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Administration/Accountant: Michael O'Mara

Office Hours: 10:00am to 4:00pm

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 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
St Scholastica, virgin
Wednesday - 7:00pm
Our Lady of Lourdes
Thursday - 9:10am
Friday - 9:10am
Saturday - 9:10am
Sts Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop

SUNDAY 14/15 February
(6th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

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

- **Reflection Questions**
- I look for Jesus in these places…..
  I encounter Jesus when…..
- Jesus is Good News for me because….. I am Good News for others when…..
- My life "preaches" Jesus' Presence and Good News when I…..

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
7th & 8th February, 2015

Dear friends,

The readings of this 5th Sunday in ordinary time will relate to each of us in a unique way, but there is a common theme of *honesty to oneself before God* that can guide our own personal thoughts. In the first reading from the book of Job we hear the author explain thoughts and feelings associated with suffering. Even though it is expressed in a poetic manner and the subject is not glamorous, the author has given an honest account before God.

In the second reading St Paul also gives an honest account of himself. Like the book of Job, St Paul reveals what is going on for him. He talks about his deepest motivation; that is, a call to preach the gospel. It is only under God that St Paul could have come to terms with this call. Possibly contrary to St Paul's most superficial feelings, he discovered that by honestly recognising, naming and listening to his deepest calling he must give all types of people the chance to encounter Christ.

In today's Gospel we encounter Christ busily engaging with the sick, but what relates to the earlier readings is toward the end. The morning after a busy night of healing and intimately engaging with people, Christ removes himself from the crowd. We even hear that to the disciples this seemed socially awkward—there were still people looking to engage with him. However Christ still found time to place his honest self before his Father in prayer. Christ would have been tired and deeply moved by all the suffering people he met, but he still made time to place himself before God the Father and listen.

We can find ourselves in all kinds of situations; suffering like Job, hearing a call like Paul or even, like Christ, making time early in the morning after a busy night. We may not have much control over a situation we are going through or much less be able to explain why, but if we can follow the model of Job, Paul and Jesus and just find a place to put our honest selves before God in prayer, we will be able to more clearly say like Christ "let us go on to do ….for that is why I came."

Thomas Hunter

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.*

Responsorial Psalm: *Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.*
Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
He bore our sickness,
And endured our suffering.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon*: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.*

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

Sick: Bishop Geoffrey ROBINSON, Jarcisius ZAMMIT, Facunda MARTINO (7 years), Luis MARTINO, Anna MILLZARSKI, Bogdan MILLZARSKI, Justin ZERAFA, Tony MITTIGA, Cherish ADINA (6 months), Carmen SPITERI, Audrey SPITERI, Michael ARACO, Christine TRIGAS, Crystel SACOBOS, Eugene KLEIBERT, Dora BADINO, Guido BADINO, Sue SHERMAN, Emmanuel POLJAK, Kui LAI

Recently Deceased: Fr Ronald HARDEN, Fr Frank BENDEICH, Lyhou YI, Wagdy SAED, Florentino TEMPERAL, Angela ROMEO

Anniversary: Daniel MICALI, Mikael and Maree BOUARI

Other: Alfio & Giovanna Rapisarda (25th Wedding Anniversary). Very Special Intention

LENT 2015

Lent 2015 is fast approaching with Ash Wednesday on 18th February. Lent is a season of grace inviting us to prepare for the dying and raising of Jesus Christ. So to help us prepare **Lenten groups** will start from **Monday 23rd February.** Sign up sheets with details of group leaders, address, day and times are on the whiteboard outside.

Please consider joining or leading a group. Meeting, prayer and sharing together gives us an opportunity for renewing and deepening our Christian commitment.

Enquiries to Nina Laureti on 0408 465 149

"WELCOME TO 2015 PARISH EVENT"

The social committee is organising a dinner on **SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY, 7PM at the Liverpool Catholic Club.** Menu will be a 3 course dinner, drinks payable at the bar.
COST is $70pp. The function room holds 150 people. This event is the first of our fundraising ventures for the new Church. If interested please contact Nina Laureti on 0408 465 149.
Payment can be in cash or cheque made out to John the Baptist Parish **by Sunday 14th February.** Please place payment in an envelope with names and phone number and either give to Priests at Masses, to Parish Office or directly to Nina Laureti.

Antioch Raffle and Donations

The Antioch Youth group will soon be selling raffle tickets in order to start their fundraising campaign for the upcoming World Youth Day to be held in Krakow, Poland! With the packages soon to be released, the youth of our parish will need all the help they can get to consider this incredible life-changing opportunity. Currently, the Antioch youth are asking for any donations (or ideas for donations) that people are willing to give such as: vouchers, wine, chocolates, and anything else that may be appropriate or appealing. The final draw will be held on a date to be advised in the new year. We thank everyone who has sent in donations thus far. If you are able to assist in any way, please call Sharon on 0410 494 700 or if you would like to remain anonymous, simply leave the donation at the parish office. Thank you!

FREEMAN SOCCER REGISTRATIONS

Registration Dates for Boys and Girls U5 to All Age

All Players must register online at www.myfootballclub.com.au **before attending registration dates.**

Proof of age and ID required for new players.

Girls required U6-U8 (girls only comp on Sat afternoons)

Registration Dates:
Saturday 7th February, 2015 9:30am - 1:30pm
Sunday 8th February, 2015 11:00am - 2:00pm

At John the Baptist Hall, Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights

Visit www.freemansports.com.au for more information

For further information contact
Frank Luca 0466 965 871 ir
Roy Paragalli 0408 414 540

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 1st March, 2015.
All are welcome to attend!

For more information on the activities and Youth Groups below see the WYD/Youth Group bulletin board or Tomasz on 9823 2572 or email Tomasz at tomaszj@johnthebaptist.org.au

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Before, by yourself, you couldn't. Now, you've turned to our Lady, and with her, how easy ."

(St. Josemaria Escriva)

GALILEE YOUTH, BIGGER AND BETTER!

We hope you've all had a calm and refreshed couple of weeks at school and that you're slowly starting to get back into the swing of things. Thank you so much to all those who came along to our first Galilee youth group of the year and for helping make it the fun and enjoyable night that it was. If you missed out, then that's fine because we're already shifting our attention to our second youth night which will be held on **Friday 27th February from 6-8pm.** Galilee is a really engaging and heart-warming youth group and is open for all students from years 7-10 and includes heaps of time for activities, talks, prayer, food (yum!) and some healthy competition, where prizes can be won! We'll also be talking about **WORLD YOUTH DAY** in Poland (Krakow) and discussing the amazing things that can be seen and done in the homeland of Saint John Paul the Great! Once again, students will be given the opportunity to help out and serve with the Jordan youth group which will run on the same day from 3:30-5:30pm. We'll also shout out a pizza dinner for all those who help out so make sure to have this night free and we hope to see you there! God bless you all.

THE RETURN OF JORDAN!

After what we're sure has been a refreshing first couple of weeks back at school, Jordan is very much alive and raring to go! Firstly, we just want to thank you all for your incredible enthusiasm and energy for what was a very beautiful and dynamic first youth night of the year, just last Friday. All year fives and sixes that came really showed us how keen they were, indicating that this is going to be a promising and very enjoyable year for all those at John the Baptist primary. If you missed out or if you're excited to come back, our next youth group session will be on **Friday 27th February from 3:30-5:30pm**. There will be plenty of time for games, activities, movies, prayer, trivia and FOOD! If anyone wants to come along, simply fill out the permission slip (which can be picked up at the school office and returned there once filled out) or contact Tomasz for more information. God bless.

Youth Prayer Intentions and Mass

All the youth and young adults of JB Parish are invited to the weekly Wednesday night Mass to pray for specific intentions (which will change each week). There will be a chance to celebrate mass, pray for the intention during Holy hour as well as some time for fellowship with other youth. So please join us this Wednesday 11th February at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **For those who need to find Christ through the Immaculate Conception** (February 11th is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes). Let us pray to Our Lady of Lourdes, that like she was to Saint Bernadette, she may be our guide to finding the path that leads to her Son. Jesus, Our Lord. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, pray for us. If you would like to offer an intention one week, please contact Tomasz to do so.

Antioch meet every Sunday evening from 6:30-8:30pm at JB Parish Hall. Come and join us for some great talks, participate in sharing, music, prayer and more! All youth from 16-24yo are more than welcome to attend! Hope to catch you all there!

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

I would ask that all who receive Holy Communion at Mass would ensure that when they receive the host, the host is consumed at the altar. If there is a special need for the sick, please approach Fr. Epeli or Fr. Kelvin and arrangements will be made to take Holy Communion to the sick or ill.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

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 also ensure you have a current "Working with Children" Check.**

Please return any folders from 2014 to the Children's Liturgy cupboard in the Church Meeting Room.. For more information contact Angela on 9606 8403 or 0410 964 196.

CATECHIST NEWS

The 2015 school year is quickly approaching. Scripture in our state schools will not be starting til early March. Due to maternity, sick leave and work we **need 2 catechists** to cover all our classes this year. Classes are 30 minutes and all materials provided. Classes are on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Vacancies:
Governor Philip King 9am-10:30am Tuesdays, **2** catechists contact Nina Laureti 9823 3277

Helpers are invaluable and work closely with the catechists.

Please consider joining our wonderful ministry and as Pope Francis says "In calling us, God says to us" You are important to me, I love you, I count on you..."

All enquiries Nina Laureti 0408 465 149.

PATHWAYS OF ST PAUL

Join parishioners from Holy Innocents' on a 20 day Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey, departing Monday 20th April 2015. Walk in the footsteps of St. Paul, visit the places where he lived, worked and was imprisoned. Also visit island of Patmos, where St John wrote the book of Revelation, Basilica of St John built over the Tomb of "The Divine" Apostle and the "House of Mary" where it is said Mary spent the later years of her life. For Itinerary Brochure and Booking Form please contact Fr. Peter Krigovsky: email admin@holyic.org.au, phone (02) 9747 4291 , or download from www.holyinnocentscroydon.org.au/news-and-events/parish-pilgrimage

PALMS AUSTRALIA

Encounter Mission and Development, Encounter Love and Justice, Encounter humble volunteers, Encounter faith, Encounter God. Palms Australia will be conducting a guided tour of the communities in which their global volunteers are working in East Timor from April 6—18. There are limited places. Enquiries need to be processed by February 28th so call (02) 9518 9551 or register interest online: www.palms.org.au/Encounters

PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptisms are usually held on Sundays at John the Baptist, Bonnyrigg Heights. It is necessary to make a booking through the parish office and attend a Baptism Preparation session in the parish hall. All parents wishing to have a child baptised in April or after, are asked to attend a preparation session which will be held on Sunday 1st March, 2015, at 4:00pm. The Baptism will be pencilled in, and will only be confirmed once you have attended the Baptism Preparation session.

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation/Confession will take place on 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th November, 2015.

Reconciliation Enrolments 22nd/23rd and 29th/30th August, 2015 after the 5:30pm, 8am and 10am Masses.

Parent Meeting Tuesday 4th August, 2015 at 7pn in the church.

Preparation Lessons begin Week 1 of Term 4.

First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 6th and 13th June, 2015 and Sunday 7th and 14th June, 2015 at 12:30pm and 3:00pm.

Parent Meeting Change of Date: Tuesday 17th March, 2015 at 7:00pm in the Church. ALL parents enrolling children for First Holy Communion must attend.

Group Leader Meeting Tuesday 24th March, 2015 at 7:00pm in the Church.

Preparation Lessons begin Week 1 of Term 2.

Confirmation will take place in September, 2015.

Please keep watching this space for any changes or updates or call the Parish Office on 9823 2572.

We congratulate the family of Marcus STEFANESCU who will be baptised here this Sunday 8th February

First Holy Communion Parent Meeting Change of Date

The parent meeting will now take place on **Tuesday 17th March** in the Church. If you wish to enrol your child for First Holy Communion you must attend this meeting.

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

'COME AND SIT WITH THE LORD'
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Give 20 minutes of your busy day to Jesus and experience the difference in your life. Held in the Church chapel every Tuesday at 8:00pm commencing the 3rd February, 2015. Duration time is approximately 30 minutes. For further information please contact Frances on 0438 213 313.

Ministries Next Week 14/15 Feb	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	E Vella J Oliveri	P Lavorato T Simpson	N Debuisson A Vlahadamis	A Watts G Colusso
EUCHARIST MINISTERS:	M Camilleri E Vella D Tomac L Tononcelli D Adam J Oliveri L Topic P Micali C Smith B Smith	F Foti F Bushby A Liberatore J Gauchi	Delicia Vella J Vella G Zangari M Velardi F Holden M Aulsebrook L Aulsebrook C Porreca A Pinto D Ellul	

WE NEED MORE EUCHARITSTIC MINISTERS FOR ALL MASSES

If you would like to become a Eucharistic Minister please contact Linda Barilla on 9607 4993.

PARISH HOUSIE: Every Saturday between 2:00pm and 4:30pm at the Liverpool Catholic Club.

Think! About your choices
Gambling More, enjoying less?
For free and confidential information and advice about problem gambling, please contact
Gambling Help 1800 858 858
www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au