



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 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

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

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Annunciation of the Lord

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

Saturday - 9:10am

SUNDAY 28/29 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



Reflection Questions

- ♦ What troubles me about dying to self is..... I resist it because..... I am willing to die to self when.....
- ♦ I am aware of serving Jesus in serving others when..... This is easy for me when..... This is difficult for me when.....
- ♦ To be glorified is to.....

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year B) 21st & 22nd March, 2015

Dear Friends,

Before entering the seminary I was given some advice by my parish priest, "don't get in the Lord's way and you'll be right." When I heard this I did not really get it. I probably saw the way of God too objectively and was not as aware of the deeper personal relationship God wanted with me.

The way of God is not only something external to us but within us. The way of God involves a very personal encounter with God. To "get in the Lord's way" is to keep the door to our deepest self shut in the face of God. The reality of Christ, that He teaches us to call His father our Father and that He shares with us the Holy Spirit testifies that God's way is a personal reality; like the DNA shared by a family. All the readings of this 5th Sunday in Lent indicate this.

Reflect on the first reading: "Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts." And in the second reading we learn that Christ was the ultimate example of how we can open up to God's way through obedience and submission. Obedience and submission may be tough concepts, but they really just mean we "open the door" to let God and others into our lives.

In the Gospel Jesus says "anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life." The word *hate* is a hyperbole (a grammatical technique to exaggerate a point), but with the example of the grain that *falls* and *dies* the lesson teaches us that we are expected to go beyond our comfortable selves in some way(s). Even Jesus said "my soul is troubled" but that was all part of His mission. Opening ourselves up to the way of God is no sure immunity from suffering. Our hearts will be restless until they finally rest in God, if and only if we start offering them to God from where we are now - a boat on rough seas still has to navigate towards the calm and safe port. God does not impose; like any friendship we must be open to the other, and we do this in prayer throughout the week.

Thomas Hunter

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Responsorial Psalm: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;

and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

YOUTH CORNER

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



Sick: Donna CORDINA, Sr Virginia MAHONEY, 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: Mary GAUCI (Melbourne), Fr James GALLEN, Fr Vince PEDEMONT, Fr Bernard RYAN sm, Indiana Rose BAILEY (20 months)

Anniversary:

Other: Lucy AZZOPARDI, Josephine VELLA, Very Special Intention



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 5th April, 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

“He carried out this vocation with complete fidelity until at last God called him, saying: ‘Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord.’”

(St Bernardine of Siena on St. Joseph, Patron Saint of the Universal Church)

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.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

The NSW Government requires that all volunteers who work with children must be registered with the State Government through their parish. Parishioners working in the following ministries require a WWCC:

- Youth Ministers, Workers and Leaders
- Pastoral Associates
- Sacramental Coordinators
- Sacramental Group Leaders
- Catechists
- Children’s Liturgy Coordinators
- Children’s Choir Leaders



Every person working in these areas must register by 28th March, 2015. All completed forms need to be handed into the office before the abovementioned date. Please also include you Date of Birth. All enquiries should be directed to Leanne Lang (parish secretary) either by phone or by the parish email address.

You will not be able to work with children until your forms have been handed into the office and we have registered you with the Office of the Children’s Guardian and received clearance.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES

All Project Compassion Envelopes and Boxes need to be returned during Holy Week. The Donations to Project Compassion will be brought up during the Mass of the Lord’s Supper (Holy Thursday) to emphasise how our offerings help to feed the most vulnerable in our world, as Christ fed the poor and suffering, and gave us the Mass (Eucharist) s our way of being reminded that the poor are always with us.

CATECHIST NEWS

Reminder to all catechists that the Second part of the BASIC COURSE will be held in the JB Meeting Room not parish Hall on Monday 23rd March from 6.30 to 9 pm. Please bring a pen and bible. Enquiries Nina Laureti 0408465149.

ORDINATION OF MERVYN FRANCIS TO THE HOLY ORDER OF DEACONS

Mervyn will be Ordained at St Mary’s Cathedral on **Thursday 26th March at 6:30pm**. We are organising the Freeman bus. The bus will leave JB at 4:45pm. If you wish to book a seat please place your name on the sign up sheets outside the Church. Limited seats available.

Jordan and Galilee

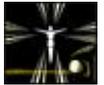
Our upcoming Jordan and Galilee night will be held on Friday 27th March at JB parish hall. All year 5-6 students are invited to Jordan youth group which runs from 3:30-5:30pm where students will meet the leaders outside the church right after school. Jordan youth group will feature DVD’s, fun activities, talks, prayer, sharing and food! Then from 6-8pm all students in years 7-10 are welcome to our Galilee night which will involve time for fellowship, presentations, discussions, prayer, activities and also plenty of food! The Galilee youth are also invited to help out with Jordan earlier in the afternoon and will receive a free pizza dinner for their great effort. Please join us for what will surely be a fantastic night!

A MEMORABLE, FUN NIGHT OUT ☺

Thank you to all those who came along to our youth night last week at MEGACENTA, Liverpool. It was a wonderful night of friendship, love, laughs, strikes, spares and gutter balls and a lot of tiredness (courtesy of the laser tag!) Everyone who attended agreed that it was a great night and I’m sure there’ll be plenty more people wanting to come to our next youth night, which is only sure to be bigger. For all you young folks, that’ll be happening sometime in June,. God bless for now and we’ll be sure to keep you guys posted.

Lenten Youth Program (Grades 5-12)

Every Monday during Lent all students from grade 5-10 are invited to participate in a youth Lenten program which runs after school from 3:30-4:30pm at JB parish hall. The program includes time for fellowship, prayer, talk, reflections, snacks and drinks. This is a great way to participate in the call of prayer and charity during Lent and another way we can give up our time (as well as chocolate!) to focus more on Christ this Lent. Our next meeting is this Monday 23rd March.



WORLD YOUTH DAY RAFFLE

A huge thank you to everyone in the community who purchased tickets/generously donated to support our fundraiser for World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland 2016. It really does mean a huge lot to the youth in this parish that are looking forward to attending what will undoubtedly be the experience of a lifetime. God-willing this money that has been fundraised will allow as much youth as possible to go to Poland and richly grow in faith. Tickets can still be purchased, however please contact me via phone or email if you wish to do so, as we will **not be selling** from our raffle stalls until Palm Sunday. We have a great range of prizes as well which are listed on the back page of the bulletin. Also, if you have any prizes that you may like to donate, please let me know. Just a reminder that the raffle will be drawn on Divine mercy Sunday (12th April) after the 10am mass in the Parish Hall. Thank you again to all! 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 25th March at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **On the Feast of the Annunciation, that we, like our Mother Mary did, say yes to God’s call.** If you would like to offer an intention one week, please contact Joe to do so.



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

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

Monday 30th March 9:10am Mass

Tuesday 31st March 9:10am Mass
5:30-6:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Several Priests)

Wednesday 1st April 7:00pm Mass

Thursday 2nd April No Morning Mass, Chrism Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral at 10:30am. Everyone is invited to the Mass. 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 3rd April 10:00am Morning Prayer and Stations of the Cross
3:00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday 4th April 9:00am Morning Prayer
Easter Vigil 7:30pm Mass

Easter Sunday 5th April 8:00am, 10:00am

Please note there will be NO 5:30pm Mass on Easter Sunday



PALMS NEEDED: Sunday 29th March is Palm Sunday. We would be grateful if you could bring palms or olive branches to the church foyer area where there will be baskets in which you can place your palms. If you can cut the palms into smaller pieces, this would be much appreciated. We require helpers to decorate the Church with larger palms on **Saturday 28th March around 10.00am. a.m.**

PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER VOLUNTEERS

We are in need of Volunteers for Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers etc. for Palm Sunday, 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

ATTENTION: PARISHIONERS USING PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Each Sunday volunteer parishioners count the Sunday Mass collections. An essential part of this is to ensure that the envelopes are counted and recorded correctly. This is to ensure that you receive the correct receipt at the end of the year and each week we correctly account for the money collected.

To assist the counters the following is requested:

- Please record the amount you are donating clearly on the front of the envelope. It is easier for the counters to verify the amount they take out of the envelope to the amount recorded on the front.
- If you are catching up on several weeks' envelopes, please place the total amount in the last dated envelope and record the total amount on the front. Discard any unused envelopes.
- Please DO NOT use sticky tape to seal the envelopes.

We thank you for your continued support and contributions.

CAR PARK DRAINAGE REPAIRS will be completed by Friday 27th March. Thank you for your patience and understanding whilst these works are carried out.



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 7pm 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 on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September, 2015. **Enrolments** will take place **on one weekend ONLY** Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June, 2015. Times to be advised. Enquiries Linda Barilla 9607 4993.

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

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.



'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.



CHURCH WORKING BEE
Saturday 28th March 7:00am - 1:00pm

In preparation for Easter we will be having a church working bee to clean up the church and grounds. We need many hands to help with cleaning of the church, windows, lawns and general gardening. If you can help in any way please come along on the day and bring any tools and equipment that you have available. If you have any questions please call Grant Dunn on 9823 4704.

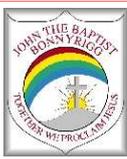
Ministries Next Week 28/29 March	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	M Camilleri E Vella	L Barilla S Hely	M Aulsebrook L Aulsebrook	K Garvin M Garvin
EUCHARIST MINISTERS:	C Smith B Smith B Gorla M Brito P Bennett C Bennett M Harvey M Abel J Abela D Rotondo	A Liberatore N Vartuli B Vartuli J Gauchi	S Stornelli N Freeman N Dubuisson H Habib A Vlahadamis D Cordina E Villegas G Dunn H Fenech M Lavorato	

A former parishioner who is returning from the North Coast to live in the Bonnyrigg area is enquiring about the availability of a "granny" flat for accommodation. If you can help please contact Fr Kelvin or the parish secretary.



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

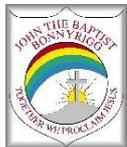
Think! About your choices
Gambling More, enjoying less?
For free and confidential information and advice about problem gambling, please contact
Gambling Help 1800 858 858
www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au



JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS OPEN FOR KINDERGARTEN 2016

Enrolments are now open for Kindergarten 2016. Enrolment packs are available from the school office between 8:30am and 4:00pm. The Enrolment period runs from 9th March to 29th May, 2015. Kindergarten enrolments are considered where the child turns 5 years of age before 31st July of the year of intended commencement. Any enquiries please phone the school office on 9823 5042.

John The Baptist School Calendar Fundraiser 2015



We are compiling a calendar which will be double A3 in size, colour printed and laminated. This school calendar (6 months on either side) will advertise the business details (business card size). We are appealing to **any local business in the school community** to place an advertisement on our school calendar.

Each business card space will cost \$300.00 for 6 months (each side of the calendar). These calendars will be sent to families of 850 children and parishioners in the community. 1000 copies of this calendar will be disseminated to the local community.

The benefits to the school will be financial support providing an exciting play and learning environment for the children. Businesses will benefit from exposure on the calendar.

We hope that your business is interested in supporting the education of children in this area and at the same time can benefit from acknowledgement in this growing community.

If you would like to advertise or would like more information please contact Teresa Vartuli on 0413835250 **by 24th April 2015.**

Monday March 23rd, Stations of the Cross at Bringelly

Parents of John the Baptist Primary school and JB parishioners are invited to meet at St Joseph's Conference Centre, Tyson Road Bringelly, at 10.30am, where we will walk through the beautiful garden statues reflecting on the Stations of the Cross from a parent's perspective. The walk should conclude before midday. All are welcome. The walk is short and on concrete pathways, so fairly easy for the young and the not so young. Perhaps you can carpool with friends and share this beautiful Lenten activity together. Enquiries- Tina Dunn, Family Educator, John the Baptist Primary School, 0439 492 920.

World Youth Day Raffle Prizes!!! (See youth corner for ticket details)



- (1) Star Wars Suitcase (valued at \$249)
- (2) Smartphone and tablet printer
- (3) 2 passes to Treetop adventure park (\$115 each)
- (4) Electric Garden Trimmer
- (5) Heston Blumenthal cookbook (\$65 value)
- (6) 2 gift vouchers to Café Harvest (\$50 each)
- (7) Gift voucher for La Vita Nuova (\$50)
- (8) Stainless steel blender
- (9) Penna's pharmacy gift pack
- (10) 30 gift vouchers for Priceline (\$45 each)
- (11) Large professional dartboard
- (12) Voucher for flowers by Lucy (bouquet)
- (13) XL canvas image
- (14) Car cleaning products
- (15) Large teddy bear collection
- (16) Sandwich toaster
- (17) 2 gift vouchers for Bonnyrigg Garden centre (\$25 each)
- (18) 2 gift vouchers for Bunnings (\$20 each)
- (19) 5 Hoyts movie passes

AFTERNOON FOR COUPLES HOPING TO CONCEIVE:

Married couples (Catholic or otherwise) who are hoping for children, struggling to conceive, or who wish to better understand what the Church offers and promotes with regard to fertility awareness and assistance are warmly invited to an afternoon of information and discussion. It is also an important opportunity for fellowship with other couples facing similar difficulties.

WHERE: Catholic Adult Education Centre, 3 Keating Street Lidcombe.

WHEN: **Saturday 28 March 2015**, 1.30pm - 4:30pm.

Please direct RSVPs and inquiries phone (02) 9307 8403 or to lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org

ORGANIST NEEDED!



Attention organists out there! Fr. Gerard Moran from the Mt. Carmel Retreat Centre at Varroville needs an organist for Holy Week, especially for the Tridium. If you can help him out please call the Secretary on 8795 3400.

ARISE LENTEN ONE DAY RETREAT presented by The Catholic Guy

The Arise Lenten Retreat gathers people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the power of God in a real and relevant way through Scripture, music and the arts. The Catholic Guy Team holds life-changing events around Australia presenting a fresh approach to faith and life. Join us this Lent as we prepare for the most powerful Easter Ever.

Saturday 28th March, 2015

St Pauls Catholic College Hall, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes, NSW
Children: Pre-register for the special free daytime program for children ages 2 to 10 years.

Cost: \$60 individuals and \$90 couples

Registration and Information: arise@thecatholicguy.com or phone 1300 734 880

See Church noticeboard for more information.

The Maltese Cultural Association of NSW

The Way of the Cross (*Via Sagra as written by Frank Zammit*) in Maltese on **Tuesday 31 March at 7:00pm** at OLQP, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. This principal celebrant is Fr Noel Bianco assisted by the MCA Choir. Afterwards, light refreshments will be served in the George Preca Centre—all are welcome. Contact Jim Borg on 9636 7767.

On Saturday 28th March, 2015, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Varroville will be celebrating a wonderful event:

The 500th anniversary of the birth of St Teresa of Jesus, foundress of the Discalced Carmelite Order.

Come along and bring your friends for:
10:00am Mass with Bishop Peter Ingham
1200pm Sausage sizzle lunch
200pm, Concert 'til 430pm,
700pm, dinner dance.

Please contact the Parish office on 9603 7373, for further information.

Parishioners and Friends are invited to
'Life in God's Mercy Seminar'

Understanding Deeper the mystery of the Divine Mercy
28th March, 2015

11:30am to 4:00pm

All Saints Catholic Church in Liverpool

For enquiries please contact Flor 0433 016 742 or
Charlie 0414 812 800



POSITIONS VACANT

The Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush is inviting applications for the position of **Part Time Cleaner**. Working Days are Mondays and Tuesdays, 9:30am to 2:30pm. Applications close Friday, 27th March.

The Parish of Our Lady of Fatima, Kingsgrove is inviting applications for the position of **Youth Coordinator**. Applications close Thursday, 26th March.

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking application for the position of **Executive Assistant to the Chief of Operations & Finance**. Applications close Monday, 23rd March.

For a confidential discussion on any of the above positions please contact Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. A copy of the position description is available at www.catholicjobsonline.com.au

When a Loved One Dies *How to get through the Loss & Grief*

Christ the King Parish Hall

3 Cantrell St, Bass Hill NSW 2199

10am -12pm Tuesday 24th March, 2015

All Welcome - Morning tea provided

Want to know more about Bereavement Gatherings?
Call Patricia Thomas T: 02 9646 6936 M: 0438 263 036
RVSP your attendance to admin@crk.org.au



Catholic Cemeteries
& Crematoria
Care, Compassion, Choice

'Life is not taken away, life is changed' (Revelation 22: 19)