



# John the Baptist Parish

Mount Street, Bonnyrigg

(Incorporating Bonnyrigg Heights, Green Valley, Edensor Park, Abbotsbury, Cecil Hills, Elizabeth Hills & Elizabeth Park)



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**Parish Pastoral Centre:**  
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**Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang**  
**Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski**  
**Accountant: Michael O'Mara**

**Office Hours: Tuesday- Friday 10am to 4pm**

## 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**  
*Sts John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues,  
priests, companions and martyrs  
St Paul of the Cross, priest*

**Tuesday - 9:10am**

*For the Soul of Mary Vella*

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*Very Special Family Intension*

**Thursday - 9:10am**

**Friday - 9:10am**

*St John of Capistrano, priest*

**Saturday - 9:10am**

*St Anthony Claret, bishop*

## SUNDAY 24/25 OCTOBER

*(30th 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**

## SPECIAL MASSES

**Monday November 2**

**All Souls Day - 9.10am, 7pm**

### **Reflection Questions**

- ◆ The glory I often discover myself seeking is...
- ◆ The glory Jesus invites me to seek is.....
- ◆ The "cup" Jesus asks me to drink is
- ◆ When I drink this cup, I.....
- ◆ I am being baptised into...

## 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) 17th & 18th October, 2015

### **Ambition for Positions of Power vs Ambition for the Higher Gifts.**

Our Gospel today is a classic text on the question of ambition. In spite of Jesus' two previous predictions of his death, James and John still thought of Jesus as a revolutionary freedom fighter and they shared the Jewish belief that the Messiah would be a political king, sitting on David's throne and ruling over a re-united Israel. James and John were sure that Jesus' final trip to Jerusalem was to overthrow the Roman rulers. Hence they wanted to be in on the ground floor and become one of the Generals or the Prime Minister in the new Kingdom. This request of James and John reveals their lack of understanding of true Christian leadership. They were looking for positions of power and prestige. They thought that leadership comes from where you sit rather than how you serve.

Ambition is not always a bad thing. St Paul (cf. 1 Cor 12:31) encourages us to be ambitious, not for ourselves, but for the higher gifts. Ambition should be a desire to contribute to God's work of perfecting our world through love. We are a community of Christians who should be ambitious for the higher things. In order to be an effective community, we need true ambitious Christian servant leaders. They are sometimes referred as ordained ministerial priests, as commissioned lay leaders, catechists and various other ministers. Some leaders are sent from other communities (like your priests), while some leaders emerge from within a community, but being a leader doesn't make a person better than anyone else. In fact, it is a dangerous mission to be a servant leader. It is not possible to please everyone and true leadership will always involve the cross.

The Holy Spirit guides each person and will guide our parish community also. We as Christians need to be willing to wash one another's feet and to wash the feet of the poorest of the poor. We require leaders to call us in the way of action and social justice. We need leaders who tie us to other communities and leaders who will have initiative to share our values and form new groups and new experiences of God's love. Finally, we need leaders who can break open the word for us, who can lead us in our prayer, offering us on the altar, and who can draw us together as God's people. There is not one person who possesses all that we need as individuals or as a community. Our mission as Christians and servant leaders (if we choose to accept it), is to pray for leaders, and to recognize, nurture, celebrate and help unify the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our ambition to build a kingdom of the love of God.

*Fr James*

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



**Sick:** Jose BRITTO, Ray CLARKE, Maila CORKILL, Fahed JREISAT, Emmanuel ARAPA, Jose BRITO, Donna CORDINA, Bishop Geoffrey ROBINSON, Facunda MARTINO (7 years), Luis MARTINO, Anna MILLZARSKI, Bogdan MILLZARSKI, Justin ZERFAFA, Cherish ADINA (1 year), Carmen SPITERI, Audrey SPITERI, Christine TRIGAS, Crystel SACOBOS, Eugene KLEIBERT, Dora BADINO, Guido BADINO, Sue SHERMAN, Emmanuel POLJAK

**Recently Deceased:** Rosina LETTIERI, Giuseppe PETRULLA, George THURN

**Death Anniversary:** Guy Christian HOPE, Cesar LAI

**Other:** Mary VELLA, Very Special Family Intention



We congratulate the family of Alexia ASONITIS who will be baptised here this Sunday 18th October.

**Tuesday October 20 at 7:30pm** get back to basics with **Catholicism 101**, a monthly catechesis evening for young adults (aged 18-35) at **St Mary's Chapter Hall**, join us and our 3 panellists as we examine the issue of same sex 'marriage' from a religious, legal and experiential perspective. The panellists include, Fr Daniel McCaughan who completed his licentiate on the Psychological and Pastoral care of people with same-sex attraction, Monica Doumit who works for Catholic Talk and will look at the legal ramifications of SSM, and James Parker who lived and practiced as a gay rights activist but now works with abused men and speaks regularly on topics to do with same-sex attraction and SSM. A light supper will be provided and while you are there join us for City Silence from 6:30pm in the Cathedral.

**Friday 23 October at 7:00pm BOOK LAUNCH - The Life of Saint Mary of the Cross, Mary MacKillop 1842-1909**, the book is the full official biography written for the Vatican by Fr Paul Gardiner SJ, (at the Mustard Seed Bookshop, 3 Keating St, Lidcombe). Speakers: Fr Peter Joseph, Sr Monica Cavanagh RSJ, with a video message from Fr Paul Gardiner in Penola. **RSVP: 9646 9000, [bookshop@caec.com.au](mailto:bookshop@caec.com.au)**. To reserve your copy of this limited edition, visit [www.mustardseed.org.au](http://www.mustardseed.org.au) or call 9646 9000.

**Tuesday 27 October: Laudato Si' - Sydney Colloquium**  
You are invited to participate in an opportunity to engage with Pope Francis' encyclical on ecology and creation and deepen your understanding of his challenge for each of us to protect the earth, dignify humanity and restore God's gift of creation. The Pope places the environmental crisis as "the greatest moral challenge of our time." Catholic Mission, Catholic Earthcare and Catholic Religious Australia will host Fr Denis Edward a renowned theologian in the field. Participants will have an opportunity for prayer and reflection, to engage with local leaders and practitioners in the field and will enable you to be inspired and explore different ways and ideas in which **Laudato Si'** can be practically lived out through a facilitated workshop.  
**Time:** 8:30am - 4pm **Register:** [www.thefranciseffectII.com](http://www.thefranciseffectII.com)  
**Venue:** Lidcombe Catholic Club, Dooleys, 24 John St, Lidcombe

**Friday 20 - Sunday 22 November Marriage Encounter**  
Let your love blossom this spring with a weekend together. A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience - set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Give the greatest gift, that of your time alone - invest in your most precious asset... your Marriage!  
**Venue for Weekends:** Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW  
**To apply contact:** Ardell & Bill Sharpe Tel. 02 4283 3435 or [wsharpe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wsharpe@bigpond.net.au)  
[www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) [www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit](http://www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit)

# 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 November, 2015.  
All are welcome to attend!

For more information on the activities and Youth Groups below see the WYD/Youth Group bulletin board or Joe on 9823 2572 or email Joe at [josephs@johnthebaptist.org.au](mailto:josephs@johnthebaptist.org.au)

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Prayer is an act of love; words are not needed. Even if sickness distracts from thoughts, all that is needed is the will to love."  
(St Teresa of Avila)

## McDonald's Night!

On Tuesday evening, **20th October**, McDonalds will be supporting the youth of the John the Baptist parish community that are willing to seek Christ in their lives through the celebration of World Youth Day next year in Krakow. McDonald's (see poster outside for further details), **corner of Elizabeth Drive and Smithfield Road**, from the hours of **6pm-8pm**, will be making a **15% donation with all Front Counter and McCafe purchases** (therefore, does not include Drive-Thru), where this money will go towards the youth of the parish, so this global and enriching experience can become more affordable for them. Please spread the word and come along anytime between these two hours for a meal. Hope to see many people there! God bless always. I'm lovin' it...☺



If you can't make it, then no problem. Over the next few weeks, we will have chocolates on sale at the end of Mass, which is another way to support our youth community, who wish to attend World Youth Day with Pope Francis and millions of other pilgrims in the City of Mercy!



## Jordan and Galilee



Our next Jordan and Galilee night will be held on Friday 30th October at JB parish hall! All year 5-6 students are invited to Jordan youth group which will run from 3:30-5:30pm and will meet outside the church after school. Jordan youth group includes DVD's, fun activities, talks, prayer, sharing, and food! If children could remember to bring a gold coin donation that would be greatly appreciated. Then from 6-8pm all students in years 7-10 are welcome to our Galilee night which will involve time for having fun, activities, presentations, discussion, prayer, 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. Also **NET** are coming! The National Evangelization Team from CYS, Homebush will be running this night. They are perhaps, the six witty, fun, loving and engaging individuals that you'll ever meet and they will host what will be an undoubtedly awesome night! So come along to what will surely be an awesome night! **Next time, remember to try to bring along another friend! Even if they go to a different school, it'd be great to see some new faces, but more importantly, to share the joy of the JB youth group with them.**



## 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 21st October at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **for an increase in Mercy**. If you would like to offer an intention one week, please contact Joe to do so. Come along all you young people for a chance to pray the rosary, celebrate mass, worship Jesus in Eucharistic adoration. On the second Wednesday of the month (next one is 11<sup>th</sup> November), we would like to make our way to Mounties for a meal and a bit of 'chill 'n' chat.' All are welcome and it would be great to see you there!

### Mass Intentions and Offerings

If you would like a Mass offered for a specific intention, please fill in a Mass Intention envelope and submit it with the collection, to the Parish Office or to the priest. Specific days of the week can be requested for Mass intentions, although only one intention can be designated per Mass. The intention will be noted on the front page of the bulletin.

### **The Month of November & All Souls Day**

November is a special month to remember and to pray for the deceased. All Masses in November are offered for the faithful departed. There is a Catholic tradition of families making a November Mass Offering for their deceased relatives and friends. November Mass Offering Envelopes are in the church. These can be placed on any of the collections over the coming weeks. On Monday November 2, the Church commemorates All Souls Day. There is ancient tradition of attending Mass on this day. There will be special Masses at 9.10am and 7pm offered on this day.

### PARISH SACRAMENT INFORMATION

**Baptisms** are usually held on Sundays. It is necessary to make a booking through the parish office and attend a Baptism Preparation session with either Fr James, Fr Phan or Deacon Mervyn. The Baptism will be pencilled in, and will only be confirmed once you have attended a Baptism Preparation session.

**Sacrament of First Penance/Reconciliation/Confession:** This will take place on November 10, 11, 12 and 13. Enrolments have now ceased. Week 2 of preparation lessons have now begun.

**First Holy Communion:** Took place on Saturday 6th and 13th June, 2015 and Sunday 7th and 14th June, 2015.

**Confirmation:** Took place on 19th and 20th September, 2015.

**Please keep watching this space for changes or updates or call the Parish Office.**



The Maltese Cultural Association of NSW  
Presents

### **Film Night**

Venue: Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Centre  
St George Preca Hall, Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes  
on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7pm

### **Feature Film**

**The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima (1952)**

Everyone welcome

Entrance free and refreshment will be served at the end of the evening.

**Unpaid members' fees will be received at this event.**



**Pope Francis weekly tweet @ Pontifex.**

*"Work is important but so too is rest. Shouldn't we learn to respect times of rest, especially on Sundays."*

Ministries Next Week 24/25 Oct	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	L Krslovic A Pace	I O'Connor L Barilla	C Purcell N Laureti	R Camilleri M O'Mara
<b>EUCHARIST MINISTERS:</b>	C Smith B Smith M Chun A Gorla B Gorla M Harvey T Grana	B O'Connor A Esposito F Foti F Bushby	M Velardi F Holden M Aulsebrook L Aulsebrook C Porreca A Pinto D Ellul J Papaleo G Buttel	

## UPCOMING PARISH & WESTERN DEANERY EVENTS



### **'COME AND SIT WITH THE LORD' CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**

**Every Tuesday at 8pm.** Give 20 minutes of your busy day to Jesus and experience the difference in your life. Held in the Church chapel. Duration time is approximately 30 minutes. For further information, contact Frances on 0438 213 313.

### **Bereavement Support Group: Wednesday 18 November**

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. The group meets monthly on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. This group will be fairly informal but we will have resources to guide us through. **The next meeting is Wednesday 18th November.** If you need any information please do not hesitate to contact Josie on 9607 3973. You are able to join this group at anytime.

### **BIBLE STUDY: Every Thursday 10am - 11am**

Gathers 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.



### **Joke for the Week!**

One Sunday morning the Parish Priest noticed little Johnny staring up at a large plaque of names that hung in the entrance of the church. The priest walked up and stood beside him and gazing up at the plaque, he said quietly, "Good morning, Johnny." "Good morning Father," replied the young boy, not taking his eyes off the plaque. "Father, what is this?" Johnny asked. "Well Johnny, these are all the people who have died in the service." They stood together staring up at the large plaque. Little Johnny's voice barely broke the silence when he asked quietly, "Which one Father, the 8am or the 10am service?"

### **CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE SOCIALLY ISOLATED**



Christmas is almost upon us and there are many people without gifts at Christmas. The Sisters of Charity Outreach is asking for help to provide some toiletries to 29 socially isolated women. A basket in the Parish meeting room will be available to place donated items. Please email Susan [sives7th@gmail.com](mailto:sives7th@gmail.com) or call 0419 606 683. **Items are required before 4 December.** Thank you for your support.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2015/2016** are now available for collection from the Parish Office.

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 are also yellow Standing Authority forms available. Thank you for support.

**FRENCH MASS - 5pm - 4th Sunday of every Month**  
St. Anthony's Parish, Eleventh Avenue, Austral  
**Next Mass: 25th October**



**PARISH HOUSIE:** Every Saturday  
2pm – 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, contact **Gambling Help 1800 858 858**  
[www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au)

## RAISE YOUR VOICES!

**Entrance Antiphon:** *To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia! The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** *Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.*

## 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

18 October 2015

### First Reading Is 53:10-11

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

*If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, and have long life.*

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.

If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life

and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over he shall see the light and be content.

By his sufferings shall my servant

justify many, taking their faults on himself.

**The word of the Lord.**

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22**

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love. to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

### Second Reading Heb 4:14-16

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

*Let us be confident in approaching the throne of grace.*

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed.

For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

**The word of the Lord.**

### Gospel Acclamation Mk 10:45

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!**

### Gospel Mk 10:35-45

**(or shorter form Mk 10:42-45)**

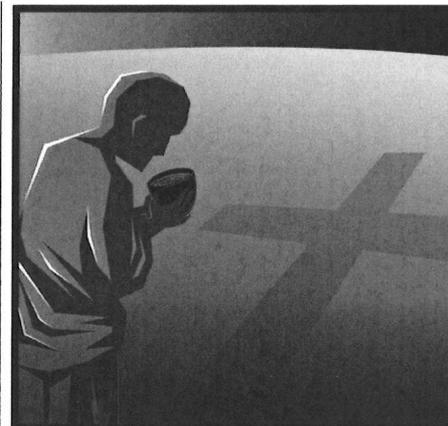
**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

*The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.*

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



### Reflection

**by Greg Sunter**

*James and John are effectively calling 'shotgun' on the best seats at the table! When they ask to sit at the left and right hand of Jesus, they are asking Jesus to name them as his deputies. They're looking to secure for themselves positions of power and authority. The only problem is that they have a completely messed up idea of what it means for Jesus to enter into his glory. For several weeks now, we have been exploring a theme from the Gospel of Mark that follows a physical journey towards Jerusalem as well as a symbolic and theological journey towards what is going to occur in Jerusalem – Jesus' arrest, crucifixion and resurrection.*

*Throughout this journey, Jesus has been trying to prepare the disciples for what is to come and educate them about what it really means to be a disciple of his. Three times Jesus tells the disciples explicitly what lies ahead. Each time the disciples fail to grasp what Jesus tells them. Despite occasional glimpses of insight, the disciples still believe that Jesus is going to rise up as a political or military figure. In a complete dismissal of this sort of thinking, Jesus declares quite forcefully that leadership of this sort is not what he intends for himself, nor for those who follow him.*

*Leadership in the Jesus model is about being of service to others; it is not about prestige and acclamation. Many of the best leaders are those who do not have any title of leadership or authority. Their leadership and authority come from what they do and how they do it. They inspire others to follow their example. They don't demand it; they don't bully; they don't play power games. People simply want to follow their example.*

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