



John the Baptist Parish

Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights

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



Parish Administrator: Rev Fr James McCarthy
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Deacon: Rev Mervyn Francis
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Youth Ministry Co-ordinator: Joe Sullivan
Contact: The Parish Office on 9823 2572
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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 2

'Prayer of the Church'

prayed at John the Baptist

10 minutes before weekday Masses

Morning and Evening Prayer

All Masses in November are for all the
dearly departed especially all those
mentioned in our Parish Book of
Remembrance (located near the
Baptismal Font)

Monday - No Mass

St Clement I, pope, martyr

St Columban, abbot

Tuesday - 9:10am

*St Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and
companions, martyrs*

Wednesday - 7:00pm

St Catherine of Alexandria, virgin, martyr

No Adoration after Mass this week

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

Saturday - 9:10am

SUNDAY 28/29 NOV

(First Sunday of Advent)

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Year B) 21st & 22nd November, 2015

A Kingdom in this world, but not of this world.

On this final Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church invites us to celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ as King of the Universe. We look not to the past but to the future, to the ultimate goal of history, which will be the definitive and eternal kingdom of Christ. Christ was with the Father in the beginning, when the world was created and when God judged creation and saw it to be good. Christ will fully manifest his lordship at the end of time, when he will again judge all of creation - separating the good from the bad. Today's three readings speak to us of this kingdom -the kingdom of justice, love and peace.

Many in our world misunderstand the identity of Jesus Christ, and this can lead to confusion about what the Church, faith and the kingdom of God are all about. The Jewish priests, Pontius Pilate and even the apostles and followers of Christ misunderstood the kingship of Jesus.

Jesus clearly had no political ambitions. After the multiplication of the loaves, the people, enthralled by the miracle, wanted to take Jesus and make him their king, in order to overthrow the power of Rome and thus establish a new political kingdom which would be considered the long-awaited kingdom of God. But Jesus knows that God's kingdom is of a completely different kind; it is not built with arms, violence and terror. The multiplication of the loaves itself becomes both the sign that Jesus is the Messiah but also a sign of Jesus' destiny to the cross.

In the Passion narrative we see how even the disciples, though they had shared Jesus' life and listened to his words, were still thinking of a political kingdom, brought about by force. In Gethsemane, Peter took out his sword and began to fight, but Jesus stopped him (cf. Jn 18:10-11). Jesus does not wish to be defended by arms, but to accomplish the Father's will to the end, and to establish his kingdom not by armed conflict, but by the apparent weakness of life-giving love.

The kingdom of God is a kingdom utterly different from earthly kingdoms. That is why, faced with a defenceless, weak and humiliated man as Jesus was, Pilate, a man of power, was confused because he hears of a kingdom and servants. So he asks an apparently odd question: "So you are a king?" What sort of king can such a man as this be? But Jesus answers in the affirmative: "It is you who say that I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this, to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice" (18:37).

Jesus speaks of kings and kingship, yet he is not referring to power but to truth. Pilate fails to understand that there can be a power not obtained by human means - a power which does not respond to the logic of domination and force. Jesus came to reveal and bring a new kingship, that of God; he came to bear witness to the truth of a God who is love (cf. 1 Jn 4:8,16), who wants to establish a kingdom of justice, love and peace (cf. Preface for today's Mass). Whoever is open to love will hear this message, accept it with faith and will enter the kingdom of God.

Fr James

Special Mass on Tuesday December 8 at 7pm. This Mass will begin the Jubilee Year of Mercy on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. All encouraged to attend.

Reflection Questions

- ◆ I live in Pilate's world when I.....
- ◆ I live in Jesus' kingdom when I.....
- ◆ Who/what helps me listen to Jesus' voice is.....
- ◆ The truth of Jesus' kingdom that transforms my world is.....

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 ZERAFI, Cherish ADINA (1 year), Carmen SPITERI, Audrey SPITERI, Christine TRIGAS, Crystel SACOBOS, Eugene KLEIBERT, Dora BADINO, Guido BADINO, Sue SHERMAN, Emmanuel POLJAK

Recently Deceased: Ray TRYHUBA, Vittoria BONALDI

Death Anniversary:

Other: Tsi Sing Joseph LAY, Very Special Intention



We congratulate the family of Ivy CROKER who will be Baptised here this weekend.



Pope Francis weekly tweet @ Pontifex.

"I am deeply saddened by the terrorist attacks in Paris. Please join me in prayer for the victims and their families."

SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

ANNUAL OCEANIA CONFERENCE OF COURAGE, the Church's apostolate for persons with same-sex attraction: Saturday 21 November 2015, 9:00am – 5:00pm, includes Mass at 12:30pm, followed by lunch. St Dominic's Church Hall. Cnr The Crescent & Hornsey Rd, Homebush West, NSW. One minute from Flemington station. Parking off Hornsey Rd. Speakers: Mr Robert Haddad, Fr Epeli Qimaqima, Fr Daniel McCaughan, Dr Wanda Skowronska and testimonies. Cost \$50 or donation. RSVP & Enquiries to 0418 136 785.

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

- Invitation to a Reflection Day

Did you know pope Francis has announced December 8th begins the Holy Year of Mercy? Come to a reflection day on Saturday November 28 entitled "Mercy Begins with Me" presented by Marist Father Ray Chapman SM. This is an open invitation to everyone. The day will be held at St Patricks Church Hill in the city from 10 am to 2 pm. For more information go to www.maristlaityaustralia.com

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER, 2015

THE ORDER OF MALTA LOURDES DAY MASS

The Order of Malta invites all parishioners to Lourdes Day Mass 2015 to be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday, 5th December at 10.15am. The principal celebrant will be Most Reverend Bishop Terry Brady.

A Blessing of the sick will take place during the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought from the spring at the Shrine of Lourdes. Those receiving the Blessing will, also be provided with a bottle of Lourdes Water for their personal use.

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER—CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

FREE Carols by Candlelight in the grounds of the Liverpool Catholic Club on Sunday 6th December, program starts at 6:45pm, carols 7:30pm. Also live nativity scene and a pen with nursery animals for the kids. Fireworks display to conclude the evening. All welcome. Details www.liverpoolcatholic.com.au



TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER Special Mass at 7pm to Open the Jubilee Year of Mercy on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. All encouraged to attend.

SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER the Jubilee Holy Door of Mercy at St Mary's Cathedral will be solemnly opened at the 10:30am Cathedral Mass celebrated by Archbishop Fisher. All are welcome to attend. A holy door is an ancient part of a Jubilee Year and is a way of participating in the journey of God's pilgrim people to the mercy of God.

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 6th December, 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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just."
(Pope Francis)



Jordan and Galilee



Hey guys, Our next Jordan and Galilee

night is on Friday 11th December at JB parish hall.

This is our CHRISTMAS party and will be the final meeting of the year! Get excited guys! 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 DVDs, 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 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. So come along to what will surely be an awesome night.



LUNA PARK - We will be going to Luna Park on the 28th November to finish the year! We will be gone from 6:30-11:30pm. Meeting place is outside the church right after the vigil Mass. Freeman Bus will be the main mode of transport. Please remember to bring money for the night, but more importantly, your buzzing and positive personalities! See you there guys ☺



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 the Holy Hour as well as some time for fellowship with other youth. So please join us this Wednesday 25th November at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **For all those who have been affected by the recent tragedy in Paris.** 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.



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!



ATTENTION READERS: The new roster is now available for collection after all Masses this weekend.

Please also take home your copy of "Break Open the Word".

The Month of November

November is a special month to remember and to pray for the deceased. All Masses in November are offered for the faithful departed especially those mentioned in the Parish Book of Remembrance. If you would like a Mass offered for a specific anniversary intention, please fill in a Mass Intention envelope and submit it with the collection, to the Parish Office or to the priest.



CWF - Our parish wishes to thank you for opening your hearts and supporting the appeal last weekend. Through your donation, the CWF is able to continue its work in our local communities, providing spiritual and practical support where it's needed most. Thank you, and may God bless you.

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: Took place on November 10, 11, 12 and 13.

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.

CATECHIST END OF YEAR MASS AND DINNER

Catechists are reminded that the End of Year Catechist Mass is on **Wednesday 25th November at 7pm**. This is to be followed by dinner which will be in the courtyard outside the church. For this reason, there will be **NO ADORATION** following the Mass on that evening. Enquiries: Nina Laureti 0408 465 149



CHILDREN'S LITURGY — THANK YOU FOR 2015

To all our Children's Liturgy Leaders and Helpers of 2015.

The community of John the Baptist would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank you for the commitment and care you have given the children of our Parish. Thank you for sharing your faith with our children and helping them in their journey of faith, to know and love God more.



Please let Angela or your co-ordinator know (as soon as possible) whether you would like to continue being a Children's Liturgy Leader in 2016. If anyone is interested in joining the team please contact Angela Galdas on 9606 8403.

After your final Children's Liturgy for the year, please leave your folder and photocopies for 2015 in the Children's Liturgy cupboard.

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH - WE NEED YOUR HELP !!!

John the Baptist relies on volunteers to help our parish live out the message of Jesus Christ. As well as assisting fellow parishioners, volunteering connects you with other people within the community. If you can spare any time at all, please be sure to have a chat with a representative of the Parish council this weekend after Mass. We currently need help with Housie, letter box distribution and working bees to prepare for Christmas. If you need any further information please call Grant Dunn on 9823 4704 or contact the parish office.

Ministries Next Week 28/29 Nov	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	M O'Mara R Camilleri
EUCARIST MINISTERS:	D Rotondo B Empeigne G Luppino A Pace A Demasi A Watts C Araco	T Simpson M Jebraill B O'Connor A Esposito	G Dunn H Fenech M Lavorato J Sullivan C Goodyer Delicia Vella J Vella G Zangari M Velardi	

UPCOMING PARISH & WESTERN DEANERY EVENTS



FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER - THANK YOU CELEBRATION FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

A parish cannot survive without the ongoing service that volunteers provide to the Church and the community. As a way of saying thank you for your continued service to John the Baptist, Fr James and Fr Phan invite all our volunteers to a BBQ (with some surprises) on **Friday 4th December from 7pm in the Shelter at Freeman College.**

More information will follow closer to the date. If you are involved in any ministry service or parish planned giving, please come along for celebrations. Please contact Nina Laureti on 0408 465 149/ 9823 3277 or Leanne in the Parish Office on 9823 2572 to advise if you are able to attend by **Monday 30th November.**



'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: Will be back next year, so please watch this space for the commencement date!

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. 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.



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. Please place your donated items including your name in the basket located in the Parish Meeting Room. Please email Susan sives7th@gmail.com or call 0419 606 683. **Items are required before 4 December.** Thank you for your support.

A full list of items suggested for the Christmas gifts are listed on the Church noticeboard.

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 your support.



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

RAISE YOUR VOICES!

Entrance Antiphon: *How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.*

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year B

22 November 2015

First Reading Dn 7:13-14

A reading from the prophet Daniel

His sovereignty is eternal.

I gazed into the visions of the night.
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.
He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.
On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and
languages became his servants.
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1

**(R.) The Lord is king;
he is robed in majesty.**

1. The Lord is king, with majesty
enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself
with might,
he has girded himself with power. (R)
2. The world you made firm,
not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm
from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are. (R)
3. Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time. (R)

Second Reading Rv 1:5-8

*A reading from the book of the
Apocalypse*

*The ruler of the kings of the earth ... made us a line of
kings, priests to serve his God.*

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the
First-born from the dead, the Ruler of the
kings of the earth. He loves us and has
washed away our sins with his blood, and
made us a line of kings, priests to serve his
God and Father; to him, then, be glory and
power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who
is coming on the clouds; everyone will see
him, even those who pierced him, and all
the races of the earth will mourn over him.

This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and
the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who
was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Blessed is he who inherits the
kingdom of David our Father;
blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 18:33-37

*A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John*

You say that I am a king.

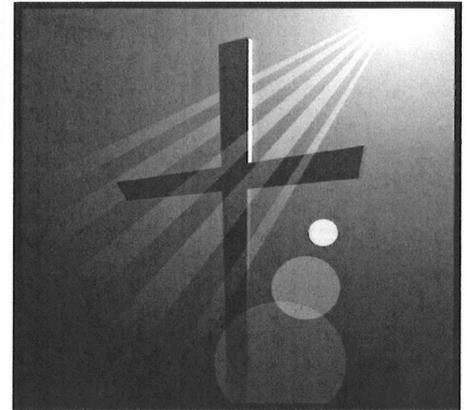
'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked.
Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own
accord, or have others spoken to you about
me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is
your own people and the chief priests who
have handed you over to me: what have
you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a
kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were
of this world, my men would have fought to
prevent my being surrendered to the Jews.
But my kingdom is not of this kind.'
'So you are a king then?' said Pilate.
'It is you who say it' answered Jesus.
'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came
into the world for this: to bear witness to
the truth; and all who are on the side of
truth listen to my voice.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection

by Michael Tate

*What are we to make of the famous reply
of Jesus to Pilate: 'My kingdom is not of
this world'? Left there, it sounds as though
Jesus is talking about a realm which is
far removed from terrestrial concerns.
Perhaps our task as his followers is to
meditate into a blissful nothingness, to
live other-worldly lives.*



*It is a poor translation, and it should
read: 'My kingdom is not from this world.
If my kingdom were from this world, my
followers would have fought to stop my
being handed over.' Of all the ways in
which our Lord could have contrasted
his realm with all the other ways in
which societies are ruled, he chose a
contrast about the use of force. Rather,
his reign springs from his Father's will
that humanity should live together in a
realm of non-violence.*

*We can easily criticise ISIL's blas-
phemous use of barbaric violence in
the supposed service of religion. It is
the most extreme opposite of Our Lord's
teaching which He embodied in his
practice. But, even for us, the challenge
is there to restrain too-ready resort
to armed violence and to humanely
moderate its exercise where it is used
to protect the innocent.*

*We could pause for a moment to pray for
the coming of the Kingdom, not as an
'out of this world' experience, but in the
words of the Our Father: 'Thy kingdom
come, Thy will be done on earth as it is
in heaven.'*

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