



# John the Baptist Catholic Parish

Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights

2016 - Jubilee Year of Mercy

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



**Parish Administrator: Rev Fr James McCarthy**

Email: pp@johnthebaptist.org.au

**Assistant: Rev Fr Phan Nguyen**

Email: curate@johnthebaptist.org.au

**Deacon: Rev Mervyn Francis**

Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

**Youth Ministry Co-ordinator: Joe Sullivan**

Email: josephs@johnthebaptist.org.au



**Parish Pastoral Centre:**

45 Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights, 2177

**Office: 9823 2572 Fax: 9822 9954**

**Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au**

**website: www.johnthebaptist.org.au**

**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

**Monday - No Mass**

**Tuesday - 9:10am**

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

*St Fabian, pope, martyr*

*St Sebastian, martyr*

**Thursday - 9:10am**

*St Agnes, virgin, martyr*

**Friday - 9:10am**

*St Vincent, deacon, martyr*

**Saturday - 9:10am**

## SUNDAY 23/24 JANUARY

*(3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)*

**Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30pm**

**Sunday Masses :**

**8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm**

**4th Sunday of the Month:**

5:30pm Mass in Tagalog

**Reconciliation:**

Saturday 4.15 - 5.00pm



### Reflection Questions

- God's abundance that surrounds me is.....
- I notice this abundance best when.....
- Jesus reveals his glory to me in.....
- by.....
- through.....
- I reveal God's glory when.....

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 16th & 17th January, 2016

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday we begin the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. For many Sundays in this lectionary cycle (Cycle C), the readings will be taken from the Gospel of Luke. Occasionally, however, we will read from John's Gospel. This is true of today's Gospel reading, which describes the beginning of Jesus' ministry and his first miracle.

Today's reading from John's Gospel follows Jesus' call of his first disciples. John tells us that Jesus and his disciples were invited to this wedding at Cana, as was Jesus' mother, Mary. There is no parallel report of this miracle in the other three Gospels. In the Church's liturgical history, the wedding feast of Cana closely follows the baptism of the Lord and the adoration of the infant Jesus by the Wise Men. In this context, the sign Jesus performs at the wedding feast is celebrated as an epiphany or a manifestation of Jesus' divinity.

However, this is one of my favourite Gospel passages for a very different reason and I think we, as Catholics, should love the message of this Gospel reading.

Here, as elsewhere in John's Gospel, Mary is not mentioned by name, but is referred to instead as the mother of Jesus. Mary is influential in Jesus' first public miracle, and she is also present at his Crucifixion, a witness to the final manifestation of his divinity. Some see St. Luke as the great scholar of Mary with his early infancy stories, but St. John in his Gospel presents Mary as Jesus' true and first great disciple for as a follower of Jesus she places ultimate trust in him.

In this Gospel reading, at an everyday event in the life of people, we find Jesus, Mary and the other early disciples (followers of Jesus) at a wedding feast and they had run out of wine. This would be considered shameful in a Jewish community to let the guests down and Mary simply turns to Jesus. Jesus' response seems harsh: "Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet?" In this Jesus suggests that it was not time for him to begin his public ministry. Yet the response from Mary is what is amazing, "Do whatever He tells you."

Not only does Mary tell others to put ultimate trust and faith in Jesus, but she too does this as she presents the case of the wedding problem to Jesus in a way where he cannot resist her loving request. In this, Mary is the great model of both a disciple for us and also a model of how to pray. She asks Jesus for a miracle, not for herself, but having ultimate trust and faith that he will answer her request.

In this Gospel passage we have the reason why we, as Catholics, turn to Mary as we pray. We do not worship Mary, as she is not God, but we do ask her to pray for us; to intercede for us, just as she did for the people at the Wedding in Cana 2,000 years ago. St John highlights the great beauty of Mary as the first and greatest disciple and also as our mother, the mother of the Church.

The abundant wine reminds us of the 'new wine' spoken of by Jesus: the new order of things that he was bringing about through his life and ultimately through his death and resurrection.. In contrast, the water jars of 'the Jews' – representing those who refuse to believe in Christ – are empty. The quantity of wine produced (over 120 gallons – far more than required for the occasion and better than any wine they had tasted!) underlines the abundant generosity of what is to be hoped for. When she makes her request on behalf of God's simple people, Mary – the 'woman' who represents the Church (all of us), the new Bride - is symbolic that the generous realisation of the hopes of Israel depends entirely upon the will of the Father. In response, she shows herself as a model disciple, with words that are meant for all of us: 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Let us try to live our lives as Jesus has told us to do and let us turn to Mary, our spiritual mother, as we pray, knowing she will faithfully intercede for us to her Son Jesus.

God bless, Michael Toohey

# YOUTH CORNER

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



**Sick:** Fr John LANGTRY, Archbishop Anthony FISHER, Sebastian AGUIAR, Maria KONTREC, Eduiges CAMPOS, Bishop George PHIMPISAN, Fr Paul STENHOUSE, Fr John B CHIANG, Ray CLARKE, Maila CORKILL, Fahed JREISAT, Emmanuel ARAPA, Bishop Geoffrey ROBINSON, Facunda MARTINO (7 years), Luis MARTINO, Anna MILLZARSKI, Bogdan MILLZARSKI, Justin ZERAFA, Cherish ADINA (1 year), Carmen SPITERI, Audrey SPITERI, Christine TRIGAS, Crystel SACOBOS, Eugene KLEIBERT, Dora BADINO, Guido BADINO, Sue SHERMAN, Emmanuel POLJAK

**Recently Deceased:** Giovanni MORRETTI, Margaret WEST, Ivy BARKER, Giuseppe PETRULLA, Elrick Daniel SIBUYO, Jose BRITO

**Death Anniversary:** Joseph and Carole SHERRY

**Other:** Very Special Intention



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

**John Cassian 4th-5th Century monk Presented by Bishop David Walker at**

**The Centre for Christian Spirituality, 14 Frances St, Randwick**  
 Dates: Wednesday nights 20, 27 January & 3 February, 2016  
 7:00 - 8:30pm Course Cost:\$30  
 Online Bookings: <http://trybooking.com/JUUK>  
 Direct Bookings: 9398 2211 or [sally@thecentre.com.au](mailto:sally@thecentre.com.au)

**Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Rd, Varroville**

**Weekend Retreat: Enter the Holy Jubilee Year of Mercy**  
 Presenter: Fr Paul Maunder, OCD  
 When: January 29-31, 2016 Cost: \$230 (Concessions apply)

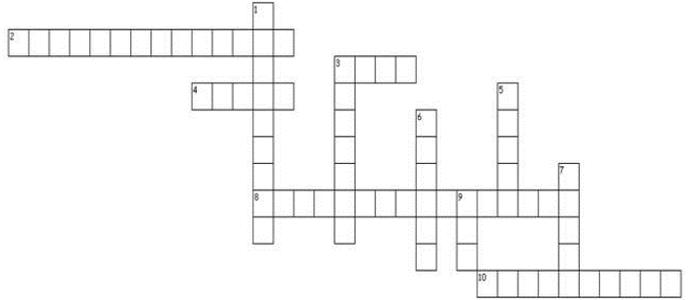
**Day Retreat: Healing Wounds, Lifting Burdens, Setting Free**  
 Presenter: Fr Greg Burke, OCD  
 When: 5th March, 2015 Cost: \$25 - Bring your own lunch  
 Pick ups from Minto train station at 9:30am and 10:00am  
 Phone: 02 8795 3400 Email: [retreats@carmelite.com](mailto:retreats@carmelite.com)  
[www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au)

**POSITIONS VACANT:**

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY (ADYM).** Fairfield Parish is inviting applications for this position which consists of being an associate of the Parish Priest, who in addition to engaging in youth apostolate, can assist him provide direction to Our Lady of the Rosary (OLR) Parish's four Youth Ministry Coordinators (YMCs) for 21 hours per week. The ADYM shares, offers advice, raises interest, coordinates and contributes to the ongoing faith-development in the youth of OLR Parish. For a copy of the Job Description or enquiries, contact the Parish Secretary: 9724 5997, or email Fr de Stoop, the Parish Priest: [pp@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:pp@olrfairfield.org.au) Applications must include a Cover Letter and Resume and be sent to the Parish Priest by or on 18 January 2016.

**COOK, FAIRFIELD PARISH PRESBYTERY.** Fairfield Parish is inviting applications for the position of Cook for their presbytery. This position mostly comprises of preparing meals in the presbytery four days (12 hours in total) per week, together with basic cleaning of tablecloths, napkins, etc. Enquiries to Fr de Stoop, Parish Priest. For a copy of the Job Description or enquiries, contact the Parish Secretary: 9724 5997, or email Fr de Stoop, the Parish Priest [pp@olrfairfield.org.au](mailto:pp@olrfairfield.org.au) Applications must include a Cover Letter and Resume and be sent to the Parish Priest by or on 18 January 2016.

**The Catholic Church crossword**



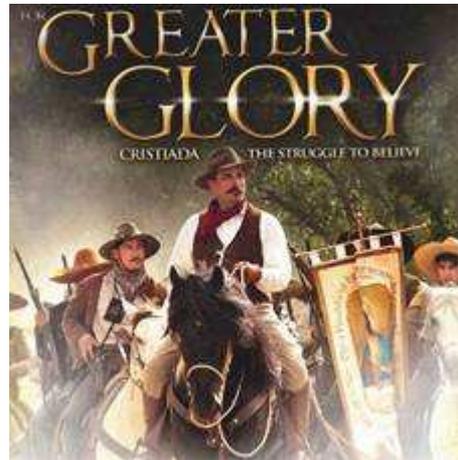
**Across**

- 2. person no longer a member of the Church
- 3. visible head of the Church
- 4. members of the Church who do not belong to the clerical or to the religious state
- 8. life of the Church (11,5)
- 10. soul of the Church (4,6)

**Down**

- 1. the day the Church began its work
- 3. assist the bishops in care of souls
- 5. Christ made him ruler of the Church
- 6. The Head of the Mystical Body
- 7. founded the Church
- 9. sent Holy Spirit to dwell in the Church

**Movie to watch in the Summer Holidays**



**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 20th January at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **For those who lack faith and love in their lives.** If you would like to offer an intention one week, please contact Joe to do so. Come along for a chance to pray the rosary, celebrate Mass and worship Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration.



**ANTIOCH**

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!

**RAISE YOUR VOICES!****Entrance Antiphon:** *All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!***Responsorial Psalm:** Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!***Communion Antiphon:** *You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.***First Reading****Isaiah 62:1-5****A reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

About Zion I will not be silent,  
 about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,  
 until her integrity shines out like the dawn  
 and her salvation flames like a torch.  
 The nations then will see your integrity,  
 all the kings your glory,  
 and you will be called by a new name,  
 one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.  
 You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord,  
 a princely diadem in the hand of your God;  
 no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',  
 nor your land 'Abandoned',  
 but you shall be called 'My Delight'  
 and your land 'The Wedded';  
 for the Lord takes delight in you  
 and your land will have its wedding.  
 Like a young man marrying a virgin,  
 so will the one who built you wed you,  
 and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,  
 so will your God rejoice in you.

**The Word of the Lord****Responsorial Psalm Psalm 95:1-3.7-10. R.v.3*****Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.***

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
 sing to the Lord all the earth.  
 O sing to the Lord, bless his name

*Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.*

Proclaim his help day by day,  
 tell among the nations his glory  
 and his wonders among all the peoples.

*Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.*

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
 give the Lord glory and power,  
 give the Lord the glory of his name

*Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.*

Worship the Lord in his temple.  
 O earth, tremble before him.  
 Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'  
 He will judge the peoples in fairness.

*Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.***Second Reading****1 Cor 12:4-11****A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

**The Word of the Lord****Gospel Acclamation See 2 Thes 2:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel  
 to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
 Alleluia!

**Gospel****John 2:1-11**

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

## 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:** Will take place in term 4 (November 2016).

**First Holy Communion:** Will take place in term 2 (June 2016).

**Confirmation:** Will take place in term 3 (September 2016).

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

### A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY FISHER

Dear friends, once again I thank you for all the prayers and messages of support. I will need your prayers for some months to come but I am pleased to say that I have started walking again and am making several other improvements. This is due to the excellent care that I am receiving here at St Vincent's and the power of your loving prayers. Please ask God not just for healing but also for patience, courage and hope. I miss you all.  
Archbishop Anthony.

The 'National Association of Catholic Families' will be hosting a Weekend Family Conference/Retreat April 8-10, 2016, at Merroo Christian Centre, Kurrajong, NSW.

Talks and activities for all ages - come and enjoy the excellent speakers and like minded company of other Catholic families. Includes (chaplain) Bishop Peter Comensoli, - daily Mass, family catechesis and prayer, outdoor activities, plus evening social entertainment. For copy of flyer or further information contact: nacf.sydney@hotmail.com or phone: Mary: 0298753664, or Karen: 0413539378. Registration & Bookings [www.trybooking.com/159690](http://www.trybooking.com/159690)

**Archdiocese Of Sydney App – Update Now Available.** The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney had released a Smartphone App for parishioners in the Archdiocese, featuring parish Mass times, the latest news from the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Catholic Church in Australia, information about upcoming Archdiocese events, as well as announcements from Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney. An updated version is now available please download the new version of the App for free – search for “Archdiocese of Sydney” in the Google Play and App stores.

**Free e-book for your computer or e-reader:**  
Son of God: The Daily Gospel Year C- may be accessed at the following address: [www.catholic-thoughts.info/ebook/](http://www.catholic-thoughts.info/ebook/)

**⊕ ATTENTION EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** The new Roster is now available for collection after all Masses this weekend.

Ministries Next Week 23/24 Jan	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	A Dionysatos G Turnbull	S Davies R Golubic	H Pinto A Pinto	G Colusso M O'Mara
<b>EUCHARIST MINISTERS:</b>	C Araco D Vella M Camilleri E Vella D Tomic L Tononcelli D Adam	J Gilan D Sullivan L Barilla R Imbert	N Laureti D Oliveri S Stornelli N Freeman N Dubuisson J Habib A Vlahadamis D Cordina E Villegas	

## 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: Will be back in 2016, 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.



**Pope Francis weekly tweet @ Pontifex.**  
“When we entrust ourselves to the Lord, we can overcome all obstacles that we encounter on the way”.

**LIFE & FAMILY CONFERENCE:** presented by Family Life International and Population Research Institute. From 21 - 24 January at Lake Hume Resort in Albury. Guest speaker's include Archbishop Julian Porteaus, Bishop Cesare Bonivento, Steve Mosher and many more. Topics covered; Faith & Family, Abortion & Euthanasia, the Synod on the Family and much more. For information contact, FLI Office 02 9519 9111 [www.fli.org.au](http://www.fli.org.au) [mail@fli.org.au](mailto:mail@fli.org.au)

### Maltese Community Council of NSW Australia Day 2016 Special Event

Sunday 24th January 2016

Time: 4.00pm to 6.00pm at the

Place: Holroyd Function Centre (Boronia Wattle Room)  
Level 2, 17 Miller Street Merrylands, NSW  
(parking available on site)

Light refreshments will be served afterwards



**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.

**FRENCH MASS - 5pm - 4th Sunday of every Month**  
St. Anthony's Parish, Eleventh Avenue, Austral  
**Next Mass: 24th January**



**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)