



# 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 - 9:10am**

*The Annunciation of the Lord*

**Tuesday - 9:10am**

*St Vincent Ferrer, priest*

**Wednesday - 7:00pm**

**Thursday - 9:10am**

*St John the Baptist de la Salle, priest*

**Friday - 9:10am**

**Saturday - 9:10am**

**SUNDAY 9/10 April**

*(Third Sunday of Easter)*

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

**Sunday Masses :**

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

**4th Sunday of the Month:**

**5:30pm Mass in Tagalog**

**Reconciliation:**

**Saturdays—4:15—5pm**



### Reflection Questions

- ◆ What make enough of a difference to me that I transform my life is.....
- ◆ My experience of the resurrection transforms my life when.....
- ◆ My seeing-believing looks like.....

## Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) (Year C) 2nd and 3rd April, , 2016

In the Gospel we see Jesus risen from the dead and last Friday morning at mass the Gospel had Jesus eating fish for breakfast with the Apostles. We do not know what Christ's risen body is like. On the one hand, the risen Jesus could be touched by his followers. He could enter locked rooms at will and he appeared to his followers as he wished. His body was not limited by space and time. While his body possessed signs of his past, it was transformed to a new state.

The resurrection was not only a moment in history two thousand years ago but a moment for all time. When we profess Christ is risen, we acknowledge our faith in a life beyond, despite our present human limitations. We can touch that very life through the Holy Spirit. And, because of the Spirit, our shortcomings that stand in the way of eternal life can be swept aside.

Without the Resurrection, Christianity would be nothing more than a school teaching the wisdom of a wise man. With the Resurrection, however, Christianity became a road to a real relationship with God and the proof of our faith.

The Resurrection justifies the life, works, and teachings of Jesus. Through the lens of the Resurrection, we can see this life, these works and teachings in the context of Scripture and realize "Jesus is Lord." Faith in the Resurrection leads us to the conclusion Jesus is true God and true man. For those who doubt the resurrection and say it is all made up, my response is to compare what a scam artist may get and what the early apostles and disciples received.

A scam artist may try to trick someone by offering them a great investment opportunity or money left to them in Africa through the internet, but instead they just want to rip off your money. However, the Apostles and disciples of the early Church attest to the miracles, healings, death and resurrection and what did they get in this life? They were tortured and martyred for the faith. They believed so strongly in the message of Jesus they were willing to die for it. There is our proof. What did they ultimately receive? Eternal life with God.

Through the Resurrection, we receive the gift of a new eternal life, free from evil. We become one with our Saviour who died and rose for us. And, as he rose, Christ assures us that we, too, will rise on the last day.

Let us continue to celebrate the joy of this Easter Season.

God bless,

Michael Toohey

Candidate for Permanent Diaconate

# 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, 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 ZERAF, Cherish ADINA (1 year), Carmen SPITERI, Audrey SPITERI, Christine TRIGAS, Crystel SACOBOS, Eugene KLEIBERT, Dora BADINO, Guido BADINO, Sue SHERMAN, Emmanuel POLJAK, Ciro PUNZO, Valerie MCCARTHY, Gemma GATT, Pamela LEVERS, Lily TANTIYA, Cecilia ABELA, Brindley & Virginia CAVALLARO, Sarah CANCERI, Charlie Thomas GATT (Baby)

**Recently Deceased:** Giuseppe PETRULLA, Fr Francis (Frank) MARTIN (in his 100th year, oldest Priest in the Archdiocese of Sydney), Solidad SWING, Mario CANILUNA, Samuel CARUSO, Natividad GONZALES, Ruperto DOMAOAL

**Death Anniversary:** P.C. MATTHEW

**Other:** Very Special Intention

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the canonization of St Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II proclaimed to the world that "from now on throughout the Church this Sunday will be called **Divine Mercy Sunday**". **We will be having a talk on Our Lord's Divine Mercy at the parish hall this Sunday at 6:30pm.** Come along and learn about Jesus' love for all of us and what we can gain from this very special day in the Church. Try and go to confession if you can on this great day!! ☺

## WORLD YOUTH DAY

3 weeks to go till registrations close!! (in case you couldn't tell) Anyone interested, please contact me ASAP! This is an experience of a lifetime (my 4th one!) and I couldn't encourage you anymore. If you're between ages 18-35 and interested, please visit [www.catholicyouthservices.org/wyd](http://www.catholicyouthservices.org/wyd)



## JORDAN & GALILEE YOUTH GROUPS

We hope to see more years 7-10 students at our Galilee Youth Group, the next big one being Friday 8th April, from **3:30pm-5:30pm**. The next Jordan Youth Group for our years 5-6 students will be held on Saturday 9th April, from **3:30-5:30pm**. Listen out to see what's going to be happening and what we'll be doing!



## Y-FACTOR "SHINE" 2016!

Join us for Y-FACTOR "SHINE 2016! We can't even begin to tell you how incredible last year's camp was. You'll just have to pack a bag and join us this time round. The CYS Staff and Youth Ministers from all over the Sydney Archdiocese have been working for months to make this year's camp even better (if that's possible). So, if you are currently in years 7-12, then come have the time of your life these Easter school holidays with 60 friends you haven't met yet! There'll be heaps of time for games, activities, talks, discussion, prayer and a chance to grow in your faith and relationship with God. This camp is so big we can only run it once a year so get on board now or miss out! Please check out more of the details at <http://www.catholicyouthservices.org/events/y-factor-archdiocesan-youth-camp/>



## 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 6th April at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **For an increase in WYD responses.** 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. The last Wednesday of every month, we'll be heading out for a meal for a night of fellowship and relaxation, so please join us for that if possible.



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!



We congratulate the families of Ariella TIME, Aiden KHAMAS, Joshua PISANI, Ashley DANG and James LUKOSE who will be Baptised here this Sunday 3rd April.

**WALK WITH CHRIST POSTPONED.** Due to complications associated with the Light Rail works in the CBD, the decision has been taken to postpone the annual Eucharistic Procession, Walk With Christ, to a time close to the Feast of Christ the King (Sunday 20 November 2016). This will allow us to close the Year of Mercy with the Eucharistic Procession. His Grace also hopes that he might be able to accompany the procession in November. We are extremely grateful for the efforts of the personnel at Sydney's Transport Management Centre for the collaborative way in which they have engaged with us and we are hopeful of resolving a suitable route for November.

## CONCLUSION OF THE YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE.

A Mass to mark the conclusion of the Year of Consecrated Life will be held at St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am on Saturday, 09 April 2016. All are invited to attend this special Mass to give thanks for the gift of Consecrated Life and the contribution of religious women and men to the Archdiocese of Sydney.

**WOMEN'S DAY RETREAT.** A day to find out more about consecrated life and vocation discernment with time for personal prayer & reflection, as well as meeting and chatting with other young women. **Saturday, 30 April** at 9.30am. JPII Student Centre, 150 City Road, Darlingtown NSW 2008. For single women (18-35). Donation: \$10.00. **RSVP is essential by 25 April** via [www.vocationcentre.org.au](http://www.vocationcentre.org.au)

Entries for the **2016 Australian Catholic University (ACU) Prize and Poetry** are now welcome. Open to all, the ACU Prize for Poetry will be awarded for outstanding poetry with the theme *Loving Kindness*. With \$10,000 in prize money, the ACU Prize for Poetry aims to support writers and to continue the tradition of the Catholic Church as a key patron of the arts. For more information including full entry guidelines go to [www.acu.edu.au/poetry-prize](http://www.acu.edu.au/poetry-prize) or contact Carmel at [aculiteratureprize@acu.edu.au](mailto:aculiteratureprize@acu.edu.au) or phone (02) 9739 2380.

## 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 on 18th, 19th, 25th and 26th June.

**Confirmation:** Will take place on 25th September, 2016

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

## PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES

If you have not already handed in your Project Compassion Boxes and envelopes, could you please bring them into the Parish office or to Mass next weekend. Thank you for your support and contributions.

**THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY** is available for purchase at \$2.00 per copy. A trial is being undertaken to determine interest after a number of years without it being sold. The money for the Catholic Weekly can be put into the poor box or handed to the Piety stall. Thank you.

**JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS OPEN FOR KINDERGARTEN 2017**  
Enrolment packs are available from the school office between 8:30am and 4:00pm. 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.

## REGULAR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARISH

**Thank you to all who regularly contribute to the running of the John the Baptist Parish.** All donations through Parish Planned Giving are 100% tax deductible. If you would like to join the planned giving and contribute through periodic credit card donations, please complete one of the yellow Credit Card authority forms. These forms can be picked up outside the Church or from the Parish Office. Thank you for your assistance and support.

## THÁNH LỄ THỨ SÁU ĐẦU THÁNG

Quý ông bà và anh chị em thân mến,  
Theo chương trình mục vụ của giáo xứ cùng với nhu cầu mục vụ và phụng vụ trong vấn đề đức tin của người Công Giáo Việt Nam trong khuôn viên Giáo Xứ Thánh Gioan Tây Giã, Bonnyrigg Heights. Nay Giáo Xứ chúng ta sẽ có Thánh Lễ tiếng Việt vào thứ sáu đầu tháng. Thánh Lễ đầu tiên sẽ bắt đầu vào thứ Sáu ngày 6 tháng 5 năm 2016 lúc 7pm. Mong rằng đây sẽ là cơ hội cho những người Việt Công Giáo trong Giáo xứ gặp gỡ, giao lưu và nâng đỡ đức tin cho nhau. Cha Phán

## PARISH SUPPER AND MORNING TEA THIS WEEK

Parishioners are invited to stay after all Masses next weekend 2nd & 3rd April for a cup of tea or coffee. Please bring a plate to share.

Ministries Next Week 9/10 April	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
<b>READERS:</b>	M Camilleri S Correa	M Lavorato M Jebrael	L Aulsebrook M Aulsebrook	J Sullivan C Sullivan
<b>EUCCHARIST MINISTERS:</b>	A Watts C Araco D Vella M Camilleri E Vella D Tomic L Tononcelli	A Liberatore J Gauchi B Vartuli N Vartuli	G Dunn H Fenech M Lavorato J Sullivan C Goodyer Delicia Vella J Vella G Zangari M Velardi	

## UPCOMING PARISH & WESTERN DEANERY EVENTS

### SPECIAL FAMILY MASS @ 10am on 3 APRIL

This Sunday, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, two kindergarten children will be baptised during the 10am Sunday Mass. The Mass will have a special focus on families and children. All are encouraged to bring a plate of food to share the Easter and Baptismal joy. No children's liturgy will occur at the Mass as the children will be invited to participate in the Mass and the homily.



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The Group Leaders Meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th April at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.



**CHURCH CLEANERS** your new Roster is available for collection in the Church alcove after all Masses.

### THE REGINA COELI

*During the Easter Season, the daily Angelus is replaced by the Regina Coeli. It can be prayed every 6 hours, normally at Midday and 6pm.*

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

The Son whom you merited to bear, alleluia.

Has risen, as He said, alleluia.

Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, who through the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ gave rejoicing to the world, grant, we pray, that through his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joy of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### VISIT TO OUR LADY OF MERCY, PENROSE PARK

**On Wednesday 13th April** a pilgrimage has been organised to visit the **Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park** (near Berrima). The bus will leave John the Baptist at **8:00am** and **return by 5:30pm**.

The day will proceed as follows:

9:30am Confessions. 10:00am Exposition and Rosary, 11:00am Solemn Mass, lunch BYO or buy food and drink from kiosks. At 1:30pm Eucharistic procession to Grotto, 2:00pm Grotto devotions, Benediction and Blessing of pilgrims. 3:00pm visit some of the 43 chapels built by ethnic communities, such as, Padre Pio, Italy, Our Lady of Le Vang and the Martyrs of Vietnam Pakistan, Our Lady of Valankanni, St Anthony Chapel-Malta, St Stephen—Croatia and many more. 3:45pm return to coach.

Cost for bus transport is \$20.00 per person. Payment may be given into the Parish Office or directly to Nina Laureti.

**WHY A PILGRIMAGE?** To obtain an indulgence for the Year of Mercy, the faithful are called to make a brief pilgrimage to a Cathedral or designated Shrine where one is able to enter through the Holy Door of Mercy. This moment of entry to the Church is linked to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with a reflection on mercy. It will be necessary to accompany these celebrations with the profession of faith and with prayer for Pope Francis and for the intentions that he bears in his heart for the good of the Church and of the entire world. Please join us for our Pilgrimage. Enquiries Nina Laureti 0408 465 149.



**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:** *Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** *Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.*

### **First Reading**                      **Acts 10:34,37-43** **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles of Isaiah**

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

### **The Word of the Lord**

**Responsorial Psalm**            **Psalm 117:2-4, 22-27**  
*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:  
'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:  
'His love has no end.'

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

O Lord, grant us salvation;

O Lord, grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
the Lord God is our light.

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.*

### **Second Reading**                      **Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19**

#### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the**

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the

underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

### **The Word of the Lord**

**Gospel Acclamation:**    **John 20:29**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!  
Alleluia!

**Gospel**    **John 20:19-31**

#### **A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John**

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

### **The Gospel of the Lord**

**Pope Francis weekly tweet @ Pontifex.**



**" Jesus shows us the real face of God, for whom power does not mean destruction but love, and for whom justice is not vengeance but mercy."**

Copyright © 1996-2015 Universalis Publishing Limited: see [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com). Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible are published and copyright © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). Used with permission of A.P. Watt Ltd. All rights reserved.