



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
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Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang
Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 3

'Prayer of the Church'

prayed at John the Baptist

10 minutes

before weekday Masses

Morning and Evening Prayer

Monday - No Mass

St Benedict, abbot

Tuesday - 9:10am

Wednesday - 7:00pm

St Henry

Thursday - 9:10am

St Camillus de Lellis, priest

Friday - 9:10am

St Bonaventure, bishop, doctor

Saturday - 9:10am

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

SUNDAY 16/17 JULY

(16th 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:

Saturdays— 4:15 - 5:00pm



Reflection Questions

- ♦ What I find challenging about Jesus' reply to "who is my neighbour?" is.....
- ♦ To "inherit eternal life," I must love.....
- ♦ By.....
- ♦ I know God loves me personally, extravagantly, and continually because.....

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 9th & 10th July, 2016

To whom can I be a neighbor?

The Liturgical celebration today reflects on the most important commandment which the Lord has given to us that "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself" (cf. Luke 10:27). This is indeed a great and challenging commandment which God has given to humanity as their possession of conduct.

As sons and daughters of the Most High, through the sacrament of Baptism, we are called to live up this commandment as it is a part of our life. In doing so, let us not like the lawyer in the gospel reading today who misunderstood and misinterpreted this great commandment and tried to justify himself by asking:

Who is my neighbor? Or To whom can I be a neighbor?

Apparently, the parable of Jesus in the Gospel reading today is the perfect answer for these questions. It says that "neighbors" are not only those I love or those I know or those I familiar with but also all those who are created in the image and likeness of God. And of course all humanity is created in the image and likeness of God. Hence, even those who do not believe in God still fall into this category.

From this point of view, we can see that Jesus' implication is that a person alone does not make himself or herself worthy of eternal life by performing any single work, great or small, but that he or she does so by living his or her whole life in accord with the law of love from which Our Lord Jesus has shown us by his own death on the Cross. This means that we are not only keeping the law of love for the redemption of our own but also for the redemption of others.

This is a good reminder that we are called by Christ to be his disciples who have the obligation of bringing salvation and unity fulfilled by Him to the end of the earth. As St. Paul beautifully expressed this teaching in his letter to the Colossians that "before anything was created, he existed and he hold all things in unity" (cf. Colossians 1:17). Christ has given up his own life on the Cross for the love of all humanity and their unity. In other words, Christ has redeemed and united us through his own Sacrifice and He himself is the sacrificial victim. Through this atonement of Christ, the reconciliation is enabled to those who listen and live the words of the Word.

The practicality of this ideology is apparently the requirement for the life of eternity as Jesus has commanded "do this and the life is yours" (cf. Luke 10:28). Contradiction to this very commandment will occur if there is no followed action to the promise we made. In the person of Christ in time, God has given us a firm confirmation to his promise to our ancestors that he will not abandon us but will give us a Redeemer. And thus through the death and resurrection of Christ, we all become brothers, sisters and neighbors to each other. Someone has commented that the Good Samaritan in the parable represents Christ himself. Whether that be correct or not, it is certainly true that Jesus found the human race in bad shape, like the man beaten and lying on the roadside near death in the Gospel reading we just have heard. Jesus came to our rescue, and gave the supreme example of love, an example we are now celebrating in the Mass. The example we are all called to imitate. To be neighbors for all and to be floats for the needy.

Fr. Phan Nguyen

YOUTH CORNER

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



Sick: Fr John LANGTRY, Fr Denis Foley, Archbishop Anthony FISHER, Sebastian AGUIAR, Maria KONTREC, Bishop George PHIMPISAN, Fr John CHIANG, Maila CORKILL, Fahed JREISAT, Emmanuel ARAPA, Bishop Geoffrey ROBINSON, Facunda MARTINO (7 years), Luis MARTINO, Anna MILLZARSKI, Bogdan MILLZARSKI, Justin ZERAFA, Carmen SPITERI, Audrey SPITERI, Christine TRIGAS, Crystel SACOBOS, Eugene KLEIBERT, Guido BADINO, Sue SHERMAN, Emmanuel POLJAK, Ciro PUNZO, Valerie MCCARTHY, Gemma GATT, Pamela LEVERS, Lily TANTIYA, Cecilia ABELA, Brindley & Virginia CAVALLARO, Sarah CANCERI, Doug ANDERSON, Doris LIGHTOWER, Joe BARILLA, Darren OWM, Joe SAMMUT.

Recently Deceased: Patricia MOON, Josefina SACRIZ, Regina HENDRICKS, Christopher MINJOOT, Ken HARVEY, John KATAVICH, Gael EE, Doris GOH, Giovanni GOTTARDO, Giuseppe PETRULLA

Death Anniversary: Agostino CAVALLARO

Other: Very Special Intention NGUYEN Kim Lien

World Youth Day – 2 weeks to go!!



Please remember to pray for our young parishioners that are attending World Youth Day which is in just over a months' time. Pray that this may be a life-changing experience, that they come back rich in the faith and ready to share Our Lord's joy with their friends and families.



GRACEFEST With Father Rob Galea

GRACEFEST is a night of Praise and Worship which draws over 200 young people every year! This Year we are extremely excited to welcome Fr Rob Galea, who will have just touched down back in Aus after World Youth Day! Fr Rob will lead us in worship of the Blessed Sacrament while newly appointed Bishop Richard Umbers will present the catechesis for us.

This is the official reunion for WYD, so grab your small group and head out to Liverpool to relive the memories! Tickets will go on sale very soon! With Free Entry for all WYD pilgrims! All other tickets are only \$10

The Program for Gracefest -

- 7:30pm: Gracefest begins with Fr Rob
- 8:00pm: Catechesis with Bishop-Elect Fr Richard Umbers
- 8:30pm: Adoration
- 9:30pm: Benediction
- 10:30pm: Finish

When: Friday August 26th 19:30 - 22:30

Where: Liverpool Catholic Club Bistro, Hoxton Park, Australia

Father James is going back to University

Fr James has been selected by the Archdiocese of Sydney to be amongst the first group of priests in Australia to undertake a new leadership qualification through the Australian Catholic University (ACU). The graduate course in Not-For-Profit Management will help further develop his skills and knowledge in being an effective leader in our Church. The course is being jointly financially supported by ACU, the Archdiocese of Sydney and our parish. The course will provide a tertiary education in people management, governance, change management and money management. We ask you to pray for Father James that the next 18 months will be a time of growth and development for him and for the whole parish.

The course will run via intensive blocks of 2 or 3 day segments during the week and will not impact upon Sunday Masses and with the great assistance of Fr Phan, it will hopefully not seriously impact upon the Parish in other ways. Each 6 month block will only involve 5 days away from the Parish.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mount Pritchard will be holding a course for anyone who would like to become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. The course is being held on Saturdays 3rd and 10th September 2016 between 9.00am and 12.00pm. Registration forms are available from the alcove in the Church.

Pilgrimage Of Mercy – St Mary's Cathedral Holy Door.

"The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life". Pope Francis . Throughout this Year of Mercy, you are invited to come to St Mary's Cathedral and make a Pilgrimage of Mercy. Walk through the Holy Door and make a pilgrimage along the Way of Mercy - six different Mercy Stations throughout the Cathedral where you can stop, reflect and pray. For more information see www.sydneycatholic.org/yearofmercy.

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 13th July at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **For peace in the world and in our hearts.** 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 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!

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 date for Baptism will 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: Took place on 18th, 19th, 25th and 26th June.

Confirmation: Will take place on 25th September, 2016. Enrolments have now taken place. Programme starts in Term 3.

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

Congratulations on Retirement and Thank you to Michael O'Mara

After almost 4 years of working for the Parish on a part-time basis as the Parish Accountant, and also contributing many years of service to the Parish on the Pastoral Council, the Finance Committee, the Maintenance/Building Committee and the New-Church Feasibility Committee, Michael has asked to have a little more time to enjoy his retirement and he stepped back from all these roles at the end of the financial year (June 30, 2016). The Parish thanks Michael for his excellent work and service over many years. He will definitely be missed.

A Chartered Accounting firm Kelly Partners are the new Parish Accountants. Together with our Bookkeeper Yvonne Smolinski, they will be overseeing the day-to-day and monthly financial procedures for our parish.

A new Parish Finance Committee has been established and the first meeting will be in August, after Fr James returns from World Youth Day.

City Silence - City Silence is a weekly Holy Hour for young adults (aged 18-35) at St Mary's Cathedral every Tuesday evening from 6:30-7:30pm (excluding January). City Silence includes times of silence, reflection, scripture, and song; confessions are generally available. Following City Silence everyone is welcome to a casual dinner at a nearby restaurant. Access to City Silence is via the eastern door of the Cathedral which is located at the top of the stairs from the Cathedral car park. Please note on AUGUST 2 City Silence will NOT run.

ATTENTION CATECHISTS

CCD is holding a special Area Mass for Catechists on Friday 22nd July at St. Gertrude's Parish, Smithfield commencing at 11 am. A special Rosary will be prayed beforehand at 10.15am for the intentions of catechists and their students. Please contact Laura Agiro on 9307 8330 if you are able to attend. Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of Mass in the Parish Hall.

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

Ministries Next Week 16/17 JULY	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	L Krslovic A Pace	P Lavorato S Davies	N Debuissou A Vlahadamis	C Sullivan M O'Mara
EUCHARIST MINISTERS:	B Gorla M Harvey T Grana P Grana D Rotondo B Empeigne A Pace	S Xuereb A Gibbs M Borgia S Ives	N Laureti D Oliveri S Stornelli N Freeman D Dubuissou J Habib A Vlahadamis E Villegas G Dunn	
COUNTERS:	G Adam	E Villegas		
CHURCH CLEANERS: Group 2	S Peters	K Boya	S Shabo	

UPCOMING PARISH & WESTERN DEANERY EVENTS

THANK YOU - ANNUAL HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL
We give our heartfelt thanks to everyone for supporting our parish on last weekend's Holy Father's Appeal, which links us directly to the global charitable mission of Pope Francis. Your generosity gives hope to many. Thank you

**END OF JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY CELEBRATION
20 NOVEMBER 2016**

The parish intends to have a multicultural food fair with the possibility of some entertainment. We have run out of disposable plates. We would appreciate it if you could help donate some small disposable plates for this event. If you could assist, please place them in the basket provided in the Church meeting room. Thank you for your support.

URGENTLY WANTED Cultural food stalls and a DJ for the End of Jubilee Year of Mercy Celebration. No celebration would be complete without food and music. We are renowned for our cultural richness so why not let the parishioners and friends sample flavours from your cultural background. **DJ**—bring your passion for music, great voice, and your awesome personality to add to this event. Volunteering your services at this event is another way to advertise your business. If you can assist in anyway please contact Susan 0419 606 683.



All are welcome

John the Baptist Prayer group is inviting everyone for an evening of Praise and Worship, fellowship, teaching and much more.

Why not come along and join us, to enjoy a time of worship, teaching and great fellowship. This is a great opportunity, so come and be inspired, refreshed.

When: 7.15pm - 21st July, 2016 (meetings every fortnight)

Where: John the Baptist Parish Hall, Bonnyrigg Heights

Contact: Susan: 02 9607 5137



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.

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.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2016/2017 are now available for collection after all Masses this weekend.

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 will be yellow Standing Authority forms available also. Thank you.



Pope Francis weekly tweet @ Pontifex.

"Loving and forgiving as God loves and forgives. This is a programme of life that can know no interruptions or exceptions."



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: *As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.*

Responsorial Psalm: *Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise..*

First Reading **Deuteronomy 30:10-14**

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 68:14,17,30-31, 33-34, 36-37**

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me.

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

As for me in my poverty and pain
let your help, O God, lift me up.
I will praise God's name with a song;
I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

For God will bring help to Zion
and rebuild the cities of Judah
and men shall dwell there in possession.
The sons of his servants shall inherit it;
those who love his name shall dwell there.

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

Second Reading **Colossians 1:15-20**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God
and the first-born of all creation,
for in him were created
all things in heaven and on earth:
everything visible and everything invisible,
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers –

all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed,
and he holds all things in unity.
Now the Church is his body,
he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,
he was first to be born from the dead,
so that he should be first in every way;
because God wanted all perfection
to be found in him
and all things to be reconciled through him and for him,
everything in heaven and everything on earth,
when he made peace
by his death on the cross.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: **cf. John 6:63c,68c**

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

Gospel **Luke 10:25-37**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus 'do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go, and do the same yourself.'

The Gospel of the Lord