



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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Assistant: Rev Fr Phan Nguyen

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Deacon: Rev Mervyn Francis

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Youth Ministry Co-ordinator: Joe Sullivan

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Parish Pastoral Centre:

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Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

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

Special Mass

Monday - 9:10am

*The Passion and death
of St John the Baptist*

Tuesday - 9:10am

For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday - 7:00pm

Thursday - 9:10am

Friday - 9:10am

Spring Ember Day

Saturday - 9:10am

*St Gregory the Great, pope,
doctor*

SUNDAY 3/4 SEPT

(23rd 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

EXIT COLLECTION

After Mass this weekend there will be an opportunity to assist **Rachel Camilleri** undertake missionary work. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Reflection Questions

- ♦ I would describe my relationship to Jesus as.....
- ♦ I hear and heed Jesus' admonition to humility, inclusivity, and generosity by.....
- ♦ I find it easiest to choose to live and act as Jesus did when.....
- ♦ I find it most difficult when.....

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

27th & 28th August, 2016

Let's have a party! Let's become an invitational Church!

Everyone loves a party. But before there is the fun and excitement of the party, it is necessary to receive an invitation. The people we choose to invite to social events, weddings and parties says something about who we are, and this includes inviting people to church. For many people, party and wedding invitations are extended to family, friends and sometimes to work colleagues. Some people might invite their boss or people in positions of high authority or high social status so that the party and the host looks more important, and others invite hundreds and even thousands of people to their celebrations. The blessing, recognition and benefit that many people are worried about receiving when we send invitations will come, though not through the means we expect. The freedom that comes with knowing we are loved and sustained by God is a freedom to give generously of our resources, to give the best place to others without concern for ourselves. The Gospel tells us that: "when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind." And it says that we should include the poor because they cannot afford to bring a gift, they cannot afford to bring an envelope of cash and they more than likely could not afford to even invite you to their party in the future.

Christian Invitation is an invitation to experience true charity and humility. In many places today, parties and wedding celebrations are not an opportunity for charity but an opportunity to celebrate status and elitism. This is not the way of the Christian.

The common theme of today's readings is the need for true humility and the saintly way of generosity and invitation. Humility was Jesus' favourite theme. "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Humility is a strange phenomenon. As a rule, when a person discovers they have humility, they have in fact lost it. Humility is like a rare flower -- put it on display and it instantly wilts and loses its fragrance! St. Augustine said: "Humility is so necessary for Christian perfection that among all the ways to reach perfection, humility is first, humility is second, and humility is third." He adds "Humility makes men angels, and pride makes angels devils."

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who will be canonized next week, wrote these words to the young women who were following in her footsteps: "If I try to make myself as small as I can, I'll never become humble. It is humility with a hook. True humility is truth. Humility comes when I stand as tall as I can, and look at all of my strengths, and the reality about me, but put myself alongside Jesus Christ. And it's there, when I humble myself before Him, and realize the truth of who he is, when I accept God's estimate of myself, stop being fooled about myself and impressed with myself, that I begin to learn humility. The higher I am in grace, the lower I should be in my own estimation because I am comparing myself with the Lord God."

Society today encourages pride, arrogance, confidence and self. True humility is not denying our giftedness but acknowledging that the talents, skills and giftedness we have each received are not for our own glory and ego but for service to Christ and to the poor, the lonely and the forgotten. In recognising our gifts and sharing them with the poor, we walk the way of Christ and the way of genuine humility.

Fr James

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, Joe BARILLA,
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 ZERAFI,
Carmen SPITERI, Audrey SPITERI, Christine TRIGAS,
Crystel SACOBOS, 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, Darren OWM, Joe
SAMMUT, Giannino MORASSUT, Diana VUKOV

Recently Deceased: Fr Frank FURFARO, Ian BAKER,
Tony VITALE, Eugen KLEIBERT

Other: Francisco Kim Van NGUYEN, John Kim Vinh NGUYEN,
Maria Kim An NGUYEN, Joseph Vinh TRAN, Anna Ly TRAN,
Elizabeth Linh TRAN and other Family Members, Special Intention

FATHERS DAY COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

Next Sunday is Father's Day and there will be the annual collection for the Priests' Retirement Foundation. More than 80 Sydney priests are currently supported by the Foundation including our own First Parish Priest Fr John Langtry, and every year more priests are retiring. The Foundation assists in providing a place for the retired priests to live and be cared for, to cover their transports costs and ensures they are provided with the basic necessities of life. Unfortunately across the whole Archdiocese the amount raised each year has decreased by 30% and the Foundation is unable to cover the expenses. Please consider giving generously next week to this important collection.

New Archdiocesan Protocol:

Children Receiving Communion under Both Kinds

The Archdiocese of Sydney has recently updated the protocols for safeguarding and protection of children across the Church in Sydney. Recent changes impact the distribution of communion to children.

"The Provision or supply of alcohol to a child is prohibited by the Liquor Act 2007 (NSW) and is not acceptable in the context of any activity or event related to or organised by the Archdiocese. Alcohol is not to be provided to any child **except** by a Priest or other Minister administering Holy Communion and with the authorisation of, or in the presence of the child's parent or guardian." Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney: *Safeguarding and Child Protection Manual, 30 June, 2016.*

In situations where a child, who has made First Holy Communion, is unable to receive the host due to food allergies, a parent/guardian can give written permission to the Parish and the School for the child to receive from the chalice at Parish Masses and Masses attended by the School. The priest celebrant of each Mass will need to be told immediately prior to the Mass about the requirement for a special chalice and the individual person will receive communion from the priest at the altar prior to the congregation receiving communion.

In all other circumstances, the chalice will no longer be offered to the congregation at Masses where school classes or grades will attend.

At Sunday Masses, it will be presumed (by the Communion Chalice Minister) that a child who presents, with a parental presence nearby, to receive from the chalice, has the authorisation of their parent/guardian. Parents should inform their child whether they have permission to receive from the chalice at Sunday Masses.

Children and Adults with food allergies are welcome to receive a gluten-free host at any Mass. This can be arranged with the priest celebrant prior to any Mass. The School teachers can assist in coordinating this when classes attends Masses.

Welcome back WYD pilgrims!

We would like to welcome back the pilgrims of our parish who went overseas to encounter Christ and the universal Church! What an incredible experience we all had! Some of us visited the Vatican and the places where St. Francis of Assisi lived and preached. Some of us went to Fatima and Lourdes, places where Mother Mary appeared multiple times. Some of us even had the privilege to visit the Holy Land and walk where Jesus walked, in Jerusalem and along the shores of Galilee. Thank you once again to all those who have supported us. We promise to pray for you in return of your generosity towards us and we promise to seek to serve the parish and our communities through learned WYD experiences over the past month. God Bless all!

PRAY FOR RACHEL!

Rachel Camilleri, a young woman in this parish, will be going to Tasmania for 5 months after she gets back from world youth day, to do mission work in Tassie and other parts of Australia! Rachel has bravely accepted Jesus' invitation to serve him and other people in the next few months and so let us pray for Rachel that her relationship with Christ grows even stronger after what will be such a life-changing and profound experience for her. This is a rewarding, but tough decision that Rachel has made, so let us continue to pray for her as a community, that God may touch her heart on this journey. Good luck Rachel!



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 31st August at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **For greater love in our families, for one another and for Christ.** 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!

NEW OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE AT JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Camp Australia is partnering with John the Baptist Primary School and Parish to deliver a tailored before and after school care and vacation care program that is focused on bringing out the best in kids. The program combines active games with structured and unstructured play, quiet time and healthy snacks. Every day is an adventure led by enthusiastic Camp Australia educators who are on a mission to make kids smile.

There will be a **Parent Information Session** to help families understand how the program is structured, to meet the educators, and to find out how to make bookings and manage your account.

When: **Wednesday, 31st August 2016 at 6:00pm**

Where: John the Baptist Parish Hall



OUR LADY OF VICTORIES PARISH FEAST:

Sunday 18th September at Our Lady of Victories Parish, Horsley Park. A fun family day out commencing with procession and Mass from 2pm followed by an afternoon of entertainment, rides, music, great variety of food, raffles and games. The evening will conclude with a fireworks display at 8:45pm. Come along and celebrate Our Lady and have a great afternoon with the family. Visit ourladyofvictories.org.au

CANONISATION OF BLESSED MOTHER TERESA – Sunday, 4 Sep. All are invited to join in commemorating this great event in the life of our Church in this Jubilee Year of Mercy. Archbishop Fisher OP will be celebrating 6.00pm Mass at St Mary's Cathedral followed by a webcast of the Canonisation ceremony from Rome in the Cathedral College Hall. BBQ Dinner and an exhibition on the life of Mother Teresa will be available on the night.

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 (29 November - 2 December, 2016). There will be special **Year 2 Enrolment Masses on 27-28 August**. Children must be Baptised and in year 2 or above to enrol for the Reconciliation preparation program.

First Holy Communion: Took 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.**



RECONCILIATION

RECONCILIATION ENROLMENT

Reconciliation enrolments will be held on the **weekend of the 27-28 August, 2016**. The Saturday 5.30pm Mass and the Sunday 8am and 10am Masses will have a special focus for year 2 children and a focus on Reconciliation. **The Enrolment forms will be distributed to potential candidates during the Mass ONLY**. Please note that enrolment forms **will not** be distributed prior to the above enrolment weekend nor will they be available from the Parish Office or at the Parish Hall. Following the Mass, the enrolment form can be completed by a parent/guardian and submitted in the Parish Hall. Please bring a **PHOTOCOPY** of your child's Baptismal Certificate and a **contribution** of \$25 towards the program costs. Unfortunately if all required documentation is not provided at the time of enrolment, your child's enrolment **will not be accepted**.

PARISH FORUM - 15th October: 2pm - 4.30pm - ALL INVITED

There will be a Parish-wide community forum and discussion concerning the immediate future of our Parish on Saturday 15th October from 2pm to 4.30pm at the Parish Hall and surrounding venues. Please mark the date in your diary and make a special effort to attend. All input from parishioners will be most valuable for the Parish in planning for the future mission of our Parish. There will be a presentation on the findings of the Parish Building Feasibility Committee (as it will now be brought to a close). The presentation will look at options in relation to the church building, the possibility of a Parish pre-school and childcare, and other possible uses of our parish buildings in response to the needs of the community as expressed during the 2010 Parish Planning Survey and from other discussions. There will also be a presentation on the Financial situation of the Parish. An external facilitator will assist us in our discussions.

No decisions have yet been made about the future of the Parish or about future building projects or about new opportunities for outreach.

Ministries Next Week 3/4 SEPT	Sat 5.30 pm	Sun 8.00 am	Sun 10 am	Sun 5:30 pm
READERS:	G Turnbull M Camilleri	R Golubic S Davies	C Goodyer E Villegas	J Sullivan C Sullivan
EUCARIST MINISTERS:	C Araco D Vella M Camilleri E Vella D Tomic L Tononcelli J Oliveri	M Jebraill B O'Connor A Esposito F Foti	G Zangari M Velardi F Holden M Aulsebrook L Aulsebrook C Porreca A Pinto D Ellul J Papaleo	
COUNTERS:	P McLenaghan	M Davies		
CHURCH CLEANERS: Group 1	V Baltazar	J Mavizo	B Roy	R Agius

UPCOMING PARISH & WESTERN DEANERY EVENTS

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

The parish intends to have an international 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.

WE ARE IN NEED OF 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. If you can assist in anyway please contact Susan 0419 606 683.

SPECIAL MASS ON MONDAY 29TH AUGUST:

Monday 29 August is the *Feast of the Martyrdom of St John the Baptist*. Mass will be at **9.10am**



All are welcome

The Ascension Prayer Community (new name for the John the Baptist Prayer group) is inviting everyone for an evening of Praise and Worship, teaching/sharing, fellowship, and much more.

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

When: **1st September, 2016** (meetings take place on a fortnightly basis)

Where: Parish Hall, Mount Street, Bonnyrigg Heights 2177

Time: **7.15pm**

Contact: Susan: 02 9607 5137 or 0415 342 672



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.



CHURCH SPRING CLEAN

We will be holding a church Working Bee on **Saturday 3rd September from 8am -1pm**. We need as many volunteers as possible to work inside and outside the church .

Please bring along cleaning equipment, shovels, wheelbarrows etc . If you can help in any way please put your name on the list outside the church or Contact Grant Dunn on 9823 4704.

**BEREAVEMENT AND LOSS SUPPORT
REFLECTION MORNING**

Date: Saturday 8th October 2016 from 9am

Where: John the Baptist

This will be a time to honour and to remember but also a time of reflection and support. There will be time for prayer and speakers. Morning tea will be provided.

Any enquiries please contact Josie 9607 3973.

*'Death and loss are not the end of the story
Life is changed not ended'*



**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: *Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.*

Responsorial Psalm: *God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.*

First reading**Ecclesiasticus 3:19-21, 30-31****A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus**

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,
he accepts the homage of the humble.
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,
since an evil growth has taken root in him.
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The Word of the Lord**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 67:4-7, 10-11**

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom:

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

God, in your goodness you have made a home for the poor.

Second reading**Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24****A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a

citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant and a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.

The Word of the Lord**Gospel Acclamation:****Matthew 11:29ab**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you;
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel**Luke 14:1, 7-14****A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Pope Francis weekly tweet @ Pontifex.

"Where there is love, there is also understanding and forgiveness."