



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

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Youth Ministry Co-ordinator: Joe Sullivan

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Parish Pastoral Centre:

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Office: 9823 2572 Fax: 9822 9954

Email: info@johnthebaptist.org.au

website: www.johnthebaptist.org.au

Parish Secretary: Leanne Lang

Bookkeeper: Yvonne Smolinski

Office Hours: Tuesday- Friday 10am to 4pm

MASSES THIS WEEK

PSALTER 1

'Prayer of the Church'

prayed at John the Baptist

10 minutes

before weekday Masses

Morning and Evening Prayer

Monday - No Mass

St Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr

Tuesday - No Mass

St Luke, evangelist

Wednesday - No Mass

Sts John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, priests and companion, martyrs

St Paul of the Cross, priest

Thursday - No Mass

Friday - 9:10am

Saturday - 9:10am

St John Paul II, pope

For the Souls of Amado and Nina Moncay

SUNDAY 22/23 OCTOBER

(30th 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

- ◆ When I am "convinced of [my] own righteousness," what ends up humbling me is.....
- ◆ The position I take up before God is.....
- ◆ Before others is.....
- ◆ My prayer focuses on.....
- ◆ When.....
- ◆ Because.....

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 15th & 16th October, 2016

"When the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?"

Living in Sydney, one can often feel like saying, perhaps with a tone of disappointment and frustration: "When the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith?" Our answer to this question should be a very strong 'Yes.'

We live in one of the most religious areas of Australia. According to the census of 2011, our parish is 42% Catholic, 38% are Muslims, Buddhists or Hindus and only 5% say they have 'No religion.' In other parts of Australia, the figures are often in reverse.

When we listen to the national media that claims Australia is becoming an atheistic country, it can be tempting to give up our faith, to give up spreading the good news and even to think and act in a way that hides the Church and our faith within the four walls of our buildings.

In today's Gospel Jesus tells his disciples to "pray continually and to never lose heart." Jesus also tells a parable about a dishonest judge who denies the just rights owed to a widow, but eventually gives her requests because the widow is so persistent with her appeals.

As Christians we should do the same as the widow. Our faith is a thing of great value and should be shared constantly and even persistently. We should pray always, remain positive and not give up on spreading the good news of Jesus.

In our parish, there are almost 18,000 Catholics. However, like most parishes in Sydney, only have about 8-10% of Catholics attend Mass on a weekly basis.

As Catholics we should hope that everyone participates in the Banquet of Heaven on a weekly basis. To help people participate in the things of heaven we could consider inviting someone to church at least every month, or maybe collect a friend and come with them to Mass in the same way we might collect a friend and go with them to a football game or a concert.

In the last 10 years there has been little growth (and only a very small decline) in the Sunday Mass attendance numbers of our parish. The average age of people coming to Mass has remained the same, which is an indication that we are good at assisting primary school students and their parents to be involved in our parish, but there is more we can do for other age groups. Our ministry as a parish needs to extend beyond a focus on school students.

Faith, especially for a young adult, is not a passive spectator sport. Faith, like the widow, needs to be lived in action. Every Catholic has a call to share their life with God and to share their faith with our society. We do this firstly by praying and entering into worship, both individually and communally. We are then called to live our faith in action by inviting people to experience the life, love and justice of God through a care for our community, our environment and especially the most vulnerable. And finally we are called to be a centre of family life from birth to the grave and everything in between.

As St Paul said to Timothy in today's 2nd reading: "In the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching."

Fr James McCarthy

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 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, Pamela LEVERS, Lily TANTIYA, Cecilia ABELA, Brindley & Virginia CAVALLARO, Sarah CANCERI, Doug ANDERSON, Doris LIGHTOWER, Darren OWM, Joe SAMMUT, Giannino MORASSUT, Diana VUKOV, Florence JIANG, Isabel TANTIYA, Nguyet-Thi-PHAM, John CODNER, Robin ISHAC

Recently Deceased: Angelica GATT, Rosaria STIVALA, Lino CELEBRIN, Joy GIBBS, Joseph XUERE, Joseph BORG, Rose VELLA

Anniversary: Cesar LAI, David FENECH

Other: Gina NHEU, Imaculada LAY, Very Special Intention



We congratulate the family of Angelo RIPEPI who will be Baptised here this Sunday 16th October.

SUNDAY 16TH

MONTH OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILIES

Today and throughout this week we pray for all persons who experience same sex attraction or gender uncertainty and their families

HEART WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 20-22 October 2016
Fairfield RSL, 14 Anzac Avenue, Fairfield

A time to come together as women to be refreshed and renewed in our busy lives. Spoil yourself. Dream again. Feel loved, honoured and cared for. Invite your daughters, mothers, sisters and friends.

Register: TheCatholicGuy.tv/heart
Email: heart@thecatholicguy.com
Contact us: 1300 734 880



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
Relationship enrichment for married couples
Weekend Date: **18th to 20th November** at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville

Bookings online at nswbookings@wwme.org.au or Bill and Ardell Sharpe on 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

FATHER JAMES MALLON IS COMING TO AUSTRALIA
Fr James is parish priest at St Benedict, in the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth, Canada and a member of the Global Catholic Alpha Board. If you are interested in seeing **Fr James Mallon he will be at Dooley's Catholic Club, Lidcombe on Thursday 17th November at 7:15pm.**

MEDITATION RETREATS

Saturday 19th November, Ron Dyer Centre, North Sydney
Sunday 20th November, St Benedict's Monastery, Arcadia
Please see Church noticeboard for more information.

MALTESE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

We are commemorating a Mass on **Thursday 10th November at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Old Prospect Road, Greystanes at 7pm** for our deceased members. Please attend this religious event to remember our departed member whose work for the community is still and always will be in our memory. Refreshments will be served afterwards at Saint George Preca Hall. For more information please contact Mary Ramundi on 9688 1432.



God, Sex & The Meaning of Life

The modern world has sought - with rapid success - to redefine human sexuality. The Result has been not only a new sexual ethic, but a new definition of our humanity and a new social order. Founded by Christopher West and inspired by John Paul II's Theology of the Body. The Cor Project aims to reframe questions of human existence in such a way that the divine plan for man and woman can be perceived and embraced in all its beauty and splendour. This is a project of the heart, attracting men and women who are yearning for more than what our culture's approach to happiness and fulfilment has to offer. Join Christopher West for this very special afternoon on **Saturday October 22nd between 1:00pm and 4:00pm** at the Seymour Centre in Sydney. Don't miss out on this great opportunity!

Simon Carrington



About Simon

Simon Carrington was raised in a devout Catholic family of eight and is engaged to his beautiful fiancé Madeleine Vella. Simon has been active in youth ministry for the past 3 years, with a passionate focus on chastity, pure dating and Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Simon is Parousia Media's first part time Chastity Speaker, and hopes to inspire a radiant purity in the lives of every young person he speaks to. Simon has served Parousia Media in administration, production of resources, sales and event coordination; coordinating youth formation talks at parishes and schools in Sydney and beyond. He has served as a volunteer youth minister at Our Lady of Lebanon parish in Harris Park, is a regular host/co-host on the Voice of Charity radio network, including Catholic Q&A Live and the "Chastity on Air" series. He is an affiliate employee of Covenanteyes.com, an internet filtering and accountability software, and has completed Theology of the Body 1: Head and Heart Immersion Course with Christopher West in Pennsylvania, USA. He is currently completing a Bachelor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame and has spoken at parish youth groups, retreats and high schools all over Sydney, and in Melbourne.

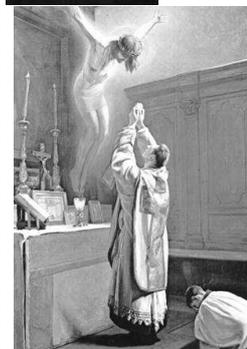
Simon is coming to our parish on Friday 2nd December at 6pm to give the talk "finding the love that satisfies." Please come along, bring someone and spread the word. Prepare to be truly inspired.

Galilee & Jordan



The next **Galilee** youth group will both be on **Friday, 4th November, from 5:30-8:00pm** and the next **Jordan** youth group will be on **Saturday, 5th November, from 3:30-5:30pm**, both being in our parish hall. All year 5-6 students are invited to Jordan youth group where students will meet myself and other leaders outside the parish hall. Jordan youth group will feature DVD's, fun activities, talks, prayer, sharing, and food!

All students in years 7-10 are welcome to join our Galilee night which will involve time for fellowship, presentations, discussion, prayer, activities and also plenty of food! Please join us for what will surely be a fantastic night! Please remember to invite others also. Hope to see a wide mix of years 5-10's there! ☺



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 19th October at 7:00pm as we pray for the following intention: **For an increased devotion to Our Lady, Mother of all sinners.** 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.

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). Enrolments have now ceased.

First Holy Communion: Took place on 18th, 19th, 25th and 26th June.

Confirmation: Took place on 25th September, 2016.

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

YOUNG MEN (18-30 YEARS) interested in a vocation in the Priesthood are invited to register for a post-WYD Vocations Camp for Men with our new Auxiliary Bishops Tony Randazzo and Richard Umbers, and the director of vocations Fr Epeli Qimaqima. This camp is for any young man (18-30 years) interested in the Priesthood, regardless of whether they attended WYD. The camp takes place at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale, 18-20 November 2016 and the cost is \$99. Register at www.vocationscentre.org.au or call 9307 8421 for more information.

WALK WITH CHRIST COMPLETING THE YEAR OF MERCY.

The annual CBD Walk With Christ Eucharistic procession will take place this year at 2.00pm on Sunday, 20 November; the Feast of Christ the King. As the procession coincides with the closing of the Jubilee doors at St Peter's Basilica, Rome, it will be the completing event for the Year of Mercy in Sydney. Participants will gather for the start in a closed section of Pitt St, between Hunter St and Martin Place. The Blessed Sacrament will be brought to meet us there from St Patrick's, Church Hill. For more details visit www.sydneycatholic.org/walkwithchrist.

ORDER OF MALTA LOURDES DAY MASS

The Order Of Malta invites all parishioners to Lourdes Day Mass 2016 to be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday, 3rd December at 10:00am.

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.



REMEMBRANCE MASS for the *Repose of Souls*

Liverpool Cemetery, St Padre Pio Chapel

Monthly Mass held every second Wednesday of every month at 10:30am. *Please bring a photo of your loved one who has departed.* Following Mass please join us for Morning Tea.

Ministries Next Week 22/23 OCT	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 C Sullivan
EUCHARIST MINISTERS:	M Chun A Gorla B Gorla P Bennett C Bennett M Harvey D Rotondo	B O'Connor V Tomac A Esposito M Esposito	G Buttel N Laureti D Oliveri S Stornelli N Freeman N Dubuisson J Habib A Vlahadamis T Vartuli	
COUNTERS:	F Aloe	J Coiera		
CHURCH CLEANERS: Group 8	N Khosho	I Hanna	A Essa	W al-Safar C Lazar

UPCOMING PARISH & WESTERN DEANERY EVENTS

END OF JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY CELEBRATION 20 NOVEMBER 2016

UPDATE: So far we have: Assyrian, Croatian, Holland, India, Mauritius, Philippines, Tonga and Vietnam stalls, cake and a Barista. We have a singer and a boy's band.

WE STILL NEED: Maltese, South American, Spanish, Syrian and Iraq stalls, more entertainers, volunteers to assist in parking, volunteers to do face painting and we need disposable dinner plates. Please contact Susan 0419 606 683.



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: 27th October, 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.



**'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.

TRAINING FOR ALTAR SERVERS

Sessions: 13th October (Thursday) 10:00am - 11:00am

23rd October (Sunday) 8:45am - 9:45am

3rd November (Thursday) 10:00am - 11:00am

Applications Forms are available for collection at the Parish Office.



COME AND REST A WHILE. Cabramatta parish invites you to spend some time with Jesus at our place.

Sacred Heart Parish, 13 Park Road, Cabramatta is open for 24-hour adoration before the Blessed Sacrament every Friday until the end of Year of Mercy (Friday 18th November) from 7am Mass on Friday morning until 8am Mass on Saturday. Spend an hour with the Lord in prayer or silent reflection! Our world can do with extra prayers for our many needs - 'Ask and you shall receive'. An appointment book is in the church if you wish to book a specific time, please be aware that many have already booked so may be in the church when you come, that's fine. A book for prayer request is also available for your intentions which Father will pray for. The Lord is waiting for you.



**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: *To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.*

Responsorial Psalm: *Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.*

First reading**Exodus 17:8-13****A reading from the book of Exodus**

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The Word of the Lord**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 120:1-8**

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains;
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard.

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night.

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever.

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Second reading**2 Timothy 3:14-4:2****A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy**

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since

you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The Word of the Lord**Gospel Acclamation:****Hebrews 4:12**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active;
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel**Luke 18:1-8****A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

The Gospel of the Lord

Pope Francis weekly tweet @ Pontifex.

"Our Lady also wants to bring the great gift of Jesus to us all; and with him she brings us his love, his peace and his joy."