



# Catholic Archdiocese of Johannesburg



Archdiocese of Johannesburg Department of Evangelisation Newsletter

Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

## Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy

Pope Francis says that he wants to make it evident that the Church's mission is to be a witness of compassion.

"Let us not forget that God forgives and God forgives always," Francis said. "Let us never tire of asking for forgiveness."

The Pope continued, "I am convinced that the whole Church — which has much need to receive mercy, because we are sinners — will find in this jubilee the joy to rediscover and render fruitful the mercy of God, with which we are all called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time."

*The entire story of our redemption is a story of God's merciful love. Mercy is a divine characteristic that we as faithful Christians must share. If we truly desire to receive God's mercy then we must also practice it ourselves.*

*If ever there was a need for a year of mercy, now is the perfect time.*

# EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016



Pope Francis declares a Jubilee Year of Mercy throughout the entire church

### In This Issue

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“The South African opportunity for evangelising is immense, as is the opportunity for re-evangelising those already attending church but not yet enjoying a deep personal relationship with Jesus Christ our Savior.”

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale

## Our Vision

We are an Eucharistic community comprised of the children of God, incorporated into the Body of Christ through Baptism, who worship the Father in Spirit and truth and who are actively serving humanity in view of fostering the Reign of God.

As thriving diocese; comprising a sufficient number of accessible, self-reliant, interacting, interdependent, growing parishes; where priests, deacons, religious and an increasing cadre of lay leaders collaborate; to evangelise, deepen the faith, enhance the communion, and satisfy the spiritual needs of, multi-ethnic, multi cultural, multi-lingual Catholic congregations; who reach out as individuals and a Church to make a societal impact, and to provide moral leadership, consistent with the teachings of Christ and the Church; with particular emphasis on youth and the family, and the poor and the marginalised.

## Why evangelise?

‘In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples (cf. Mt 28:19).[...] Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are “disciples” and “missionaries”, but rather that we are always “missionary disciples”. If we are not convinced, let us look at those first disciples, who, immediately after encountering the gaze of Jesus, went forth to proclaim him joyfully: “We have found the Messiah!” (Jn 1:41).

“So what are we waiting for?”

“Christians have a duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone.”

**Pope Francis - The Joy of the Gospel**

## EVANGELII NUNTIANDI

### POPE PAUL VI APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION

As an evangeliser, Christ first of all proclaims a kingdom, the kingdom of God; and this is so important that, by comparison, everything else becomes “the rest,” which is “given in addition.” Only the kingdom therefore is absolute and it makes everything else relative. The Lord will delight in describing in many ways the happiness of belonging to this kingdom (a paradoxical happiness which is made up of things that the world rejects), the demands of the kingdom and its Magna Charta, the heralds of the kingdom, its mysteries, its children, the vigilance and fidelity demanded of whoever awaits its definitive coming.

As the kernel and centre of His Good News, Christ proclaims salvation, this great gift of God which is liberation from everything that oppresses man but which is above all liberation from sin and the Evil One, in the joy of knowing God and being known by Him, of seeing Him, and of being given over to Him. All of this is begun during the life of Christ and definitively accomplished by His death and resurrection.

*December 8, 1975*

### How can we respond?

**Run regular evangelistic courses** – form a bridge to the community & have something rolling across the year. Eg. Alpha, Youth Alpha Film Series, Catholicism 201, Cursillo, Life in the Spirit Seminar, Renew Africa - Why Catholic? Bible Study Sessions.

## **UBICUMQUE ET SEMPER**

**POPE EMERITUS  
BENEDICT XVI**

### **ESTABLISHING THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR PROMOTING THE NEW EVANGELISATION**

It is the duty of the Church to proclaim always and everywhere the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He, the first and supreme evangeliser, commanded the Apostles on the day of his Ascension to the Father: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Mt 28:19-20).

Faithful to this mandate, the Church—a people chosen by God to declare his wonderful deeds (cf. 1 Peter 2:9)—ever since she received the gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (cf. Acts 2:14), has never tired of making known to the whole world the beauty of the Gospel as she preaches Jesus Christ, true God and true man, the same "yesterday and today and for ever" (Heb 13:8), who, by his death and Resurrection, brought us salvation and fulfilled the promise made of old.

Hence the mission of evangelisation, a continuation of the work desired by the Lord Jesus, is necessary for the Church: it cannot be overlooked; it is an expression of her very nature.



Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

## **What can we attribute to our Holy Fathers?**



Pope John Paul II:

**This is what we believe**



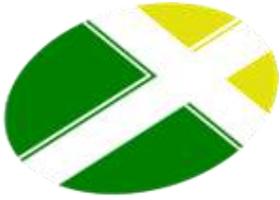
Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI:

**This is why we believe it**



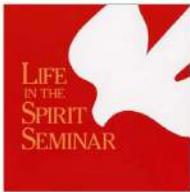
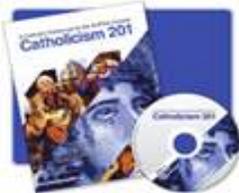
Pope Francis:

**Now go do it**



**The Church exists to evangelise**

## Suggested Evangelisation Activities in 2016



## Contact Us

Give us a call to get more details about any of the listed activities of the Archdiocese Evangelisation Activities:

Tel no. +27 (11) 402 6400

Email us at :  
evangel.hod@catholicjhb.org.za

Visit us on the web at : <http://www.catholicjhb.org.za/departments/evangelisation/>

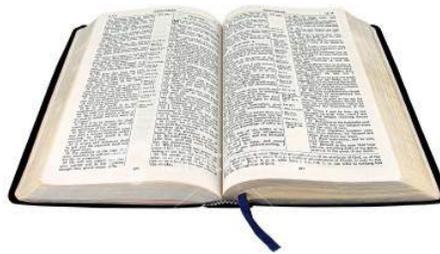
### Alpha Leadership Training

All potential Hosts and Helpers welcome.

Rosebank Catholic Church on Wednesday 20th January at 6 to 10pm.  
Contact Gerald Rodrigues 083 659 3392  
or  
Bryanston Catholic Church on Saturday 23rd January at 8:30am to 2pm.  
Contact Denis Jacobs 071 436 1327



### BIBLE Study Sessions



#### Links:

<http://www.alpha.org/journal/stories/153>

<http://www.alpha.org/journal/feature/88>

<http://catholicism201.com/>

<http://www.cursillo.org/>

<http://www.themoneycourse.org/>

<http://www.catholicjhb.org.za/category/renew-africa/>

<http://www.whycatholic.org/Renew/Index.nsf/vPages/WhyCathOV?OpenDocument>