

Third Sunday of Lent
7 - 8 March 2015

**Our Parish
Mission**

The parish of St John XXIII is a faith community with the Eucharist as its heart. Inspired by John XXIII's prophetic opening of the windows of the Church, we welcome the fresh air of the Holy Spirit, inviting every person to share in the responsibility of enriching the life and faith of our community by sharing their gifts and talents."



Parish Priest: Fr John McSweeney ✉ FrJohn@john23rd.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Robert William ✉ FrRobert@john23rd.org.au

Mass Times

Monday to Friday 9:00am
Also Wednesday 9:00am Holy Cross
Primary during school term
Saturday 9:00am, 6:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am
6:00pm (Youth)

Baptism 12:00pm Sunday by appointment

Reconciliation (First Rite)

Saturday 5:00 - 5:45pm
And after any weekday masses

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 8.30 - 4.00pm

Parish Office Contacts

☎ (02)9852 0580 ☎ 0403 766468 AH
Secretary: Tanya Gatt
✉ secretary@john23rd.org.au
Finance: Mila Llamas (Fri)
✉ accounts@john23rd.org.au
Admin Asst: Jill Franco (Tues/Thur)
✉ admin@john23rd.org.au
Business Manager: John McCartney (*pro bono*)

Devotions & Prayers

Novena Masses

Tuesday 7:30pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
First Friday 7:30pm
Sacred Heart of Jesus

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 6:30 - 7:30pm
First Friday 6:30pm followed by
7:15pm Benediction
Saturday 8:00 - 9:00am (*Vocations*)

Sacrament of the Sick

First Saturday 9:00am Mass or upon request

Divine Office

Friday 12:00pm with Adoration
Sunday 8:15am

Praise & Worship

3rd Saturday 7:30pm
led by SJ23rd Prayer Group
2nd & 4th Saturday 7:30pm
led by CRL (*Community of the Risen Lord*)

Friday Prayer Group

Friday 7:00pm at the Church kitchen
led by Pauline Camilleri
☎ 0407 417039

Catholic Lenten Practices

Giving up something for Lent, eating fish on Fridays and fasting from meat, almsgiving and penance throughout the forty days of Lent - these are some of the practices for which Catholics are known. But why do we as Catholics do this? Because through these commitments - known as “Lenten practices” or “Lenten disciplines” - the Catholic Church calls us each year to renew our discipleship in Christ. Specifically, each year during the liturgical season of Lent the Church asks us to pray, give alms, and fast.

Pray We know the importance of prayer in our lives - as individuals, as families, and as a community. Prayer is especially important during Lent. The Lenten season is a time for reflection, evaluation, and repentance. As the booklet *Praying Lent* (Loyola Press, 2009) says, Lent asks us: “What needs changing?” Lent calls us to a personal conversion and renewal - to a recommitted life in Christ so that we might not just celebrate Easter forty days later but also feel the risen Christ alive in us and in the world. This means prayer. During Lent we set aside time for prayer that is reflective in nature and reveals places where we have failed to open ourselves to God.

Give Every day we witness situations of injustice, violence, and hatred. Television and the Internet bring these into our living rooms, but we also observe and live them in our own cities and homes. The Church calls us during Lent to be especially conscious of the needs of others and to act accordingly. Giving materially to another is an act of Christian charity known as “almsgiving.” During Lent, the Church also calls us to first convert ourselves and then to transform the world for justice, so that we might serve the Kingdom which Jesus lived and preached.

Sacrifice Fasting and abstinence are not sacrifices for the sake of pain or vain discomfort. Sacrifice for the sake of sacrifice is not a Christian virtue. We are asked by the Catholic Church to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and not to eat meat on the Fridays of Lent. Feeling an empty stomach, or fighting the urge to have that juicy steak or candy bar does more than just remind us that for some people an empty stomach is their daily bread. Fasting and abstinence help us to ask ourselves the question: “What sustains me and gives me life?” What nourishes me on my journey of life? We will find the answer, not in the steak or the candy bar, but at the end of these forty days of Lent - in the Resurrection of Jesus. We fast and abstain because, when we do, we are reminded of who we are - followers of the risen Christ.

As Catholics, we joyfully engage in Lenten disciplines because we are disciples (and yes, both words have the same root). We pray, give (almsgiving), and sacrifice (fast) because we follow Christ, who loved us so much that gave his own life so that we might share in Eternal Life.

First Holy Communion 2015

Parents of First Holy Communion candidates are reminded to bring their completed enrolment form, fee and a copy of the baptismal certificate in an envelope to the Enrolment Masses on **Saturday 21st March** or **Sunday 22nd March**. Enrolment forms are now available online on the Parish and schools' websites, and from the Parish Office.

The children's group sessions and confirmed Holy Communion dates will be announced at the Parent's Information night on **Tuesday 24th March, 7.30pm** at St. Mark's School Hall.

Facilitators Needed

We would like to invite parishioners to become facilitators for the Holy Communion Sacramental Program. Facilitators are required for the Children's sessions on the following dates:

Session #1

Saturday 2nd May, 5pm followed by 6pm Mass

Sunday 3rd May, 9.30am followed by 10.30am Mass

Session #2

Saturday 9th May, 5pm followed by 6pm Mass

Sunday 10th May, 9.30am followed by 10.30am Mass

The Facilitators Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 24th March, 7.30pm** at St. Mark's School Hall.

If you're interested in becoming a Facilitator, please e-mail Jill at admin@john23rd.org.au or call her on 9852 0584 (Tues & Thurs)

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- Mass at Holy Cross will be at 10.00am on Wednesday 11th March 2015.
 - We invite parishioners to pray for our RCIA Elect catechumens as they have their First Scrutiny at this Sunday's 10.30am Mass.

Parish Pastoral Council Corner

Be joyful, keep well, you may even accept every legitimate amusement that life offers, but never fail to have God's law before you, in every event, every moment. And remember that the Cross is with us always, we have it today, and it will not be absent tomorrow – St. John XXIII, 15 February 1959

We enjoin you to join our traditional Friday night Stations of the Cross, every Friday night at 7:30 pm. The Youth groups are currently organizing the Good Friday Stations of the Cross at Holy Cross School in Glenwood, so if you would like to participate actively in the reenactment scenes, please keep an eye out for announcements regarding this event, or contact Ray Samonte and Father Robert who are working with the Youth Groups on this Lenten event.

There will be a Lenten Retreat and Refresher Course for all SJ23 Liturgical Ministers this Sunday, 8 March from 1 pm at St. Mark's.

There will also be a "rehearsal" for all rostered lay ministers participating in the Holy Week (from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday) liturgical activities on Saturday, 28 March from 10 am to 1 pm at the Church. We strongly encourage attendance of this important liturgical practice event.

The SJ23 Prayer Group resumes its Praise and Worship Night on Saturday, 21 March. Watch out for more details on this prayerful event.

Thanks to those who responded to our call for hosting of the Rosary Statue this March. We now need host

families for April and May.

Lastly, aside from the traditional Lenten acts of almsgiving, prayer and fasting, we ask that you be generous with supporting Project Compassion, the Diocesan Works Fund and of course, our Grand Raffle Draw. After a month, we are happy to report cash sales of \$5k and ticket allocations of \$14k, so we are making good progress but still below break-even sales. We also only have 5 weekends to go before the raffle draw on April 12, so we ask you to remit payment of the allocated tickets soonest and pray for your continuing support for this fundraiser!

Have a great week! Bart

2015 Parish Council Meeting Schedule

Executive (*Council leaders*)

18 Mar 20 May 22 Jul
16 Sep 18 Nov

General (*all Parish Council members*)

8 Apr 7:30pm - 9:00pm
St Marks College Staff room
During the General Meeting, our School Executives and Finance committee are also invited to provide updates. **Parishioners are invited** to come and be part of this meeting.

The amended Sacramental Calendar for 2015 is now available.

If you know of families interested to enroll their children for any of the sacraments, calendar is posted on the notice board at the church foyer or can be viewed on our parish website, www.john23rd.org.au.

Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Tuesday nights beginning with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 6.30pm, Evening Prayer of the Church at 7.00pm, Rosary at 7.15pm, sung Benediction Mass 7.30pm and Novena prayers at 7:40pm.

If you want the opportunity of having the statue visit you in your home contact Bart Sarlabus. Pick up the statue during the novena and return before the novena.

Rosary Statue Family Roster

- 10 Mar Houghton Family
- 17 Mar Ramiscal Family
- 24 Mar Lusica Family
- 31 Mar Gorkic Family
- 07 Apr Bacolod Family
- 14 Apr Padilla Family



President Bart Sarlabus

✉ bart.sarlabus@gmail.com

Council Team Leaders

- Community Bldg* Techie Sarlabus
- Comms & Media* John McCartney
- Evangelicum* tba
- Faith Formation* Rose Franco
- Fundraising* Rodi Orantia
- Liturgy* Ray Samonte
- Pastoral Care* tba
- Social Justice* Qwayne Guevarra

Diocese News

Positions vacant

Receptionist

St Michael's Parish at Baulkham Hills is seeking to appoint a Receptionist for the Parish Office. The Receptionist has responsibility for managing phone calls and visitors through reception as well as an interesting variety of administrative duties. The Receptionist plays an integral role in providing support for the Parish by assisting the Office Administrator to provide services to the Parish community.

For further information about this role and how to apply please visit the *Employment* section of the Diocese of Parramatta's website:

www.parra.catholic.org.au

Applications close Friday 13 March 2015.

Executive Assistant to the Chief of Operations & Finance

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta is seeking applications for the position of *Executive Assistant to the Chief of Operations & Finance*. For a confidential discussion please contact Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. A copy of the position description is available at

www.catholicjobsonline.com.au

Applications close Monday 23 March 2015.

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

The Law was given through Moses.

The Lord spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is

a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-11

R. *Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.*

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second Reading

Corinthians 1:22-25

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Response *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation

John 3:16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



Gospel

John 2:13-25

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Readings for March

09 Mon *Third week of Lent*

1st Reading 2 Kings 5:1-15

Psalm Ps 41:2-3; 42:3-4

Gospel Luke 4:24-30

10 Tues *Third week of Lent*

1st Reading Daniel 3:25, 34-43

Psalm Ps 24:4-9

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

11 Wed *Third week of Lent*

1st Reading Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9

Psalm Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20

Gospel Matthew 5:17-19

12 Thurs *Third week of Lent*

1st Reading Jeremiah 7:23-28

Psalm Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

Gospel Luke 11:14-23

13 Fri *Third week of Lent*

1st Reading Hosea 14:2-10

Psalm Ps 80:6, 8-11, 14, 17

Gospel Mark 12:28-34

14 Sat *Third week of Lent*

1st Readings Hosea 5:15-6:6

Psalm Ps 50:3-4, 18-21

Gospel Luke 18:9-14

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Mass Cards are now available for purchase at the parish office

Special intentions

Born to eternal life: Jerry Camilleri, Arturo Cobbarrubias, Nela Serrato, Edward & Judith Saldanha

Anniversaries: Guy Falzon, Emanuel Francica, Enrico Finadri, Elizabeth Doyle, Gregory Reynolds, David Kisnorbo, Antonia Cremona, Victoria Cremona, Victor Cremona, Angelo Cremona, Anthony Crasto, Max Cerdor

For the sick: Felomina Docena, Shona Modrich, Lourdes Subijano, Anthony Joseph, Anthony Subijano, Concepcion Quiranee, Marlon Marcelo, Athan G Alvarez, Jovie Disterhoft, Nikhil Parvathaneni, John and Rhonda Devereaux, Angelica Nepomuceno, Florencia Melgar, Cynthia Villafuerte Cano

Thanksgiving: Abigail Pragasam, Jianna Elverna



Intentions for weekday Masses this week

Sat 07/3 - Emanuel Francica, Guy Falzon

Mon 09/3 - Anthony Crasto

Tues 10/3 - Jerry Camilleri, Reno Camilleri, Maryanne/Joseph Bugaya

Wed 11/3 - Candelaria Zozobrado

Thurs 12/3 - Nazzarene Sultana

Fri 13/3 - Lydia D Hapin

Sat 14/3 - Elizabeth Doyle

Parish Notices

Free morning tea

Every 4th Sunday after the 9am mass courtesy of SJ23rd Prayer Group

SRE Teachers needed

Special Religious Education Teachers or Catechists to teach in our State Schools. Training will be provided.

If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office

GARDENERS NEEDED

Thank you to the people that take care of the Church gardens, we need more volunteers to help if interested please call Parish Office on 9852 0580.

If you know of anyone who needs help from our **Community Outreach** group please contact the parish office

If you or a family member is homebound and would want to receive communion in your home please contact the parish office.

Project Compassion commences

Please take a box or set of envelopes to generously help the poor and those in need during this year's Lenten season.

The church Choir area platform

needs to be carpeted and we are seeking the help of a carpet layer or anyone with the right skills to help complete this project. Please contact Father John or the Parish office if you can assist.

OVER 55'S

Monday March 16th 2015
Ranch Hotel

Epping Road, Epping
12.00pm or 11.00 GCC

For further details call Merrilyn on
9629 4552 / 0413 424 552

Paying our debt together

Weekly donation

1st Collection: \$ 2402.40

Funds go to Priest Remuneration Fund, to support the priests of our Diocese.

2nd Collection: \$ 6151.65

<i>Loose</i>	<i>\$ 2470.65</i>
<i>PG Envelopes</i>	<i>\$ 1640.00</i>
<i>PG by EFT</i>	<i>\$ 2041.00</i>

Pays parish debt and on going running costs, including wages of staff.

(If you can, please put a little extra on the Second Collection.)

If you would like to be a part of the church's plan giving program, a green form is available at the church foyer or contact the church's parish secretary, Tanya Gatt secretary@john23rd.org.au



Gospel Reflection

What can keep us from the presence of God? Jesus' dramatic cleansing of the temple was seen by his disciples as a prophetic sign of God's action. The temple was understood as the dwelling place of God among his people. When God delivered his people from slavery in Egypt, he brought them through the sea, and finally to Mount Sinai where he made a covenant with them and gave them a new way of life embodied in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17).

God gave Moses instruction for worship and for making the Tabernacle, or tent of meeting, which was later replaced by the temple. The New Testament tells us that these "serve as a copy and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary" – God's Temple in heaven (Hebrews 8:5). Jesus' cleansing of the temple is also a prophetic sign of what he wants to do with each of us. He ever seeks to cleanse us of sin and make us living temples of his Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19). Do you thirst for holiness?

Jesus referred to the temple as his Father's house which was being made into "house of trade" (John 2:16) or "den of robbers" (Mark 11:17). That is why he used physical force to expel the money-changers. The prophecy of Malachi foretold the coming of the Lord unexpectedly to his Temple to "purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the Lord" (Malachi 3:1-4). Jesus' disciples recalled the words of Psalm 69: "Zeal for your house will consume me." This was understood as a Messianic prophecy. Here the disciples saw more clearly Jesus as the Messiah who burned with zeal for God's house. The Jewish authorities, however, wanted proof that Jesus had divine authority to act as he did. They demanded a sign from God to prove Jesus right, otherwise, they would treat him as an imposter and a usurper of their authority. Jesus replied that the sign God would give would be his resurrection: "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up". The Jews did not understand that the temple Jesus referred to was his own body. The "tent of his body" had to be destroyed to open the way to the presence of God for us. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus not only reconciles us with God, but he fills us with his Holy Spirit and make us temples of the living God (1 Cor. 6:19-20). God's word enlightens our minds and purifies our hearts that we may offer God fitting worship and enjoy his presence both now and forever. Do you burn with zeal for the Lord's house?

"Lord Jesus Christ, you open wide the door of your Father's house and you bid us to enter confidently that we may worship in spirit and truth. Help me to draw near to your throne of mercy with gratitude and joy".

Our School Communities

**Holy Cross Catholic
Primary School
Glenwood**



OPEN DAY

Sunday 8th March | 1.30am - 1.00pm

- Tour our modern learning spaces and facilities
- Meet the school Principal and teaching staff
- Enjoy a sausage sizzle lunch

Students at Holy Cross are offered:

- The opportunity to develop spiritually, academically and socially
- A dedicated team of teachers encouraging students to love learning
- A school readiness program for Kindergarten students - easing students into their first year of school
- Latest technologies
- Before and After School Care facilities and Vacation Care

For more information about our open day, Catholic Schools Week activities or enrolment visit www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au or contact (02) 9629 8742 twitter @holycrossglen



49 MEURANTS LANE, GLENWOOD
www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au
 email: holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au
 Phone 9629 8742

Prepare your child for life...

Our Learning Community

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

☎ (02) 9629 8742

✉ holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Peter Wells

☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ elcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au

Families seeking enrolment into **Kindergarten 2016 at John XXIII Catholic Primary** and **Year 7 2016 at St Mark's Catholic College**, to submit an Expression of Interest for Enrolment (*available at the office or on the College website*) to the College office as soon as possible

The Federal Government contributes 57.5% of the cost of educating a child in a NSW Catholic school, and the NSW Government contributes 19.7%. The remaining 22.8% comes from parents and the parish community through school fees and private fundraising. This is why funding support from federal and state governments must keep pace with rising education costs – to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.

Entrance Rites

Make the sign of the cross with holy water (*a sign of baptism*) upon entering the church. Genuflect toward the tabernacle containing the Blessed Sacrament and the Altar of Sacrifice before entering the pew. (*If there is no tabernacle in the sanctuary, or it is not visible, bow deeply, from the waist, toward the altar before entering the pew.*)

Kneel upon entering the pew for private prayer before Mass begins. Stand for the entrance procession. Bow when the crucifix, a visible symbol of Christ's sacrifice, passes you in the procession. (*If there is a bishop, bow when he passes, as a sign of recognition that he represents the authority of the Church and of Christ as shepherd of the flock.*)

Remain standing for the entrance rites. Make the sign of the cross with the priest at the beginning of Mass.

Strike your breast at the "mea culpa(s)" ("*through my fault*") in the Confiteor.

Bow and make the sign of the cross when the priest says "May Almighty God have mercy..." Bow your head when you say "Lord, have mercy" during the Kyrie.

If there is a Rite of Sprinkling (Asperges), make the sign of the cross when the priest sprinkles water from the aspergillum in your direction.

Throughout the Mass, bow your head at every mention of the name of Jesus and every time the Doxology ["Glory be"] is spoken or sung. Also when asking the Lord to receive our prayer.

Gloria: bow your head at the name of Jesus. ("Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son...", "You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ...")

Liturgy of the Word

Sit for the Scripture readings. Stand for the Gospel at the Alleluia verse.

When the priest announces the Gospel, trace a cross with the thumb on head, lips and heart. This gesture is a form of prayer for the presence of the Word of God in one's mind, upon one's lips, and in one's heart. Sit for the homily.

Creed: Stand; bow your head at name of Jesus; on most Sundays bow during the Incarnatus ("by the power of the Holy Spirit ... and was made man"); on the solemnities of Christmas and the Annunciation all genuflect at this moment.

Make the sign of the Cross at the conclusion of the Creed at the words "I believe in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen."

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Sit during the offertory. Stand as the priest says "Pray brethren that my sacrifice and yours..." and remain standing to respond, "May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands..."

If incense is used, the congregation bows toward the thurifer when he bows to the congregation both before and after he has incensed them. The congregation remains standing until the end of the Sanctus ("Holy, holy"), when they kneel for the entire Eucharistic Prayer.

At the moment of the Consecration of each element, bow the head and say silently “My Lord and my God”, acknowledging the Presence of Christ on the altar. These are the words of Saint Thomas when he realized that it was truly Christ who stood before him (*John 20:28*). Jesus responded, “Because you have seen me, you believed. Blessed are they that do not see and yet have believed” (*John 20:29*).

Stand at the priest’s invitation to recite the Lord’s Prayer. Reverently fold your hands and bow your head as you pray the Lord’s Prayer.

Remain standing to exchange the sign of peace, if the invitation is made. (*The sign of peace may be either a handshake or a bow of the head towards those nearest you, accompanied by the words “Peace be with you”.*)

In reciting (or singing) the Agnus Dei (“*Lamb of God...*”), strike the breast at the words “Have mercy upon us”. Kneel at the end of the Agnus Dei (“*Lamb of God...*”). Bow your head and strike your breast as you say, Domine non sum dignus... (*Lord, I am not worthy...*)

Reception of Communion

Leave the pew (without genuflecting) and walk reverently toward the altar, with hands folded in prayer. Make a gesture of reverence as you approach the priest in procession to receive Communion. If you are kneeling at the Communion rail, no additional gesture is made before receiving. You may receive the host either on the tongue or in the hand. If the former, open your mouth and extend your tongue, so the priest can place the Host properly. If the latter, place one hand over the other hand, palms open, to receive the Host. With the lower hand, take the Host and reverently place it in your mouth. (*See Holy See’s 1985 directives*).

If you are carrying a child, it is much less awkward to receive on the tongue. If you also receive from the chalice, make the same gesture of reverence when you approach the minister to receive. Make the sign of the cross after you have received Communion. Kneel in prayer when you return to your pew after Communion, until the priest sits down, or until he says “Let us pray”. (*GIRM adaptation says that people may “stand, sit or kneel”.*)

Conclusion of Mass

Stand for the concluding prayers. Make the sign of the cross at the final blessing, as the priest invokes the Trinity. Remain standing until all ministers have processed out. (*If there is a recessional, bow in reverence to the crucifix as it passes by.*) If there is a hymn for the recessional, remain standing in your pew until it concludes. If there is no concluding hymn, remain in your pew until all the ministers have gone out of the main body of the church.

After the Mass is concluded, you may kneel for a private prayer of thanksgiving.

Genuflect reverently toward the Blessed Sacrament and the Altar of Sacrifice as you leave the pew, and leave the nave (main body) of the church in silence. Make the sign of the cross with holy water as you leave the church, a reminder of our baptismal obligation to carry Christ’s Gospel into the world.

Youth Corner

GTK YOUTH GROUP

(Getting to Know - God, yourself and other)

Age group - School Years 4-9

When: 2nd and 4th Sundays

Where: St Mark's Staff Room

Time: 4.30pm drop off
5.00pm Break open the word
5.30pm Welcomers at mass
6.00pm Youth Mass
7.30pm leave from Church

Contacts:

RJ Samonte raf.samonte@hotmail.com

Ceejay Sarlabus cjsarlabus@gmail.com

www.gtkyouth.com

CRL

(Community of the Risen Lord)

Praise & worship

When: 2nd & 4th Saturdays

Where: Church

Time: after 6:00pm vigil mass

YFC

(Youth for Christ)

When: Meets every 3rd Sunday

Where: St Mark's Staff Room

Time: 1:00pm for Break open the word

6.00pm Youth Mass

Spot the difference

5 differences to be found



The Law was given through Moses

Do not make my Father's house a marketplace

X Q D G T U L U C A G W M H F
 I N R M Y M O W S L Q F A S I
 X Q C T A B L E K U E L R H G
 V P H A E R J Z X F X D K U P
 X Y A H X W I S H E E P E W T
 W O S P H R O P E F S H T Y O
 Y M E M Y X S X T U H K P H E
 A U D O D H O U S E E P L N P
 L P H N E X K I Z A X D A E T
 H V U E S D O V E S Z Y C Q H
 P D F Y T S W Q P V J S E A R
 K P R D R B O G T E M P L E E
 V F E G O G E G O B T R Y P E
 S H M W Y T R T Y V H X C Q S
 C L U X B U I L D L L P M A D

FIND THESE WORDS

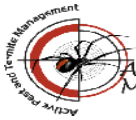
Build	chased	destroy	doves	house	marketplace
Money	rope	sheep	table	temple	three

Every church is a house of prayer and worship, dedicated to the glory of God. In every Mass our minds and hearts are directed toward the heavenly liturgy. Do we not join our voices with those of the angels and saints in heaven singing "holy, holy, holy Lord"? In the liturgy, time and eternity, heaven and earth, come together. A church is not a social hall, picnic grove or playground. It is a house of prayer. If a priest comments on inappropriate dress or folks coming late and leaving early, sometimes the response is, "Father, you should be happy they're here." Yes, we can be happy people are in church. That does not excuse a lack of respect.

A church is a sacred place, a house of prayer and worship, the dwelling place of the Lord

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