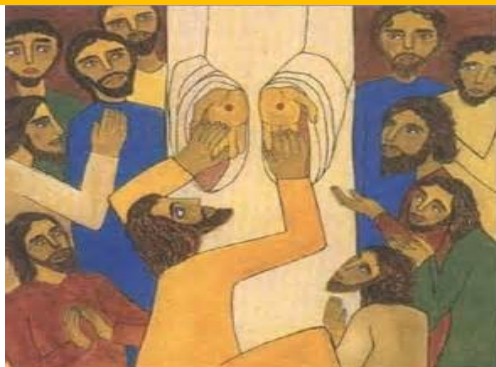


**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**18 - 19 April 2015**

**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](mailto:FrJohn@john23rd.org.au)  
**Assistant Priest: Fr Robert William** ☒ [FrRobert@john23rd.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@john23rd.org.au)  
Finance: Mila Llamas (Fri)  
☒ [accounts@john23rd.org.au](mailto:accounts@john23rd.org.au)  
Admin Asst: Jill Franco (Tues/Thurs)  
☒ [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto: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*)

**Prayer Group**

*Friday* 7:00pm at the Church kitchen  
led by Pauline Camilleri ☎ 0407 417039  
*Sunday* after 7:30am mass

## From the Pastor's desk

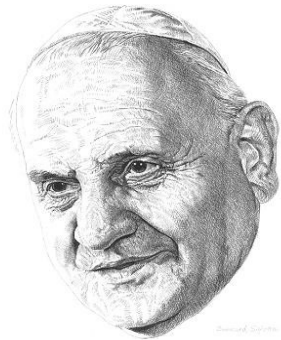
*Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,*

Last week we celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday (the Second Sunday of Easter), which by celebration was the **first anniversary of the Canonization of St. John XXIII**. However, the actual date is Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Let us implore the intercession of our Patron over this coming week as we lead up to the first anniversary.

**Congratulations** to those who won prizes in our first major Raffle for 2015. I hope you will all enjoy your winnings – especially those lucky two who will join me in September for our **Paris to Compostela Pilgrimage**.

Don't forget that the **Sacramental Programme Children's Sessions** will be commencing soon – the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

The new-look bulletin seems to be a hit. I have received a lot of positive feedback. Please take a copy home if you like. We will soon offer the opportunity for those who would like to receive an e-copy of the Bulletin and any other reminder notices to be sent to your emails. We will be asking for addresses soon, and will then create a group file for the dissemination of all relevant information concerning our Parish Community.



My thanks to all those who wished me a happy birthday last week. I was trying to avoid it (as I usually do), but it leaked! Thanks for the cake (courtesy of Dita Banez) and the figure of “Fr. John”, which had a ‘buddha-like’ aspect to it. (It is a prompt to try to lose some more weight!!)

God bless you all. Let us continue to pray for one another.

*Fr. John*

*(Adapted from Cardinal Walter Kasper's latest book: "Pope Francis's Revolution of Tenderness and Love".)*

We now touch upon the deepest - I would say the mystical - dimension of Pope Francis's ecclesiology. He wants to encounter Christ - indeed, to touch Christ - in the poor (EG, 270).

The church is the Body of Christ; therefore, we touch the wounds of Christ in the wounds of the others. "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

That is a mystical point of view. It calls to mind Francis of Assisi who, at the beginning of his spiritual journey, embraced a leper; and it recalls Mother Teresa's experience of her calling, when she carried a dying person into her cloister and, in the process, had the experience of carrying Christ in her arms, like a monstrance. Last year In Albania, Mother Teresa's native land, Francis spoke movingly of a church that can administer solace because it too has experienced solace.

At this point the paradigm shift in method, corresponding to the model of the Good Samaritan, becomes concrete. The Samaritan descends into the dust and dirt of the street, touches and binds up the wounds of the one fallen among robbers, and also pays for his care. Francis speaks of a mysticism of coexistence and encounter, of embracing and supporting one another, of participating in a caravan of solidarity, in a sacred pilgrimage; he speaks of a mystical and contemplative fraternity, which "knows how to see the sacred grandeur of our neighbour, of finding God in every human being" (EG, 92). Or Johann Baptist Metz put it - this is not a mysticism of closed eyes, but rather a mysticism of open eyes, which becomes a mysticism of helping hands.

For Pope Francis, the guiding star of evangelization and of this kind of pastoral care is Mary, Jesus's mother - and our mother. Mary is the subject of *Evangelii gaudium's* closing chapter. That has become a tradition in the encyclicals of the past few popes. For a pope who comes from Latin America and is devoted to popular piety, such a chapter is completely natural. Guadalupe in Mexico, Aparecida in Brazil, and Luchan in Argentina are all Marian pilgrimage sites of national and continental significance. We should not arrogantly dismiss their mention as a tribute to the ancestry and culture of the pope, but rather acknowledge the religious power - including the power of the new evangelization - that emanated and still emanates from these centres in the history of the Latin American continent. We should take seriously the fact that without Mary we can never entirely understand the spirit of the new evangelization and can never entirely understand the church as well. Without Mary the church would lack a feminine image. Mary accompanies God's people on the path of evangelization, even in periods of darkness, which include many tribulations. She is the model and advocate of evangelization. Thus, there is a Marian style in the missionary activity of the church; it is a revolution of tenderness and love.

## First Reading

*Acts 3:13-15, 17-19*

*You have killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.*

Peter said to the people 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*1 John 2:1-5*

*Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.*

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's.

We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments.

Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth.

But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 4:2, 4, 7, 9*

**R. Lord, let your face shine on us.**

When I call, answer me, O God of justice; from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

**Lord, let your face shine on us.**

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves; the Lord hears me whenever I call him.

**Lord, let your face shine on us.**

'What can bring us happiness?' many say. Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

**Lord, let your face shine on us.**

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

**Lord, let your face shine on us.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Cf Luke 24:32*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

*Luke 24:35-48*

*It was written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.*

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



Nicene Creed

Readings for next Week

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten,  
not made, consubstantial with the  
Father; through him all things were  
made.

For us men and for our salvation he  
came down from heaven,  
*At the words that follow, up to and including 'and  
became man', all bow.*

**and by the Holy Spirit was  
incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and  
became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and  
was buried, and rose again on the third  
day in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated  
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead and his  
kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life, who proceeds from  
the Father and the Son, who with the  
Father and the Son is adored and  
glorified, who has spoken through the  
prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins and I look forward  
to the resurrection of the dead and the  
life of the world to come.

Amen.

**20 Mon 3rd week of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 6:8-15  
Psalm Ps 118:23-24. 26-27. 29-30  
Gospel John 6:22-29

**21 Tues 3rd week of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 7:51-8:1  
Psalm Ps 30:3-4. 6-8. 17. 21  
Gospel John 6:30-35

**22 Wed 3rd week of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 8:1-8  
Psalm Ps 65:1-7  
Gospel John 6:35-40

**23 Thurs 3rd week of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 8:26-40  
Psalm Ps 33:2. 9. 17-20  
Gospel John 6:44-51

**24 Fri 3rd week of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 9:1-20  
Psalm Ps 116  
Gospel John 6:52-59

**25 Sat 3rd week of Easter**

1st Readings Wisdom 3:1-9  
Psalm Ps 71:1-4. 7-8  
2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
Gospel John 12:23-28



## Reflection on the Readings

Today we glimpse the unspeakable joy that the Apostles felt when they saw the Risen Lord: “their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded”.

The message of Resurrection offers hope for humankind with regard to our future life with the Lord in the heavenly sphere of existence.

But the mystery of Resurrection encourages reflection on two other aspects of our Christian life *here and now*: ethical living, and reading the Scriptures in prayer.

Motivation for ethical conduct in the early years of the Church was based on the imminence of Jesus’ Return: we need to be ready for we do not know the day nor the hour. However, in time, the Christian people realized that living a moral life *now* was fulfilling in itself. Thus, the rightness of ethical conduct now is one result of our reflection on the mystery of the Resurrection. As the author of 1 John puts it: “anyone who says, ‘I know Him’, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar...”

Furthermore, as the Reading from the Acts of the Apostles reminds us, the Scriptures have a lot to tell us of the Risen Lord. So, we need to pick up the Bible and let a prayerful and reflective reading of the Word of God nourish our spiritual journey. Reading the Scriptures in the context of prayer (*‘Lectio Divina’*) is something which will enhance our Christian praxis.

As we live the Easter mystery this week, let’s allow today’s texts from Scripture encourage us: let’s look at our moral conduct and recommit ourselves to being faithful and ethical Christians; and let’s allow the slow and reflective reading of the Word of God remain an integral part of our daily prayer.



## Parish Pastoral Council Corner

*In the days of rejoicing, let us bless the Lord!  
In the days of trial and sadness, let us offer  
thanksgiving to the Lord! For we know that  
it is the Lord who supports us through his  
help, his friendship and his forgiveness. – St.  
John XXIII, 29 Oct. 1960*

A big “Thank you” to everyone for your response and support of our first Grand Raffle Draw last Sunday, the 12th of April!

The winners of the raffle are:

1st Prize: Tickets for two to the Paris-to-Compostela Pilgrimage, won by **Ticket no. 6674**;

2nd Prize: 2 x Surface Pro 3 Tablets won by **Ticket Nos. 6122 & 3560**, respectively; and

3rd Prize: 4 x Go Pro Hero 4 cameras won by **Ticket Nos. 4048, 0400, 9737 & 0488**, respectively.

Congratulations to the winners!

In response to popular demand, the first of a three-part scripture study series on “The Gospel of Mark” hosted by Fr. John, will commence on Wednesday, 29 April from 7:30 pm at the Church. We invite everyone to attend these highly anticipated sessions.

The SJ23 Prayer Group will hold its monthly Praise and Worship Night this Saturday, 18 April from 7:30 pm. Join them for a spiritually refreshing evening of prayer, singing and reflection!

Thanks to those who responded to our call for hosting of the Rosary Statue this month. We now need host families from May 26 onwards.

*Have a blessed week! Bart*

---

### ***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***

- 21 Apr Sebastian Family
- 28 Apr Lusica Family
- 05 May Gorkic Family
- 12 May *still open*
- 19 May Torroba 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

**2015 Parish Council Meeting  
Schedule**

**Executive** (*Council leaders*)

20 May 22 Jul 18 Nov 16 Sep

**General** (*all Parish Council members*)

19 Aug 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.

**Diocese News**

**Position vacant**

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta is inviting applications for the position of Assistant Financial Accountant, Diocesan Development Fund (DDF). This position will assist in the financial reporting framework, implement and coordinate the new product initiatives, regulatory, risk management and policy implementation activities in the DDF. Inquiries to Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, tel 0402 210 055. **Applications close Sunday 26 April.**

For further information about this position please visit the **Employment** page of the Diocese of Parramatta's website: [www.parra.catholic.org.au](http://www.parra.catholic.org.au)

**Mission – One Heart Many Voices from: 18-20 May**

Organised by Catholic Religious Australia and Catholic Mission this multi-sector dialogue on living the joy of the Gospel and leading mission will be held at the SMC Conference & Function Centre, Goulburn St, Sydney. Mission – One Heart Many Voices will explore Pope Francis' vision for mission and is set within the spirit of *Ad Gentes* and *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, documents that celebrate their 50th and 40th anniversaries this year respectively.

## Paying our debt together

### Weekly donations

**1st Collection: \$2,422.50**

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

**2nd Collection: \$ 6,747.10**

*Loose* \$ 2,283.60

*PG Envelopes* \$ 2,422.50

*PG by EFT* \$ 2,041.00

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

*(Please contribute more on the second collection as this helps the parish community)*

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](mailto:secretary@john23rd.org.au)



## Special intentions

Mass Cards are now available for purchase at the parish office

### Born to eternal life:

Victorio Alavarez, Doreen Bocks

### Anniversary:

Julia Samonte, Ernesto Ribargoso, Arturo Cobarrubias Sr.

### For the sick:

Felomina Docena, Anthony Joseph, Karam Matte, Lourdes Subijano, Jovie Disterhoft, Athan G Alvarez, Anthony Subijano, Shona Modrich, Marlon Marcelo, Florencia Melgar, John & Rhonda Devereaux, Nikhil Parvathaneni, Concepcion Quirane, Angelica Nepomuceno, Cynthia Villafuerte Cano

### Thanksgiving:

Andrea Reyes, Lolita Ribargoso, R & J Santos, Ronald Alvarez

### Weekday Mass intentions - April

**Mon** Eulalia Dabu Carlos (*Rec Decd*)

**Tues** Victor Kimble (*Rec Decd*)

Nela Serrato (*Death Anniv*)

**Wed** Ernesto R Ribargoso (*Anniv*)

**Thurs** George Kiddle (*Anniv*)

**Fri** Alfredo Pangilinan Jr (*Anniv*)

**Sat** Salud Geronimo (*Anniv*)



**BREAK OPEN THE WORD  
SERIES**

**PART 1**

With Fr. John McSweeney

If you have ever wanted to grow more familiar with “the Word of the Lord”, now is your chance.

We invite you to join us, as Fr. John brings to life the Gospel of St. Mark.

**When:** April 29, May 06 and May 13  
(Wednesday nights)

**Where:** St. John XXIII Parish Church,  
Perfection Ave., Stanhope Gardens

**Time:** 7:30 – 9:00pm

Please bring your bibles. Bring along your spouse, relatives and friends too.

**Church cleaning and upkeep**

After many years of dedicated service, Ray Mandla is retiring. Ray looked after the cleaning and upkeep of a number of areas of the church and we now need someone to take his place. If you have 1-2 hours spare each week please contact the parish office for more information.

**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.*

**Holy Cross Primary**

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

☎ (02) 9629 8742

✉ [holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au)

**John XXIII and St Mark's College**

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ [stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Catholic Learning Centre**

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ [elcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:elcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au)

[www.elcstanhope.catholic.edu.au](http://www.elcstanhope.catholic.edu.au)

**Our School  
Communities**

**SCHOOL RESUMES BACK ON  
THE 20TH APRIL 2015**

What we do why we do.....

**How does Mass end? What does the final dismissal mean?**

At this point in the Mass, we have received the Body and Blood of Christ in Communion and have taken time to reflect in a period of silence that follows. We reflect upon the extraordinary gift that we have received in the Blessed Sacrament, the nature of communion with God himself, and also what all of this means for us in our daily lives. This last point of reflection is just as important as the rest because if we come to the liturgy and take nothing away that would nourish our faith and the way we live our lives, then we have missed an essential part of this mystery. This part of the Mass is so important that the name “Mass” is derived from this very notion within the liturgy.

In an action that mirrors the beginning of Mass and the Introductory Rites, the priest begins the Concluding Rites by standing and calling us to prayer with the words “Let us pray” (Oremus). A concluding prayer is recited, which focuses on thanksgiving for the holy sacrifice of the Mass and a recapitulation of the overall theme of the liturgy as expressed in the Collect. The priest then gives us a blessing by invoking the Sign of the Cross and finally, we come to the words, “Ite Missa est.” In the new translation, these words are rendered most literally as, “Go forth, the Mass is ended.” The Latin word “Missa” is the derivative of the English word “Mass,” and it carries the sense of mission.

**What is a blessing? Why are they longer sometimes?**

As the Mass comes to a close, the priest gives a blessing to all the faithful gathered to celebrate the Eucharist. A blessing is a solemn act that calls upon and invokes the aid of God upon the person, asking that God grant him divine favor and sanctification. In the case of Mass, the blessing is called down upon the people for sanctification that they may go forth from the Mass renewed in zeal for their mission and strengthened to resist evil and grow in the spiritual life. In certain celebrations and in certain liturgical seasons, the priest invokes God in a special manner with a longer prayer that usually begins with an invitation for us to bow our heads. Here, the church is tailoring the blessing upon the people to match the season or feast that we may more fully enter into the Christian mysteries and the church’s liturgical life.

**What does the final dismissal mean?**

The most succinct explanation of this phrase, “Ite Missa est,” comes from the “Catechism of the Catholic Church,” which explains that “the liturgy in which the mystery of salvation is accomplished concludes with the sending forth (mission) of the faithful, so that they may fulfill God’s will in their daily lives” (CCC 1332). Here, we see that the holy sacrifice of the Mass not only renders worship to God and offers the most effective prayer to God for our salvation, but the Mass, by its very nature, enlightens our Christian vocation to share in the mission of Christ by bringing forth his message to the world. This does not need to be in



extraordinary ways. Rather, this mission is more properly concerned with an authentic life lived in accord with the Gospel, striving for holiness and spiritual growth in prayer. This focus allows us to carry the Gospel message to our families, neighbors and world so that we, too, have an important role in the task of evangelization by the faithful witness of our lives. All of this is reflected in the new options added to the Roman Missal for the Dismissal: “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord”; “Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life”; or simply, “Go in peace.” Truly, at the end of the Mass, our Lord, through the priest, gives us this mission that demands a true witness of the Gospel. Will we deny his call?

Some people stay after Mass to pray. Why, if they just prayed at Mass for an hour? After the Mass has ended, many people enjoy an age-old practice of praying in church after Mass. These are traditionally known as prayers of thanksgiving and focus on thanking God for the great gift that we have received in the Eucharist and in the mystery of our redemption. While these prayers are not obligatory, they are perfectly acceptable and encouraging ways for us to keep in our mind the importance of the Blessed Sacrament and the Mass itself. As such, this spirit of prayer should be fostered and respected in the church even after Mass. The sacred space of the church should remain a place of quiet prayer at all times, even after Mass when we might be inclined to greet our neighbours. Certainly, after Mass is a great time to catch up with friends and build up our parish community, but we should also respect an atmosphere of prayer for those who wish to pray after Mass.

Perhaps the most fitting way to close would be with one of these traditional prayers of thanksgiving after Mass attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas: Lord, Father all-powerful and ever-living God, I thank you, for even though I am a sinner, your unprofitable servant, not because of my worth but in the kindness of your mercy, you have fed me with the precious body and blood of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that this Holy Communion may not bring me condemnation and punishment but forgiveness and salvation. May it be a helmet of faith and a shield of good will. May it purify me from evil ways and put an end to my evil passions. May it bring me charity and patience, humility and obedience, and growth in the power to do good. May it be my strong defense against all my enemies, visible and invisible, and the perfect calming of all my evil impulses, bodily and spiritual. May it unite me more closely to you, the one true God, and lead me safely through death to everlasting happiness with you.

And I pray that you will lead me, a sinner, to the banquet where you, with your Son and Holy Spirit, are true and perfect light, total fulfillment, everlasting joy, gladness without end, and perfect happiness to your saints. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Ian Bozant is a second-year theologian studying for the Archdiocese of New Orleans at Notre Dame Seminary. He can be reached at [ibozant@nds.edu](mailto:ibozant@nds.edu)*

Youth Corner

**GTK Youth Group**

GTK is the youth group of St John XXIII Parish. It is where the young people of our parish get to know God, the Catholic faith and each other.

A typical session includes: Gospel reflection, music, Mass, games and food!

So, if you are in years 4 - 9, come along to one of our sessions and see what it's all about.

**When:** 2nd (choir) and 4th Sunday

**Where:** St Mark's Staff Room

**Time:** 4:30 - 7:30 pm

**Contact:** [gtskyouth@gmail.com](mailto:gtskyouth@gmail.com)

**Info:** <http://www.gtskyouth.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)*

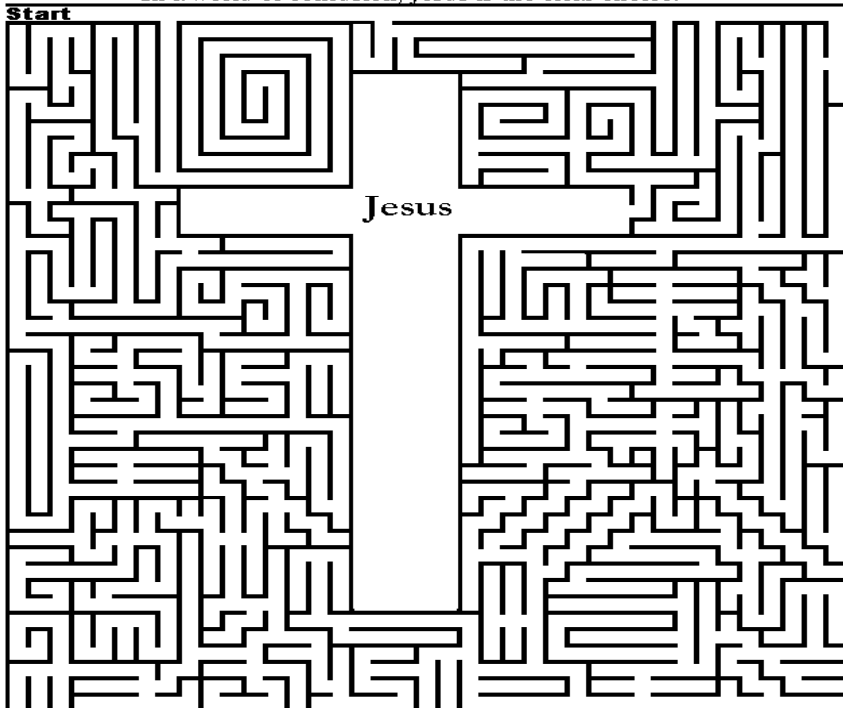
**When:** Meets every 3rd Sunday

**Where:** St Mark's Staff Room

**Time:** 1:00pm for Break open the word  
6.00pm Youth Mass

**Find the path**

In a world of confusion, Jesus is the clear choice.



---

Christ rose from the dead

---

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

---

**WORD SEARCH**

Bread      eat      Emmaus      fish      frightened  
Ghost      hands      Jerusalem      Moses      nation  
Road      three

**ST JOHN XXIII WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE BUSINESSES FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY**

*To advertise in this space, please contact the parish office*

**Maria Teresa Papa**  
 Mortgage Broker/Financial Planner Dip.  
 FS (Finance/MB) Dip. FS (FP) MFAA  
 Approved Credit Adviser  
 maria.papa@loanmarket.com.au  
 0430 144008

**TMG Shuttle Service**  
 ABN 756 9864 5547  
 Servicing the NorthWest/Hills Area

- Airport Shuttle
- Private Functions
- Business Functions
- Private Charters
- Day Tours
- 2 Child Seats Available
- Seats up to 11 Passengers
- Competitive Rates
- Reliable and Safe Driver
- Smoke Free

**Mannix: 0432 318 312**  
**Maricon: 0401 144 607**  
 e-mail: [tmgshuttle@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tmgshuttle@optusnet.com.au)

10% goes to the Church when you use this service




**Active Pest and Termite Management**

**Andrew 0414 467 981**  
 When quality really does matter,  
 protect your family against pests  
 Environmentally friendly products used

**ZAC SAFE DRIVING SCHOOL**

Let me help your kids be safe drivers

**DOMINIC**  
**0412 945264**

Ironing and cleaning lady  
**Wendy Richards**  
**Call 0450 884153**  
 (ad sponsored by SVdP,  
 Stanhope Conf.)

Property Sales & Management  
 making your move easy...



**Joshi John 0410 066578/9631 1101**  
[joshi@move Realty.com.au](mailto:joshi@move Realty.com.au)



**Hills Family Funerals**  
*A tradition of care and concern*

*A Tradition of Care & Concern*  
*Pre-paid funerals available*  
 340 Old Northern Rd. Castle Hill  
 **9659 0900**  
[www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au](http://www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au)

Warm the Heart, Enliven the Senses &  
 Inspire the Soul with **Scentsy**

Additional Income (Fun, Trips & Extra Cash)  
 Business opportunity for only \$139  
 "Find out how I earned the 1st 2014 USA Trip..."  
 Visit <https://WarmFeelings.scentsy.com.au>  
 ☺☺☺ Click SHOP or JOIN ☺☺☺  
 Beth 0430 150568  
 [WarmFeelingsScents@gmail.com](mailto:WarmFeelingsScents@gmail.com)