

**All Saints**  
**31 October - 1 November 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 Saturday* 7:30pm led by CRL  
                     (*Community of the Risen Lord*)

**Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group**  
 held in Ktichen every Friday evening at 7pm.

## From the Pastor's desk

We are all called to be saints. From the Day of our Baptism we have been called to holiness of life. Our Christian Vocation is to be a 'saint', a holy one of God.

Indeed, St Paul calls all his converts 'saints', for he saw that their participation in the Church made them holy. He termed all Christians saints because they were baptised and thus part of God's Holy Church, and they were called to imitate the Father and 'be holy as the Heavenly Father is Holy'. Let us reflect on this important truth as we celebrate All Saints' Day this Sunday.

- Our Stewardship Programme continues this weekend. We reflect today on the many spiritual gifts that God has given us in this Parish. Let us thank God for the gifts of Word and Sacrament that is offered daily in this church, and the many other sacraments and prayers that occur each week as we together build up God's Kingdom in this place. Let us pray for the success of our Stewardship Programme so that we will be more prayerful in our daily lives and offer thanks to God in practical ways as well.
- Being First Friday this week, there will be the monthly First Friday Mass and Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday evening in the Church from 7:30pm. All welcome.
- Being First Saturday this week, there will be the monthly Mass of Anointing of the Sick during the Saturday 9am Mass, with Adoration and Benediction to follow. Again, all welcome.
- Please take note of the Pilgrimage to Italy that Fr. Robert is organizing for next year. There are brochures available after Mass.

I returned from annual leave just before last weekend, having had a spiritually uplifting Pilgrimage from Paris to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, walking part of the Camino of St. James. I prayed for the intentions of parishioners during the masses I celebrated in Lourdes, Compostela and Fatima.

I also visited Malta for the first time, really enjoying my four days' holidays on both Malta and Gozo. And I hope the jet-lag has finally left me!

My friends, let us continue to pray for one another.

God bless you all.

*Fr. John*

*Pope Francis' Homily at the Closing Mass of the Synod on the Family last weekend.*

The three Readings for this Sunday show us God's compassion, his fatherhood, definitively revealed in Jesus.

In the midst of a national disaster, the people deported by their enemies, the prophet Jeremiah proclaims that "the Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel" (31:7). Why did he save them? Because he is their Father (cf. v. 9); and as a Father, he takes care of his children and accompanies them on the way, sustaining "the blind and the lame, the women with child and those in labour" (31:8). His fatherhood opens up for them a path forward, a way of consolation after so many tears and great sadness. If the people remain faithful, if they persevere in their search for God even in a foreign land, God will change their captivity into freedom, their solitude into communion: what the people sow today in tears, they will reap tomorrow in joy (cf. Ps 125:6).

We too have expressed, with the Psalm, the joy which is the fruit of the Lord's salvation: "our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy" (v. 2). A believer is someone who has experienced God's salvific action in his life. We pastors have experienced what it means to sow with difficulty, at times in tears, and to rejoice for the grace of a harvest which is beyond our strength and capacity.

The passage from the Letter to the Hebrews shows us Jesus' compassion. He also "is beset with weakness" (5:2), so that he can feel compassion for those in ignorance and error. Jesus is the great high priest, holy and innocent, but also the high priest who has taken on our weakness and been tempted like us in all things, save sin (cf. 4:15). For this reason he is the mediator of the new and definitive covenant which brings us salvation.

Today's Gospel is directly linked to the First Reading: as the people of Israel were freed thanks to God's fatherhood, so too Bartimaeus is freed thanks to Jesus' compassion. Jesus has just left Jericho. Even though he has only begun his most important journey, which will take him to Jerusalem, he still stops to respond to Bartimaeus' cry. Jesus is moved by his request and becomes involved in his situation. He is not content to offer him alms, but rather wants to personally encounter him. He does not give him any instruction or response, but asks him: "What do you want me to do for you?" (Mk 10:51). It might seem a senseless question: what could a blind man wish for if not his sight? Yet, with this question made face to face, direct but respectful, Jesus shows that he wants to hear our needs. He wants to talk with each of us about our lives, our real situations, so that nothing is kept from him. After Bartimaeus' healing, the Lord tells him: "Your faith has made you well" (v. 52).

*(To be continued)*

## First Reading

Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14

*I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.*

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23:1-6

**R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm.

**R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things.

**R.**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord? and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob.

**R.**

THE WORD  
OF GOD

## Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

*We shall see God as he really is.*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 11:28

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Come to me all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

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

## Nicene Creed

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.

## Readings for Next Week

### **2 Mon**      *The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed*

1st Reading Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm Ps 26

2nd Reading Romans 5:5-11

Gospel Luke 7:11-17

### **3 Tues**      **31st ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 12:5-16

Psalm Ps 130

Gospel Luke 14:15-24

### **4 Wed**      **St Charles Borromeo**

1st Reading Romans 13:8-10

Psalm Ps 111:1-2. 4-5. 9

Gospel Luke 14:25-33

### **5 Thurs**      **31st ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 14:7-12

Psalm Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14

Gospel Luke 15:1-10

### **6 Fri**      **31st ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 15:14-21

Psalm Ps 97:1-4

Gospel Luke 16:1-8

### **7 Sat**      **31st ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 16:3-9. 16. 22-27

Psalm Ps 144:2-5. 10-11

Gospel Luke 16:9-15



### *All Saints' Day 2015*

We are all called to be saints. From the Day of our Baptism we have been called to holiness of life. Our Christian Vocation is to be a 'saint', a holy one of God.

Indeed, St Paul calls all his converts 'saints', for he saw that their participation in the Church made them holy. He termed all Christians saints because they were baptised and thus part of God's Holy Church, and they were called to imitate the Father and 'be holy as the Heavenly Father is Holy'.

Thus, my friends, we must be people who are filled with the Holy Spirit and live lives in imitation of the Lord Jesus. Yet, today we honour those who have been officially declared Saints (holy ones) by the Church. (Tomorrow we celebrate All Souls, for all those who have died, many of whom are unofficial saints who have aided us in our Faith Journey).

We honour the Saints as people who lived in faithfulness to the Teaching of Jesus Christ; who were willing to lay down their lives for the Faith; who strove to be holy in life and practice.

The Readings for this weekend tell us of God's great love for those who stand firm in the trials of life.

In the First Reading from the Book of Revelation the vivid imagery pertains to martyrdom. There is hope of eternal happiness and eternal life for those who stand firm in the Faith, even unto death.

The First Letter of St. John (our second reading) sees the Apostle encouraging his church members to purify themselves by following Jesus more closely in all thoughts and actions.

And the Gospel from Matthew offers the Beatitudes of Jesus, especially highlighting that persecution because of our Faith in Jesus will be the source of great blessing.

And so, my friends, let us reflect on three things:

- We are all called to be holy because we have been baptised into Jesus Christ
- We are all called to persevere in our baptismal calling even when trials seem insurmountable
- And we give thanks for and honour those deemed Saints of the Church who led lives in pursuit of gospel values. Let us imitate them as they imitated Jesus.

## Special intentions

### Recently Deceased:

Mario John Dias, Tess F Rehac,  
Clarke Farrell, Salud Villarico,  
Lucinda Policarpio, Sue Fuller,  
Aurora Abalos, Diego Chan,  
Varkey & Family, Felipe Tagalog,  
Sebastian (Devassy) & Family

### Deceased:

Eufracio Villafuerte, Leonardo Salas,  
Margarita Tabula, Demetrio Espiritu,  
Arcadia Espiritu, Sammy Formosa,  
Maria Victoria Bautista, Aurora  
Abalos

### Anniversary:

Leonilo Gonzalez, Benny Jimenez,  
Wenceslao Montaos, Leonila Catabas

### For the sick:

Mark de Jesus, Laura Z Faelnar,  
Elizabeth Newnes, Peter O'Leary,  
Jackson Tate, Ernesto Coronel,  
Helen Hill, Maria Bellia, Edwin Rizon,  
Nigel Reynolds, Antoine Said-Pullicino,  
Guy Austria, Jon Villaraza,  
Mariano Antonio

### Thanksgiving:

Jay & Ammy Reyes & Family,  
Maria Cobarrubias, R & J Santos

## Paying our debt together

### Weekly collections

**1st Collection: \$ 2,257.50**

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

**2nd Collection: \$ 5,464.70**

*Loose \$ 1,961.20*

*PG Envelopes \$ 1,907.50*

*PG by EFT \$ 1,596.00*

*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, an  
**SJ23rd form** (white) is available at the  
church foyer or 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.**

## *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**

**27 October** Lim Family

**3 November** Manalo Family

**10 November** Higaonna Family

**17 November** available onwards



## Parish Pastoral Council Corner

*We can never escape the question of mission. The whole question is, simply, one of Catholicism itself, since for those who have been purified in the baptismal font there is no distinction between the profession of faith and the exercise of the apostolate. – St. John XXIII, 13 August 1957*

Last weekend, we launched “Our Parish Stewardship Program 2015” which is a comprehensive parish renewal wherein we all reflect on our faith and the life of our parish community. Over the next few weeks, we will all be encouraged to renew our personal commitment to:

- the way we celebrate the Eucharist together,
- be involved in parish life by participating in a parish group or ministry and
- make a financial pledge of support for our parish.

We are looking for parishioners who wish to join the **Parish Stewardship** team that will oversee this crucial formation activity. If you are willing to give generously of your time to assist in this essential initiative for our parish, please contact Fr. John, John McCartney or myself before 31 October. More details are available in this parish bulletin.

We thank everyone who participated or contributed to making our Parish **Zumba Night** fundraiser last weekend a sweaty, fun-filled tremendous success. Special thanks to Rudi Yap and his merry band of Zumba instructors who volunteered generously to lead us through two hours of calorie busting dance sessions and raised more than \$2000 for the parish!

Please continue to support our young

parishioners joining the 2016 World Youth Day in Poland by buying \$2 tickets to the Diocesan WYD fundraising raffle to be drawn next year!

We still need host families for the Rosary statue from November 10 onwards, so please contact me if you are interested to host our Mother in your home.

We are planning to hold the young Altar Servers’ training course during 3 Saturdays in November (14, 21 & 28), so we will be circulating enrolment forms by next weekend for those interested in becoming altar servers for the parish.

Have a blessed week! *Bart*

## Our School Communities

### 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

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

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

## Parish News

This weekend Fr John and Fr Robert are reminding us of why we gather on the weekend: the Gift of the Eucharist. Is there some way we can better prepare for this celebration? Perhaps read the Scriptures for the Sunday or making time for family prayer. Jesus is with us all the week-are we aware of his presence and remember to respond to his call? Let us recommit to intentional prayer in our daily lives.

There will be a very important **PARISH INFORMATION** gathering on Wednesday November 11 at 7.30pm where we will come together as a community to look at a vision for our parish. Please put this date in your diary!

*Most importantly please join with us in praying for the success of Our Parish Stewardship Renewal Program.*



*Prayer & Worship*

## LOST & FOUND

A Honda car key has been handed in. We also have a number of other items of lost property. Please ask at the sacristy after mass this weekend.



**A WORKING BEE** will be held on Tuesday November 3 at 10 .30am to package the parish brochures and post to all our Parish Families. We need at least 10 people! If you are able to spare an hour or two please come along and lend a hand. The more the merrier! Ladies bring your hat - together we will have a Melbourne Cup celebration.

*"I thank God for you... because of your partnership in the gospel..." Phil. 1:3-5*

### **Stewardship Prayer**

*Let us pray together:*

Generous and loving God, You call us to be disciples of your son Jesus and good stewards of all your many gifts.

Open our minds and hearts to a greater awareness and deeper appreciation of your countless blessings.

Teach us to be faithful servants of your gifts. With Mary's help, may we return ten-fold the gifts entrusted to us.

Bless our Parish with a deepening devotion to prayer, a growing commitment for service, and increasing levels of generosity as we work to advance the mission of both our parish and diocese.

We pray through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## Parish News

### PILGRIMAGE - SPIRITUAL HIGHLIGHTS OF ITALY

**12 days departing 10th October 2016  
returning 21 October 2016**

**From AU\$3,985 per person twin  
share.**

Includes:

- Personally assisted by Spiritual Chaplain Fr Robert
- Return airfares from Sydney & taxes
- Transfer
- 12 day Tour
- Prepaid Gratuities
- Daily Buffet breakfasts and many meals.

For more information contact Western

City Travel on

02 8883 3017 or 0423 128 252

ar.molina@westerncitytravel.com.au

or FrRobert@john23rd.org.au

**Mass cards available at the parish  
office.**

### 2015 Parish Council Meeting Schedule

**Executive** (*Council leaders*)

**18 Nov**

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

During the General Meeting, our School Executives and Finance committee are invited to provide updates. ***Parishioners are all invited*** to come and be part of this meeting.

## Diocesan News

**6 November**

### COUPLE EVENING

CatholicCare Social Services is holding its final “Couple Evening” for 2015 at 7.30pm on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.

Mr Ben Smith, Director of the Family and Life Office will give a presentation on the body of work from St Pope John Paul known as “Theology of the Body”. The Theology of the Body is a new teaching about the human body and sexuality, human relationships, marriage and celibacy.

All are welcome to attend this free event at St Paul the Apostle Church Hall, 40 Buckleys Rd Winston Hills.

Please RSVP to CatholicCare on 9933 0222 or email [marriage@ccss.org.au](mailto:marriage@ccss.org.au)

**10 November**

### Thanksgiving Mass for Sacrament & RCIA teams:

The annual Thanksgiving Mass for Sacramental and RCIA teams will be celebrated at 7.30pm in St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta.

This is a great opportunity for facilitators and volunteer teams to celebrate and enjoy one another’s company through Mass followed by supper.

## Why we do what we do.....

### Continuing on with our Sacraments.....

#### A Natural Institution

Marriage is a practice common to all cultures in all ages. It is, therefore, a natural institution, something common to all mankind. At its most basic level, marriage is a union between a man and a woman for the purpose of procreation and mutual support, or love. Each spouse in a marriage gives up some rights over his or her life in exchange for rights over the life of the other spouse.

While divorce has existed throughout history, it has been rare until recent centuries, which indicates that, even in its natural form, marriage is meant to be a lifelong union.

#### The Elements of a Natural Marriage

As Fr. John Hardon explains in his Pocket Catholic Dictionary, there are four elements common to natural marriage throughout history:

1. It is a union of opposite sexes.
2. It is a lifelong union, ending only with the death of one spouse.
3. It excludes a union with any other person so long as the marriage exists.
4. Its lifelong nature and exclusiveness are guaranteed by contract.

So, even at a natural level, divorce, adultery, and "homosexual marriage" are not compatible with marriage, and a lack of commitment means that no marriage has taken place.

#### A Supernatural Institution

In the Catholic Church, however, marriage is more than a natural institution; it was elevated by Christ Himself, in His participation in the wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11), to be one of the seven sacraments. A marriage between two Christians, therefore, has a supernatural element as well as a natural one.

While few Christians outside of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches regard marriage as a sacrament, the Catholic Church insists that marriage between any two baptized Christians, as long as it is entered into with the intention to contract a true marriage, is a sacrament.

#### The Ministers of the Sacrament

How can a marriage between two non-Catholic but baptized Christians be a sacrament, if a Catholic priest does not perform the marriage? Most people, including most Roman Catholics, do not realize that the ministers of the sacrament are the spouses themselves. While the Church strongly encourages Catholics to marry in the presence of a priest (and to have a wedding Mass, if both prospective spouses are Catholic), strictly speaking, a priest is not needed.



## Why we do ..(cont'd)

### The Mark and Effect of the Sacrament

The spouses are the ministers of the sacrament of marriage because the mark—the external sign—of the sacrament is not the wedding Mass or anything the priest might do but the marriage contract itself. This does not mean the wedding license that the couple receives from the state, but the vows that each spouse makes to the other. As long as each spouse intends to contract a true marriage, the sacrament is performed.

The effect of the sacrament is an increase in sanctifying grace for the spouses, a participation in the divine life of God Himself.

### The Union of Christ and His Church

This sanctifying grace (Sanctifying grace is that grace which makes the soul holy and pleasing to God) helps each spouse to help the other advance in holiness, and it helps them together to cooperate in God's plan of redemption by raising up children in the Faith.

In this way, sacramental marriage is more than a union of a man and a woman; it is, in fact, a type and symbol of the divine union between Christ, the Bridegroom, and His Church, the Bride. As married Christians, open to the creation of new life and committed to our mutual salvation, we participate not only in God's creative act but in the redemptive act of Christ.



#### President

Bart Sarlabus

✉ bart.sarlabus@gmail.com

#### Council Team Leaders

*Community Bldg*

Techie Sarlabus

*Comms & Media*

John McCartney

*Faith Formation*

Rose Franco

*Fundraising*

Rodi Orantia

*Liturgy*

Ray Samonte

*Social Justice*

Qwayne Guevarra

### A Student's HSC Prayer

Lord, you have loved me into life and I thank you. In this exam period, give me a calm heart and quiet confidence in the knowledge that you hold me in the palm of your hand. Bless me with keen understanding and a retentive memory. Give me the ability to grasp things correctly, and express myself clearly.

Help me to look beyond this time of exams and see clearly whatever you are calling me to be in life. Show me my gifts and talents and help me to have the courage to use them to love others, to give you glory and to leave this world a better place. Amen.

## Youth Corner

### GTK Youth Group

*(Getting to Know)*

GTK is the St John XXIII Parish youth group where our young people get to know God, the Catholic faith and each other through Gospel reflection, music, active participation at mass, games and food! So, if you are in years 4 - 9, come along to one of our sessions and let us grow together in our faith.

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

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

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

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

**Info:** <http://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

## Match the phrases

Draw a line from the first half of each beatitude to its correct ending.



Blessed are those  
who grieve...

Blessed are the  
merciful...

Blessed are those  
who make peace...

Blessed are those  
with pure hearts...

...they will be treated  
with mercy.

...they will be called  
God's children.

...they will see God.

...they will find comfort.

# The "Bee Attitudes"

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. Matthew 5:1-2 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



S	A	Y	X	O	L	B	G	C	Q	J	D	U	W	Z	N	T	R	P	E	V	I	M	K	H	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 7-20-2-17-22-17-13-12-20-1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-5-5-18 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1-19-22-18-22-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- 23-5-13-18-16 \_\_\_\_\_
- 23-20-20-24 \_\_\_\_\_
- 25-13-16-8-20-18 \_\_\_\_\_
- 23-20-18-9-22-26-13-6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-13-18-20 \_\_\_\_\_
- 24-22-16-8-12-5-23 \_\_\_\_\_
- 25-20-2-21-20-16 \_\_\_\_\_

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