

Holy Family Jesus, Mary & Joseph
26—27 December 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/Thurs)
✉ admin@john23rd.org.au
Business Manager: John McCartney (*pro bono*)
✉ businessmanager@john23rd.org.au

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*)
Friday evenings 7:00pm church kitchen
(*Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group*)

First Reading

Sirach 3:2-6,12-14

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy; with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127:1-5

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

R.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

R.

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life!

R.

Gospel Acclamation

Colossians 3:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

**THE WORD
OF GOD**

*"Do not merely listen to the word,
and so deceive yourselves. Do what
it says.*

James 1:22

Second Reading*Colossians 3:12-21**Concerning the Christian life in the world.*

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel*Luke 2:41-52**His parents found him in the temple, sitting among the learned men listening to them.*

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere.

Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant.

He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

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

Readings for Next Week

- 28 Mon Holy Innocents**
 1st Reading 1 John 1:5-2:2
 Psalm Ps 123:2-5. 7-8
 Gospel Matthew 2:13-18
- 29 Tues Christmas Octave**
 1st Reading 1 John 2:3-11
 Psalm Ps 95:1-3. 5-6
 Gospel Luke 2:22-35
- 30 Wed Christmas Octave**
 1st Reading 1 John 2:12-17
 Psalm Ps 95:7-10
 Gospel Luke 2:36-40
- 31 Thurs Christmas Octave**
 1st Reading 1 John 2:18-21
 Psalm Ps 95:1-2. 11-13
 Gospel John 1:1-18
- 1 Fri Mary Mother of God**
 1st Reading Numbers 6:22-27
 Psalm Ps 66:2-3. 5. 6. 8
 2nd Reading Galatians 4:4-7
 Gospel Luke 2:16-21
- 2 Sat Saints Basil & Gregory**
 1st Reading 1 John 2:22-28
 Psalm Ps 97:1-4
 Gospel John 1:19-28

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

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|
| December 22/29 | Lee Family | January 5 | Padilla Family |
| January 12 | Tiong Family | January 19 | Olan Family |
| January 26 | Musca Family | February 2 | Sebastian Family |

Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.



Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.



Parish News

PILGRIMAGE - SPIRITUAL HIGHLIGHTS OF ITALY

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 returning 21 October 2016
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 or 0423 128 252
ar.medina@westerncitytravel.com.au
 or FrRobert@john23rd.org.au

WYD Tickets

Parishioners who have acquired tickets for WYD to please return their ticket stubs and payment as soon as possible.

SRE TEACHERS NEEDED

If you are available for 1 hour a week, and would love to volunteer your time to teach the Ponds High School. Your time and help will be greatly appreciated. If you are interested to please call the Parish Office.

If any one would like to purchase **Liturgy of the Word**, to please contact Parish Office and we can order them.

Working with Children Check

For anyone who is volunteering to work in a child related area in our Parish, please ensure that you have done your Working with Children Check. Once you have received your confirmation letter from Services NSW, please submit this to the Parish Office.

This is a government legislation we need to follow and will be submitted as well to the Parramatta Diocese. Thank you.



President Bart Sarlabus

✉ bart.sarlabus@gmail.com

Council Team Leaders

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Community Bldg</i> | Techie Sarlabus |
| <i>Comms & Media</i> | John McCartney |
| <i>Faith Formation</i> | Rose Franco |
| <i>Fundraising</i> | Rodi Orantia |
| <i>Liturgy</i> | Bob Agbulos |
| <i>Music</i> | Ray Samonte |
| <i>Pastoral Care</i> | Jill Franco |
| <i>Social Justice</i> | Qwayne Guevarra |

Mass cards available at the parish office.

Parish News

With great joy we **welcome our new catechumens** who are now preparing for their initiation into the Christian faith by baptism, confirmation and Eucharist. We also thank their sponsors who have committed to accompany them in their journey of faith.

| Catechumen | Sponsor |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Maggie | He Shen |
| Jessica | Rebecca |
| Patrick | Joshua |
| Ben | Raymond |
| Nicole | Priscilla |
| Hanna | Caroline |

Let us continue to pray...

God of power, look upon these your servants as they deepen their understanding of the Gospel.

Grant that they may come to know and love you and always heed your will with receptive minds and generous hearts.

Teach them through this time of preparation and enfold them within your Church, so that they may share your holy mysteries both on earth and in heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

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: gkyouth@gmail.com

Info: <http://www.gkyouth.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

To advertise in this space, please contact the parish office



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