

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII

Perfection Ave cor Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens www.john23rd.com

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

26 - 27 November 2016

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."



On what day the Son of Man will come

Parish Priest: Fr John McSweeney	✉	FrJohn@john23rd.org.au
Asst. Priest: Fr Robert William	✉	FrRobert@john23rd.org.au
Deacon: Nicephorus Tan	✉	DeaconTan@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 (Wed/Fri)

✉ 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

led by Christ Catholic Community Prayer
Group at the church kitchen

From the Pastor's desk

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

On this First Sunday of Advent, we continue the theme of Waiting for the Lord's Second Coming that was at the heart of last week's celebration of Christ as Universal King.

But what sort of waiting are we expected to indulge in? Active and expectant!

Active waiting is all about utilising our gifts of the upbuilding of God's Church. Christians cannot just sit back and do nothing. We need to be active in our preparation for Christ's Return.

Expectant waiting means that we are full of Hope, full of Joy, as we await the End; indeed, we call upon the Lord to "come soon", to "break open the heavens and come down"!

As we begin this preparatory season of Advent in advance of our commemoration of the Lord's First Coming that first Christmas day, let's do all we can to be ready for the Lord's Second Coming at the End of Time.

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- My thanks to everyone who participated in the Parish Pastoral Council Elections last weekend. Over 400 people returned ballot papers!
And we congratulate those elected, as well as those who have been appointed to the new PPC. I thank all 7 of you for your generosity and willingness to serve your parish community.
 - Congratulations to all those children who have completed their First Reconciliation last week. And thanks to the Parents, the Facilitators and the Sacramental Team for all your work of preparation for these younger parishioners.
 - We celebrated a Funeral Mass for Reynaldo Tiga on Saturday morning. And we will celebrate a Funeral Mass for Des Balangue on Tuesday morning at 10:30am. Please pray for the repose of the souls of both men, and for strength and comfort for the grieving family and friends at this time of loss.
 - The first of our end-of-School Masses will be this Thursday (1/12) at the 9am mass, when years 4-8 of John XXIII and St. Marks will give thanks to God for all the graces received in 2016. All welcome.
 - First Friday Novena Mass this week (2/12) at 7:30pm. All welcome! (Please Note: No First Friday Novena Mass in January).
 - First Saturday Mass this week (3/12) at 9am with the Anointing of the Sick within in. Adoration and Benediction will follow the Mass. All are very welcome. (Please note: No First Saturday Anointing and Benediction in January).

God's blessings be upon you all as you enter into this joyful season of Advent.

Fr. John

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter proclaims 'time for mercy'

On Monday November 21, the Vatican published Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter "Misericordia et Misera," which he signed on Sunday after the closing of the Jubilee of Mercy. In the letter, he draws the lessons from a year that in his eyes "cannot be a mere parenthesis in the life of the Church."

Law and mercy - "Mercy cannot become a mere parenthesis in the life of the Church; it constitutes her very existence, through which the profound truths of the Gospel are made manifest and tangible," the pope affirmed.

Beginning with the meeting between Jesus and the adulterous woman, he emphasizes how much this Gospel passage places at the center "not the law or legal justice, but the love of God, which is capable of looking into the heart of each person and seeing the deepest desire hidden there; God's love must take primacy over all else."

"The misery of sin was clothed with the mercy of love," he explains, emphasizing that "none of us has the right to make forgiveness conditional. Mercy is always a gratuitous act of our heavenly Father, an unconditional and unmerited act of love. Consequently, we cannot risk opposing the full freedom of the love with which God enters into the life of every person."

Pastoral conversion - After the closing of the Jubilee, Francis therefore exhorts the Church "to continue, with joy, fidelity and enthusiasm, experiencing the richness of God's mercy .

"Our communities can remain alive and active in the work of the new evangelization in the measure that the 'pastoral conversion' to which we are called will be shaped daily by the renewing force of mercy. Let us not limit its action; let us not sadden the Spirit, who constantly points out new paths to take in bringing to everyone the Gospel of salvation."

Sunday of the Word of God - Emphasizing the importance of the Word of God for hearing the message of mercy, the pope again insists on the importance of the homily and recalled the significance for communities of reading the Bible. He therefore proposes the celebration on one Sunday of the liturgical year of "a Sunday given over entirely to the word of God, so as to appreciate the inexhaustible riches contained in that constant dialogue between the Lord and his people" calling for "creative initiatives can help make this an opportunity for the faithful to become living vessels for the transmission of God's word."

Missionaries of mercy - Praising the success of the experience with "Missionaries of mercy," those confessors that he had created, Pope Francis has also decided to make permanent this "extraordinary ministry," which therefore "continues until further notice as a concrete sign that the grace of the Jubilee remains alive and effective the world over." The Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization is to be responsible "to accompany and to find the most suitable forms for the exercise of this valuable ministry."

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be
put to shame. Nor let my enemies
exult over me; and let none who hope
in you be put to shame.

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz,
concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of
the Temple of the Lord shall tower
above the mountains and be lifted
higher than the hills. All the nations
will stream to it, peoples without
number will come to it; and they will
say:

'Come, let us go up to the
mountain of the Lord, to the
Temple of the God of Jacob that
he may teach us his ways so that we
may walk in his paths; since the
Law will go out from Zion, and the
oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the
nations and adjudicate between many
peoples; these will hammer their
swords into ploughshares, their spears
into sickles. Nation will not lift sword
against nation, there will be no more
training for war O House of Jacob,
come, let us walk in the light of the
Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and
our earth shall yield its increase.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house
of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let
us go to God's house.' And now our
feet are standing within your gates, O
Jerusalem. **R.**

It is there that the tribes go up, the
tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name. There
were set the thrones of judgement of
the house of David. **R.**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace
be to your homes! May peace reign in
your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

For love of my brethren and friends I
say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the
house of the Lord I will ask for your
good. **R.**

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



**WE RETURN
GLORY TO GOD
BY KEEPING
HIS WORD**

Gospel Reflection

You have noted that the colour of our vestments have changed from green to purple. The readings of the gospel have now changed from year C to year A. All this means that the Church liturgical year has moved to a new year. We are now in the season of Advent. Advent tells us that Christmas season is near at hand. St. Paul has reminded us today that “the time has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted”.

Our Church reminded us that Advent is now started and that we have to be awakened. Do not fall asleep but be alert all time. Soon we will be into the month of December. Shops have already displayed items for Christmas. They want to motivate us into a buying mood so that they can make a good profit.

The commercial countdown to Christmas begins while the Church calls us to period of deep reflection and spiritual preparation for the celebration of the mystery of God becoming flesh. We are pulled both ways as the culture says, “Get busy!” and the Church says, “Quiet down!” to prepare for Christmas.

Advent is the time to look at the quality of our Catholic life. Especially the right to life problems that we as Christians have to defend to life situation such as: abortion, Euthanasia, use of life human stem cells, and stand up to defend the right of marriage between a man and a woman. It is very tempting, and very easy, to get so wrapped up in the artificial lights of this season that we can forget the true light, the light of Christ.

People can be oblivious to the power of Christmas as a time to open ourselves more widely to Christ. We can be like those people to whom the Lord refers in the Gospel reading as going about their life, indifferent to the coming of the Lord. They all look alike but there is a huge difference within. The transforming power of the Christmas mystery is found not in the changes that happen on the outside but the changes that happen within.

Advent provides a great opportunity once more to cast off deeds of darkness and put on the armor of the Light of Christ. The darkness from which Jesus came to rescue us, the darkness that Advent addresses, is not the darkness outside. We know the seasons will change and light will return. He came to rescue us from the darkness within.

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

28 Mon 1st week of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 2:1-5
Isaiah 4:2-6
Psalm Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9
Gospel Matthew 8:5-11

29 Tues 1st week of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17
Gospel Luke 10:21-24

30 Wed Saint Andrew (F)

1st Reading Romans 10:9-18
Psalm Ps 18
Gospel Matthew 4:18-22

December

1 Thu 1st week of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 26:1-6
Psalm Ps 117:1. 8-9. 19-21. 25-
27
Gospel Matthew 7:21. 24-27

2 Fri 1st week of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 29:17-24
Psalm Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14
Gospel Matthew 9:27-31

3 Sat Saint Francis Xavier (M)

1st Reading Isaiah 30:19-21. 23-26
1 Corinthians 9:16-19.
22-23
Psalm Ps 146:1-6
Ps 116:1. 2
Gospel Matthew 9:35-10:1. 6-8
Mark 16:15-20

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Parish Notices



If you can contribute some time, energy and expertise to YOUR parish there are a number of areas requiring your support.

Money counters - Help with counting of the weekend collections scheduled once a week for 2-3 hrs. Contact: Tanya in the parish office (Tue-Fri) T9852 0580. Closing date: As soon as possible.

Baptismal Team - to assist in at least one Sunday Baptism every month. If you are interested, please contact Camille Jamon at 0406 - 859604.

Gardeners - If you have a green thumb, love to be under the sun taking in a breath of fresh air come and look after a patch of church garden. Some equipment is provided. Contact: John – 9899 2473. Closing date: As soon as possible.

Church cleaners - We are currently looking for reliable, consistent and quality cleaners. Gather some friends and pick the time of day. Some cleaning equipment provided. Contact: John – 9899 2473. Closing date: As soon as possible.

Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2017

The Office for Worship of the Diocese of Parramatta is offering Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2017. The courses are open to those interested in becoming Minister of the Word,

Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Communion, Minister for the Sick & Dying (Homebound), Adult Altar Server or Acolyte. Application forms available at the foyer. For more information, contact Bob Agbulos, Liturgy team coordinator on 0422 106 525 or via email on bragbulos@gmail.com.

Getting God's house ready for Christmas

We have arranged a cleaning and gardening working bee for Saturday, 10 December to get Our Lord's house ready for his coming at Christmas.

Gardening: 7.00am – 9.00am and 9.30 – 12.00 (break for 9.00am mass).

Please bring weeding tools, fork, spade and weed spray if you have spare.

Cleaning: 9.30am – 12.00 Please bring mops, brooms, cloths, high-rise cobweb brushes.

There are sign-up sheets at the front door. Please give up just a few hours of your valuable time.

St Mark's School Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped at the parish stall last Saturday. Thank you to Colin Atwood for producing our banner.

Vinnie's Christmas Hamper Appeal

Every year, during the Christmas Season, the St. Vincent de Paul Society brings some cheer to families in need in our community by providing them with Christmas hampers. You can help fill up these hampers by picking a small star or stars from the Christmas tree and purchasing the items indicated

on it or you can pick one of the bigger stars containing the profile of one of the families we help and preparing a hamper to suit that particular family. Please bring your donations back before the **11th of December.**

Thank you for your kind generosity.

Parish Pastoral Council Election

I would like to congratulate everyone who took part in last weekend's election. Over 450 parishioners voted and the four elected members of the Council are

Julienne Crasto

Chris Drummond

Gary Lee

Bart Sarlabus

Since all seven nominees generously offered to serve our community, my three appointments as Parish Priest are

Nidarshi Fernando

Nanette Gamboa

Bernadette Virwani

I would like to thank and congratulate all seven members of our newly-constituted Parish Pastoral Council which will run from 1 January 2017 for a term of two years.

Fr John

Italian Pilgrimage

Come and join us for a pilgrimage following the footsteps of St John 23rd

Duration: 17 day pilgrimage

Departure: Friday, 22 September 2017
Tour Code: 7PV06

For further information contact:

Toll Free: Harvest 1800 819 156

Brochures can found at the church foyer

ADVENT RETREAT

When: 10 December, Saturday

From 9am to 1pm

Where: Shrine of the Holy Innocents

8 Greyfriar Place,
Kellyville

See programme at church foyer

Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Reynaldo Tiga, Des Ballangue, Ramon Chito Reyes

Deceased:

Jeffrey Turner, Jerry Camilleri, Teresita Pangilinan

Anniversary:

Nhi Tran, Soja Anthony, Skye Flowers, Emilio Nacup Sr, Riolene & Aeldred Weber, Leo Meduro, Joseph Simon Francis, Sebastian, Vences Fernando, Margaret Silva

Sick:

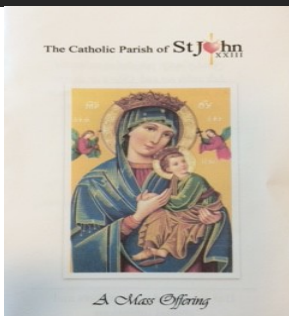
Maria Pinky Baartz, Charmaine Beltran, Amando Magno, Jovie Disterhofft, Mark de Jesus, Elgin Duenas, Pat Daley, Karam Matte, Sue Laxton

Thanksgiving:

Anton & Jill Franco, R J Santos and Family, Ronaldo, Kristine, Maria, Ramon, Vincenzo, Rohan & Rayan Virwani, Charmaine Meltran



Mass cards available at the parish office.



Paying our debt together

The First Collection – for the diocese. The 1st Collection is used for the support of the Bishop and priests of the Diocese.

The Second Collection – for the parish. The 2nd Collection is used to meet our parish running costs (provide pastoral and ministry outreach from the parish, rates, utilities, insurance, telecommunication, computers, photocopiers, stationery and postage, church and altar requisites, repairs and maintenance of the church, presbytery, office buildings and grounds). It is also used to pay the team/staff salaries, superannuation and each priest's car expenses, loan interest and loan repayment. Money received in the 2nd collection is banked into the parish "Church Account".

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.

The Meaning of Praying Hands

There is a common prayer gesture among Christians which is called praying hands or the hands clasped or folded together before the heart. Such a prayer gesture is a symbol of obedience, submission, sincerity and repentance. There are others who raise their prayer hands as if pleading to God.

Nathan Ausubel, in his book "Book of Jewish Knowledge" said that this prayer gesture is not exclusive to Christians alone. He said the Jews even before the time of Jesus Christ, practiced it: "It has also been commonly assumed that folding the hands in prayer is exclusively a Christian custom. This is not the historical fact at all. As early as the post-Exilic period, when Jews prayed, they folded their hands, and they observed this custom for several centuries even after it had been adopted by Christians."

Jesus, being a Jew, also prayed with clasped hands. You must have seen pictures or images of Him in the garden of Gethsemani in this prayer gesture. In other art works, you can also see the Virgin Mary and angels with their hands clasped as well.

The Hindus and Buddhists draw their palms together at the heart as a sign of veneration and respect. It is also a form of greeting. This is known as the "anjali mudra" which means offering (anjali) and seal (mudra). The people of India when doing this gesture would say the word "Namaste" which is some kind of a sacred hello. "Namaste" means "I bow to the divinity within you from the divinity within me." How beautiful the meaning of that word is!

In prayer, our body certainly has a role to play in prayer along with our heart, mind and soul. Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, in his book "Spirit of the Liturgy" said: "The body has a place within the divine worship of the Word made flesh, and it is expressed liturgically in a certain discipline of the body, in gestures that have developed out of the liturgy's inner demands..."

The Pope mentioned the custom during feudal times of placing one's joined hands into the hands of his ruling lord as a sign of his fidelity and loyalty. So when we fold our hands in prayer, we are symbolically pledging to God our fidelity and loyalty and placing our hands in His.

What happens when we pray or meditate with clasped or folded hands? In the practice of yoga, it is said that bringing our hands together literally brings the left and right hemispheres of the brain together. Such a posture calms the mind.

I find that I am able to focus more on God and concentrate better when I pray using the praying hands gesture. It's as if folding or clasping or drawing my hands together sends a signal to my mind to calm down. It is much the same when I kneel to pray. I see it as a time when I am in God's presence so I do it to show my reverence to my Creator.

http://www.stjohnsxxiii.com/SJS_Articles_prayinghands.htm

Parish Pastoral Council Corner

“Human life is sacred - *all men must recognize the fact. From its very inception it reveals the creating hand of God.*” — Pope John XXIII 1961 Papal Encyclical

FAITH FORMATION TEAM

✦ We continue to ask for host families from to pray the **Rosary** at home and request for our Blessed Mother’s intercessions.

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 of Our Lady visit your home contact Bart Sarlabus - bart.sarlabus@gmail.com. Pick up the statue after the Tuesday novena mass and return a week after before the start of the novena mass. This is a good time for the whole family to pray the rosary together and maybe invite some other family members and friends to join you in prayer.

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

November	1 <i>Huang</i>	8 <i>Olan</i>	15 <i>Blasonato</i>	22 <i>Viola</i>	29 Pierena
December	6 D’Cunha	13 Brosas	20 Paguinto	27 Manoj	
January	3 Manoj	10 Sebastian	17 Shalini	24 Perera	31 <i>Available</i>

COMMUNITY BUILDING TEAM

✦ We are looking for kids in **years 7-10** who might be interested to join our youth choir. If you **play a musical instrument** or an **avid singer**, you are welcome to join us every **2nd Sunday of the month** for the 6pm mass. For more information please contact RJ Samonte at gtyouth@gmail.com or raf.samonte@hotmail.com

Abortion - During the Jubilee, the pope had also conceded the faculty of absolving the sin of abortion to the Missionaries of mercy, a faculty hitherto reserved only to bishops but which he has now extended further.

“Lest any obstacle arise between the request for reconciliation and God’s forgiveness, I henceforth grant to all priests, in virtue of their ministry, the faculty to absolve those who have committed the sin of procured abortion,” the pope wrote, while recalling that “abortion is a grave sin, since it puts an end to an innocent life.”

Fraternity of St Pius X - Similarly, the pope had conceded the faculty of confessing validly and licitly to the priests of the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Pius X in spite of the fact that they are not in communion with the local bishop, a faculty that he again extended further.

For the good of their faithful, “and trusting in the good will of their priests to strive with God’s help for the recovery of full communion in the Catholic Church, I have personally decided to extend this faculty beyond the Jubilee Year, until further provisions are made, lest anyone ever be deprived of the sacramental sign of reconciliation through the Church’s pardon.”

Marriage - Repeating how much “the gift of matrimony is a great calling to which spouses, with the grace of Christ, respond with a love that is generous, faithful and patient” as well as “the beauty of the family,” the pope recalls that “the journey of life that leads a man and a woman to meet one other, to love one another and to promise mutual fidelity before God, is often interrupted by suffering, betrayal and loneliness.”

“Our life, with its joys and sorrows,” the pope explains, “is something unique and unrepeatable that takes place under the merciful gaze of God. This demands, especially of priests, a careful, profound and far-sighted spiritual discernment, so that everyone, none excluded, can feel accepted by God, participate actively in the life of the community and be part of that People of God which journeys tirelessly towards the fullness of his kingdom of justice, love, forgiveness and mercy.

World Day of the Poor - Adopting an idea launched by Etienne Villemain during the Jubilee of for Socially Excluded People on November 11 at the Vatican, the pope has also instituted a World Day of the Poor to be held in the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, the second last Sunday of Ordinary Time.

This day, which will “help communities and each of the baptized to reflect on how poverty is at the very heart of the Gospel and that, as long as Lazarus lies at the door of our homes (cf. Lk 16:19-21), there can be no justice or social peace” will be “the worthiest way to prepare for the celebration of the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, who identified with the little ones and the poor and who will judge us on our works of mercy.”

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/pope-francis-apostolic-letter-proclaims-time-for-mercy>

Youth Corner

GTK (Getting to Know)



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

Info: <http://www.gtkyouth.com/>

IGNITE - Enkindling the fire of faith

Young adults from 18 - 35 years of age meets every 3rd Sunday of the month after the 6:00pm mass. Monthly guest speaker, discussions & shared supper

CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)

When: 2nd & 4th Saturdays
Praise & Worship

Where: Church

Time: after 6:00pm vigil mass

YFC (Youth for Christ)

When: Meets every 3rd Sundays

Where: St Mark's Staff Room

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

Find the path

Help Noah and the animals find their way onto the ark so they can be ready for the flood when it comes.



Word Find

Stay awake, you must be ready

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

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