

FOURTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
28—29 January 2017

**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."



From the Pastor's desk

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

On Thursday (2nd February), we have the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord or Candlemas. There will be an opportunity for sacred candles to be blessed before the mass begins.

This week is First Friday and First Saturday... As a result, we have an extra Mass on Friday evening, a Sacred Heart Novena Mass. All are welcome. And on Saturday morning, during the 9am Mass, we offer the Sacrament of Holy Anointing to those who are in advanced age or seriously ill. Afterwards we will have Adoration and Benediction. Again... All welcome.

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



JAN 2017		PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 30		9am - Liturgy of the Word
TUE 31		<i>Feast of St John Bosco (M)</i> 9am - Liturgy of the Word 10:30am - Knitting/crochet club 6:30pm - Adoration then OLPH 7.30pm - Novena mass - Holroyd Family
FEB		
WED 1		RCIA program resumes
THU 2		<i>Feast of The Presentation of the Lord</i> 9:00am - Mass
FRI 3		7:30pm - CCC Prayer Group—church kitchen 7:30pm - First Friday Novena Mass to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
SAT 4		9:00am - Sacrament of Holy Anointing
SUN 5		8:15am - Divine Office 12pm - Baptism - Mason, Stella, Zoe, Neve, Annabelle, Spencer

E v a n g e l i c u m

Amoris laetitia (Latin: The Joy of Love) is a post-synodal apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis.[1] Dated 19 March 2016, it was released on 8 April 2016. It follows the Synods on the Family held in 2014 and 2015.[a]

The document focuses on several of the issues of contemporary morality and church practice that had proved contentious during the third extraordinary and the fourteenth ordinary synods' presentations and discussions, surrounding access to communion, divorce, sexual mores, and pastoral practice.

Major controversy erupted at the end of 2016 when four Cardinals asked formally Pope Francis for clarifications, particularly on the issue of giving communion to divorced and civilly remarried Catholics.

The real reason behind the opposition to Pope Francis

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/the-real-reason-behind-the-opposition-to-pope-francis/4377>

Retired Vatican Cardinal Paul-Josef Cordes has added his name to the list of churchmen who have publicly expressed doubts about Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation Amoris Laetitia.

Robert Mickens, Rome Italy December 16, 2016

And there are surely many others who remain in the closet, quietly hiding their grave concerns about the direction in which history's first Latin American pope is leading the Catholic Church.

Cardinal Paul Josef Cordes this past week became the fifth and latest

member of the illustrious group of churchmen in scarlet to publicly express doubts over the clarity and orthodoxy of Pope Francis' recent document on marriage and the family, Amoris Laetitia.

(Full version: https://w2.vatican.va/content/dam/francesco/pdf/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia_en.pdf)

Gospel Reflection

The Gospel from Matthew for this Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) speaks of 'happiness'. What is this 'happiness'?

The world says that 'Happiness' is...

- * Having: continually amassing money and things, materialism
- * Feeling: doing whatever feels good at the time, hedonism
- * Escaping and Denial of Reality: the world is seen as something that 'owes me' a good time, and I demand never to feel bad... so, drug abuse, alcohol abuse, sexual abuse

Our Faith, however, leads us to see that true 'happiness' is all about...

- * Being: accepting life as it is, accepting ourselves as we are, and celebrating this unique gift that is us.

The Beatitudes in today's Gospel text are all about accepting reality and about letting God act on this reality.

The correct translation that should be used in the Beatitudes is 'Blessed' rather than 'happy'.

To be blessed is to be fortunate or happy in the sense of being a privileged recipient of God's Grace (like Mary). even in the difficulties of life, the Joy of Blessedness which comes from God abounds!

To take the first Beatitude as an example: true blessedness is about being 'poor in spirit'. This means that our priorities are in the correct order. Things are used for the upbuilding of the Kingdom. we are free beings, no longer weighed down by the shackles of material goods. We use them for what they can give us and others in our Christian duty of furthering the Kingdom God.

In the week ahead, let's try to meditate on the Beatitudes, striving to fathom the depth of meaning for us that is contained in these marvellous yet simple words.

And let's always remember that true happiness / true "blessedness" is based on accepting reality as it is, and working from there to achieve the goals that our loving God wants for us and for all!

Entrance Antiphon

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

First Reading

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Communion Antiphon

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10

R. . Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**



“The *word of God* is *alive & powerful*. It will set you free, **comfort you, **heal** you & **free** your soul.”**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who are nothing at all to show those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Happy are the poor in spirit.

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

30 Mon 4th Week Ordinary Time

1st Reading Hebrews 11:32-40
Psalm Ps 30:20-24
Gospel Mark 5:1-20

31 Tues Saint John Bosco (M)

1st Reading Hebrews 12:1-4
Philippians 4:4-9
Psalm Ps 21:26-28. 30-32
Ps 102:1-4. 8-9. 13-14.
17-18
Gospel Mark 5:21-43
Matthew 18:1-5

February

1 Wed 4th Week Ordinary Time

1st Reading Hebrews 12:4-7. 11-15
Psalm Ps 102:1-2. 13-14. 17-18
Gospel Mark 6:1-6

2 Thu The Presentation of the Lord (F)

1st Reading Malachi 3:1-4
Psalm Ps 23:7-10
2nd Reading Hebrews 2:14-18
Gospel Luke 2:22-40

3 Fri 4th Week Ordinary Time

1st Reading Hebrews 13:1-8
Psalm Ps 26:1. 3. 5. 8-9
Gospel Mark 6:14-29

4 Sat 4th Week Ordinary Time

1st Reading Hebrews 13:15-17. 20-
21
Psalm Ps 22
Gospel Mark 6:30-34

Full weekly readings can be found in the
parish website

<http://john23rd.com/our-parish/daily-reading/>

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Parish Pastoral Corner

A peaceful man does more good than a learned one. — Pope John XXIII

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

† Next Sunday, the 5th of February 2017, at the 10:30 am Mass, the newly elected Parish Pastoral Council members (Bart, Chris, Nanette, Gary, Julianne, Bernadette and Nidarshi) will be commissioned into parish service by Fr. John. After the mass, everyone is invited to share a cup of coffee or tea with the new Councillors at the Parish Kitchen so that you may get to know your representatives better. It will also provide the chance to share your thoughts on the needs of our parish and the direction you think we should take in building a better community of God. We all hope to see you there; it will be a good catch-up leading into the forthcoming PPC meeting on the 8th of February!

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 Evening Prayer at 6.30pm, Rosary at 7.15pm, Mass and Novena prayers at 7:30pm with sung Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after the novena mass.

If you want the opportunity of having the statue of Our Lady visit your home contact Bart Sarlabus - bart.sarlabus@gmail.com or Melva Paguinto (after novena mas). Pick up the statue after the novena mass and return a week after before the start of the novena mass. A good time for the whole family to pray the rosary together and maybe invite other family members and friends to join in prayer.

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

	3	10	17	24	31
January	<i>Manoj</i>	<i>Sebastian</i>	<i>Shalini</i>	<i>Perera</i>	Holroyd
February	7 Bacolod	14 Lee (Gary)	21 Alejandro	28 Shalini	
March	7 Paguinto	14 <i>Available</i>	21 Shalini	28 <i>Available</i>	

COMMUNITY BUILDING TEAM

† Knitting/crochet club meets twice a month in the parish kitchen.

(a) 2nd Saturday of the month at 2.00pm, and

(b) last Tuesday of the month about 10.30am

Next gathering is on Tuesday, 31st Jan, 10:30am. There's still room for anyone who would like to join. Contacts are Colleen McCunnie & Rita Mateazzi.

† A **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who made generous contributions to Fr Robert's farewell celebration and made it a truly memorable one.

Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Tom Donahue, Mark De Jesus,
Rita D'Silva

Deceased:

Jerry Camilleri, Domenico Surdich,
Captian Nicholas N. Montenegro,
Ante Janezic

Anniversary:

Dotty Wickramasinghe

Sick:

Pat Daley, Karam Matte, Cay Espanta,
Donatila Ramos, Genevieve D'Silva,
Maria Pinky Baartz, Greg Chapman,
Sue Laxton, Maria Luisa Celdran-Matias,
Alfred Miler

Thanksgiving:

Anthony and Jill Franco,
Ildefonsa Capapas,



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.

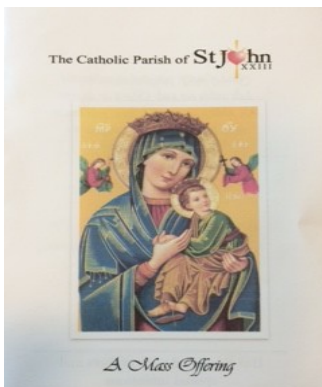
The Second Collection – for the parish. The 2nd Collection is used to meet our parish running costs (*rates, utilities, insurance, telecommunication, computers, photocopiers, stationery and postage, church and altar requisites, repairs and maintenance of the church, presbytery, office buildings and grounds*).

It is used to pay the team/staff salaries, superannuation and each priest's car expenses, loan interest and loan repayment.

It is also used to provide for our pastoral and ministry outreach activities from the parish.

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.



Mass cards
available at
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.

Parish Notices

Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2017

The Office for Worship is offering Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2017, open to all parishes and individuals seeking formation and training for serving at the altar. Held at the Diocesan Assembly Centre in Blacktown on Mondays and at St Nicholas of Myra in Penrith on Thursdays, the formation courses are for anyone who is interested in becoming a Minister of the Word, Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying, Adult Altar Server or Acolyte.

For more information contact Bob Agbulos, Liturgy team coordinator, on 0422 106525 or via email bragbulos@gmail.com.



We will be holding the following cake stalls during the Sunday masses for this year with scheduled dates of: **5th Mar, 4th June, 3rd Sep, 3rd Dec**

Everyone is invited to join us! We're aiming to raise \$5,000 and your continued generosity and support will be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to make donations of cakes/savouries/hot dishes, please contact Jill on 0402

172346 or email admin@john23rd.org.au. **We are always looking for new Angels to join us!** Thank you and we hope to see you soon.

Italian Pilgrimage

Come and join us for a 17 day pilgrimage following the footsteps of St John 23rd
Departure: Friday, 22 September 2017 Tour Code: 7PV06

For further information contact: Harvest 1800 819 156 Toll Free

Spiritual adviser: Fr John McSweeney. Brochures can found at the church foyer.

Haircut for a cause

Congratulations to our two young parishioners, Sienna and Chiara Portelli. They raised close to \$2000 for kids with cancer and alopecia, by raising funds to cut off their beautiful hair. They also donated over 1m of their hair, which will be used to make wigs for children with alopecia. Well done girls!



\$2000 WORTH OF HAIR IN CUT

THE moment had come for Sienna and Chiara Portelli to chop off their long locks for charity. The sisters were brave and made the cut to raise money for Variety the Children's Charity on Sunday.

Under the steady hand of hair talks hairdressers Candice and Nathaneal, more than 1m of hair between Sienna and Chiara was cut off. Their long brown hair will become wigs for children battling cancer or those who have been diagnosed with

alopecia. To be suitable to donate hair for a wig, it must be at least 35cm long.

Mother Maryrose Portelli said the girls had already smashed two of the fundraising targets. The first, \$700, was already surpassed and after the *Hills Shire Times* profiled the sisters, they had reached nearly \$1000 in donations.

Mrs Portelli said the new target was \$2000 and the girls were just about to surpass that amount as well.

Why we do what we do...

Why We Do What We Do at Mass, Part 2

Posted by Reverend Thomas Vander Woude,

Last week I mentioned in the column that the Catholic Church teaches that no one may arbitrarily add or subtract from the Mass or other sacraments. This teaching includes prayers as well as gestures. Why? What we say and do at Mass has a meaning. There is an old phrase, ‘Lex orandi, lex credendi,’ which means, ‘The law of praying is the law of believing.’ The way we pray shows forth what we believe. For example, Catholics have always believed in the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints. In our prayers at Mass, we often ask Mary and the saints for their intercession. Because our prayers and gestures at Mass bespeak what we believe no one is free to remove prayers or gestures or to make up/add his own prayers – unless the liturgy allows for this, i.e. Prayers of the Faithful – or gestures.

To our purpose, gestures at Mass, whether of the priest or congregation, can be misunderstood, overlooked or forgotten. Yet, each is important and has a reason for its inclusion. Gestures of the priest at Mass are found in the Roman Missal, the big red book, from which the priest prays the Mass. Gestures of the congregation at Mass are found in the Roman Missal and the missalette provided in the pews.

There are two gestures that have long been practiced when entering a Catholic church: the Sign of the Cross with Holy Water and a genuflection. The Sign of the Cross with Holy Water as we enter the church is a reminder to us of our entrance into the Catholic Faith at our Baptism. At our Baptism we were baptized with Holy Water as the priest/deacon said, ‘(Your name), I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.’ The Sign of the Cross with Holy Water as we enter the church also reminds us that we are entering the Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist in the tabernacle. We are, in a sense, leaving this world and entering the next world; leaving the natural world and entering the supernatural world – though we should never forget that Our Lord is omnipresent.

It is our understanding that Jesus is really, truly and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist at Mass and in the Hosts in the tabernacle. He is the all-powerful, all-loving Creator of the universe and King of Kings. Those in the parish who have ever been in the presence of royalty know that there is a sign of respect made to a king or queen, i.e. a bow, curtsy or even going down on one’s knee. It is a similar mindset that urges us to go down on our right knee, genuflect, before Jesus in the tabernacle. We give Jesus a sign of respect, even adoration. Of course, those who are prevented from genuflecting should make a profound bow instead. You will notice that the priest genuflects before Our Lord in the tabernacle as he enters the sanctuary.

Important Notice

ACCESS TO ST MARK'S SCHOOL

From the first school term of 2017 there will be **NO** access to the school from the parish carpark. We have had to take this action for a number of reasons:

- ⇒ Students walking through the parish grounds or waiting for parents at the church after school are unsupervised by both the school and the parish. This does not meet Child Safety requirements and places the Parish Priest in an unacceptable position of responsibility.
- ⇒ There has been significant damage to our church gardens by students waiting for their parents after school and this is unacceptable.
- ⇒ A handful of irresponsible parents are endangering others by speeding through the carpark.

A rectangular sign with a black border and rounded corners. The text is in red, bold, capital letters, arranged in six lines: 'NO', 'STUDENT', 'DROP-OFF', 'AND', 'PICK-UP', 'ON', 'CHURCH', 'GROUNDS'.

The gates will be closed from Sunday evening after the 6.00pm mass to Friday afternoon.



Why we do ...cont'd

Have you ever wondered why the priest kisses the altar before and after Mass? There are two reasons. First, the altar is a symbol of Christ because it is upon the altar that Jesus re-presents His Sacrifice of the Cross to His Heavenly Father. The altar in the Old Testament was always the place upon which sacrifices were offered to God. Jesus offered Himself on the 'altar' of the Cross. At every Mass, He offers Himself on the altar. Secondly, the priest kisses the relics of the saints – ordinarily martyrs - that are placed in the altar. When an altar is consecrated by a bishop, he places relics of saints in the altar. Those who sacrificed themselves for Christ now have the Sacrifice of Christ, the Mass, offered upon their relics. Those who shed their blood for Jesus now have the Blood of Jesus become present upon them. It is in accord with the Book of Revelation's vision of the martyrs beneath the altar in heaven (Rev. 6:9).

God bless

<http://www.bolytrinityparish.net/why-we-do-what-we-do-at-mass-part-2/>

Youth Corner

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. Meet new people, enjoy some food and develop your relationship with God and those around us through prayer, reflection and good discussions with insightful guest speakers.

Upcoming event for Feb 2017 with Very Rev Christopher de Souza PP EV

BLAZE

Watch this space. Coming soon in February

CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)

When: 2nd & 4th Saturdays
Praise & Worship

Where: Church

Time: after 6:00pm vigil mass



Complete the phrase

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



Blessed are those
who grieve...

...they will be treated
with mercy.

Blessed are the
merciful...

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

Blessed are those
who make peace...

...they will see God.

Blessed are those
with pure hearts...

...they will find comfort.

Word Find

Blessed are the poor in spirit

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

Find these words

Crowd disciples drink earth excited happy hearts
 Mountain pure reward right sat

Diocesan News

Stepping Beyond Support Group

CCSS Solo Parent Services will commence our monthly support group for anyone who is divorced or separated.

The group meets on the last Tuesday of each month. First gathering for the year will be held on **Tuesday 31st January**. Registration essential. Please note new time: 7pm -9pm

Venue: 38 Prince St, Blacktown.

Contact Rita on 8822 2222 or email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

Positions vacant

Graphic Designer & Team Support – Brand, Networking,

Video: The Institute for Mission at Blacktown requires a full-time team member who specialises in graphic design. **Applications close on 31 January.** For a position description go to www.parracatholic.org/employment

Assistant Housekeeper: Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park has an opening in housekeeping services. The position is part time (2 days/week).

Applications close on 6 February.

For further information please contact the Rector, Fr John Hogan, tel (02) 9637 1055.

8 February—Launch of Human Trafficking and Slavery Paper – A response from Australian Catholics

World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking will be the diocesan launch of Human Trafficking and Slavery – A response from Australian Catholics. Join Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and Sr Noelene Simmons SM for the launch from 7.30pm-9.00pm at the Institute

for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown.

RSVP to Sr Louise McKeogh FMA at Lmckeogh@parra.catholic.org.au or nsn/projects@acrath.org.au

9 February -Mass for World Day of the Sick

Everyone is welcome to this annual Mass in acknowledgment of carers and those for whom they care. Includes the Sacramental Rite of Anointing of the Sick and Prayers for Healing. Bishop Vincent Long will be the principal celebrant for Mass at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church, 51 Allawah St, Blacktown. Plenty of parking – refreshments to follow.

Bereavement Support Program

CCSS Solo Parent Services will begin a 7 session Bereavement Support Program for anyone whose spouse or partner has died. This will run fortnightly in Blacktown from **Wednesday 15th February** If you have suffered the loss of your spouse or partner, please come along to an Information session and overview of the Program on Wednesday 1st February.

This is an opportunity to learn about the Program and experience yourself in a supportive group setting. Registration essential.

Venue: 38 Prince St, Blacktown

Time: 10.30 am - 12pm.

Contact Rita on 8822 2222, or email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

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or call 0478 173 474

MARN 1461332

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 after the 7:30pm novena mass

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



Bart Sarlabus Chairman
Chris Drummond Deputy Chairman
Nanette Gamboa Secretary
Bernadette Virwani
Gary Lee
Julienne Crasto
Nidarshi Fernando

Our School Communities

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

☎ (02) 9629 8742

☒ holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

☒ stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

☒ lcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au