# The Catholic Parish of St J

Perfection Ave cor Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens www.john23rd.com EIGHTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME 25 - 26 FEBRUARY 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,

Trusting in God is a constant theme in the Scriptures. And today's Liturgy of the Word for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) revisits this essential aspect of Faith.

We know we are called to 'seek first the Kingdom', but we fail to do so, preferring the rather *Pelagian* approach to spiritual life, wherein all grace and benefit is up to us, that gifts come from our meritorious activities, that we have to 'earn' our way to Heaven. This is a heresy: for we are totally dependant on the grace of God for salvation. As a result we do two things: we do all we can to open ourselves up to the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives and respond to God's grace through our good works; and we trust that God will look after us always, for God is the ground of our being!

| FEB       | PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|---|--|--|--|--|
| SUN<br>26 | 12pm - Baptism - Sienna, Isaac,<br>Lincoln<br>IGNITE - tonight after 6.00pm<br>Mass                                   |  |  |  |  |
| MON<br>27 | 9am - Liturgy of the Word   |  |  |  |  |
| TUE 28    | 9am - Liturgy of the Word<br>Shrove Tuesday - Pancakes<br>served after novena mass<br>10.30am - Knitting/crochet club |  |  |  |  |
| March     |   |  |  |  |  |
| WED<br>1  | <i>Ash Wednesday</i><br>9am - Ash Wednesday Mass<br>7:30pm - RCIA session<br>7.30pm - Ash Wednesday Mass              |  |  |  |  |
| THU<br>2  |   |  |  |  |  |
| FRI<br>3  | 7:30pm - First Friday mass and<br>novena to the Sacred Heart  |  |  |  |  |
| SAT<br>4  | 9am - First Saturday mass with anointing of the sick  |  |  |  |  |

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# From the Pastor's Desk

- 1. IGNITE (for young adults 18-35, whether single or married) recommences on this Sunday (26/2) after the 6pm Mass in St. Mark's College Staff Room. All are welcome to join with other young adults to share food, discussion and reflection. See the posters around the Church for more information
- 2. This coming Wednesday is ASH WEDNESDAY, the beginning of Lent. Although it is not a Holy Day of Obligation, it is a day when many members of the Church come to Mass to pray and receive the sign of the Ashes as we commence our Lenten preparation for Easter. Mass will be at 9am and 7:30pm. Leaders from both our parish schools will attend the 9am Mass and be commissioned to take the Ashes back to their respective schools and classes for a Liturgy of the Word in which the Ashes will be distributed.
- 3. Friday is First Friday: Novena Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be celebrated in the Church at 7:30pm, followed by Adoration and Benediction. All welcome.
- 4. Saturday is First Saturday: The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated during the 9am Mass, with Adoration and Benediction to follow. All welcome.

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Have a great Lent this year! God bless you all! Fr. John



# Gospel Reflection

Trusting in God is a constant theme in the Scriptures. And today's Liturgy of the Word for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) revisits this essential aspect of Faith.

The short quotation from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah utilises the magnificent image of a mother's care for her child to illustrate how God will never abandon His own, for, even if a mother does 'forget her baby at the breast", the Lord will never forget those whom He created. So, no matter what happens to us in life, God will not abandon us. At times it may appear that we are adrift on the stormy waters of life, but everything will turn out for the good of those who continue to Trust in God.

And St. Paul reminds the Corinthians (and us) that we are stewards of the mysteries of God, and, as Stewards, we need to be found worthy of God's Trust. This means that every one of us who call ourselves Christian must be a light shining in the darkness of the world, so that those who look at us can see the face of Christ gazing back at them. Trust works both ways: we trust in God's goodness towards us, but we need to be trustworthy stewards of the Faith entrusted to us.

And Jesus declares that we need to be like the birds of heaven or the flowers in the field: totally dependant on God's grace, which will never let us down. "Seek first the Kingdom.." speaks to us of the invitation of the Lord to put all our faith and trust in the one who looks after His Creation at all times. Through his utilisation of simple Galilean pastoral imagery, Jesus declares that God loves His creatures so much, how much more will God love his own children (us)?!

So, what does this message of the need to trust God in all things and at all times mean for us - right here and now?

Well, we know the answer: we must continue to make certain that our priorities are in the right order: God first, all else second.

We know we are called to 'seek first the Kingdom', but we fail to do so, preferring the rather *Pelagian* approach to spiritual life, wherein all grace and benefit is up to us, that gifts come from our meritorious activities, that we have to 'earn' our way to Heaven. This is a heresy: for we are totally dependant on the grace of God for salvation. As a result we do two things: we do all we can to open ourselves up to the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives and respond to God's grace through our good works; and we trust that God will look after us always, for God is the ground of our being; indeed, the Creator keeps the whole universe in existence through His own Will.

In this coming week let's reflect on the need we all have to trust in God always, no matter what!



# Entrance Antiphon

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

## First Reading Isaiah 49:14-15

Even these may forget, says the Lord God, yet I will not forget you.

Zion was saying, The Lord has abandoned me, the Lord has forgotten me. Does a woman forget her baby at the breast, or fail to cherish the son of her womb?

Yet even if these forget,

I will never forget you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **Responsorial Psalm** Ps 61:2-3. 6-9

#### R. Rest in God alone, my soul.

In God alone is my soul at rest; my help comes from him. He alone is my rock, my stronghold, my fortress: I stand firm. **R**.

In God alone be at rest, my soul; for my hope comes from him. He alone is my rock, my stronghold, my fortress: I stand firm. **R**.

In God is my safety and glory, the rock of my strength. Take refuge in God all you people. Trust him at all times. Pour our your hearts before him. **R** 

## Communion Antiphon

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

## Second Reading 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

The Lord will bring light to all that is hidden in darkness.

People must think of us as Christ's servants, stewards entrusted with the mysteries of God. What is expected of stewards is that each one should be found worthy of his trust. Not that it makes the slightest difference to me whether you, or indeed any human tribunal, find me worthy or not. I will not even pass judgement on myself. True, my conscience does not reproach me at all, but that does not prove that I am acquitted: the Lord alone is my judge. There must be no passing of premature judgement. Leave that until the Lord comes: he will light up all that is hidden in the dark and reveal the secret intentions of men's hearts. Then will be the time for each one to have whatever praise he deserves, from God. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation Hebrews 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

Alleluia!



## **Gospel** *Matthew 6:24-34*

#### Do not worry about tomorrow.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'No one can be the slave to two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.

That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, for all his worrying, add one single cubit to his span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his regalia was robed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the grass in the field which is there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith? So do not worry, do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed?" It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow, will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



# In the **Word of God** is the **Spirit**, and the Spirit gives **LIFE**.



# 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

27 Mon 8th Week Ordinary Time 1st Reading Sirach 17:24-29 Psalm Ps 31:1-2. 5-7 Mark 10:17-27 Gospel 28 Tues 8th Week Ordinary Time 1st Reading Sirach 35:1-12 Psalm Ps 49:5-8. 14. 23 Gospel Mark 10:28-31 MARCH 1 Wed Ash Wednesday 1st Reading Joel 2:12-18 Psalm Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17 2nd Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20 - 6:2 Gospel Matthew 6:1-6. 16-18 2 Thu Thursday after Ash Wednesday 1st Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm Ps 1:1-4.6 Luke 9:22-25 Gospel 3 Fri Friday after Ash Wednesday 1st Reading Isaiah 58:1-9 Psalm Ps 50:3-6, 18-19 Gospel Matthew 9:14-15 4 Sat Saturday after Ash Wednesday 1st Reading Isaiah 58:9-14 Psalm Ps 85:1-6 Luke 5:27-32 Gospel

Full weekly readings can be found in the parish website http://john23rd.com/our-parish/daily-reading/

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# Special intentions

#### **Recently Deceased:**

Marivic Vergel Roldan, Fr Timothy Crowley, Fr Quinn, Hector Corpus, Roger Avilam

#### **Deceased:**



Martin Jacob Anniversary:

Sixta Gutierrez, Herman De Silva, Phylliss Castellino

#### Sick:

Pat Daley, Karam Matte, Cay Espanta, Donatila Ramos, Genevieve D'Silva, Greg Chapman, Alfred Miler,

Sue Laxton, Maria Luisa Celdran-Matias, Elpido Beltran

#### Thanksgiving:

Ronaldo, Kristine, Maria, Ramon, Vincenzo Zamora, Ronald Alvarez, Linda Zamora

## 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



A Mass Offering



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



## Parish Pastoral Corner

Even if Jesus lays on us some part of the cross, He is there to help us bear it with self, sacrifice and love. — Pope St John XXIII

## -FAITH FORMATION TEAM -

# **+** LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS

The Lenten Season will soon be upon us (Mar. 1 – Ash Wednesday). The Faith Formation Committee is once again running a series of spiritual discussion groups for Lent. If you have a group (prayer group, CFC, SRE, Youth, etc.), want to join a group or if you want to form and lead a discussion group, a sign up sheet is available at the entrance foyer. The group will meet once a week for seven weeks from Ash Wednesday (01 March) to Good Friday. If you have any questions, please contact Rose Franco on 0401387427. Notices are also located on the doors of the church.

**+** 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 |              |                  |                        |                 |                        |  |  |
|--|--------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|--|
| February                                       | 7<br>Bacolod | 14<br>Lee (Gary) | <b>21</b><br>Alejandro | 28<br>Shalini   |                        |  |  |
|  | 7            | 14               | 21                     | 28              |                        |  |  |
| March  | Paguinto     | Sebastian        | Shalini                | Nobleza         |                        |  |  |
| April  | 4            | 11               | 18                     | 25              |                        |  |  |
| 1  | Jacinta      | Olan             | Sebastian              | Jacinta         | 20                     |  |  |
| May  | 2<br>Shalini | 9<br>Cano        | <b>16</b><br>Available | 23<br>Available | <b>30</b><br>Available |  |  |

## 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

There's still room for anyone who would like to join. Contacts are Colleen McCunnie & Rita Mateazzi. Some projects are being planned



# Parish Notices

## Family Lenten Program

The Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office has produced a Family Lenten Program as a support in their faith journey towards Easter. The program is based around the theme of Lead us to Living Water. It is based on the Sunday Gospel reading with reflections, colourful pictures, prayers and activities that the whole family can do together. This resource will be available in your parish the week before the start of Ash Wednesday on Sunday, 26th February.

## **Diocesan Works Fund Appeal**

The DWF Appeal is being held across the Diocese during February. Donations to the appeal will provide financial support to our not-for-profit social services. Each year, more than 20,000 inquiries for assistance are received by the Ephpheta Centre, which supports the deaf, and CatholicCare from refugees, youth, families, young mothers, the elderly and people with disability. Appeal envelopes are available from your or donate online parish at www.faithatwork.org.au

## SHROVE TUESDAY

Come and join us for pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, **28th Feb**, after the novena mass. Everyone welcome. Donation of pancakes most welcome.

## URGENT REPAIRS

Can anyone assist with the repair of the roof at the front entrance? Contact John McCartney <u>businessmanager@john23rd.org.au</u>

# FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We are inviting all children who are in Year 4 and have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation to join our First Holy Communion program this May.

Enrolment forms will be available from <u>Monday 27th March</u> onwards from the Parish Office or our website: <u>*mww.john23rd.com*</u>

For all enquiries, please contact Jill via email <u>admin@john23rd.org.au</u> or call 9852-0583.



#### CAKEANGELS NEED YOUR HELP!

Calling all avid and enthusiastic cooks/ bakers, we need your help! We are requesting food/cake donations for our upcoming fundraising stall on <u>Sunday 5th March at the</u>

7.30am and 9am masses

to raise \$1,000 to help pay off our parish's debt. Your help will be greatly appreciated and we welcome you to join us!

Contact Jill on 0402 172 346 for any enquiries.



## Why we do what we do...

# THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Variety of gifts, variety of service

**ORDAINED MINISTRIES** - In his First Letter to the Corinthians, St Paul writes about spiritual gifts. He says: Now there are varieties of gifts (charismata), but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone (1Cor 12: 4–6). So it is in and through the members of his Body that Christ himself is still engaged in the work of service.

The key Christian ministries are the ordained ministries (Bishop, Priest and Deacon) but, through Baptism, all the People of God share in the life of Christ and have a responsibility to take part in Christian ministry in some way. There are numerous particular ministries in which the People of God can participate.

**BISHOP** - The Bishop is a Priest especially ordained to lead the diocese. His role is to teach and care for the spiritual needs of the Priests and people of his diocese.

**PRIEST** - The Priest is ordained to preach the word and preside over the liturgy and the celebration of the Sacraments. His role is also to care for the pastoral needs of his parish community.

**DEACON** - The Deacon is ordained to serve the Church. He assists the Bishop or the Priest in the celebration of the Eucharist. He can also preside at the Sacraments of Baptism and Marriage. THE PEOPLE OF GOD - The term People of God' is often used to describe the baptised members of the Church who are not ordained. There is an interrelationship between the ordained and non-ordained ministries because every ministry of the whole Church is a participation in the one priesthood of Christ. The People of God may serve the Church in any number of particular ministries. The Second Vatican Council encouraged their 'full, conscious and active participation': The Church earnestly desires that all the faithful be led to that full. conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations called for by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation ... is their right and duty by reason of their baptism -Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 1963 n. 14

The baptised People of God are encouraged to participate in the liturgy by means of the responses, acclamations, songs, the postures of prayer and, at the proper times, by an attentive silence. There are some present in the assembly who undertake particular liturgical roles to assist the Priest throughout the celebration of the Mass.

*SACRISTANS* - The sacristans makes sure that all of the preparations are made for the celebration of the Eucharist. This includes ensuring the altar is dressed, the liturgical vessels, hosts and wine are ready, the Sacramentary and the Lectionary are in place, and any other items required for that particular Mass are ready.



## Why we do...(con't)

ALTAR SERVERS - The altar servers help the Priest throughout the liturgy. Anyone who has received their First Holy Communion and is trained can be an altar server. At the beginning of the Mass the altar servers process into the church with the Priest, and they bring religious symbols such as the cross or candles into the sacred space. During the Preparation of the Gifts, the altar servers stand either side of the Priest at the front of the altar to receive the gifts. They then take the gifts and the water used by the Priest to the altar table. At the conclusion of the liturgy the altar servers process out of the church with the Priest.

*LITURGICAL MUSICIANS* - The liturgical musicians help the people to respond through music and song during the Mass. They lead the assembly at key points in the liturgy such as the Entrance Procession, the Psalm, the Alleluia, the Eucharistic Prayer, and Communion. The liturgical musicians could be those who sing, play instruments, and join with others in a choir. Music is used to help people to participate in the Mass and lift their hearts to God.

**READERS/LECTORS** - The readers or lectors play an important role in the Liturgy of the Word as they proclaim and share the Word of God with the people gathered. Following the Introductory Rites, the lector moves to the lectern or ambo, and reads from the Lectionary the readings for that Sunday.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY **COMMUNION** Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion assist the Priest to prepare and distribute the bread and wine to the people during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This involves bringing the hosts from the tabernacle to the altar after the Lamb of God is sung or spoken. They stand at the altar with the Priest, pray with the assembly and reverently distribute the bread or wine to the people. The extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, who are usually adults, have special instruction before they perform this ministry. They also take the Eucharist to believers who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or disability.

**USHERS AND GREETERS** - The ushers and greeters meet and greet people in a welcoming manner as they arrive at the church. Frequently they hand out hymnals and notices so that people feel welcome and prepared for Mass.

**COLLECTORS** - The collectors move among the people gathered to collect money for the Church and for those in need.

*GIFT BEARERS* - The gift bearers bring up the gifts of bread and wine during the Preparation of the Gifts on our behalf. At the sanctuary the Priest receives the gifts and then places them on the altar.

http://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au/



# Youth Corner

# IGNITE - Enkindling the fire of faith

Young adults from 18 - 35 years of age meets every 4th 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.

## WHY?

Why is a man who invest all you money called a "Broker"?



If horrific means to make

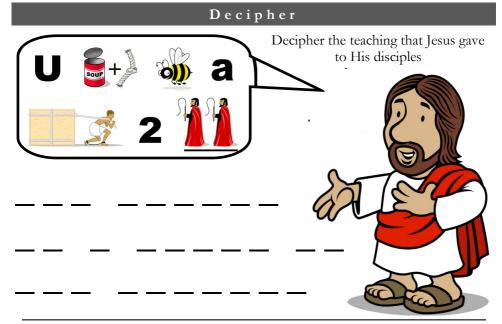
horrible, does terrific mean to make terrible?

## **BLAZE**

If you're in Year 7 to 10, come and join us. Further details to be advised.

CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)

- When: 2nd & 4th Saturdays Praise & Worship
- Time: after 6:00pm vigil mass





# Word Find

You cannot serve God and money

| G | D | Ν | S | W | Q | R | S | G | Μ | J | F | Μ | R | У | Α |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | W | F | Ε | У | Н | J | Ζ | Α | 0 | V | Ν | Т | S | L | Q |
| Е | Т | S | Ε | Ν | 0 | Н | S | Ι | D | 0 | S | Κ | Т | 0 | S |
| R | Т | Т | L | W | L | Т | Н | Ν | Н | F | Х | Ν | W | У | Μ |
| V | R | L | У | Η | Е | W | F | R | G | W | Α | U | Х | Α | Х |
| Е | U | С | Ν | R | У | W | В | Μ | 0 | Т | Е | Μ | R | L | Х |
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| Ν | Е | V | Q | R | Ζ | L | D | 0 | Ι | Е | D | D | L | Ρ | G |
| У | Ι | W | Μ | V | Т | 0 | Ρ | S | L | Κ | W | J | Α | Т | R |
| Ι | V | Q | Ε | Т | Μ | Μ | С | U | 0 | С | Ι | С | Μ | U | Н |
| L | В | Μ | Ι | Т | Ι | Ι | L | В | В | Ι | Μ | 0 | Ν | Е | У |
| W | Ζ | L | Α | F | Ρ | 0 | Q | D | V | W | Т | R | U | S | Т |
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| R | Ν | J | Ε | S | Q | Н | D | Н | У | F | Α | Ν | Μ | Е | Α |
| D | У | S | D | Q | U | Κ | R | Ζ | Х | W | В | Q | 0 | U | F |

*Find these words* Disciples dishonest important little loyal masters Money serve true trust wealth wicked



#### Diocesan News

#### <u>4 March— LIFTED Breakfast with the</u> <u>Bishop</u>

Catholic Youth Parramatta invites secondary school students (16+), youth and young adults to breakfast with Bishop Vincent. Join us as we 'launch into the deep' this 2017! Cost: \$5 donation towards a full buffet breakfast. From 9.00am-11.30am at Novotel Sydney, Rooty Hill. RSVP Friday 24 February via CYP Facebook or by email to James Camden (CYP Director), jcamden@parra.catholic.org.au

#### <u>10-12 March—Retreat for Mature</u> Catholic Women – Food for Mind & Soul

Retreat led by Andrea Dean. Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Early bird registration: \$420, includes course, individual sessions, accommodation, linen and all meals. The retreat program will invite reflection on personal faith stories, a healthy Catholic spirituality, a 'second half of life' spirituality and the various ways that women can nurture and develop their spirituality. Registration and further details at *wnm.andreadean.com.au* or 0487 388 873.

#### <u>12 March - Pilgrimage Information</u> Session

Fr Wim Hoekstra. Parish Priest of St Michael's Parish, Baulkham Hills. is accompanying a pilgrimage 'Of Celtic Saints, English Martyrs and Aussie Links'. The pilgrimage to Ireland, Scotland and England will depart on 25 September and return on 25 October. Some of the saints are: John Henry Newman, Patrick, Oliver Plunkett, Catherine McAuley, Columba, Mary MacKillop, Hilda of Whitby, Venerable Bede and Thomas Becket. English martvrs Margaret Clitheroe. Edmund Campion and John Fisher. Places include Birmingham, Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, Glastonbury, Dublin, Knock, Fort William, Iona, Holy Island (Lindisfarne), Durham, York, Cambridge, Walsingham, London and Canterbury.

Information afternoon starts 2.30pm in Downey Room, St Michael's Parish Offices, 1-3 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills. Brochures available via e-mail to Fr Wim at *wimh@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au* or PO Box 1501, Baulkham Hills, NSW, 1755.

#### 24-25 March 2017—24 Hrs for the Lord -Living Water @ Schoenstatt Shrine

Come and spend some time with Our Lord and His Mother in the Schoenstatt Shrine during this very special 24 hours. This annual gathering will begin with Holy Mass at 6pm on Friday 24 March and finish with Holy Mass at 5pm on Saturday 25 March.

Reflection and music every hour for 30 minutes followed by silent prayer time. Reconciliation available. Tea & coffee available.

Accommodation at the retreat house is available for anyone who might wish to immerse themselves in this 24 hours. Join us on Facebook Mt Schoenstatt Shrine a Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. The Schoenstatt Shrine - 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. Inquiries & bookings tel (02) 4773 8338 or *emailmanager@schoenstatt.org.au* 

#### 18 March - St Patrick's Family Festival

Everyone is welcome to this festival hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta and the Life, Marriage & Family Office. Rides, food and entertainment from 2.00pm-5.00pm in St Patrick's Cathedral Precinct. Visit parralmf.org.au/st-patricks-day

St John XXIII Catholic Church

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





| 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  |
| Saturday         9:00am, 0           Sunday         7:30am, 0           6:00pm ()         6:00pm ()           Baptism         12:00pm ()           Reconciliation (Fin<br>Saturday         5:00 - 5:4 | 0am<br>0am Holy Cross<br>mary <i>during school term</i><br>6:00pm (Vigil)<br>9:00am, 10:30am<br>Youth)<br><i>Sunday by appointment</i><br><b>rst Rite)</b><br>5pm | Tuesday<br>Parish<br>Tuesday<br>Secreta<br>Finance<br>Admin<br>Busines | Office Hours<br>to Friday 8.30 - 4.00pm<br>Office Contacts<br>02)9852 0580 0403 766468 AH<br>ry: Tanya Gatt<br>secretary@john23rd.org.au<br>e: Mila Llamas (Fri)<br>accounts@john23rd.org.au<br>Asst: Jill Franco (Wed/Fri)<br>admin@john23rd.org.au<br>ss Manager: John McCartney (pro bono)<br>businessmanager@john23rd.org.au |

#### Devotions & Prayers

#### Novena Masses

| Tuesday                             | 7:30pm                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|                                     | Our Lady of Perpetual Help |  |
| First Friday                        | 7:30pm                     |  |
| c.                                  | Sacred Heart of Jesus      |  |
| Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |                            |  |

| 1            |                              |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Tuesday      | after the 7:30pm novena mass |
| First Friday | 6:30pm followed by           |
| C C          | 7:15pm Benediction           |
| Saturday     | 8:00 - 9:00am (Vocations)    |

#### Sacrament of the Sick

First Saturday 9:00am Mass or upon request



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

#### 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

#### Our School Communities

Holy Cross Primary 49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood Principal: Marina Hardy

**a** (02) 9629 8742

holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII and St Mark's College 160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens Principal: Dr Peter Webster

- **a** (02) 9852 0500
- stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au

**Catholic Learning Centre** 

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

- (02) 9852 0585
- Lestanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au www.celestanhope.catholic.edu.au