

# The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII

Perfection Ave cor Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens [www.john23rd.com](http://www.john23rd.com)

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 25 - 26 MARCH 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

The texts for this Fourth Sunday of Lent are full of rich symbolism that can help us reflect on how God in Christ is there to support and help us always. He is the one who has opened our eyes and enlightened us at Baptism, who has gifted us with Faith, who pours out his Grace (the Holy Spirit) on those of us who are open to His action in our lives. He's the Good Shepherd who will lead us through the valley of the shadow of death to green pastures and eternal rest.

Let us thank the Father for sending his Son to bring us salvation. Let us prepare in this fourth week of Lent for the Easter celebrations to come. Let us repent of past sinfulness and commit ourselves to renewal, as we say with the Psalmist: "Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own shall I dwell for ever and ever".

| MAR PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| SUN 26                     | 12PM - BAPTISMS - Sophia, Archie, Zoe<br>7:15pm - IGNITE - Vocation: God's call to Holiness |
| MON 27                     |   |
| TUE 28                     |   |
| WED 29                     | 7:30pm - RCIA session   |
| THU 30                     |   |
| FRI 31                     | 7.00pm - Lenten Prayer Group<br>7:30pm - Stations of the Cross                              |
| APR                        |   |
| SAT 1                      | End of Daylight Saving - remember to move your clocks, watches etc back one hour            |

## Pastor's Desk cont'd

1. We said Farewell on Friday to Nena Matias who died during the week. To Mario and her family - we in your parish community offer our sympathies and prayers at this difficult time.
2. Ignite (for Young Adults) is on Sunday after the 6pm Mass! All welcome.

Have great week, a time of spiritual nourishment. God bless. Fr John



## 15 Day Pilgrimage

### PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

**Duration:** 15 day pilgrimage plus optional extension

**Departure:** Saturday 6th January 2018

**Tour Code:** 8PV03

**Email:** [info@harvestjourneys.com](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com)

**Call** 1800 819 156 Toll free

**Spiritual Chaplain:** Fr John McSweeney

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**Duration:** 15 day pilgrimage plus optional extension  
**Departure:** Saturday 6th January 2018  
**Tour Code:** 8PV03

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## Gospel Reflection

With the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A) we are invited to witness the conversations and outcomes that surround the Healing of the Man Born Blind.

The first part of the Gospel Story from John tells of the encounter between Jesus and the Man who has been blind from birth, and how Jesus heals him.

The second part of the Story speaks of the Jewish unbelief in the Lord's power from God, while the third section has the man who was healed 'lecturing' the leaders of Israel on their lack of knowledge about who Jesus really is.

Finally we witness the proclamation to the man by Jesus that He is the Son of Man.

In all of this Sign Story from the Fourth Gospel the man comes to gradual Faith in the Lord: from speaking about "the man called Jesus" to "he is a prophet" and "he is from God" to his proclamation at the end: "Lord, I believe".

St Paul's text in our Second Reading is so appropriate: "You were darkness once, but now you are the light in the Lord". Paul sees that the one who can open the eyes of a man born blind can indeed lead those who profess Faith in Him to "complete goodness and right living and truth".

Another story is occurring below the obvious one: the Leaders of Israel were the 'shepherds' charged with caring for the flock of God. The whole theology of Kingship in the Old Testament sees God as Israel's King (The Lord is my Shepherd), and David and his successors as viceroys of the one and only King: The Lord. The leaders of Israel were called to do more for the blind man, but they refuse to see the hand of God (the Shepherd of Israel) in Jesus' actions; and so they appear to be hirelings who are unfaithful, unlike the True and Good Shepherd (Jesus the Christ). When they 'cast him out', Jesus 'finds' him and reveals his true nature and role to the man, who worships him as God, as the Good Shepherd of Israel.

These texts are full of rich symbolism that can help us reflect on how God in Christ is there to support and help us always. He is the one who has opened our eyes and enlightened us at Baptism, who has gifted us with Faith, who pours out his Grace (the Holy Spirit) on those of us who are open to His action in our lives. He's the Good Shepherd who will lead us through the valley of the shadow of death to green pastures and eternal rest.

Let us thank the Father for sending his Son to bring us salvation. Let us prepare in this fourth week of Lent for the Easter celebrations to come. Let us repent of past sinfulness and commit ourselves to renewal, as we say with the Psalmist: "Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own shall I dwell for ever and ever!"

## Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling  
breast.

## First Reading

*1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13*

*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David  
king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 22*

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*John 8:12*

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

## Second Reading

*Ephesians 5:8-14*

*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are

things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel (short version)

*John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38*

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.'

Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet', replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him'. Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

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.



**The word of  
God will keep  
you on the right  
path.**

## Readings for Next Week

### **27 Mon 4th week of Lent**

1st Reading Isaiah 65:17-21  
Psalm Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13  
Gospel John 4:43-54

### **28 Tues 4th week of Lent**

1st Reading Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12  
Psalm Ps 45:2-3. 5-6. 8-9  
Gospel John 5:1-3, 5-16

### **29 Wed 4th week of Lent**

1st Reading Isaiah 49:8-15  
Psalm Ps 144:8-9. 13-14. 17-18  
Gospel John 5:17-30

### **30 Thu 4th week of Lent**

1st Reading Exodus 32:7-14  
Psalm Ps 105:19-23  
Gospel John 5:31-47

### **31 Fri 4th week of Lent**

1st Reading Wisdom 2:1, 12-22  
Psalm Ps 33:16. 18. 19-21. 23  
Gospel John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

### **April**

### **1 Sat 4th week of Lent**

1st Reading Jeremiah 11:18-20  
Psalm Ps 7:2-3. 9-12  
Gospel John 7:40-52

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:

Nena Celdran Matias.  
Marcel Zaiia,  
Prassanna Ratnawardav,  
John Van den Bosch



### Deceased:

Mariano Cruz, Vicky Amion,  
Mila & Raynaldo Tiga

### Anniversary:

Jorge Chanco Sr, Felipe Villalba,

### Sick:

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

### Thanksgiving:

Ronaldo, Kristine, Maria, Ramon,  
Vincenzo Zamora, Roland Sampy,  
Ian Castellino, Mark Sampy, Helena  
Sampy

## 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*).

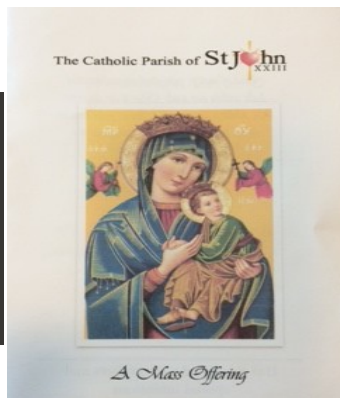
It is used to pay the team/staff salaries, superannuation and each priest's car expenses, loan interest and loan repayment.

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 Pastoral Corner

*Prayer is the raising of the mind to God. We must always remember this. The actual words matter less.*  
— Pope St John XXIII

### FAITH FORMATION

#### ⇒ Our Lady of Perpetual Help Statue

We continue to ask for host families to pray the Rosary at home and request 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](mailto:bart.sarlabus@gmail.com) or Melva Paguinto (after novena mass). Pick up the statue after the novena mass and return a week after, before the start of the novena mass. ***“A family that prays together, stays together: Fr Patrick Peyton”***

#### Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

| Mar | 7               | 14               | 21               | 28               |        |
|-----|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
|     | <i>Paguinto</i> | <i>Sebastian</i> | <i>Shalini</i>   | Nobleza          |        |
| Apr | 4               | 11               | 18               | 25               |        |
|     | Jacinta         | Olan             | Sebastian        | Jacinta          |        |
| May | 2               | 9                | 16               | 23               | 30     |
|     | Shalini         | Cano             | Ivon             | Fernando         | Solisa |
| Jun | 6               | 13               | 20               | 27               |        |
|     | Sebastian       | Mojica           | <i>Available</i> | <i>Available</i> |        |
| Jul | 4               | 11               | 18               | 25               |        |
|     | Tangunan        | <i>Available</i> | <i>Available</i> | <i>Available</i> |        |

### COMMUNITY BUILDING

#### ⇒ DO YOU KNOW YOUR OLIVES?

Our parish olive trees are ready for harvesting. If you know your olives and how to harvest them could you supervise a few people and show them how to pick olives properly? And then we need 3-4 people to harvest them. This needs to be done in the next week or so at the latest. Please contact John McCartney to offer your olive specialist services or to help harvest [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@john23rd.org.au)





## Parish Notices

### 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 Monday 27th March onwards from the Parish Office or our website: [www.john23rd.com](http://www.john23rd.com) For all enquiries, please contact Jill via email [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto:admin@john23rd.org.au) or call 9852-0583.

### MISSING CHOIR EQUIPMENT

We seem to be missing some equipment from the choir area. If anyone knows who might have borrowed or taken 3 fall back speakers (the JBL front speakers), a couple of condenser microphones and the piano seat from the choir area, please let Raymond Samonte or the parish office know their whereabouts and to please return them where they belong as they are essential equipment for the different choir groups.

### Calling all SRE & Religious teachers

The Sacramental team is looking for SRE and Religious teachers who will be able to help teach at this year's First Eucharist sacrament. We are in need of teachers for 2 hours on the weekends of 13th & 14th May and 20th & 21st May. There will be an information session on Sat 8th April, 11am, church kitchen. If you are interested, please contact Jill on 9852-0582 or [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto:admin@john23rd.org.au). Retirees are also welcome!

### PROJECT COMPASSION

Please collect your Project Compassion box from the front entrance.

### WAY OF THE CROSS

Plans are underway for the Way of the Cross for Good Friday. Active participation from you, our parishioners, is most welcome. We are looking for families or groups of friend, young and old, to do a re-enactment of a station. Actors for major roles are also required.

For expressions of interest, individuals/parties, please contact Bob or Grace Agbulos 0422 106525 or the parish office.

### THINGS TO READ – FREE!

#### Australian Catholics Magazine

The latest edition of Australian Catholics is available at the front entrance. This edition is devoted to the music of faith and contains many interesting articles relating to music in the church, including an interview with Fr Rob Galea. It should be required reading for all musos and choirs in the parish.

#### Catholic Outlook

The latest edition of Outlook is available at the front entrance. After 19 years, the print version of *Catholic Outlook* (official publication for the Diocese of Parramatta) will cease publication with this issue being the final issue. *Catholic Outlook* will continue publishing news and events online at [www.catholicoutlook.org](http://www.catholicoutlook.org) and through their various social media channels. The Diocese is developing an app to help you keep in touch with what is happening in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Go to [www.parracatholic.org/app](http://www.parracatholic.org/app)

## Why we do what we do...

### To Be a Christian Steward

*A Summary of the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Pt 4:10).*

What identifies a steward?

Safeguarding material and human resources and using them responsibly are one answer; so is generous giving of time, talent, and treasure. But being a Christian steward means more. As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

### **Disciples as Stewards**

Let us begin with being a disciple—a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. As members of the Church, Jesus calls us to be disciples. This has astonishing implications:

- *Mature disciples make a conscious decision to follow Jesus, no matter what the cost.*
- *Christian disciples experience conversion - lifesaving changes of mind and heart - and commit their very selves to the Lord.*
- *Christian stewards respond in a particular way to the call to be a disciple. Stewardship has the power to shape and mold our understanding of our lives*
- *and the way in which we live.*

Jesus' disciples and Christian stewards recognize God as the origin of life, giver of freedom, and source of all things. We are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for God and for one another. We look to the life and teaching of Jesus for guidance in living as Christian stewards.

### **Stewards of Creation**

The Bible contains a profound message about the stewardship of material creation: God created the world, but entrusts it to human beings. Caring for and cultivating the world involves the following:

Joyful appreciation for the God-given beauty and wonder of nature;

Protection and preservation of the environment, which would be the stewardship of ecological concern;

Respect for human life—shielding life from threat and assault, doing everything that can be done to enhance this gift and make life flourish; and

Development of this world through noble human effort—physical labor, the trades and professions, the arts and sciences. We call such effort "work." Work is a fulfilling human vocation.

The Second Vatican Council points out that, through work, we build up not only our world but the Kingdom of God, already present among us. Work is a partnership with God—our share in a divine human collaboration in creation. It occupies a central place in our lives as Christian stewards.

### **Stewards of Vocation**

Jesus calls us, as his disciples, to a new way of life—the Christian way of life—of which stewardship is part. But Jesus does not call us as nameless people in a faceless crowd. He calls us individually, by name. Each one of us—clergy, religious, lay person; married, single; adult, child—has a personal vocation. God intends each one of us to play a unique role in carrying out the divine plan. The challenge, then, is to understand our role—our vocation—and to respond generously to this call from

God. Christian vocation entails the practice of stewardship. In addition, Christ calls each of us to be stewards of our personal vocations, which we receive from God.

### ***Stewards of the Church***

Stewards of God's gifts are not passive beneficiaries. We cooperate with God in our own redemption and in the redemption of others. We are also obliged to be stewards of the Church—collaborators and cooperators in continuing the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, which is the Church's essential mission. This mission—proclaiming and teaching, serving and sanctifying—is our task. It is the personal responsibility of each one of us as stewards of the Church. All members of the Church have their own roles to play in carrying out its mission:

- *Parents, who nurture their children in the light of faith;*
- *Parishioners, who work in concrete ways to make their parishes true communities of faith and vibrant sources of service to the larger community;*
- *All Catholics, who give generous support—time, money, prayers, and personal service according to their circumstances—to parish and diocesan programs and to the universal Church.*

### ***Obstacles to Stewardship***

People who want to live as Christian disciples and Christian stewards face serious obstacles. In the United States and other nations, a dominant secular culture often contradicts religious convictions about the meaning of life. This culture frequently encourages us to focus on ourselves and our pleasures. At times, we can find it far too easy to ignore spiritual realities and to deny

religion a role in shaping human and social values. As Catholics who have entered into the mainstream of American society and experienced its advantages, many of us also have been adversely influenced by this secular culture. We know what it is to struggle against selfishness and greed, and we realize that it is harder for many today to accept the challenge of being a Christian steward. It is essential, therefore, that we make a special effort to understand the true meaning of stewardship and live accordingly.

### ***A Steward's Way***

The life of a Christian steward models the life of Jesus. It is challenging and even difficult, in many respects, yet intense joy comes to those who take the risk to live as Christian stewards. Women and men who seek to live as stewards learn that "all things work for good for those who love God" (Rom 8:28).

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. As the Mother of Christ, she lived her ministry in a spirit of fidelity and service; she responded generously to the call. We must ask ourselves: Do we also wish to be disciples of Jesus Christ and Christian stewards of our world and our Church? Central to our human and Christian vocations, as well as to the unique vocation each one of us receives from God, is that we be good stewards of the gifts we possess. God gives us this divine-human workshop, this world and Church of ours.

The Spirit shows us the way.

Stewardship is a part of that journey.

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/stewardship/index.cfm>

## Youth Corner

### IGNITE - Enkindling the fire of faith

Young adults from 16 - 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.

**Next session:** 26 March 2017

**Topic:** Vocation: God's call to Holiness

**Guest Speaker:** Chris del Rosario

**CRL** (*Community of the Risen Lord*)

**When:** 2nd & 4th Saturdays

Praise & Worship

**Time:** after 6:00pm vigil mass

### BLAZE

If you're in Years 7 to 10, come and join us. Starts at Term 2.

Dates to remember:

7th April, 7pm information night

28th April, 7pm kick-off night

Brochures at the foyer for more information.

## WHY?

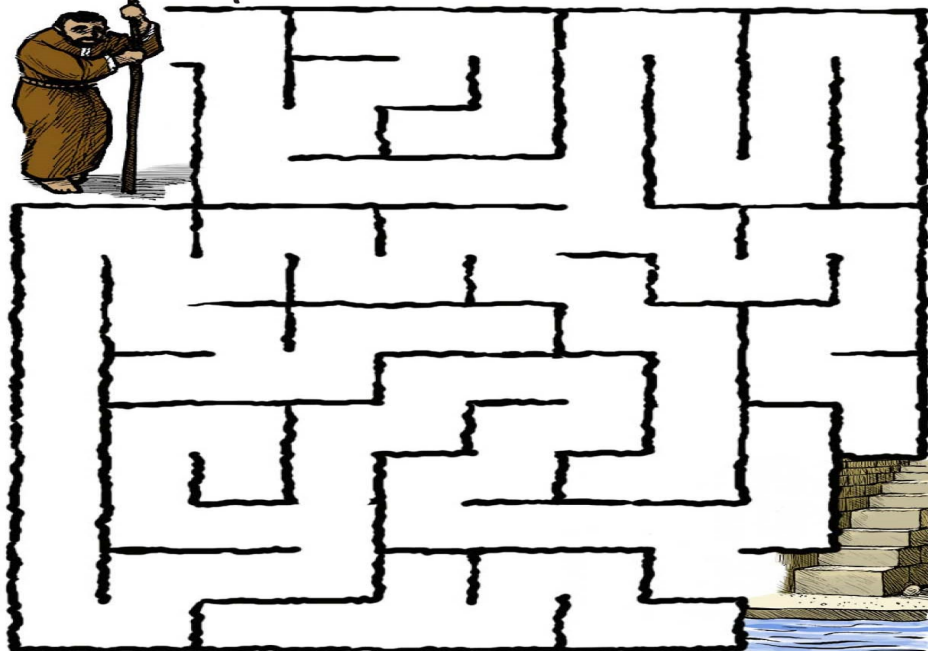
Why can't women put on mascara with their mouth closed?

Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?



## Follow the path

**Help the blind man find Siloam Pool**



Word Find

I put my faith in you Jesus

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| N | I | I | J | H | Y | V | B | E | X | J | V | F | L | D | L | P |
| X | V | J | H | B | N | W | R | G | C | B | K | A | H | P | D | V |

*Find these words*

Beggar blind eyes ground man mud one Pool see  
Siloam son wash

## Diocesan News

### **2 April - Discernment Afternoon for the Permanent Diaconate**

Single men and married couples aged 35-55 who are interested in the ordained ministry of the permanent diacon are invited to a discernment afternoon to meet the permanent diaconate vocations team. The discernment program consists of five sessions and each session deals with a different aspect of the permanent diaconate. The session on Sunday 2 April is the start of the 2017 program. From 3.00pm-5.00pm at St Anthony of Padua Parish, 27 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie. Inquiries to Deacon James [deacon@stanthonyschurch.org.au](mailto:deacon@stanthonyschurch.org.au) or Deacon Tan [deacontan@john23rd.org.au](mailto:deacontan@john23rd.org.au)

### **17-20 April - Girls Camp at Mount Schoenstatt**

Girls aged 13-15 are invited to a three-day camp at Mount Schoenstatt. Our theme is: Reflected in Our Lady's image: What is real beauty? Program also includes a movie night where family and friends are invited, prayer, craft and fun activities. From 4pm on Easter Monday 17 April to 4pm on Thursday 20 April. Venue: Home of Light at Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost: \$100 (includes food and accomm.). RSVP: Friday 7 April 2017 (registration form and deposit required). Inquiries: Sr M Luka: 0439 537843, fax (02) 4773-8530, [sr.m.luka@bigpond.com](mailto:sr.m.luka@bigpond.com)

### **23 April - Invitation to Fr Arthur Cook's farewell**

Fr Arthur Cook is retiring from parish life and will be leaving the Diocese of Parramatta at the end of April. To mark the occasion and to thank Fr Arthur for his years of service to the parishes of the Diocese, there will be a celebration on Sunday 23 April at St Matthew's Catholic Church, 12 Tebbutt Street, Windsor. An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to farewell Fr Arthur. The celebration will start with morning tea after the 9am Mass and will be followed by a BBQ lunch. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 12 April 2017 to the parish office, tel (02) 4577 3073 (BH) or send an email to [stmcc@tpg.com.au](mailto:stmcc@tpg.com.au)

### **23 April - Shrine Time for Young Adults**

One Holy Hour with prayer, reflection, meditation, praise & worship. 2017 is devoted to Praying for Vocations and Devotion to Mary as per our Holy Father's intentions for WYD 2018 in Panama. From 7.30pm-8.30pm followed by social gathering.

Mary, honoured as the Mother Thrice Admirable, offers 3 graces in the Shrine, this monthly event is a unique opportunity to experience them regularly: Discover your HOME in the hearts of Jesus and Mary; See breakthrough TRANSFORMATION in your life; and Get your spiritual boost to be an authentic WITNESS. In the Shrine at Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa.

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