

Perfection Ave cor Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 11 - 12 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 Apostles on the mountains listened to the Father - and they witnessed the REAL Transfiguration, not

just a vision, when they experienced the transformation of death into New Life on that first Easter day!

And so we too must listen to the Lord. And in this way our lives will be transfigured: we will experience that transformation from death to life over and over again during our journey on this earth!

MAR	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
SUN 12	
MON 13	9am - Liturgy of the Word
TUE 14	9am - Liturgy of the Word
WED 15	7:30pm - RCIA session
THU 16	
FRI 17	St Patrick's 7.00pm - Lenten Pray Group 7:30pm - Stations of the Cross
SAT 18	

This weekend we welcome Fr Thomas Thien Hien Bui to our Parish, as he takes up his appointment as the Assistant Pastor here at St. John XXIII.

Fr Thomas was ordained in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, on 24th June 2015 by Bishop Bob McGuckin. He has worked in the combined Parishes of Granville and East Granville for the past 18 months.

We look forward to his ministry among us here in Glenwood-Stanhope Gardens.



Pastor's Desk cont'd

- 1. There will be a Funeral Mass on Wednesday 15th March at 10:30am for Marcel Zaia who recently passed away. As their parish community, we offer prayers and condolences to Marcel's wife, Cathy, and their daughters, Katelyn and Brianna on this very sad occasion.
- 2. Friday is St. Patrick's Day, a Solemnity here in Australia. We are freed of the Lenten Fast on this Feast Day!
- 3. Sunday would have been St. Joseph's Day, but the Third Sunday of Lent will be celebrated instead,, with the Feast Day for the husband of the BVM celebrated on Monday 20/3. Another day free of Lenten Fast!

God bless you all. I pray you continue to be renewed in mind and spirit during this Lenten Season.

Fr John

15 Day Pilgrimage

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Duration: 15 day pilgrimage plus optional extension

Departure: Saturday 6th January 2018

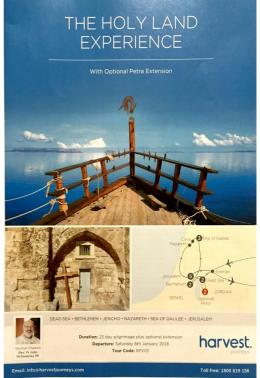
Tour Code: 8PV03

Email: info@harvestjourneys.com

Call 1800 819 156 Toll free

Spiritual Chaplain: Fr John McSweeney

Book now





Gospel Reflection

The Second Sunday of Lent always has the Gospel of the Transfiguration, whether it be from Mark, Matthew or Luke. The whole point of this richly symbolic story in the Life of Jesus is the admonition of the Father to the three Apostles - Peter, James and John - and, by extension, to us: LISTEN to the message of Jesus, for he is the New Moses, the New Elijah, the New Leader of the New People of Israel.

This Theophany or Manifestation of God (akin to the Theophany on Mount Sinai) prepares the Disciples to listen to Jesus. He tells them what type of Messiah He is: not the conquering King of Jewish expectation, but the humble suffering Servant who must suffer and die to fulfil God's Will.

At first the Disciples are aghast! But God had said to them on the Mountain, "Listen to Him!", and gradually, as time goes on, they see the Truth in the Words of the Lord.

We experience a similar thing in our lives: we are being called to Listen to the Lord in ordinary events of life. From the flowering of a plant to the death of loved one, God brings about Transfiguration in our lives, if we would only stop and LISTEN to what God is saying to us.

Abraham listened to God - and he left his country, family, friends... to found a new nation, the people of Israel.

St. Paul listened to Jesus on the road to Damascus - and he left Judaism in order to follow the promptings of the Spirit

The Apostles on the mountains listened to the Father - and they witnessed the REAL Transfiguration, not just a vision, when they experienced the transformation of death into New Life on that first Easter day!

And so we, too, must listen to the Lord. And in this way our lives will be transfigured: we will experience that transformation from death to life over and over again during our journey on this earth!



Entrance Antiphon

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22*

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **R**.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **R**.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **R**.

Communion Antiphon

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Second Reading 2 Timothy 1:8-10

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy - not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



Gospel *Matthew* 17:1-9

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him'. When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Talk to God through prayer, listen to God through His word.



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.

Readings for Next Week

13 Mon 2nd week of Lent 1st Reading Daniel 9:4-10 Psalm Ps 78:8-9. 11. 13 Gospel Luke 6:36-38 14 Tues 2nd week of Lent 1st Reading Isaiah 1:10, 16-20 Psalm Ps 49:8-9. 16-17. 21. 23 Matthew 23:1-12 Gospel 15 Wed 2nd week of Lent 1st Reading Jeremiah 18:18-20 Psalm Ps 30:5-6, 14-16 Matthew 20:17-28 Gospel 16 Thu 2nd week of Lent 1st Reading Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm Ps 1:1-4.6 Luke 16:19-31 Gospel 17 Fri St Patrick (S) 1st Reading Jeremiah 1:4-9 Ps 116 Psalm 2nd Reading Acts 13:46-49 Luke 10:1-12. 17-20 Gospel 18 Sat 2nd week of Lent 1st Reading Micah 7:14-15, 18-20 Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 9-12 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 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:

Marcel Zaia, Kerrie Donahue, Connie Peterson, Beda Braganza Phadte

Deceased:



Anica Peric, Ivan Peric, Simon Ortovic, Kathy Kovac

Anniversary:

Antonio, Emanuel, Victoria, Angelo, Victor Cremona, Gregory Reynolds, Flor Verano

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:

Dino Family, Romeo Paguinto, Amor Alejandro

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.

Juhn

Parish Pastoral Corner

If God created shadows, it was to better emphasize the light. — Pope St John XXIII

-FAITH FORMATION TEAM -

+ LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS

There's still time to join or form a group to prepare yourselves for this time of Lent. 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 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* 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 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					
Mar	7	14	21	28	
	Paguinto	Sebastian	Shalini	Nobleza	
Apr	4	11	18	25	
	Jacinta	Olan	Sebastian	Jacinta	
May	2	9	16	23	30
	Shalini	Cano	Ivon	Available	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

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.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE

The latest edition of Australian Catholics is available at the front entrance – free! 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.

SUGGESTION BOX

The Parish Pastoral Council has installed a suggestion box in the front foyer. We value your opinion and would like to hear from you on how we can better serve the needs of our parish community.

Your constructive suggestions are most welcome.

MISSING CHOIR EQUIPMENT

We seem to be missing a few equipment from the choir area.

If anyone knows who might have borrowed or took 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 needed equipment by the different choir groups.

WAY OF THE CROSS

Plans are being started on 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 reenactment of a station. Actors for major roles are also required.

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



What Is Catholic Discipleship?

by John P. Moore

Catholic discipleship refers to a committed approach to living a Christian life within the Catholic Church. The term is generally applied to Catholics who sincerely attempt to live according to the instructions provided by Jesus in the New Testament. The U.S. Catholic bishops have described disciples as those who "make a conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ no matter the cost to themselves."

Conscious Choice

One of the characteristics of Catholic discipleship is that it requires a conscious choice about pursuing a Christian life. Therefore, it is a commitment that involves more than merely attending Mass and other Catholic observances in a passive manner. The Catholic who demonstrates discipleship exercises discipline in pursuing spiritual observances -- such as prayer or fasting -- as well as good works. Indeed, all aspects of the Christian life are to be performed with a sense of purpose.

Christian Actions

Catholic discipleship is visible to observers mainly in the Christian actions -- or good works -- performed by the individual. Such actions demonstrate the individual's commitment to helping other people in various ways. The traditional Catholic practices are the "corporal works of mercy" (including feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless and clothing the naked) and the "spiritual works of mercy" (including converting sinners, comforting the sorrowful and forgiving injuries). Performing such actions is considered to be a way to follow the example of Jesus in the New Testament.

Sacrifice

Another mark of Catholic discipleship is a willingness to make personal sacrifices in pursuing the Christian life. This is reflected in the saying of Jesus from the Gospel of St. Luke 14:33, "So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple." This quote -- along with other similar quotes from the Gospel -clearly indicates the level of commitment required of a disciple of Christ.

Being a Disciple

Catholic discipleship also requires that the individual be willing to use his talents and blessings in building the "Kingdom of God," which is the goal of all Christian activity on earth. Since talents and blessings are seen as coming from God, the Catholic disciple is expected to be unselfish in using these for appropriate purposes. Another mark of discipleship is an unwillingness to resort to excuses to explain inaction or poor performance. The true Catholic disciple is expected to follow through on all Christian commitments.

http://peopleof.oureverydaylife.com/catholic-discipleship-8732.html



Welcome Fr Thomas Bui

Fr Thomas Thien Hien Bui was ordained priest for the diocese of Parramatta, 24 June 2015, in St Patrick's Cathedral.

He was ordained by the Bishop of Toowoomba, Bishop Robert McGuckin, who has known him for many years since his (Bishop Robert) time as vicar general in the diocese of Parramatta.



Fr Thomas has been appointed assistant priest

in Holy Trinity parish, Granville, and Holy Family parish, East Granville.

Originally from An Long village in Central Vietnam, Thomas, the youngest of nine children, was delighted that his brother, Fr Jerome Thien Thao Bui OP, a Dominican priest, travelled from France to be with him at this special time.

Fr Thomas said being a shepherd to the people and leading them to the Holy Trinity and God's salvation was an important aspect of the life of a priest.

"This is closely connected with serving the Church and God's people wholeheartedly," he said.

"I will act in the person of Christ (in persona Christi). In particular, I will pour out divine grace on to God's people in sacraments."

Fr Thomas said while celibacy was a challenge in today's world, for him it was an opportunity to serve the Church without reserve. "I am happy to sacrifice my own life for Christ and His Church, as He sacrificed His for me and everyone else," he said.

As a seminarian, Thomas undertook pastoral work in parishes in Blacktown, Marayong, Toongabbie, Penrith and Greystanes.

Taken from "Parramatta welcomes two to the priesthood" https://www.catholicweekh.com.au/parramatta-welcomes-two-to-the-priesthood/





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.

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

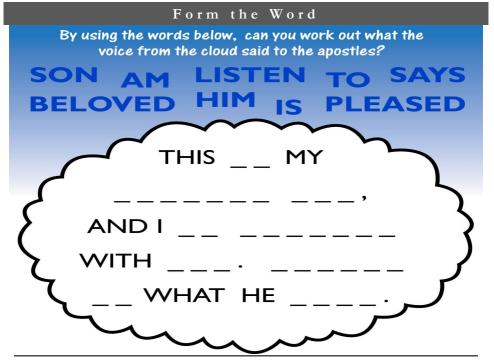
Brochures at the foyer for more information.

WHY?

Why do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in our driveways and put our useless junk in the garage?



Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?





Word Find

Jesus' face shone like the sun

L	Е	У	Q	Ρ	Ν	D	Q	Α	В	J	Α	Μ	Е	S	V	Х
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Find these words

Afraid cloud disciples face flat James John Moses Mountain Peter sun voice



Diocesan News

<u>18 March - St Patrick's Family</u> <u>Festival</u>

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*

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 5pm on Saturday 25March. 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

<u>19 March—Formation for Young</u> Adults at Mt Schoenstatt

For young adults aged 18-35 – Love of Mary. Love of the Church. Love of the Mission of Christ.

Want to know what it means to be human? Want to become an authentic Christian? If Yes, then join us for formation in the Schoenstatt Spirituality. On 3rd Sunday of every month, noon-3pm, please bring a plate to share for lunch. Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Further details tel 4773 8338.

24-25 March - 24 Hours 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 and finish with Holy Mass at 5pm on Saturday. Reflection and Music every hour for 30 minutes following by silent pray time. Accommodation at the retreat house is available for anyone who might wish to immerse themselves in this 24 hours. Schoenstatt Shrine, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Inquiries & bookings tel (02) 4773 8338 or email manager@schoenstatt.org.au

<u>17-20 April - Girls Camp at Mount</u> <u>Schoenstatt</u>

Girls aged 13-15 are invited to a threeday 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 537 843, fax (02) 4773 8530, sr.m.luka@bigpond.com

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



15



Parish Priest: Fr John McSween	ney ⊠ FrJohn@john23rd.org.au
Asst. Priest: Fr Thomas Bui	⊠ FrThomas@john23rd.org.au
Deacon: Nicephorus Tan	⊠ DeaconTan@john23rd.org.au
Mass TimesMonday to Friday9:00amAlso Wednesday9:00am Holy Cross Primary during school termSaturday9:00am, 6:00pm (Vigil)Sunday7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am 6:00pm (Youth)Baptism12:00pm Sunday by appointment Reconciliation (First Rite)Saturday5:00 - 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

Prayers Devotions &

Novena Masses

Tuesday	7:30pm
	Our Lady of Perpetual Help
First Friday	7:30pm
C 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

O u r School Communities

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

T (02) 9629 8742

 \bowtie holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII and St Mark's College 160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

- Principal: Dr Peter Webster T
- (02) 9852 0500
- \bowtie stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

T (02) 9852 0585

 \bowtie lcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au