

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
18 - 19 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

As we continue our journey this Lent, let us reflect on our need for forgiveness for our small apostasies - our continual turning away from the true God to follow after false gods. Through our penance and works of charity, let's strive to be ready to celebrate Easter with hearts and minds made pure. Let's embrace the living water of the Holy Spirit in our lives, so that we will hold firm to the true Rock in the desert of our lives: Jesus Christ, who is the source of all grace, and who calls us to New Life in the Spirit.

MAR PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR	
SUN 19	12PM - Frances, Leonardo, Evan, Ace, Lex & Oliver
MON 20	<i>Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S)</i>
TUE 21	
WED 22	7:30pm - RCIA session
THU 23	
FRI 24	7:00pm - Lenten Prayer Group 7:30pm - Stations of the Cross
SAT 25	<i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>

1. This week we have two celebrations of importance: Monday 20th March is the delayed Solemnity of St Joseph, Saturday 25th March is the Solemnity of the Annunciation (= nine months to Christmas!!)
2. Next Sunday (26th March) is the second Ignite, a time of reflection, prayer and fun for young adults (18-35 or so, whether married or single). This coming Ignite will see one of our seminarians who is close to ordination speak on the topic of holiness.

Pastor's Desk cont'd

3. We are still calling for volunteers for the Good Friday Stations of the Cross celebration. Please take note of details in the Parish Council Corner of the Bulletin.

I forgot to officially welcome Mr Jack Green, a final year seminarian, who has been appointed to our Parish for pastoral work on Fridays and Sunday mornings for this year. Please make Jack welcome, and pray for him and his classmates, as they come towards the end of their preparation for priesthood.

God bless you all as you continue your Lenten journey, my friends. Let's always pray for one another, that we will be supported through each other's prayers - during this precious time in particular.

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

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Duration: 15 day pilgrimage plus optional extension
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Gospel Reflection

The search for Water that would always be there when needed lies at the base of all three readings from the Scriptures for this Third Sunday in Lent (Year A).

The people of Israel demand water in the desert, and Moses strikes the rock and water flows. They are saved from physical distress by the goodness of their God. However, their demands were seen as a doubting of the Lord's protection: "harden not your hearts, as at Meribah in the desert".

Jesus discusses the gift of 'living water' with the Samaritan Woman, who misunderstands - thinking on the physical level alone, while Jesus is offering her a richly symbolic spiritual gift. Only the people of the woman's village finally understand what is being offered, when they declare the Lord to be the 'Saviour of the world'.

And St. Paul, with the benefit of reflection on the Old Testament and knowledge of the life of Jesus, realises that the 'living water' that Jesus spoke of is, indeed, the Holy Spirit - and he says that this Spirit 'has been poured into our hearts'.

We received the Spirit for the first time at our Baptism. Reinforced through Confirmation, this gift of God's own Life is renewed every time we receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist.

Nevertheless, like the People of Israel in the desert, we doubt God's goodness at times. Like the Samaritan woman, we have many 'husbands' = idols of our own making which hold us back from fully giving ourselves to the Lord. These 'baals' or false gods are not our true masters.

As we continue our journey this Lent, let us reflect on our need for forgiveness for our small apostasies - our continual turning away from the true God to follow after false gods. Through our penance and works of charity, let's strive to be ready to celebrate Easter with hearts and minds made pure. Let's embrace the living water of the Holy Spirit in our lives, so that we will hold firm to the true Rock in the desert of our lives: Jesus Christ, who is the source of all grace, and who calls us to New Life in the Spirit.

Entrance Antiphon

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Communion Antiphon

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel (short version)

John 4:5-16. 19-26. 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the

Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

cf John 4:42. 15

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

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Glory to you, Word of God, 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 *GREATEST*
weapon against
STRESS is the
Word of God

Readings for Next Week

20 Mon Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S)

1st Reading 2 Samuel 7:4-5. 12-14. 16

Psalm Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29

2nd Reading Romans 4:13. 16-18. 22

Gospel Matthew 1:16. 18-21. 24

21 Tues 3rd week of Lent

1st Reading Daniel 3:25, 34-43

Psalm Ps 24:4-9

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

22 Wed 3rd week of Lent

1st Reading Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9

Psalm Ps 147:12-13. 15-16. 19-20

Gospel Matthew 5:17-19

23 Thu 3rd week of Lent

1st Reading Jeremiah 7:23-28

Psalm Ps 94:1-2. 6-9

Gospel Luke 11:14-23

24 Fri 3rd week of Lent

1st Reading Hosea 14:2-10

Psalm Ps 80:6. 8-11. 14. 17

Gospel Mark 12:28-34

25 Sat Annunciation of the Lord

1st Reading Isaiah 7:10-14. 8:10

Psalm Ps 39:7-11

2nd Reading Hebrews 10:4-10

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

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,
Prassanna Ratnawardav

Deceased:

Mark De Jesus

Anniversary:

Felipe Villalba, Guy & Emmanuel,
Teotimo Aurelio Sr, Rosalino, Crispina
Alino

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:

Anton Franco, Ronaldo, Kristine,
Maria, Ramon, Vincenzo 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*).

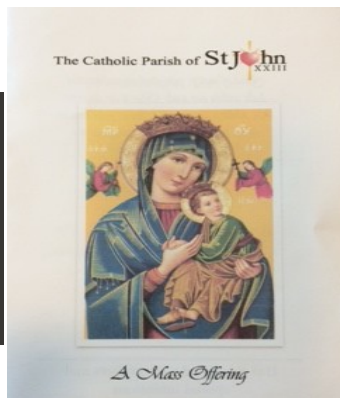
It is used to pay the team/staff salaries, superannuation and each priest's car expenses, loan interest and loan repayment.

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



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

I have looked into your eyes with my eyes, I have put my heart near your heart.
— Pope St John XXIII

FAITH FORMATION

⇒ Lenten Program

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.

The Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group is also running a Lenten discussion group each Friday at 7.00pm in the Church Kitchen

⇒ 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 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>	Shalini	Nobleza	
Apr	4	11	18	25	
	Jacinta	Olan	Sebastian	Jacinta	
May	2	9	16	23	30
	Shalini	Cano	Ivon	<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



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

For all enquiries, please contact Jill via email admin@john23rd.org.au 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.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please collect your Project Compassion box from the front entrance.

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.

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.

SRE

And we need some volunteers to cover all classes this year... please put your hand up! WE NEED YOU! Indeed, THE CHILDREN NEED YOU!

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 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

Why we do what we do...

What is a vocation?

If you are looking for a simple definition of a vocation, the literal meaning of the word is a "call."

But a vocation is more than an ordinary call. A vocation is a call from God, and anyone who has felt God's call knows that the process is anything but simple. While most people think of a vocation as what they are called to do in life, it is important to understand that the first and most important call from God is a call to be - the universal call to holiness.

Clarification

Your vocation is not the same as your career or profession. However, there is an overlap between a vocation and a profession.

A career or a profession is something that you have in order to support yourself and to contribute in some way to the good of the society. You don't need to believe in God to choose a career or a profession. A person can pick, choose and switch profession freely depending on his/her preferences, strengths or circumstances. A profession or a career always has a horizontal dimension.

When we talk about vocation, we introduce a vertical dimension in our life, which is God. It is no longer 'what do I prefer?' but rather 'What does God want me to be?' A vocation is not something that you can switch like a profession or a career.

For example, a person may work in retail sales because he/she has what it takes to sell a product, to establish customer relations, to follow directions and to work with a team to accomplish daily tasks. That same person's vocation may be to be a single person, a wife or a

husband, to be a religious brother or sister, to be a deacon or priest.

Holiness

This distinction between a call to holiness and a call to a specific vocation - single person, married life, consecrated life or ordained ministry - is important.

The universal call to holiness is rooted in our baptism. It is a call to know, love and serve the Lord. It is a movement that draws us toward a deeper union with God. We feel a growing desire to love God and to love our neighbour. We come to understand that there is a reason for our existence and there is meaning in our lives.

The universal call to holiness is an ongoing conversion experience. It keeps opening our eyes to new awareness of God's loving presence. It keeps inviting us to turn toward God by aligning our will with God's will.

A willingness to do God's will is built on two convictions. We have to believe that God loves us more than we love ourselves and that God wants our happiness more than we want it. In other words, we have to believe that God knows more than we do about what will make us truly happy. If God had given us everything we ever asked for we would be seriously unhappy. The basis of our desire to find and to do the will of God should be the belief that God's will for us is our only chance to be truly and lastingly happy.

A brief outline of the four specific vocations

We live out the invitation 'to be holy' differently depending on which vocation we have chosen. The four specific vocations are: single life, married life, consecrated life or the ordained ministry.

Why we do ...cont'd

Each vocation is a call to follow Christ closely.

For someone who has chosen a single life, even though they have not formally taken the three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, yet they make a personal commitment to put their freedom at the service of others in their work and prayer. And in doing so, they strive to follow Christ in their daily lives.

For a married Christian couple, they follow Christ by giving themselves to each other completely and without any reservation, promising to love each other faithfully for the rest of their lives, sharing their joys and sufferings in whatever circumstances life brings them. They express their love through their sexual union, which brings them together in the closest intimacy and opens them to the gift of new life.

For someone who has chosen the consecrated life, their path of following Christ is through their vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. They are called to live as Christ lived; to model their lives on the life of Jesus- chaste, poor and obedient - making their hearts more free for prayer and service.

For those who have chosen the ordained ministry, through sacramental ordination, they share in the priesthood of Christ in a special way. Their very beings are transfigured so that they can represent Christ the Good Shepherd for God's people and Christ as the Head of the Church. They not only offer their own lives to the Father, as all Christians do, but they also stand before the Church and minister to the faithful as Christ 'in person.' Thus, when they teach with the authority of the Church then Christ teaches; when they absolve sins in

the sacrament of Penance then Christ forgives; when they offer the Sacrifice of the Mass then Christ offers that Sacrifice; when they love, support and care for God's people then Christ is present with his people.

Different yet the same

The lifestyle and demands of each particular vocation is very different but there are some similarities between them. Each vocation is a commitment to love in a certain way. The object of every vocation is God. It is not building a better society, renewing the Church, having a family, fulfilling yourself, helping people or confronting new challenges. All these things may be involved in a vocation but the primary objective is to love God.

As Blessed Pope John Paul II wrote, "Love makes us seek what is good; love makes us better persons. It is love that prompts men and women to marry and form a family, to have children. It is love that prompts others to embrace the consecrated life or become priests." Each vocation challenges us to live our faith more deeply and to follow Christ more closely. Each vocation, if it is lived generously and faithfully, will then involve times of lasting happiness and reward but also suffering and sacrifice. Finally, it is important not to compare the value of different vocations but to appreciate the value of each one and to discover which one is right for you.

<http://www.cam.org.au/vocations/The-Call/What-is-a-Vocation->

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?

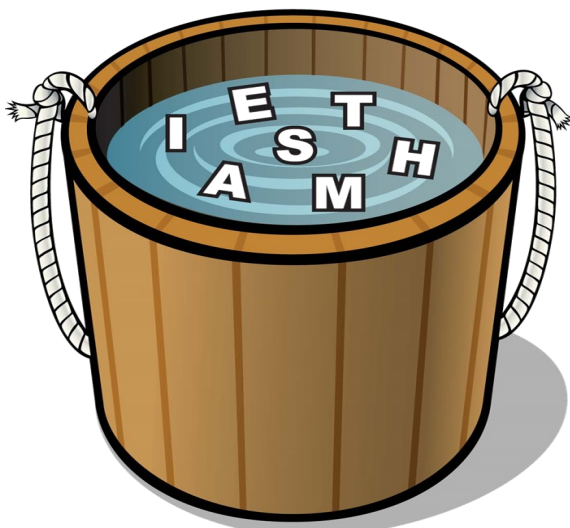
Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?



Unscramble

Reveal who the Samaritan woman discovered Jesus to really be.

__ E __ S __ H



Word Find

I am the Christ who speaks to you now

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

Find these words

Ancestor	bucket	drink	food	Jacob	Messiah	Samaritan
	Sychar	town	two	well	woman	

Diocesan News

19 March—Formation for Young 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.

19 March - Christian Life Program

The Handmaids of the Lord (HOLD), an integral part of the family ministry of Couples for Christ Australia Oceania Mission, invites you to participate in a Christian Life Program (CLP) to be held at Father David Scott Parish Centre, St Paul the Apostle Church, Winston Hills, starting Sunday, 19 March, at 1pm and 8 consecutive Sundays thereafter.

The program is an integrated course intended to lead the participants into a renewed understanding of God's call to them as Christian women. HOLD CLP is a Christian renewal and support ministry and is open to mature women who may be a single parent, unmarried, divorced, separated or widowed. For more information please call: Helen Festejo - 0401 671665, Lourdes Zaballa 0413 263695, Sylvia McGee 0410 685 002

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, 24th March, and finish with Holy Mass at 5pm on Saturday, 25th March. 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

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

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Parish Priest: Fr John McSweeney ☒ FrJohn@john23rd.org.au
Asst. Priest: Fr Thomas Bui ☒ FrThomas@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