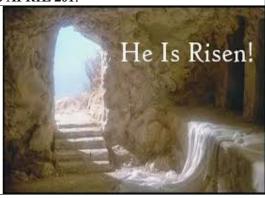
EASTER SUNDAY 15 - 16 APRIL 2017

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

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia! All who believe and are baptised can hope to share in His eternal life! Indeed, Baptism brings us into a new relationship with God: we begins to live a new and resurrected life Christ Jesus, as we await Resurrection at the end of time. As St Paul reminds us: (We have been) "brought back to true life with Christ". And, as a result, we must do all we can to concentrate on what Paul calls "heavenly things"; that is, the things of God.

Easter eggs and Easter bunnies are quaint cultural customs (which also taste good!); but the Death and Resurrection of the Lord is much more than this - it is The Event of all time with everlasting consequences for us and for our world.

Let us do all we can to turn the Promise of New Life into a reality for all people of good will!

APR	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR			
SUN 16	Easter Sunday Baptisms - Gabrriella, Alexia			
MON 17	•			
TUE 18				
WED 19				
THU 20				
FRI 21				
SAT 22	Wedding - 3.30 Thomas & Xuereb			



Pastor's Desk cont'd

Happy Easter to you all from myself and all the Parish Team!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those wonderful members of St. John XXIII Community who have helped in so many ways in the preparation and celebration of our Holy Week and Easter Liturgies. So many people gave so much time that allowed everyone to be touched by the Lord in various ways over this holiest of weeks!

Congratulations to those who were baptised and/or confirmed during the Easter Vigil: you are in our prayers at this special time.

May the Risen Lord bless you all as we, together, celebrate this great gift of New Life offered to all.

15 Day Pilgrimage

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Duration: 15 day pilgrimage plus

optional extension

Departure: Saturday 6th January 2018

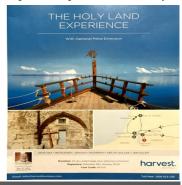
Tour Code: 8PV03

Email: info@harvestjourneys.com

Call 1800 819 156 Toll free

Spiritual Chaplain: Fr John McSweeney

Book now



EVANGELICUM

"Dear young people, be courageous! "But, Father, I have sinned, I fall so many times..." There comes to mind a very beautiful Alpine song, which says: "In the art of climbing, what is important is not to not fall, but not to stay fallen."

Pope Francis gave young people this encouragement at 6:30 Saturday afternoon, April 8, 2017, during a prayer vigil held in Rome's Marian Basilica Santa Maria Maggiore, in preparation for the 32rd World Youth Day, which was celebrated yesterday at the diocesan level, on the theme "For He who is mighty has done great things for me" (Luke 1:49).

While at the heart of his message, the Pope urged young people to never feel discouraged.

No matter what, he underscored, "Go on! You fall? Get up and go on."

Referring to the upcoming Synod for young people, he stressed, "no young person must feel excluded!"

"But . . . we hold the Synod for Catholic young people . . . for young people who belong to Catholic associations, so that it is stronger . . "No!" he admonished, "The Synod is the Synod for and of all young people! Young people are its protagonists. "But also young people who feel themselves agnostics?" Yes! "Also young people who have a lukewarm faith?" Yes! "Also ." young people that - I don't know if there are any . . . perhaps there are some - young people who feel themselves



EVANGELICUM

atheists? Yes! This is the Synod of young people, and we all want to *hear* you."

The Holy Father then urged them to recall his words at the World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland in July 2016.

"I said two things there, perhaps someone remembers: it is awful to see a young person who is retired at 20, it's awful; and it is also awful to see a young person who lives on a couch, isn't that so? — Neither "retired" young people nor "couch-potato" young people.""

Rather, he urged them to be walking, going forward, looking to the future.

Reminding them that the future is in their hands, he reminded them that they must be willing to make risks.

"Today you must prepare the future," he said.

In the Synod, he told them, the whole Church wishes to hear from young people, specifically what they think, feel, want, criticize and of what things they are repentant.

"Everything," he said.

"The Church is in need of yet more Spring, and Spring is the season of young people."

Another tidbit of wisdom, the Pontiff told them, was to go back and talk to their grandparents.

Today, we are in need of it more than ever, we are in need of this bridge, of the dialogue between grandparents and young people

"This is the task I give you in the name of the Church: to talk with the elderly. "But it's boring . . . they always say the same things . . ." No, listen to the elderly person. Talk to them, ask them about things."

He urged them to think of what their grandparents dreamt, or what that elderly man or woman dreamt. "Make them talk, take up those things and build bridges to the future. This is the task and the mission that the Church gives to you today."

"Let them dream and draw from those dreams to go forward, and render that prophecy concrete," he said.

"Thank you so much for your courage, and . . . see you in Panama! I don't know if I will be there, but the Pope will be there. And, at Panama, the Pope will ask you: "Did you talk with old people? Did you talk with the elderly? Did you take the elderly man's dream and transformed it into a concrete prophecy?" This is your task," the Pope said.

Pope Francis concluded, offering his blessing, asking them to pray for him, and saying let us all together prepare ourselves for the Synod and for Panama.

Full Text: https://zenit.org/articles/popes-words-during-prayer-vigil-for-32nd-world-youth-day/



Entrance Antiphon

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 10:34. 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Communion Antiphon

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' R.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. **R**.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **R**.

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



The best way to gain wisdom is by applying God's words to your life.



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

17 Mon Easter Monday

1st Reading Acts 2:14. 22-33

Psalm Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11 Gospel Matthew 28:8-15

18 Tues Easter Tuesday

1st Reading Acts 2:36-41

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

Gospel John 20:11-18

19 Wed Easter Wednesday

1st Reading Acts 3:1-10

Psalm Ps 104:1-4. 6-9 Gospel Luke 24:13-35

20 Thu Easter Thursday

1st Reading Acts 3:11-26

Psalm Ps 8:2. 5-9 Gospel Luke 24:35-48

21 Fri Easter Friday

1st Reading Acts 4:1-12

Psalm Ps 117:1-2. 4. 22-27

Gospel John 21:1-14

22 Sat Easter Saturday

1st Reading Acts 4:13-21

Psalm Ps 117:1. 14-21 Gospel Mark 16:9-15

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 Zaia, Yelly Joko, Victoria Vergel-Roldan, Soledad Bautista,



Ferdinand Jacob, Indrajith Fernando **Deceased:**

Mark De Jesus, Mario Zec **Anniversary:**

Ildefonsa Capapas, Arturo Cobarrubias Sr, Ante Janezic, Anica Peric, Tomas Ferino Sr, Jaime Bernardo Sr, Ernesto R Ribargoso, Eva Anderson

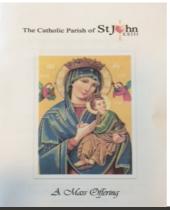
Sick:

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

Thanksgiving:

Ronaldo, Kristine, Maria, Ramon, Vincenzo Zamora, Alfonso Cobarrubias, Lolita U Ribargoso, Robert Hennessy, Clare Adams, Catherine Harrison, Paul Irving

Mass cards available at the parish office



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.



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

The family is the first essential cell of human society.

— 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 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							
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	Matias M	Matias J			
Jul	4	11	18	25			
	Tangunan	Shalini	Ivon	Available			
Aug	1	8	15	22	29		
	Lozada	Available	Available	Pangilinan	Available		

⇒ The St. John XXIII Prayer Group is a "parish based prayer group united and committed to love and serve God and one another, moving within our family, community and nation". The Prayer Group invites you to their basic formation seminar "Living by the Power of God"

When: 29 April 2017 Time: 8:00am - 5:30pm

Where: St. Mark's Staff Room St. John XXIII Parish Stanhope Gardens



Parish Notices

CHURCH SECURITY

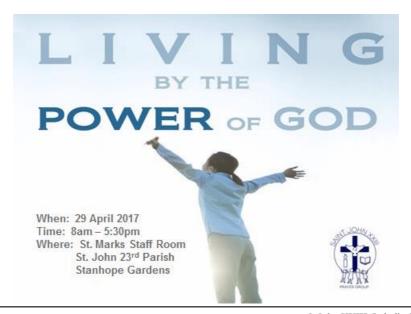
We regret having to issue this warning. There have been a number of thefts from the church, including choir equipment and ladies' handbags, mainly during the week. Please do not leave your valuables unattended and bring them with you to communion. Please call the parish office if you notice anything suspicious.

RCIA

We would like to welcome and congratulate the following members of our parish community who have been baptized into new life, sealed with the Gifst of the Holy Spirit and now one with Christ in the Eucharist: Wendy Felipe (RCIA), Jaala Lane Dan, Shaun Michael Van Kal and Sarah Olivia Facey.

KNIT/CROCHET CLUB

Calling all those avid knitters and crocheters, we are preparing for the winter months and we have some projects underway. If you are able and would like to join us and help out, please contact, via email, Coleen McCunnie colleenmcc@bigpond.com or Rita Mateazzi marcellino5@bigpond.com.





Why we do what we do.....

Why do we have so many ceremonies at Easter?

The Easter Triduum refers to three key days in the Church's calendar which together express the central mystery of our Christian faith: the death and resurrection of Christ. It begins on Holy Thursday as we focus on Jesus' farewell words and deeds at the Last Supper. It moves to Good Friday when we ponder the events of his suffering and death. It climaxes with the Easter Vigil when we celebrate the liberation of humankind through Christ's resurrection. This three-stage sequence of worship allows us to take in an enormous mystery in small, digestible chunks and to relate it to the various facets of our own lives - the sorrows. joys, successes and failures. Of all the Church's celebrations throughout the year, the Easter Triduum is considered the highpoint.

Easter symbols

The Easter vigil reeks of powerful symbolism. We begin with fire, for Christ the light of the world has shattered the darkness of sin. The Easter candle is lit and in turn sets alight the small candles held by the congregation until the whole church is ablaze. We sing 'alleluia' to uplifting music to express our joy. We use water, a symbol of life and cleansing, to baptize newcomers into our Church and to remind us of our own baptismal vows. The newly baptized are adorned with white robes representing their release from sin. They are anointed with oil (chrism) symbolizing the indelible mark of the Holy Spirit. Finally, they partake in the Eucharist as a sign of their union with the Christian community.

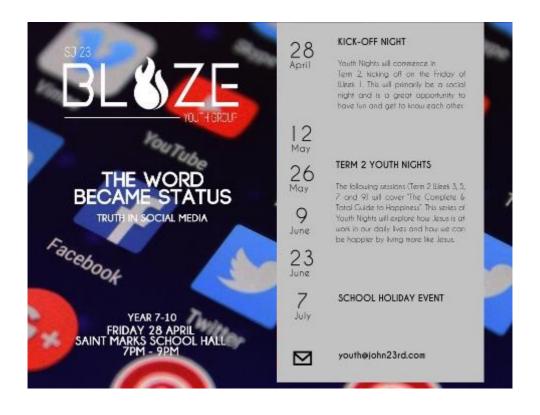
The Easter Season

Easter, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, is the climax of the Church's life marking Christ's victory over sin and death. Traditionally, the Easter vigil is the time for baptizing newcomers to our Church. The season of Easter extends for 50 days after Easter Sunday, closing with Pentecost Sunday. In the early Church this period was a time of catechesis for the newly baptized. Called mystagogy ('reflection on the mysteries'), this catechesis led the baptized to a deeper understanding of what it meant to bear the light of Christ to the world. Appropriately, the Gospels of the Easter season reflect this missionary theme. It is an opportune time for all Christians to ponder the missionary significance of their baptism.

Why do we baptize at the Easter vigil?

The Church's greatest celebration of the year, held on the eve of Easter Sunday, marks the victory of Christ over sin and death and our sharing in the life of God. In the early Church it was at this celebration that 'newcomers' were baptized. Although today a person may be baptized a Catholic at other times of the year, the newcomer's decision to reject sin and embrace the new life of Christ makes Easter a highly appropriate time





Why we do

for baptism. Since the Easter vigil is the climax of the year for the parish community, it is fitting that it also be the climax of the newcomer's journey of faith into the Catholic community

https://www.dbb.org.au/_uploads/_ckpg/files/WWD.pdf



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: 23 April 2017

Topic: tba

Guest Speaker: tba

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:

28th April, 7pm kick-off night

Brochures at the foyer for more information.

WHY?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?

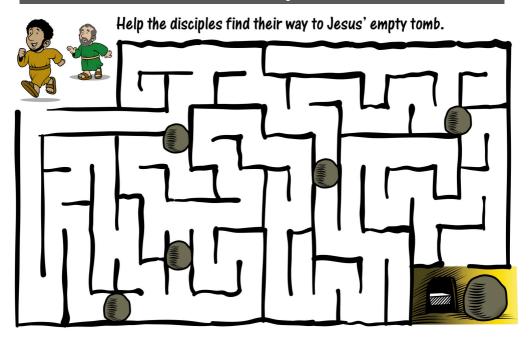


Why is the man who

invests all your money called a

broker?

Find the path





Word Find

Jesus Christ is risen!

M B IGLAQAVXJ Ι E R Z W B J R 0 В D $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{C}}$ Ι Χ W В N E N J OΙ S Ν E K A Т T У F S Т S Ν A C F A N Q T Ι \mathcal{C} S Ι F K Ι N CR Ι T D D R N S QV M S H \mathcal{C} Ι Ι A R 0 Z R Р D У Χ N Ι P N R F Q 0 Ρ N T $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{C}}$ Ρ A R WU I WX Н E Z CWR R V Ν \mathcal{C} M 7 S E E S T D K T F A R \mathcal{C} В Н K F A D E Ι A R U S N У P WWF CS Q P R H 0 K F NGY G Ε Ε Τ U WZWXCF A D Α G Ε Р

Find these words

Cloth dark entrance face life linen Mary Peter Scriptures Stone taken tomb



Diocesan News

17-20 April - Girls' Camp at Mount Schoenstatt

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, and fun activities. From 4.00pm on Easter Monday 17 April to 4.00pm 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 (registration form and deposit required). Inquiries: Sr M Luka tel 0439 537 843, fax (02) 4773 8530, sr.m.luka@bigpond.com

Positions Vacant

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking applications for several positions including an **Archives and Records**Manager located in Parramatta. For further details, go to https://parracatholic.org/employment/

Applications for these positions close on Monday 21 April 2017.

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 to the parish office, tel (02) 4577 3073 (BH) or send an email tostmcc@tpg.com.au

21-24 April - Discover Retreat for Young Women

A self-knowledge weekend on identity and personality, dignity, womanhood, personal ideal, vocation and mission. From 7.00pm on Friday 21 April till 4.00pm on Sunday 23 April. Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. For more information or to register: Sr M Julie Brcar ISSM, tel 0408 728 334, juliebrcar@gmail.com Facebook https://www.facebook.com/events/1094246107354311/

Shrine Time for Young Adults 18-35: 23 April

One Holy Hour with prayer, reflection, meditation, praise & worship. This year is devoted to Praying for Vocations and Devotion to Mary as per our Holy Father's intentions for WYD 2018 in Panama. From $7.30 \, \text{pm}$ -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.

Hills Family Funerals

www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au 340 Old Northern Rd. Castle Hill A Tradition of Care & Concern Pre-paid funerals available **№** 9659 0900

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Parish Priest: Fr John McSweeney Asst. Priest: Fr Thomas Bui

Deacon: Nicephorus Tan

⊠ FrJohn@john23rd.org.au

⊠ FrThomas@john23rd.org.au

☑ 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

2 (02)9852 0580 **3** 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

Communities

Group at the church kitchen

School

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

(02) 9629 8742

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



Bart Sarlabus Chairman
Chris Drummond Deputy Chairman
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Bernadette Virwani
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