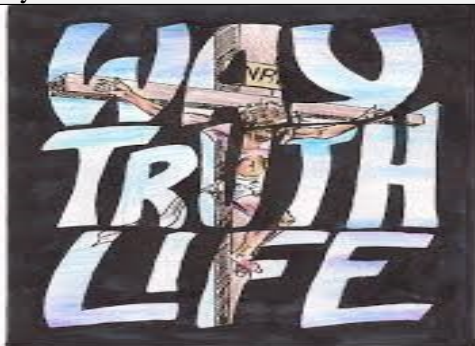


**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**13 - 14 May 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

◇ This weekend we commence a new practice in our Community: we will be having the Rite of Welcome at the beginning of the 10:30am Sunday Mass (twice a month) for all those who will be baptised in the following weeks. This links all the baptisms we celebrate in our church almost every week to the Parish Community, into which the Children are being incorporated. Let us make the parents (and some of the godparents) very welcome on these important days, as we imitate the Presentation of Christ in the Temple!

◇ The Parish Pastoral Council will meet this Tuesday (16 May). Please contact Council Members if you wish something to be discussed.

◇ The next Baptism Preparation Evening is this Thursday (18 May). All parents (and as many godparents as is possible) are invited to attend this hour of preparation for your child's Baptism in the month of June.

◇ Please continue to pray for the children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion at the end of this month.

God bless you all... *Fr. John*

MAY PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR	
MON 15	
TUE 16	7.30pm - Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
WED 17	
THU 18	7.30pm - Baptism Meeting
FRI 19	
SAT 20	2pm - Wedding Matthew and Jacqueline 7:00pm - Symbolon "The Catholic Faith Explained"
SUN 21	12:00pm - Baptisms Zayne, Matthew, Harley, Cataleya, Emma, Cooper

## 15 Day Pilgrimage

### PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

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

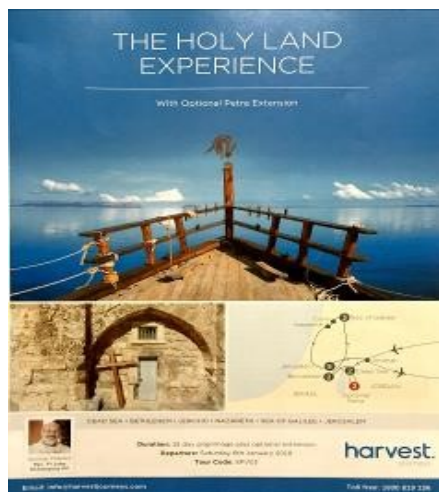
**Departure:** Saturday 6th January 2018

**Tour Code:** 8PV03

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

**Call** 1800 819 156 Toll free

Spiritual Chaplain: Fr John McSweeney



### Book now

Deposit for the Pilgrimage has been reduced from \$1000 to \$600 (thanks to Fr John's intervention.)

## Parish Notices

### Catholic Learning Community of St John XXIII and St Mark's College

The number of Australians aged 65 and over will more than double by the middle of the century. This has been rightly described as 'the great success story of human development'. Increasing numbers of older people have an excellent chance of enjoying good health and an active life for many years.

The Learning Community of St John XXIII and St Mark's Catholic College would like to invite senior members of the Parish Community to become involved in our Social Justice Programmes. We are looking for people who would be interested in sharing their wisdom and life experiences with our younger folk at the school. For example, sharing your love of reading or other interests that you have with our students, being a critical friend, attending student hospitality events, sharing your life experiences with teenagers, attending music recitals with our college choir and other artists, being members of assessment audience for Project Based Learning, and other college activities.

We would really like to hear from you if you can spare some of your time to connect with the young people in our community. Please contact the College and register your interest tel. 98520567  
E mail: [dfitzgerald@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dfitzgerald@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
Many Thanks  
Des Fitz-Gerald

## Gospel Reflection

In this weekend's Gospel Jesus proclaims that He is the Way, which is Truth and Life.

Thus, we find ourselves heading in the right direction in Life when we walk in the footsteps of the Master towards God. And we discover more and more the Truth which sets us free; and we receive the Life which nourishes and sustains us. Whenever we do not follow the Lord closely, we are like the People of Israel in the desert: wandering aimlessly. There seems to be no Truth in our lives; life can seem a burden rather than a joy. But then the Lord breaks through our barriers, and we understand the Truth of the Revelation of Jesus Christ; we experience New Life and renewal in abundance, and we find ourselves back on the narrow path that leads to the Father. The Words in the Gospel come alive for us: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No-one can come to the Father except through me".

Now, if we wish to follow closely the path that leads to the Father, we need to be open to the Holy Spirit, who, as the Gospel tells us, will enable us to perform the works of the Lord in our own time. This is what the Early Church did in the first decades after the Resurrection. The appointment of the 7 deacons shows that the new People of God were listening to the Spirit's voice... for the concept of servant ministry was developed, and all Christians were now understood to be another Christ for their own time. If we are open to God calling us to service (in its myriad ways), then we will find ourselves living up to the ideal placed before us all by St. Peter: we will truly be "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God".

Let us pray in the week ahead that we will strive to live up to this ideal in our lives, both individually and collectively (as Church)! And in this way, listening to the prompting of the Holy Spirit, we will truly be the face of Christ for our own time, allowing many others to see and understand that Jesus is the Way, Truth and Life for them... both now and in the future.

## Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

## First Reading

*Acts 6:1-7*

*They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Communion Antiphon

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19*

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

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R.**

For 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.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*John 14:16*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!



**“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of God.”**

Romans 10:17

## Second Reading

1 Peter 2:4-9

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

John 14:1-12

*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

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.

## Readings for Next Week

### 15 Mon Fifth week of Easter

1st Reading Acts 14:5-18

Psalm Ps 113:1-4. 15-16

Gospel John 14:21-26

### 16 Tues Fifth week of Easter

1st Reading Acts 14:19-28

Psalm Ps 144:10-13. 21

Gospel John 14:27-31

### 17 Wed Fifth week of Easter

1st Reading Acts 15:1-6

Psalm Ps 121:1-5

Gospel John 15:1-8

### 18 Thu Fifth week of Easter

1st Reading Acts 15:7-21

Psalm Ps 88:2-3. 21-22. 25. 27

Gospel John 15:9-11

### 19 Fri Fifth week of Easter

1st Reading Acts 15:22-31

Psalm Ps 56:8-12

Gospel John 15:12-17

### 20 Sat Fifth week of Easter

1st Reading Acts 16:1-10

Psalm Ps 99:1-3. 5

Gospel John 15:18-21

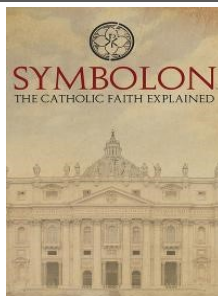
Full weekly readings can be found in the parish  
website [http://john23rd.com/our-parish/daily-  
reading/](http://john23rd.com/our-parish/daily-reading/)

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## Parish Pastoral Corner

⇒ The Faith  
Formation  
Committee invites  
everyone for a  
short, half hour  
video presentation  
on "The Catholic  
Faith Explained"  
following straight  
after every Mass  
commencing **13th May 2017**.

This compelling series contains two  
parts including ten episodes each.



**7:00pm Saturdays** and **Sundays** at  
the Church

**8:30am 10:00am 11:30am Sundays**  
at St Mark's College Staffroom

13 & 14 May - The Journey of Faith  
(20min)

20 & 21 May - Divine Revelation  
(32min)

27 & 28 May - The Bible (33min)

3 & 4 Jun - The Story of Salvation  
(34min)

10 & 11 Jun - Who Is Jesus? (33min)

## Special intentions

### Recently Deceased:

Siti Kumala, Paul Camilleri, Roselia Pineda, Ferdinand Jacob, Indrajith Fernando, Elisa Teano Lazaro, Joseph Damjaovovic

### Deceased:

Nina Celdran Matias

### Anniversary:

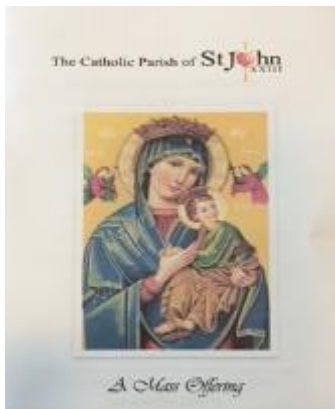
Anna Perrone, Pacita Delgado Jones, Gertrude Silva, Diego Cabral Espirtu, Florencia Aurelio, Mario Ferino, Mariano Ferino, Feliciano Suarez Jr, Primitrio Marinas, Jerry Camilleri

### Sick:

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



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

*Human life is sacred - all men must recognize that fact. From its very inception it reveals the creating hand of God.  
— 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

	2	9	16	23	30
May	Shalini	Cano	Ivon	Fernando	Solisa
Jun	6	13	20	27	
	Sebastian	Mojica	Matias M	Matias J	
Jul	4	11	18	25	
	Tanganan	Shalini	Ivon	Available	
Aug	1	8	15	22	29
	Lozada	Cabug-os	Lim	Pangilinan	Shalini

#### ⇒ St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

As Winter approaches it is time to launch the St Vinnies Blankets Appeal. We are asking once more for your generosity in donating clean blankets or sleeping bags to be distributed to the homeless and those in need. Would you kindly place the blankets in the Church front foyer where there will be a place allocated. Deadline for donations is 31 May 2017. Thanking you in anticipation from the members of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

#### ⇒ RCIA Program

If you know of anyone or you yourself are interested in finding out more about our RCIA program, we will be having an Enquiry night on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> of May. Our RCIA program will be starting in June.

**Looking for Korean Family**—We are looking for any Korean families in our parish community who may be able to support a Korean family wishing to be baptised into our faith this coming Christmas.



*(Pope Francis' Catechesis on the Mother of Hope, ahead of the 100th anniversary of Fatima)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

In our itinerary of catecheses on Christian hope, today we look at Mary, Mother of hope. Mary went through more than one night in her path as Mother. From her first appearance in the history of the Gospels, her figure stands out as if she were the personage of a drama. It was not simple to answer the Angel's invitation with a "yes": yet she, a woman still in the flower of youth, answered courageously, despite not knowing anything of the destiny that awaited her. In that instant, Mary appears to us as one of the many mothers of our world, courageous to the end when it is about receiving in their womb the story of a new man that is born. That "yes" is the first step of a long list of obedience — long list of obedience! — that will accompany her itinerary as mother. Thus, Mary appears in the Gospels as a silent woman, who often does not understand all that is happening around her, but who meditates every word and every event in her heart.

In this disposition, there is a very beautiful demonstration of Mary's psychology: she is not a woman who gets depressed in face of the uncertainties of life, especially when nothing seems to go the right way. Nor is she even a woman who protests violently, who inveighs against the destiny of a life that often reveals itself with a hostile face. Instead, she is a woman who listens: do not forget that there is always a great relation between hope and listening, and Mary is a woman who listens. Mary accepts existence just as it is given to us, with its happy days, but also with its tragedies, which we would never have wanted to come across — until Mary's supreme night, when her Son is nailed to the wood of the cross.

Until that day, Mary almost disappeared from the plot of the Gospels: the sacred writers let this slow eclipsing of her presence be understood, her remaining silent before the mystery of a Son who obeys the Father. However, Mary reappears precisely at the crucial moment, when a good part of the friends vanished out of fear. With a simple verb the Mother's presence: she "was" (*John 19:25*), she was.

They say nothing of her reaction, if she was weeping, if she was not weeping . . . nothing; not even a brush stroke to describe her sorrow: on these details the imagination of poets and painters would then venture, giving us images that have entered in the history of art and of literature. But the Gospels only tell us: she "was." She was there, in the most awful moment, in the cruellest moment, and she suffered with her Son. "Was," Mary "was," she was simply there. Behold her again, the young woman of Nazareth, now with greying hair with the passing of the years, still struggling with a God who must only be embraced, and with a life that has reached the threshold of the densest darkness. Mary "was" in the densest darkness, but she "was." She did not go away. Mary is there, faithfully present, every time that a lighted candle must be held in a place of mist and fog. She does not even know the destiny of resurrection that her Son at the moment was opening for all of us men: she is there out of fidelity to God's plan, of whom she proclaimed herself handmaid on the first day of her vocation, but also because of her mother's instinct, who simply suffers, every time there is a

## Why we do what we do . . . .

### Why We Sing At Mass

*[excerpt from Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship, the 2007 statement of the United Conference of Catholic Bishops, numbers 1 through 9, see document for notes]*

God has bestowed upon his people the gift of song. God dwells within each human person, in the place where music takes its source. Indeed, God, the giver of song, is present whenever his people sing his praises.

A cry from deep within our being, music is a way for God to lead us to the realm of higher things. As St. Augustine says, “Singing is for the one who loves.” Music is therefore a sign of God’s love for us and of our love for him. In this sense, it is very personal. But unless music sounds, it is not music, and whenever it sounds, it is accessible to others. By its very nature song has both an individual and a communal dimension. Thus, it is no wonder that singing together in church expresses so well the sacramental presence of God to his people.

Our ancestors reveled in this gift, sometimes with God’s urging. Write out this song, then, for yourselves, God said to Moses. “Teach it to the Israelites and have them recite it, so that this song may be a witness for me.” The Chosen People, after they passed through the Red Sea, sang as one to the Lord. Deborah, a judge of Israel, sang to the Lord with Barak after God gave them victory. David and the Israelites made merry before the Lord with all their strength, with singing and with citharas, harps, tambourines, sistrums and cymbals.

Jesus and his apostles sang a hymn before their journey to the Mount of Olives. St. Paul instructed the Ephesians to address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts. He sang with Silas in captivity. The letter of St. James asks, Is

anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone in good spirits? He should sing praise.

Obedient to Christ and to the Church, we gather in liturgical assembly, week after week. As our predecessors did, we find ourselves singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in [our] hearts to God. This common, sung expression of faith within liturgical celebrations strengthens our faith when it grows weak and draws us into the divinely inspired voice of the Church at prayer. Faith grows when it is well expressed in celebration. Good celebrations can foster and nourish faith. Poor celebrations may weaken it. Good music makes the liturgical prayers of the Christian community more alive and fervent so that everyone can praise and beseech the Triune God more powerfully, more intently and more effectively.

In human life, signs and symbols occupy an important place. As a being at once body and spirit, man expresses and perceives spiritual realities through physical signs and symbols. Inasmuch as they are creatures, these perceptible realities can become means of expressing the action of God who sanctifies men, and the action of men who offer worship to God. This sacramental principle is the consistent belief of the Church throughout history. In Liturgy, we use words, gestures, signs and symbols to proclaim Christ’s presence and to reply with our worship and praise.

The primordial song of the Liturgy is the canticle of victory over sin and death. It is the song of the saints, standing beside “the sea of glass”: They were holding God’s harps, and they sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb. Liturgical singing is established in the midst of this great historical tension. For Israel, the event of salvation in the Red Sea will always be the main reason for praising

## Why we do . . . .

God, the basic theme of the songs it sings before God. For Christians, the Resurrection of Christ is the true Exodus. The definitively new song has been intoned. The Paschal hymn, of course, does not cease when a liturgical celebration ends. Christ, whose praises we have sung, remains with us and leads us through church doors to the whole world, with its joys and hopes, griefs and anxieties. The words Jesus chose from the book of Isaiah at the beginning of his ministry become the song of the Body of Christ. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.

Charity, justice, and evangelization are thus the normal consequences of liturgical celebration. Particularly inspired by sung participation, the body of the Word Incarnate goes forth to spread the Gospel with full force and compassion. In this way, the Church leads men and women to the

faith, freedom and peace of Christ by the example of its life and teaching, by the sacraments and other means of grace. Its aim is to open up for all men a free and sure path to full participation in the mystery of Christ.

### Reflection Questions:

1. How does singing the Mass assist your participation in the Sacred Mysteries?
2. How do you understand and appreciate singing the Mass as a strengthening of our faith in God's word and actions in the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy?
3. How do you understand and appreciate singing the Mass as a sign of the community of the Church celebrating glory and praise of God in the death and resurrection of the Lord?

**Prayer:** *Ever-living God, help us to celebrate our joy in the resurrection of the Lord and to express in our lives the love we celebrate. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, you Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

<http://archphila.org/Roman%20Missal/pdfs/Why%20We%20Sing%20the%20Mass.pdf>

## Evangelicum

son who goes through a passion. The sufferings of mothers: we have all known strong women, who have faced so many sufferings of their children!

We will find her again on the first day of the Church, she, *Mother of hope*, in the midst of that community of such frail disciples: one had denied, many fled, all were afraid (Cf. *Acts* 1:14). But she was simply there, in the most normal of ways, as if it were an altogether natural thing: in the first Church enveloped by the light of the Resurrection, but also by the tremors of the first steps that it must take in the world. For this, we all love her as Mother. We are not orphans: we have a Mother in Heaven, who is the Holy Mother of God. Because she teaches us the virtue of waiting, even when everything appears nonsensical: she is always confident in the mystery of God, even when He seems to eclipse Himself because of the evil in the world. In moments of difficulty may Mary, the Mother that Jesus gave all of us, always be able to support our steps, always be able to say to our heart: "Rise! Look ahead, look at the horizon," because she is Mother of hope. Thank you.

## 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:** 28 May 2017

**Topic:** tba

**Guest Speaker:** tba

### BLAZE

If you're in Years 7 to 10, come and join us. Brochures at the foyer for more information or just drop the Youth Group a line [youth@john23rd.com](mailto:youth@john23rd.com)

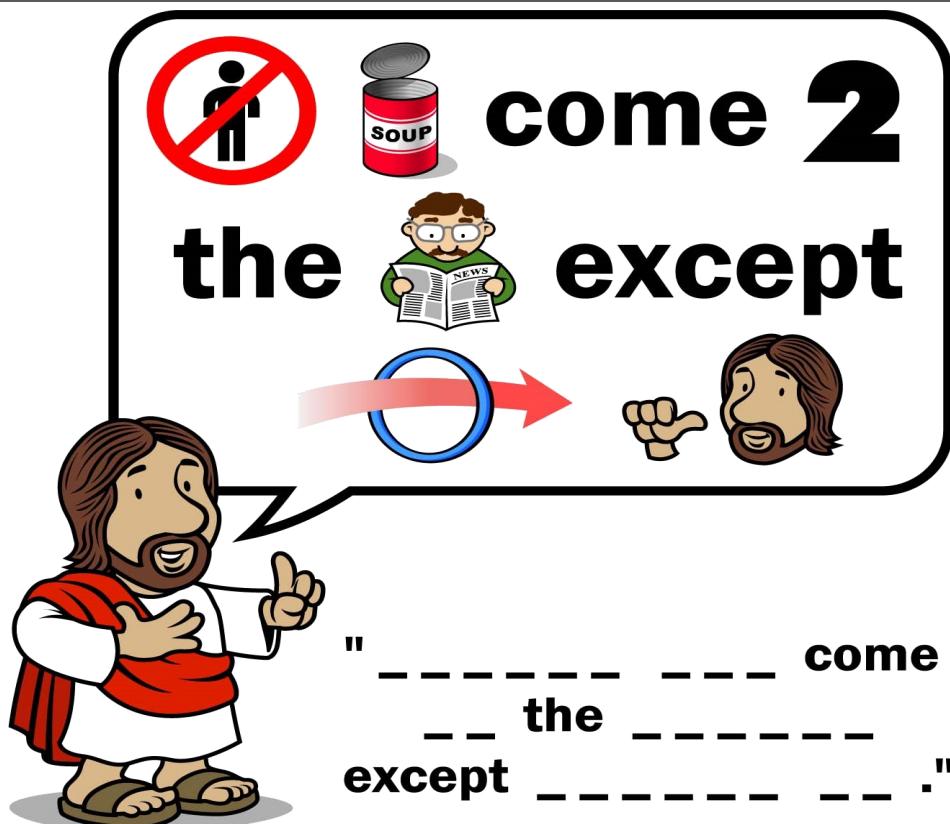
### CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)

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

Praise & Worship

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

Can you decipher what Jesus is saying?



## Word Find

Don't be worried, have faith

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

*Find these words*

Believe   faith   Father   house   life   Philip   prepare   rooms  
True   truth   way   worried

## Diocesan News

### **20 May - Break Free Seminar**

#### **'Exploring the natural alternatives to the pill'**

Have you experienced any side effects of The Pill and is there a natural alternative that's just as effective? Hear from educators in natural fertility awareness methods and people's personal experiences who have made the change. Empower yourselves with knowledge about your fertility.

Sunday 20th May 2017, 2:00pm-3:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta. Hosted by the Life, Marriage & Family Office. For more info, go to <https://parralmf.org.au/nfs/> and register at 8 8 3 8 3 4 6 0 [ornfs@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:ornfs@parra.catholic.org.au)

### **21 May - The Shrine of Mt Schoenstatt** **– 'Oasis of Faith, Hope and Love'**

Come and experience a special day at The Shrine of Mt Schoenstatt – 'Oasis of Faith, Hope and Love' - 230 Fairlight Road Mulgoa for the Annual Marian Pilgrimage to be held on Sunday 21st May, 2017. The celebrations begin at 10am with Holy Mass at 10:30 am and Eucharistic Procession and Benediction from the valley to the Shrine at 2pm. There will be an alternative programme for the sick and elderly at the Shrine. This is an Outdoor event. Please bring your own chairs and picnic rugs. Food stalls available or bring your own lunch. For more details ring 02 4773 8338 or visit [www.schoenstatt.org.au](http://www.schoenstatt.org.au)

### **POSITIONS VACANT**

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking applications for several positions. For further details, go to <https://parracatholic.org/employment>

#### **Volunteer English Teacher - Catholic Care Social Services**

For many years now we have been conducting English language classes for Refugee women at Mamre House Orchard Hills - a work of Catholic Care Social Services. The classes are held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm during school terms. These classes are possible because of the generous help of volunteer English teachers. At present we urgently need a volunteer teacher to come on Tuesdays or alternatively to be on our relief list to fill in when required. A teaching qualification is an advantage but not essential. A Working With Children Check is required. For further information please phone Sr Janet Woods on 0418 690 487.

#### **Feedback on the 'Lead us to Living Water' Family Lenten Program 2017**

Now that Lent is over, the Life, Marriage and Family Office has issued a survey about their recently produced 'Lead us to Living Water' Family Lenten Program and they're asking for people's feedback on it. Please take the time to fill in this two minute survey by clicking on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LMFLentenProgram2017>



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**Parish Priest:** Fr John McSweeney ☒ [FrJohn@john23rd.org.au](mailto:FrJohn@john23rd.org.au)  
**Asst. Priest:** Fr Thomas Bui ☒  
**Deacon:** Nicephorus Tan ☒ [DeaconTan@john23rd.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@john23rd.org.au)  
 Finance: Mila Llamas (Fri)  
 ☒ [accounts@john23rd.org.au](mailto:accounts@john23rd.org.au)  
 Admin Asst: Jill Franco (Wed/Fri)  
 ☒ [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto:admin@john23rd.org.au)  
 Business Manager: John McCartney (*pro bono*)  
 ☒ [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto: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



#### Chairman

Bart Sarlabus

#### Deputy Chairman

Chris Drummond

#### Secretary

Nanette Gamboa

#### Members

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](mailto: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](mailto:stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### Catholic Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

☒ [lcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au)

[www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au](http://www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au)