

Nineteenth Sunday Ordinary Time
12 - 13 August 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."



Jesus Makes a Difference in

From the Pastor's desk

Dear sisters & brothers in Christ

Jesus always searches out a quiet and lonely place for prayer; one where there are no distractions or intrusions on this most important of actions... communing with the Father. We, too, need to find our 'lonely places' where we can be alone with God. Like Elijah, we need to be on our own 'holy mountain' of prayer so that our spiritual batteries can be recharged for the mission ahead.

1. The Feast of the Assumption, which we celebrate next Tuesday (15/8) remains a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be a Vigil Mass on Monday night at 7:30pm, and our usual 9am and 7:30pm masses on Tuesday.

Please note that Tuesday Evening's mass will **not** be a Novena Mass.

2. Please keep our young people preparing for Confirmation in your prayers. Confirmation will be celebrated on Thursday 17/8 and Friday 18/8 at 7:30pm.

3. Also, on Fri 18/8 at 11am there will be our first Mass (with Anointing) at Dudley Foord House within the ARV Ponds. All are welcome to attend.

God bless you all. *Fr. John*

AUG	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 14	<i>St Maximilian Mary Kolbe (M)</i> Feast of the Assumption Vigil Mass 7.30pm
TUE 15	<i>Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S)</i> 9.00am - Holy Day of Obligation 7.30pm - No Novena instead mass to celebrate The Assumption
WED 16	7:30pm - Bible Study Gospel of Luke
THU 17	7:30pm - Confirmation
FRI 18	11am - Mass with Anointing at Dudley Foord House ARV The Ponds BLAZE Night 7:30pm - Confirmation
SAT 19	7:30pm - Praise and worship night - <i>The Role of the Holy Spirit in Christian Living</i> - speaker Fr Ruben Elago
SUN 20	12pm Baptism - Archie, Julian, Jeidan



A chance to have your say

Date: Sunday 27 August

*Time: 12.00 - 3.00pm – lunch will be provided
(so please RSVP for catering)*

Where: St Mark's school hall

PARISH ASSEMBLY



Childminding will be available

RSVP:

**businessmanager@john23rd.org.au or
9852 0580**

LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATA

Dear brothers and sisters of the Church in Parramatta,

It has been a little over one year since I was installed as the fourth Bishop of Parramatta. In that time, I have met many of you, visited a majority of our parishes, toured our schools and seen the work you do with those in need in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

I am grateful for the work you do and the way I was welcomed into this Diocese by you, my brothers and sisters who are the Church in Parramatta. One thing that has been clear during my time visiting all corners of this Diocese is that we are growing. Be it growth in seminarian numbers, the establishment of new schools or the sheer number of new people who now call Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains home.

As your bishop, I am committed to following the lead of Pope Francis in making the Church in Parramatta the Church of the poor and the Church for the poor. Meeting the needs of our growing family and planning for future generations are two of my main priorities.

It is clear, that we are 'not living in an era of change, but change of an era'. In much the same way the Universal Catholic Church has changed since Second Vatican Council, we too, as the Diocese of Parramatta, will now be entering a change of era. Like any phase of growth, there will be challenges. Funding will be an issue, so too will the availability of land and the burden growth places on already stretched resources.

Another challenge will be the uncertainty this change of era brings. All change, brings a level of anxiety and a sense of loss. I understand how leaving behind the familiar and the comfortable and embarking on a new path can create worries and feelings of helplessness and unease.

We have nothing to fear.

As our faith teaches us, we must know when to let go of the old ways and old habits and embark on the new. The renewal of the Church in this era, is not only a spiritual renewal, but also a physical renewal that must be embarked upon if we are to meet the need and spread the word of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As such, I ask that we all work together to ensure we can continue to be the face of Christ in order to meet that need that we are now facing. I ask you work to with me as your servant leader, to overcome the challenges we will face so that we are able to be the face of Christ to the people of the Diocese of Parramatta. The population will boom and this region will grow. May the Holy Spirit forever guide us so that we are able to meet these new challenges and embrace this new era with faith, hope and love in the promise of Christ to be with us.

On this feast day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Patroness of the Diocese of Parramatta, we pray that her patronage remains over us and that she will continue to intercede on our behalf as we embark on this new era in the life of our Diocese.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta

The above is an excerpt from the letter of Bishop Vincent to the people of the Diocese of Parramatta given on 8 August A.D. 2017, Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Patroness of the Diocese of Parramatta

A copy of the full letter will be made available on www.parracatholic.org, published on www.catholicoutlook.org and through our various social media channels.

Entrance Antiphon

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

First Reading

1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

Communion Antiphon

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Second Reading

Romans 9:1-5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a headwind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reflection

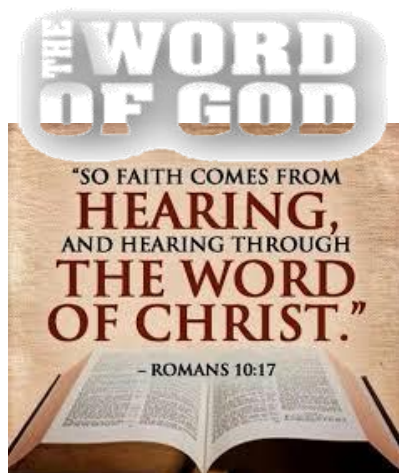
The disciples had started off from the Jewish side of the Sea of Galilee, familiar territory. Jesus guided them through the stormy situation to 'the other side', the pagan side, unfamiliar territory where they would not have felt at home.

Buffeted by storms, the Church is in the midst of a journey from familiar to unfamiliar territory.

Some of the storms include a new attitude to authority, to gender roles. There is anger and suspicion at sexual abuse and its cover up. In all these situations and many more, Our Lord will not allow us the indulgence of nostalgic yearning for the safety of the past country inhabited by the Church. We must make our way to the other shore.

We could pause for a moment, resolving to row with courage because we know we are in the same boat as Peter whom our Risen Lord assures:

'Do not be afraid.'



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father
almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true
God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he
came down from heaven,

*At the words that follow, up to and including 'and
became man', all bow.*

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was
buried,

and rose again on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead and his kingdom will
have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the
Son, who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of
the world to come.

Amen.

Readings for Next Week

14 Mon St Maximillian Mary Kolbe (M)

1st Reading Deuteronomy 10:12-22
Wisdom 3:1-9

Psalm Ps 147:12-15. 19-20
Ps 115:10-11. 15-18

Gospel Matthew 17:22-27
John 15:12-16

15 Tues Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (S)

1st Reading 1 Chronicles 15:3-4.15-16;16:1-2

Psalm Ps 131:6-7. 9-10. 13-14

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

Gospel Luke 11:27-28

16 Wed 19th week ordinary time

1st Reading Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalm Ps 65:1-3. 5. 16-17

Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

17 Thu 19th week ordinary time

1st Reading Joshua 3:7-11. 13-17

Psalm Ps 113A:1-6

Gospel Matthew 18:21 - 19:1

18 Fri 19th week ordinary time

1st Reading Joshua 24:1-13

Psalm Ps 135:1-3. 16-18. 21-22. 24

Gospel Matthew 19:3-12

19 Sat 19th week ordinary time

1st Reading Joshua 24:14-29

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

Gospel Matthew 19:13-15

Full weekly readings can be found in the parish
website <http://john23rd.com/our-parish/daily-reading/>
Copyright (c) LabOra Worship 2016

**If you or a family member is homebound and would want to receive communion in
your home please contact the parish office.**

Recently Deceased:

Carmelita Reyes, Robert Hennessy,
Lawrence Gonzalez, Paciencia Yap,
Bemingo Marinar, Selvarajah Selvarajah

Deceased:

Rita & Joseph Mizzi., Winsill Peiris

Anniversary:

Ron Crowley, Stuart Cook, Denis,
Patrick Ranasinghe

Sick:

Jan Mandla, Pat Daly, Karam Matte,
Genevieve D'Silva, Sigrid Barredo,
Remedios De Guzman, Reg Chapman,
Ramon Rendon, Evelyn Paguinto,
Lucie Gallagher, Josephine Calabria,
Alfred Miler, Cay Espanta, Anna Simic,
Andrea Rodrigues, Aida Landicho,
Liezl Sultana, Carmel Byrne, Lala Salonga

Thanksgiving:

Brian Espinoza, Carlo Batongbacal

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.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

If you wish to change your pledge please
contact the parish office. We would
encourage you to change from the
envelope system to either direct debit or
credit card.



Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it. — Pope 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					
Aug	1 <i>Lozada</i>	8 <i>Cabug-os</i>	15 Gracias Flor	22 Pangilinan E	29 Shalini
Sep	5 Sebastian	12 Erasmo	19 Paguinto E	26 Olan	
Oct	3 Ivon	10 Sebastian	17 Pangilinan R	24 Shalini	31 Jacinta
Nov	7 Pangilinan R	14 Peiris	21 Ranasinghe	28 Manoj	
Dec	5 Paguinto S	12 Drummond	19 Erasmo	26 Paguinto M	

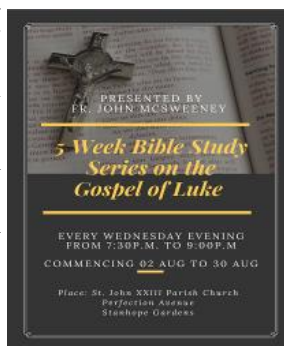
⇒ Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses

Would you like to serve our parish as a Minister of the Word, Eucharistic Minister, Eucharistic Minister to the Sick, Adult Server or Acolyte? The Office for Worship of the Diocese of Parramatta are offering courses this August and September. After completing the course from the Office of Worship, you will receive further training from a Liturgy team member on specific parish procedures.

Enrolment forms are available at the foyer, in our parish website and in our parish FaceBook page. Course schedule, venues and other details can be found in the form. Note endorsement from Fr John is required. Email a completed form to Bob Agbulos on bragbulos@gmail.com or call 0422106525 for more details.

⇒ 5 week Bible Study Series on the Gospel of Luke by Fr. John McSweeney

The Gospel of Luke is the third of the four canonical Gospels. Every Wednesday evening commencing 02 Aug to 30 Aug, 2017 7:30p.m. to 9:00p.m. St. John XXIII Parish Church, Perfection Avenue, Stanhope Gardens.



EVANGELIZATION

⇒ **SRE Teachers needed**

“The harvest is great but the workers are few” (Matthew 9:37)

If you have the desire to spread God’s word to children and could spare an hour during weekdays, please consider this ministry. Training and resources will be provided.

We currently have four public primary schools and one high school in our parish that we teach in. The scripture classes are conducted during school hours for half an hour. The days available are Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

If you want further information please call Asoki 0430020265 or Renuka 0414795814

PASTORAL CARE

⇒ **ST Vincent De Paul Society**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society, Stanhope Gardens Conference would like to thank our very generous parishioners who contributed to our Winter Appeal and the sale of the donated items last weekend.

We collected **\$3,791.10** from the Winter Appeal and **\$730.90** from donations for the donated frames and solar powered LED house numbers. This money will go a long way in helping us assist those in need in our community.

15 Day Pilgrimage

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

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



THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY: A BELIEF SINCE APOSTOLIC TIMES

Father Clifford Stevens

The Assumption is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated.

Its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city, at the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337). By then it had been a pagan city for two centuries, ever since Emperor Hadrian (76-138) had leveled it around the year 135 and rebuilt it as <Aelia Capitolina> in honor of Jupiter.

For 200 years, every memory of Jesus was obliterated from the city, and the sites made holy by His life, death and Resurrection became pagan temples.

After the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 336, the sacred sites began to be restored and memories of the life of Our Lord began to be celebrated by the people of Jerusalem. One of the memories about his mother centered around the "*Tomb of Mary*," close to Mount Zion, where the early Christian community had lived.

On the hill itself was the "*Place of Dormition*," the spot of Mary's "falling asleep," where she had died. The "*Tomb of Mary*" was where she was buried.

At this time, the "Memory of Mary" was being celebrated. Later it was to become our feast of the Assumption.

For a time, the "Memory of Mary" was marked only in Palestine, but then it was extended by the emperor to all the churches of the East. In the seventh century, it began to be celebrated in Rome under the title of the "Falling Asleep" ("*Dormitio*") of the Mother of God.

Soon the name was changed to the "*Assumption of Mary*," since there was more to the feast than her dying. It also proclaimed that she had been taken up, body and soul, into heaven.

That belief was ancient, dating back to the apostles themselves. What was clear from the beginning was that there were no relics of Mary to be venerated, and that an empty tomb stood on the edge of Jerusalem near the site of her death. That location also soon became a place of pilgrimage. (*Today, the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition of Mary stands on the spot.*)

At the Council of Chalcedon in 451, when bishops from throughout the Mediterranean world gathered in Constantinople, Emperor Marcian asked the Patriarch of Jerusalem to bring the relics of Mary to Constantinople to be enshrined in the capitol. The patriarch explained to the emperor that there were no relics of Mary in Jerusalem, that "*Mary had died in the presence of the apostles; but her tomb, when opened later . . . was found empty and so the apostles concluded that the body was taken up into heaven.*"

In the eighth century, St. John Damascene was known for giving sermons at the holy places in Jerusalem. At the Tomb of Mary, he expressed the belief of the Church on the meaning of the feast: "*Although the body was duly buried, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay. . . . You were transferred to your heavenly home, O Lady, Queen and Mother of God in truth.*"

All the feast days of Mary mark the great mysteries of her life and her part in the work of redemption. The central mystery of her life and person is her divine motherhood, celebrated both at Christmas and a week later (Jan. 1) on the feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) marks the preparation for that motherhood, so that she had the fullness of grace from the first moment of her existence, completely untouched by sin. Her whole being throbbed with divine life from the very beginning, readying her for the exalted role of mother of the Savior.

The Assumption completes God's work

Kid's Corner

Find the Path

Help Jesus find his way across the water and onto the boat. Be sure to pick up St Peter along the way!



Why we do

in her since it was not fitting that the flesh that had given life to God himself should ever undergo corruption. The Assumption is God's crowning of His work as Mary ends her earthly life and enters eternity. The feast turns our eyes in that direction, where we will follow when our earthly life is over.

The feast days of the Church are not just the commemoration of historical events; they do not look only to the past. They look to the present and to the future and give us an insight into our own relationship with God. The Assumption looks to eternity and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Our Lady when our life is ended.

The prayer for the feast reads: "All-powerful and ever-living God: You raised the sinless Virgin

Mary, mother of your Son, body and soul, to the glory of heaven. May we see heaven as our final goal and come to share her glory."

In 1950, in the Apostolic Constitution <Munificentissimus Deus>, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Assumption of Mary a dogma of the Catholic Church in these words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."

With that, an ancient belief became Catholic doctrine and the Assumption was declared a truth revealed by God.

Father Clifford Stevens writes from Tintern Monastery in Oakdale, Neb. This article was taken from the July-August 1996 issue of "Catholic Heritage".

<http://www.ewtn.com/library/ANSWERS/AOFMARY.HTM>

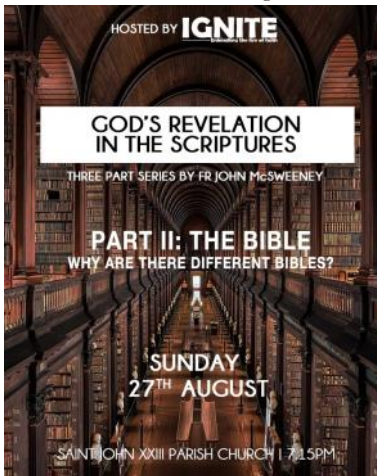
SJ 23rd Youth Ministry

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" - Philippians 4:13

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: 27 August 2017



Topic: The Bible Part 2 -

Why are there different bibles?

Guest Speaker: Fr John McSweeney

This session is open to the entire parish community.



CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)

When: 2nd & 4th Saturdays

Praise & Worship

Time: after 6:00pm vigil mass

YFC (Youth for Christ)

When: 3rd Sundays of the month

BLAZE

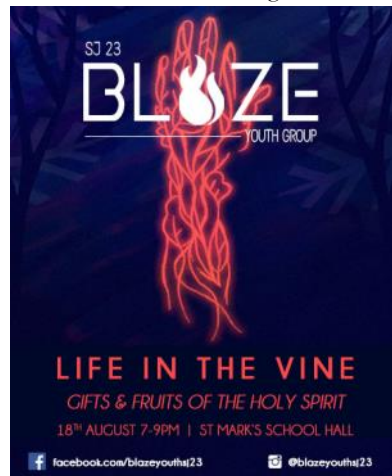
BLAZE Youth Group is a fun and exciting way for youths in Years 5 and up to learn about their faith and how to handle the struggles of being a teen.

BLAZE runs during **Friday nights**, weeks 1,3,5,7 and 9 of the school term. Session **starts at 7:15 till 9pm**.

The Term 3 series, VITAL, is all about the Holy Spirit. He is the very breath and spirit of God breathed into us giving us life.

In this series, we will explore the life and mission of the Holy Spirit, the fruits and gifts He offers us and discover how we can be more open to His presence and the power in our lives.

Next Session: 18 August 2017



Topic: Life in the Vine

The goal of this Life Night is to explain the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and invite the teens to abide in Christ and the life of the Holy Spirit.



✉ For all youth ministry enquiries, email us at youth@john23rd.com

Word Find

Jesus will save us

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

Find these words

Afraid	Boat	Faith	Ghost	Helped	Peter	Pray	Sink
		Tossed	Water	Waves	wind		

Adult Confirmation 2017

The Office of Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 2nd September, 9.30am - 2.00pm at the Institute of Mission Hall, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis.

18 – 20 August - Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a Marriage Enrichment experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend date: 18th to 20th August at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings online at www.wmme.org.au or Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774419 oradrian.janet1@bigpond.com

20 August - Christian Meditation Introduction & Renewal Day

Presentations, Introduction to Christian Meditation, two periods of meditation, Eucharistic Celebration and information exchange. BYO picnic lunch – tea & coffee provided. Arrive 10am for 10.30am, concludes about 3pm. Books & CDs for sale. St Benedict's Monastery is at 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, tel (02)9653 1159. Self-catering accommodation may be available in the monastery guest house. Contact Br Terry 0438 282318. Inquiries: Ann Bergman (02)9498 2625, anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas (02)9456 4775

27 August - Shrine Time for Young Adults 18-35

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

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

8 September - 2017 Faith in marriage seminar

2017 Faith in marriage seminar: Men, Women & the Mystery of Love. Presented by Dr Edward Sri at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall Parramatta on

Friday 8th September, 7.30pm sharp.

Register: 8 8 3 8 3 4 6 0 or lmf@parra.catholic.org.au. Sponsored by the Life Marriage & Family Office Diocese of Parramatta and Parousia Media

September 24 – October 6 - Pilgrimage: A taste before the real thing!

An AMAZING 13-day Encounter tour of Timor Leste. An EXPERIENCED GUIDE leads your visit to communities where Palms volunteers work with host communities. Get a UNIQUE UNDERSTANDING of their daily lives; an INCREDIBLE INSIGHT into Timorese culture. WITNESS sustainable development. Visit palms.org.au/encounter. Call Roger during business hours: 0431995058

AD SPACE

AD SPACE



Hills Family Funerals
A tradition of care and concern

A Tradition of Care & Concern
Pre-paid funerals available
340 Old Northern Rd. Castle Hill
☎ 9659 0900
www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au

CAKES by TATI

Baking your ideas to life. We specialise in :
Wedding Cakes

Birthday & Occasion Cakes
Cupcakes & Cookies
Macarons, Cake Pops and
more...

Tel: +61 415 566 978

Email: cakesbytati@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cakesbytati

Web: www.cakesbytati.com.au



Property Sales & Management
making your move easy...

move
REALTY

Joshi John 0410 066578 / 9631 1101
joshi@moverealty.com.au



Residential Commercial Body Corporate

O: 8809 7945 M: 0414 467 981
Environmentally friendly products used
Safe for family and pets
www.allridpests.com.au

Bella's Law Group
Mobile and home visits
Local Lawyer for over 15 years
Wills Powers of Attorney Estates
Family Law Conveyancing
0498235527 0498(Bellas)
Belinda@bellaslawgroup.com.au

Need Legal Advice?
Need Migration Assistance?
Morning Star
Legal & Migration Services
www.morningstarlegal.com.au
or call 0478 173 474
MARN 1461332

ZAC SAFE DRIVING
SCHOOL
Let me help your kids be safe drivers

L
DOMINIC
0412 945264
P

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 (Tues, 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 6:30pm

led by Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group at the Parish Office's kitchen



Chairman

Bart Sarlabus

Deputy Chairman

Chris Drummond

Secretary

Nanette Gamboa

Members

Bernadette Virwani

Gary Lee

Julienne Crasto

Nidarshi Fernando

Our School Community

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

☎ (02) 8664 7100

✉ 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 Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au