

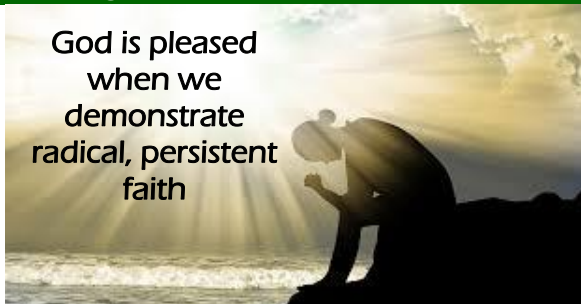
Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time
19 - 20 August 2017

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."

**God is pleased
when we
demonstrate
radical, persistent
faith**



From the Pastor's desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

The Liturgy for this 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (a) proclaims salvation for all people, and not just for an exclusive few.

Both Isaiah & Jesus see non-Jews as worthy of salvation. Isaiah declares "My House will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples." And Jesus heals the daughter of a Canaanite woman. Furthermore St Paul is Apostle to the Gentiles, the Nations!

As disciples of Jesus we must imitate our loving Father and accept all, without fear or favour. Our vocation is to challenge our world's sometimes narrow outlook and be loving and welcoming to all whom we meet - no matter what!

- Next Sunday (27/8) we have our Parish Assembly. This is an opportunity for us to look at our future as a parish community and reflect on the pastoral directions that we identify as needs for us to begin to implement. I encourage as many of you to come and participate. Please fill in the forms re: attendance (including catering) and/or give some feedback on areas that you see is important for our future.
- Congratulations to those who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last week. We pray that the gift of the Holy Spirit will prompt these young people to be missionaries of God's love to all!

God bless you! Have a great week.

Fr John

AUG		PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 21		<i>Saint Pius X (M)</i>
TUE 22		<i>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (M)</i>
WED 23		7:30pm - Bible Study Gospel of Luke
THU 24		<i>Saint Bartholomew (F)</i> 7:30pm - RCIA Enquiry night
FRI 25		
SAT 26		
SUN 27		12pm - PARISH ASSEMBLY - 7:15pm - IGNITE - The Bible Part 2 - Why are there different bibles?

A chance to have your say

What brings you to
mass at St John XXIII?

What brings your
children to mass?

What keeps you in the
parish?

What could be
introduced?

What is the best thing
about St John XXIII?

What could be done
better?

ST JOHN XXIII

PARISH ASSEMBLY

Childminding will be available
RSVP: businessmanager@john23rd.org.au or 9852 0580

**SUNDAY 27 AUGUST
12.00 - 3.00PM - LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED
(SO PLEASE RSVP FOR CATERING)
ST MARK'S SCHOOL HALL**

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

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Communion Antiphon

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants - all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now - and only because of the mercy shown to you - will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. **R.**

Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth. **R.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reflection

A pagan woman approaches a Jewish man and she begs Jesus to heal her daughter.

Jesus gives a dismissive answer to the woman: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the house dogs.' The children are obviously the Jewish people.

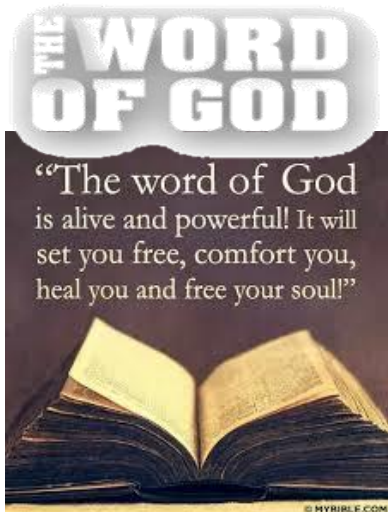
This remarkable pagan woman stands her ground and engages in a verbal joust with Jesus! She argues: 'Yes, Lord, but even the house dogs get the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

Jesus recognises her faith and the daughter was healed. This story was put in the Gospels to show how Jesus extended his saving mission to non-Jews in Pagan territory.

That is Good News for billions of non-Jewish people over the course of history since then and into the future. That is why we are truly 'Catholic', which, as you know, is the Greek for 'world-wide'.

We could pause for a moment to celebrate this Canaanite woman as the first 'Catholic'!

© Fr Michael Tate - LabOra Worship 2016



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

21 Mon *Saint Pius X (M)*

1st Reading Judges 2:11-19
Thessalonians 2:2-8
Psalm Ps 105:34-37. 39-40. 43-44
Ps 88:2-5. 21-22. 25. 27
Gospel Matthew 19:16-22
John 21:15-17

22 Tues *The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (M)*

1st Reading Judges 6:11-24
Isaiah 9:1-6
Psalm Ps 84:9. 11-14 / Ps 112:1-8
Gospel Matthew 19:23-30
Luke 1:26-38

23 Wed *20th week ordinary time*

1st Reading Judges 9:6-15
Psalm Ps 20:2-7
Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

24 Thu *Saint Bartholomew (F)*

1st Reading Joshua 3:7-11. 13-17
Psalm Ps 144:10-13. 17-18
Gospel John 1:45-51

25 Fri *20th week ordinary time*

1st Reading Ruth 1:1. 3-6. 14-16. 22
Psalm Ps 145:5-10
Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

26 Sat *20th week ordinary time*

1st Reading Ruth 2:1-3. 8-11; 4:13-17
Psalm Ps 127:1-5
Gospel Matthew 23:1-12

Full weekly readings can be found in the parish
website <http://john23rd.com/our-parish/daily-reading/>
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If you or a family member is homebound and would want to receive communion in
your home please contact the parish office.

Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Victorino Gonzales III, Benigno Marinas,
Benigno Marinas, Rofelio Magallanes,
Mrs Rosita Pidalaoan Malunum,
Vicente Aguilar, Ebenezer Enriquez,
Joseph Vella,

Deceased:

Sammy Formosa, Massy & Nina Arapa,
Maria Lopez

Anniversary:

Ernesto R Ribargoso, Joseph Calabria,
Jenny Calabria, Josephine Calabria,
Diane Calabria, Robert Calabria,
Charles, Frank, Maria Briffa,
John Noronha, Johnson Reynolds,
Aubrey Athayde, Loretta Fortune,
Jaya Mary, Rosario Jovilla, Pierre Francois,
May Lacaze, Jocelyn Lacaze, Max Cerdor,
Chantal Raymond, Hilda Henrison,
Anthony Desos, Catalina M Del Rosario,
Reynaldo Reyes, Joseph Ryan,
Prescilla Rizon, Robert Deller

Sick:

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

Thanksgiving:

Rick Krawozyk, Bengt Alm,
Mr & Mrs Melanius Sebastian

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*).

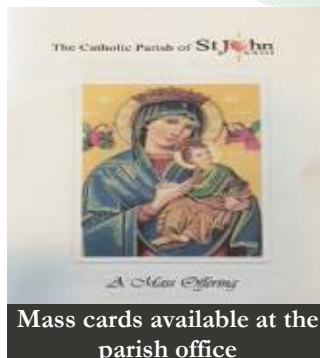
It is used to pay the team/staff salaries,
superannuation and each priest's car
expenses, loan interest and loan repayment.
It is also used to provide for our pastoral
and ministry outreach activities from the
parish.

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.

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.



Parish Pastoral Corner

Only for today, I will do at least one thing I do not like doing; and if my feelings are hurt, I will make sure that no one notices. — 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	8	15	22	29
	<i>Lozada</i>	<i>Cabug-os</i>	<i>Gracias Flor</i>	Pangilinan E	Shalini
Sep	5	12	19	26	
	Sebastian	Erasmio	Paguinto E	Olan	
Oct	3	10	17	24	31
	Ivon	Sebastian	Pangilinan R	Shalini	Jacinta
Nov	7	14	21	28	
	Pangilinan R	Peiris	Ranasinghe	Manoj	
Dec	5	12	19	26	
	Paguinto S	Drummond	Erasmio	Paguinto M	

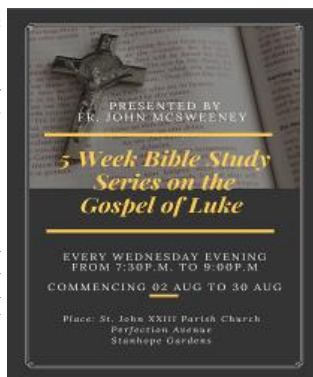
⇒ Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses

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 0422 106525 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.

POSTAL PLEBISCITE on “SAME-SEX MARRIAGE” announced

The Australian Government has announced there will be a postal plebiscite on whether the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act 1961 should be changed to include “same-sex marriage”. Ballot papers will be sent out to households on Tuesday, 12 September and all votes must be received back by Tuesday, 7 November. If you are not enrolled to vote, or if you need to update your postal address, go to www.aec.gov.au/enrol/ before the cut-off date of Thursday, 24 August. **Vote No**, to keep marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man.

R C I A

⇒ **RCIA enquiry** session is on Thursday, 24th August at 7.30pm in the church kitchen, the RCIA programme will commence on 6th of September. If you have family or friends who might be interested in understanding the Catholic faith, please invite them to this session.

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

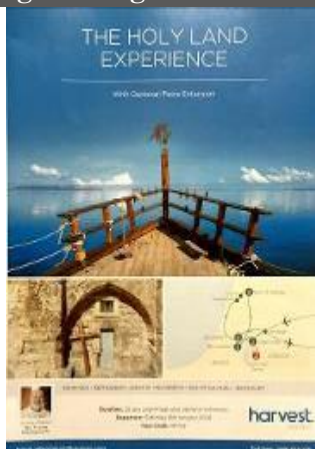
McSweeney

Book now

Deposit for the Pilgrimage has

been reduced from \$1000 to \$600

(thanks to Fr John's intervention)



Why we do what we do

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Catholics are a community. A body made up of many different people, united by a common bond of love. Because of the enduring strength of this bond, and the life-long commitment it implies, one of the best ways of describing the Catholic Church is that it is like a family. This may come as a surprise to many people associate different images with the Catholic Church: organisation, government, moral watchdog.

Yet, really, at its heart, the Church is a community of people travelling together through life. Like every human family, we have our ups and downs, our good times and bad. We have a heritage from which our values and behaviour codes have come. We cooperate through a variety of roles and functions. We have our special times of celebration, as well as the mundane activities of day to day life. What is different about this family-like bond, however, is that it is not based on race or blood but on a spiritual bond of faith.

How we began...

Catholics believe in a God who is love, a God who has created us out of love, and who envelops each moment of our existence. Catholics believe this loving presence of God has been communicated to the world in an extraordinarily tangible way through the person of Jesus Christ, a man who walked the earth 2,000 years ago in Palestine and whose whole life was animated by the Spirit of God. During his short life (for he only lived to about 33 years of age) Jesus preached a bold message of love, of freedom from fear, a promise of life. People experienced him as a person of extraordinary love, bringing healing, hope and forgiveness of sins to those who knew him. So great was his impact among the people of his day, that the religious and political authorities felt threatened. So much so, that Jesus was put

to death by crucifixion.

Jesus' followers were devastated by his death. But then something happened beyond their wildest dreams. Jesus was raised from the dead! They experienced his living presence in a whole new way. Their lives were transformed. Their faith in God took a quantum leap. Yes, love is stronger than death! Yes, the promise of eternal life is true! Yes, our God is always with us. The Spirit of God alive in Jesus had taken hold of their lives too. They came to recognise Jesus as the Son of God, the Christ, God-with-us. They had felt themselves 'die' with Christ, and now they experienced themselves 'resurrected'. Alive! Free! Hope-filled and open to the promise of life - in this life and in the next.

In their excitement, Jesus' followers gathered in a little community. Together they lived a new vision for their lives. Their joy of knowing Christ and living in his Spirit was all consuming. They felt his presence in the depths of their humanity. In fact, so much so, that they came to understand themselves as 'the body of Christ', the people in whom the Spirit of God dwelt. Their bond of love attracted others. Their stories of how God had touched their lives raised hope, questions, curiosity amongst those who would listen. Their community grew and spread to all parts of the world.

Despite times of great persecution and difficulty, this experience of faith continued to be transmitted through the ages; passed down through word of mouth, through sacred writings, through the traditions and practices of the community, enlivening the hearts of each new generation of Christians.

The Scripture story

'The whole community of believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed any of their possessions as his own; but rather they shared all things in

Kid's Corner

Fill in the words

The Canaanite woman persisted because of her strong belief that Jesus would cure her daughter. Use the words below to find out what Jesus said.



granted

wish

Let

Woman

Faith

great

_____, you have

_____.

_____ your _____

be _____.

Why we do

common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and they were living in a time of grace.' (Acts 4.32-33)

Putting It Simply

We Catholics are a body of people, a community, a family with a story, a history, a purpose who believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God. We share a common vision for life, seek to live in a spirit of love, not just a social club, not just a group of likeminded people, not just a welfare

agency, or a spiritual fill-up station, but a life-long love relationship, alive in the Spirit of Christ, a people with a mission to proclaim Jesus to the world, share our life with others, so that the world may believe and share our joy.

Jesus said... 'This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this, to give one's life for his friends.' (John 15:12-13)

<http://www.catholicaustralia.com.au/church-in-australia/the-catholic-community>

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: 1 September 2017

Topic: TBA



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

Word Find

The woman had much faith

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

Find these words

begged Canaan children daughter demons disciples
dog faith food healed sheep woman

23 August - Putting Rungs on the Ladder

You're invited to your 'Place at the Table' at our Annual Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Twilight Reflection Evening: Putting Rungs on the Ladder. Join Catholics from Parramatta, Broken Bay, and Sydney Dioceses for a prayerful dinner event to celebrate our social justice work and reflect on the themes of this year's Social Justice Statement, *'A Place at the Table: Social Justice in an Ageing Society'*. August 23, 6:30-8:30PM St Columba's, 213 Elswick St, Leichhardt. RSVP August 18. Contact Sr Louise McKeogh on 02 8838 3461 or lmckeogh@parra.catholic.org.au

27 August - Gospel of the Family - Joy for the World

Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World is a free family event that offers a program of Spiritual Enrichment for families on the launch of the World Meeting of Families 2018. To be held on Sunday 27 August from 1pm -3.15pm. Mass available at 11am and BYO Picnic Lunch. Mt Schoenstatt Family Hall 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. To register: 02 8838 3460 or orlmj@parra.catholic.org.au

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.

7 September - Holy Hour for Vocations

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite YOUTH (age 18-35) to join us for Holy Hour for Vocations Thursday, 7th September 2017, at 7:00 pm. Join us also for the pizza at 8:00pm. Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula on vocationscsfn@gmail.com or 0449 656406

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: 8838 3460 or lmj@parra.catholic.org.au Sponsored by the Life Marriage & Family Office Diocese of Parramatta and Parousia Media

10 September - Child Protection Sunday

The Australian Catholic Church lists Child Protection Sunday for 10 September 2017. The Sunday concludes Child Protection Week celebrated across Australia. As has become the custom each year the Child Protection Sunday and preceding week, provides a focus reminding each of us to play a part in protecting our children. The work of safeguarding and protecting minors and other vulnerable people is ongoing and of the highest priority for the Diocese of Parramatta. More information about this topic can be found here: <http://www.safeguarding.org.au/>

POSITIONS VACANT

Parish Secretary - St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie. For more information or to apply please visit: parracatholic.org/employment

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Parish Priest: Fr John McSweeney	✉	FrJohn@john23rd.org.au
Asst. Priest: Fr Thomas Bui	✉	FrThomas@john23rd.org.au
Deacon: Nicephorus Tan	✉	DeaconTan@john23rd.org.au

Mass Times

Monday to Friday 9:00am
Also Wednesday 9:00am Holy Cross
 Primary during school term
Saturday 9:00am, 6:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am
 6:00pm (Youth)

Baptism 12:00pm *Sunday by appointment*

Reconciliation (First Rite)

Saturday 5:00 - 5:45pm
 And after any weekday masses

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 8.30 - 4.00pm

Parish Office Contacts

☎ (02)9852 0580 📞 0403 766468 AH
 Secretary: Tanya Gatt
 ✉ secretary@john23rd.org.au
 Finance: Mila Llamas (Fri)
 ✉ accounts@john23rd.org.au
 Admin Asst: Jill Franco (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