

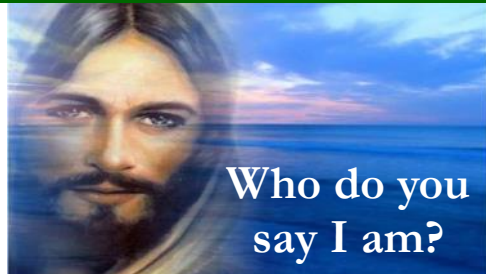
# The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII

Perfection Ave cnr Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens [www.john23rd.com](http://www.john23rd.com)

**Twenty First Sunday Ordinary Time**  
26 - 27 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."*



## From the Pastor's desk

Dear Sisters and brothers in Christ

Peter received a New name from the Lord, one which defined his vocation. We, too, are asked to continue Peter's ministry of laying a solid foundation for the church today.

Peter received the keys of the kingdom, being made chief steward of God's household. We, too, must exercise correct and good stewardship for the disciples of today, preparing the disciples of the future.

Peter received the promise that the church would always conquer evil. We, too, must work for the eradication of all that prevents the kingdom of God achieving its purpose of salvation for all.

(In the week ahead) let us open ourselves to the action of God's Spirit in all three areas mentioned above.

AUG		PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 28		<i>Saint Augustine (M)</i>
TUE 29		<i>The Passion of St John the Baptist (M)</i>
WED 30		7:30pm - Bible Study Gospel of Luke
THU 31		
SEP		
FRI 1		
SAT 2		
SUN 3		Baptism - Noah, Ryan

1. We pray for the success of our Parish Assembly this weekend and the pastoral plan that will ensue.
2. IGNITE (for young adults) occurs after 6pm Sunday Mass this weekend. All parishioners are invited to my second talk on the Interpretation of Bible!
3. First Friday Novena Mass on 1st September at 7.30pm. All welcome. First Saturday 9am Mass includes Anointing of the Sick.

God Bless you all. Fr John

## *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](mailto: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**

## World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2018 (extract)

*Dear brothers and sisters!*

*“You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God” (Leviticus 19:34).*

Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (*Matthew 25:35-43*). The Lord entrusts to the Church’s motherly love every person forced to leave their homeland in search of a better future. This solidarity must be concretely expressed at every stage of the migratory experience – from departure through journey to arrival and return. This is a great responsibility, which the Church intends to share with all believers and men and women of good will, who are called to respond to the many challenges of contemporary migration with generosity, promptness, wisdom and foresight, each according to their own abilities.

In this regard, I wish to reaffirm that *“our shared response may be articulated by four verbs: to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate”*.

Considering the current situation, welcoming means, above all, offering broader options for migrants and refugees to enter destination countries safely and legally. This calls for a concrete commitment to increase and simplify the process for granting humanitarian visas and for reunifying families. At the same time, I hope that a greater number of countries will adopt private and community sponsorship programmes, and open humanitarian corridors for particularly vulnerable refugees. Furthermore, special temporary visas should be granted to people fleeing conflicts in neighbouring countries. Collective and arbitrary expulsions of migrants and refugees are not suitable solutions, particularly where people are returned to countries which cannot guarantee respect for human dignity and

fundamental rights. Once again, I want to emphasise the importance of offering migrants and refugees adequate and dignified initial accommodation. *“More widespread programmes of welcome, already initiated in different places, seem to favour a personal encounter and allow for greater quality of service and increased guarantees of success”*. The principle of the centrality of the human person, firmly stated by my beloved Predecessor, Benedict XVI, obliges us to always prioritise personal safety over national security. The situation of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees requires that they be guaranteed personal safety and access to basic services. For the sake of the fundamental dignity of every human person, we must strive to find alternative solutions to detention for those who enter a country without authorisation.

The second verb – *protecting* – may be understood as a series of steps intended to defend the rights and dignity of migrants and refugees, independent of their legal status. Such protection begins in the country of origin, and consists in offering reliable and verified information before departure, and in providing safety from illegal recruitment practices. This must be ongoing, as far as possible, in the country of migration, guaranteeing them adequate consular assistance, the right to personally retain their documents of identification at all times, fair access to justice, the possibility of opening a personal bank account, and a minimum sufficient to live on. When duly recognised and valued, the potential and skills of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees are a true resource for the communities that welcome them. This is why I hope that, in countries of arrival, migrants may be offered freedom of movement, work opportunities, and access to means of communication, out of respect for their dignity. For those who decide to return to their homeland, I want to

## Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, my  
God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry  
to you all the day long.

## Communion Antiphon

The earth is replete with the fruits of your  
work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from  
the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

## First Reading

*Isaiah 22:19-23*

*I place the key of the House of David upon his  
shoulder.*

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the  
master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office, I remove  
you from your post, and the same day I  
call on my servant Eliakim son of  
Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe,  
gird him with your sash, entrust him  
with your authority;

and he shall be a father to the  
inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the  
House of Judah. I place the key of the  
House of David on his shoulder; should  
he open, no one shall close, should he  
close, no one shall open. I drive him like  
a peg into a firm place; he will become a  
throne of glory for his father's house.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*Romans 11:33-36*

*From him, through him, and in him are all things.*

How rich are the depths of God - how  
deep his wisdom and knowledge - and  
how impossible to penetrate his motives  
or understand his methods! Who could  
ever know the mind of the Lord? Who  
could ever be his counsellor? Who could  
ever give him anything or lend him  
anything? All that exists comes from him;  
all is by him and for him. To him be glory  
for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Matthew 16:18*

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will  
build my Church; the gates of hell will not  
hold out against it.

## Responsorial Psalm

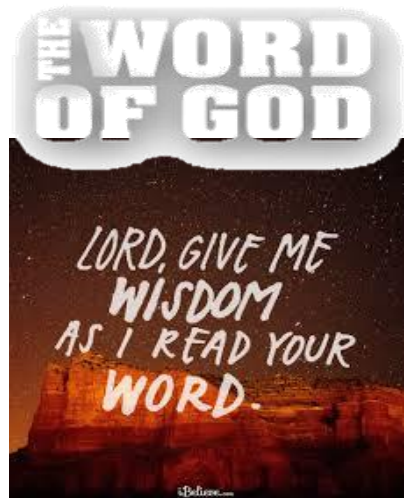
*Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8*

**R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not  
forsake the work of your hands.**

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you  
have heard the words of my mouth. Before  
the angels I will bless you, I will adore  
before your holy temple. **R.**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love  
which excel all we ever knew of you. On  
the day I called, you answered; you  
increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly  
and the haughty he knows from afar. Your  
love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the  
work of your hands. **R.**



## Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

*You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Gospel Reflection

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros.

Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build my church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus).

Notice that Jesus only makes promises about 'my church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset.

Fortunately, we have a successor of St Peter responding to our Risen Lord's command to St Francis of Assisi, 'Rebuild my church'.

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the 265th successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.

© Fr Michael Tate - LabOra Worship 2016

## 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](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com)

**Call** 1800 819 156 Toll free

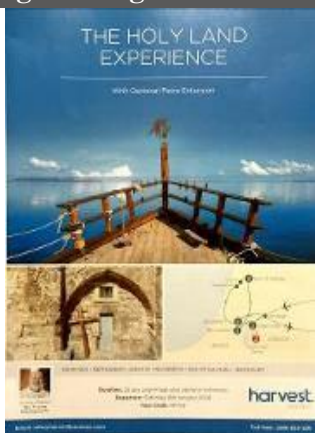
Spiritual Chaplain: Fr John

McSweeney

**Book now**

Deposit for the Pilgrimage has been reduced from \$1000 to \$600

(thanks to Fr John's intervention)



## 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

### 28 Mon *Saint Augustine (M)*

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5. 8-10

1 John 4:7-16

Psalm Ps 149:1-6. 9 / Ps 118:9-14

Gospel Matthew 23:13-22

Matthew 23:8-12

### 29 Tues *The Passion of St John the Baptist (M)*

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Jeremiah 1:17-19

Psalm Ps 138:1-3. 4-6

Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17

Gospel Matthew 23:23-26

Mark 6:17-29

### 30 Wed *21st week ordinary time*

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Psalm Ps 138:7-12

Gospel Matthew 23:27-32

### 31 Thu *21st week ordinary time*

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13

Psalm Ps 89:3-4. 12-14. 17

Gospel Matthew 24:42-51

## September

### 1 Fri *21st week ordinary time*

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Psalm Ps 96:1-2. 5-6. 10-12

Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

### 2 Sat *21st week ordinary time*

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11

Psalm Ps 97:1. 7-9

Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

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:

Angeling Sison, Paeng Selorio,  
Paciencia Yap, Melchor Batongbacal

### Deceased:

Bibiano Villanueva

### Anniversary:

Ernesto R Ribargoso, Peter Joachim,  
Lawrie Noronha, Erlinda Aure-Meguito,  
Eugene Ray Torres-Menguito,  
Feliciano Suarez Jr, Ernesto De Leon

### Sick:

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

### Thanksgiving:

Mr & Mrs C Pereria, Felina Maglaya,  
Apolinario Maglaya

## 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.

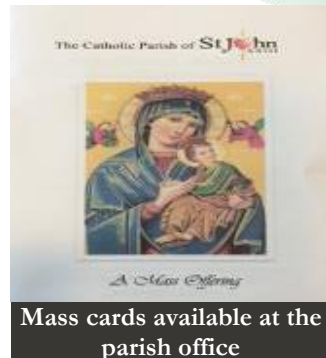
### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

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.

### 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/](http://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.



Mass cards available at the  
parish office

## Parish Pastoral Corner

*Only for today, I will make a plan for myself: I may not follow it to the letter, but I will make it. And I will be on guard against two evils: hastiness and indecision. — 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](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

Aug	1	8	15	22	29
	Lozada	Cabug-os	Gracias Flor	Pangilinan E	Shalini
Sep	5	12	19	26	
	Sebastian	Erasmus	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	Erasmus	Paguinto M	

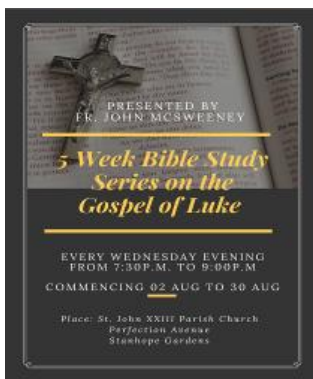
#### ⇒ Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses

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](mailto: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.





## World Day of Migrants (con't)

emphasise the need to develop social and professional reintegration programmes. *The International Convention on the Rights of the Child* provides a universal legal basis for the protection of underage migrants. They must be spared any form of detention related to migratory status, and must be guaranteed regular access to primary and secondary education. Temporary custody or foster programmes should be provided for unaccompanied minors and minors separated from their families. The universal right to a nationality should be recognised and duly certified for all children at birth. The statelessness which migrants and refugees sometimes fall into can easily be avoided with the adoption of “*nationality legislation that is in conformity with the fundamental principles of international law*”.

*Promoting* essentially means a determined effort to ensure that all migrants and refugees – as well as the communities which welcome them – are empowered to achieve their potential as human beings, in all the dimensions which constitute the humanity intended by the Creator. In 2006, Benedict XVI highlighted how, in the context of migration, the family is “*a place and resource of the culture of life and a factor for the integration of values*”. The family’s integrity must always be promoted, supporting family reunifications – including grandparents, grandchildren and siblings – independent of financial requirements. While I recognize the praiseworthy efforts, thus far, of many countries, in terms of international cooperation and humanitarian aid, I hope that the offering of this assistance will take into account the needs (*such as medical and social assistance, as well as education*) of developing countries which receive a significant influx of migrants and refugees. I also hope that local communities which are vulnerable and facing material hardship, will be included among aid beneficiaries.

The final verb – *integrating* – concerns the

opportunities for intercultural enrichment brought about by the presence of migrants and refugees. Integration is not “*an assimilation that leads migrants to suppress or to forget their own cultural identity. Rather, contact with others leads to discovering their ‘secret’, to being open to them in order to welcome their valid aspects and thus contribute to knowing each one better. This is a lengthy process that aims to shape societies and cultures, making them more and more a reflection of the multi-faceted gifts of God to human beings*”. I reiterate the need to foster a culture of encounter in every way possible – by increasing opportunities for intercultural exchange, documenting and disseminating best practices of integration, and developing programmes to prepare local communities for integration processes.

Dear brothers and sisters, in light of these processes currently underway, the coming months offer a unique opportunity to advocate and support the concrete actions which I have described with four verbs. I invite you, therefore, to use every occasion to share this message with all political and social actors involved (*or who seek to be involved*) in the process which will lead to the approval of the two Global Compacts.

The Holy Mother of God herself experienced the hardship of exile (*Matthew 2:13-15*), lovingly accompanied her Son’s journey to Calvary, and now shares eternally his glory. To her maternal intercession we entrust the hopes of all the world’s migrants and refugees and the aspirations of the communities which welcome them, so that, responding to the Lord’s supreme commandment, we may all learn to love the other, the stranger, as ourselves.

Vatican City, 15 August 2017

*Solemnity of the Assumption of the B.V. Mary*

*Pope’s message for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, which will be celebrated on January 14th 2018* For full text reading <https://zenit.org/articles/popes-message-for-world-day-of-migrants-and-refugees-2018/>

## Why We Need Marriage

*In an age when so many question the need for marriage, it's helpful to remind ourselves why this was the first institution God created.*

By Dave Boehi

One of the most seductive lies in any era is the belief that we no longer need the old beliefs.

It usually sounds something like this: *"Surely our world is now so modern and so sophisticated that we've transcended the need for biblical truth. That's old-fashioned. We need new, progressive values and institutions for our contemporary world."*

And so, in our modern culture, the institution of marriage is under siege. It's not just that so many people are unable to keep a marriage going for more than a few years. An increasing number are also wondering if there's anything special about marriage. Many, especially cohabiting couples, don't see the need for marriage. Some say it's time to replace marriage with something different.

A pair of Newsweek writers recently declared that the concept of a couple marrying for a lifetime is outdated: "With our life expectancy in the high 70s," they wrote, *"the idea that we're meant to be together forever is less realistic. ... Healthy partnerships are possible, for sure—but the permanence of marriage seems naïve, almost arrogant."*

When I asked Marriage Memo readers whether they agreed with statements that marriage is a "dying institution," a number made a great point: God is the one who created the institution of marriage, and He has the final word on whether it will die.

So it is helpful, in an age when so many question the need for marriage, to remind ourselves why this was the first institution God created. Marriage is at the center of God's purpose for mankind.

One of God's purposes for marriage is to mutually complete one another, and to experience companionship. The Bible speaks to this purpose in the book of

Genesis, when God created man and then said, *"It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him"* (Genesis 2:18).

Marriage is God's provision to meet our deep longing for a close and intimate relationship. He puts a man and woman together and uses their respective strengths and weaknesses to make them stronger as a team. It is in marriage that God calls people to put aside their selfishness, commit themselves to another person unconditionally, and assume responsibility for others.

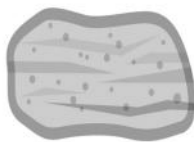
Another purpose for marriage is to multiply a godly legacy. Genesis 1:28 tells us that God blessed man and woman and said to them, *"Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth."* Other Scriptures such as Deuteronomy 6:4-9 emphasize that the home is a crucial environment for teaching children the Word of God and modelling a lifestyle of love for God and commitment to Him. The best place for children to understand concepts like gender roles, unconditional love, and interdependence is in a family where both parents are present and involved.

Some would argue that the first two objectives I've mentioned could be fulfilled outside the bond of matrimony. But God's third purpose for marriage—to mirror His image to the world—reveals just how significant this institution is.

Genesis 1:27 says, *"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."* He created humanity to reflect His image. The oneness a man and woman experience in marriage reflects the character and unity of God (Matthew 19:4-6). And Ephesians 5:22-33 tell us that the love and commitment between a husband and wife is a picture of the love and commitment between Christ and His followers.

For many years I've had trouble

Match up each of these symbols of St Peter with its correct story



Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Messiah, the son of the living God." Jesus told Peter that he would be the foundation upon which the church would be built.

When Jesus first met Peter and his brother Andrew he said to them, "Follow me!" Immediately they stopped what they were doing and followed Jesus.

Jesus told his disciples that they would desert him. Peter told Jesus he would never desert him, but Jesus predicted that Peter would deny him three times.

Jesus said to Peter, "You are Peter, to you I will give the keys to the kingdom of heaven."

### Why we do . . . .

grasping this final purpose, because it's a bit mysterious. But the longer I'm married the more clearly I've understood it. God gave me my wife—a woman whose love and commitment I trust without question—to give me a glimpse of His love for me. And, just as important, by looking at our marriage, other people can see a model of that same love.

One Marriage Memo reader spoke of this purpose for marriage in a comment on actress Cameron Diaz's belief that relationships work best when they last no longer than five years. "God did not send His Son so that we may spend five years with Him," the reader wrote. "He sent His son so that

*whoever believes in Him shall have everlasting life. We get to spend eternity with the Father."*

In the same way, "God did not create marriage to be given up whenever it gets tough. He created it so that we can have our companion to go through life's journey together, until death do us part." A solid, lasting marriage is a picture of God's lasting commitment to us.

Since marriage is that important to God, it should be that important to us. He created it for His glory and for our good. We cannot afford to let it continue to decline in our culture.

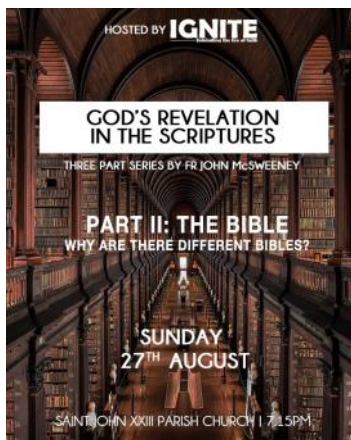
<http://www.familylife.com/articles/topics/marriage/staying-married/gods-plan-for-marriage/why-we-need-marriage>

## 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.



### 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



### 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

✉ For all youth ministry enquiries, email us at [youth@john23rd.com](mailto:youth@john23rd.com)

# Word Find

Who do you say I am?

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

## Find these words

Baptist	Church	disciples	Elijah	God	Jeremiah
Keys	living	Messiah	Peter	rock	son

### 3 September - Q & A Programme “Let’s Talk About What Matters”

Held at The Crypt, St Patrick’s Church, Grosvenor Street, Sydney, 1.30 – 3.00pm.

**September 3**– “Pluralism: Why can’t They be more like me?” Captain Mona Shindy & Rev Peter Kurti;

**September 24**– “Social Media – A force for good?” Professor Gerard Goggin & Cecilia Hilder;

**October 1**– “Pornography: Who does it harm?” Rev Fr John Baron OP;

**October 22** - “Finding the Courage to make a Difference” Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO and Alpha Cheng.

No need to book. No charge. Further information:

website: [catalyst-for-renewal.com.au](http://catalyst-for-renewal.com.au)

Email: [catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au) or 02 9990 7003

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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/>

### 15-17 September - Single Life Vocation Retreat

A Retreat for Women at Mt Schoenstatt who would like to find out more about the Vocation to Single Life. The weekend will provide an opportunity to meet Women who are living the Single Life vocation and learn about how this vocation is lived and fostered. For more information or to register contact Sr M Julie Brcar: [juliebrcar@gmail.com](mailto:juliebrcar@gmail.com) or 0408 738 334.

### 16 September - Reflection day for Women

Saturday, 9.30am – 3.00pm, Mt Schoenstatt Fairlight Rd Mulgoa. Led by Sr Mary Louise Walsh. Cost: \$25, BYO lunch. To register or for more information [info@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:info@schoenstatt.org.au) Or call 4773 8338.

### POSITIONS VACANT

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



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<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr John McSweeney	✉	FrJohn@john23rd.org.au
<b>Asst. Priest:</b> Fr Thomas Bui	✉	FrThomas@john23rd.org.au
<b>Deacon:</b> 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