

## Twenty Second Sunday Ordinary Time 2 - 3 September 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."*



# FIND LIFE, FOLLOW JESUS

know

grow

share

serve

### From the Pastor's desk

*Dear sisters and brothers in Christ*

Our readings this weekend speak to us of Discipleship.

The Prophet Jeremiah's experience tells us not to be afraid of criticism or abuse for being faithful to God.

St. Paul offers us the way to a totally integrated personality through modelling our lives and minds on Christ Jesus.

And Jesus himself instructs us in the ways of Discipleship: self-denial, carrying our cross, and following him in everything.

In the week ahead let's reflect on what sort of 'disciple' we are, and renew our commitment to be faithful to our Christian vocation once again.

With regard to the upcoming plebiscite on same-sex civil marriage, it is incumbent upon all people of Faith to be informed of the issues surrounding this topic, and vote according to their informed conscience.

God bless you all. Let's continue to pray for one another.

*Fr. John*

SEP		PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON	4	
TUE	5	
WED	6	RCIA Program begins
THU	7	9.00am - Liturgy of the Word
FRI	8	<i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
SAT	9	
SUN	10	Baptism - Alister, Ethan, Archer, Brendan, Scarlett, Madeleine

## Gospel Reflection

Today's Gospel continues the story that began in last week's Gospel. Simon Peter was called the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church, and yet Peter continues to show the limitations of his understanding of Jesus' identity. Now that the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross.

Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. Messianic expectations were a common aspect of first-century Judaism. Under Roman occupation, many in Israel hoped and prayed that God would send a Messiah to free the Jews from Roman oppression. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way.

Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service. Perhaps this is what Peter feared most in Jesus' prediction of his Passion. He whom Jesus had called "rock" would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others. Christian leaders today are still called to sacrifice and serve others as Jesus did.

Roque Dias

## PROPOSED CHANGE TO MARRIAGE ACT

As members of the Australian democracy we are being called to consider changes to the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act. Mindful of the Church's understanding of Marriage as well as of our belief that every human being, regardless of gender or sexual orientation, is created in the image of God, is important that debate takes place in a measured, mature and sensitive manner.

### **Marriage is**

The Church views marriage as a unique relationship between a woman and a man.

Marriage is also a fundamental institution for all societies because of its importance in uniting spouses as potential parents and in providing for the upbringing of their children. It has therefore been understood as the union of a man and a woman in all cultures and religions until very recent times and is still so defined in international law and the law of most nations.

The recognition that marriage is between a man and a woman is not the assertion of bigotry, religious dogma or irrational tradition, but a recognition of human ecology. It does not preclude persons of the same sex entering into other legal relationships.

To insist that marriage is a relationship between a man and a woman is not a criticism of other kinds of relationships. By recognizing this particular type of relationship our community and its marriage laws do not unjustly discriminate against other relationships: rather, our community and its laws recognize the essential connections between male-female bonding and child-bearing, and between children and their natural parents. The Commonwealth has an interest in ensuring that children have the benefit of those connections.

Redefining marriage would deliberately create motherless or fatherless families, which would deprive children of at least one of their biological parents, and would put the preferences or interests of adults before the right and interests of children.

### **Consequences of change**

The Church recognises that genderless marriage would have flow-on consequences, where essential roles like motherhood and fatherhood would likely be erased from the law to the detriment of children.

Will people of faith be compelled by law to be involved in activities or ceremonies that are contrary to their beliefs?

Will religious organisations or agencies continue to be free to employ staff who abide by the ethos of those organisations regarding marriage?

Will religious organisations or agencies be free to bid for government contracts or other funding without being forced to endorse same-sex marriage?

Will faith-based schools, with a responsibility to pass on the faith, be free to teach that marriage according to their religion is only between a woman and a man and be free to employ staff who support those teachings?

We have seen each of these freedoms challenged overseas where the definition of marriage has changed. In Australia too we have already seen Hobart Archbishop Julian Porteous taken to the state anti-discrimination commission for distributing a booklet explaining the long held Christian view of marriage, upon which societies through the ages have been built.

## Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

## Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

### First Reading

*Jeremiah 20:7-9*

*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading

*Romans 12:1-2*

*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 62:2-6. 8-9*

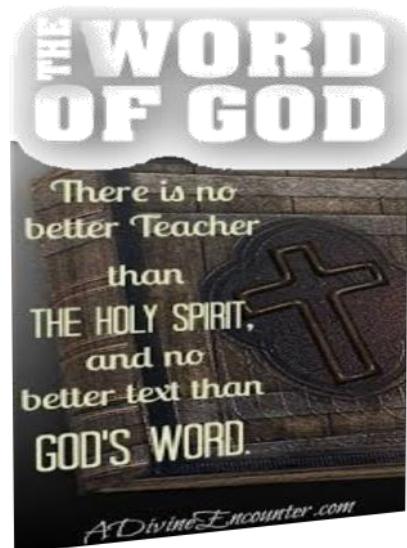
**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **R.**



## Gospel Acclamation

*of Ephesians 1:17. 18*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we  
might see how great is the hope to which  
we are called.  
Alleluia!

## Proposed change (cont'd)

The consequences of changing marriage  
are very real.

For more information & Resources, go  
to: <https://www.catholic.org.au/plebiscite>

## Gospel

*Matthew 16:21-27*

*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## 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

### 4 Mon 22nd week ordinary time

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Psalm Ps 95:1. 3. 5. 11-13

Gospel Luke 4:16-30

### 5 Tues 22nd week ordinary time

1st Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6. 9-11

Psalm Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14

Gospel Luke 4:31-37

### 6 Wed 22nd week ordinary time

1st Reading Colossians 1:1-8

Psalm Ps 51:10-11

Gospel Luke 4:38-44

### 7 Thu 22nd week ordinary time

1st Reading Colossians 1:9-14

Psalm Ps 97:2-6

Gospel Luke 5:1-11

### 8 Fri The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (F)

1st Reading Micah 5:1-4 / Romans 8:28-30

Psalm Ps 12:6-7

Gospel Matthew 1:1-16. 18-23

Matthew 1:18-23

### 9 Sat 22nd week ordinary time

1st Reading Colossians 1:21-23

Psalm Ps 53:3-4. 6. 8

Gospel Luke 6:1-5

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:

Victor Ebardla, Lydia Babista Sereno,  
Jim Geppert, Joseph Damjanovic

### Deceased:

Giorgio Kavo, Ivan Peric, Max Janezic,  
Joseph Cassar, Father Dave Hume

### Anniversary:

Abelardo Africa Sr, Neomisa Reynolds,  
Domenico Surdich, Ernesto Ribargoso,  
Noleta Athayde, John Cherry, Ante Janezic,  
Lawrie Noronha, Maria Zamora,  
Carlito Songco

### Sick:

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

### Thanksgiving:

Ronaldo, Kristine, Mario, Ramon, Vincenzo,  
Jayanie, Sahanie

## 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.

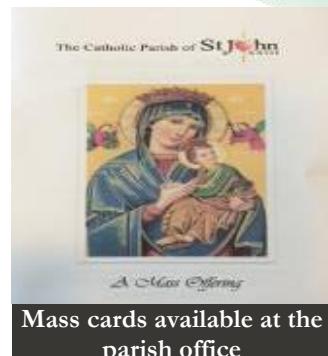
### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

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.



## Memorial Wall

A place to remember your loved ones.  
We are taking orders for the next batch  
of plaques for the memorial wall. If you  
wish to order a plaque to be ready by  
**All Souls Day (2 November)** please  
contact the parish office.



The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII

A Mass Offering

Mass cards available at the parish office

## Parish Pastoral Corner

*Only for today, I will firmly believe, despite appearances, that the good providence of God cares for me as no one else who exists in this world. — 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					
Sep	5	12	19	26	
	Sebastian	Erasmo	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	Erasmo	Paguinto M	

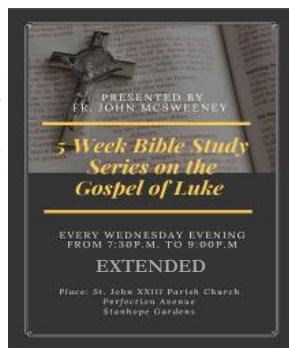
#### ⇒ Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses

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.

#### ⇒ Gospel of St. Luke

The Bible Study Series on the Gospel of St. Luke conducted by Fr. John McSweeney has been extended for another 3 weeks starting on Wednesday, 20 September 2017 to 27 September and 04 October at 7:30p.m. at St. John XXIII parish church.



**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

**R C I A**

⇒ If you have family or friends who might be interested in understanding the Catholic faith, let us know via email [rcia.sj23rd@gmail.com](mailto:rcia.sj23rd@gmail.com). The RCIA programme will commence on 6th of September.

**15 Day Pilgrimage****THE HOLY LAND**

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

**Departure:** Saturday 6th January 2018

**Tour Code:** 8PV03

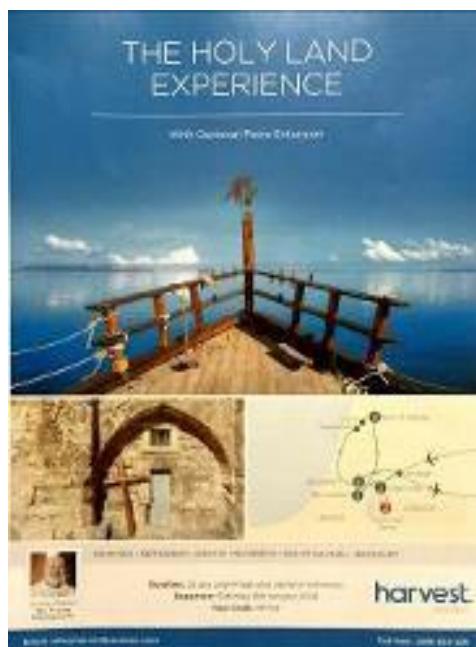
**Email:** [info@harvestjourneys.com](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com)

**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*)



## Why we do what we do

### **THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - *The Birthday of the Mother of God*** by Scott P. Richert

The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the day on which Christians East and West commemorate the birth of Mary, the Mother of God, was celebrated as early as the sixth century. We know that from the fact that Saint Romanos the Melodist, an Eastern Christian who composed many of the hymns used in the Eastern Catholic and Eastern Orthodox liturgies, composed a hymn for the feast at that time.

The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary spread to Rome in the seventh century, but it took a couple of more centuries before it was celebrated throughout the West.

#### **QUICK FACTS**

Date: September 8

Type of Feast: Feast

Readings: Micah 5:1-4A or Romans 8:28-30; Psalm 13:6AB, 6C; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 or Matthew 1:18-23 (full text here)

Prayers: The Hail Mary, Prayer for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Other Names for the Feast: The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary; The Virgin Mary's Birthday

#### ***History of the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

Even though we cannot trace the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary back any further than the sixth century, the source for the story of the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary is much older. The earliest documented version is found in the Protoevangelium of James, an apocryphal gospel written about A.D.

150. From the Protoevangelium of James, we learn the names of Mary's parents, Joachim and Anna, as well as the tradition that the couple was childless until an angel appeared to Anna and told her that she

would conceive. (Many of the same details appear also in the later apocryphal Gospel of the Nativity of Mary.)

#### ***The reason for the date***

The traditional date of the feast, September 8, falls exactly nine months after the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Perhaps because of its close proximity to the feast of the Assumption of Mary, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is not celebrated today with the same solemnity as the Immaculate Conception. It is, nonetheless, a very important feast, because it prepares the way for the birth of Christ. It is also an unusual feast, because it celebrates a birthday.

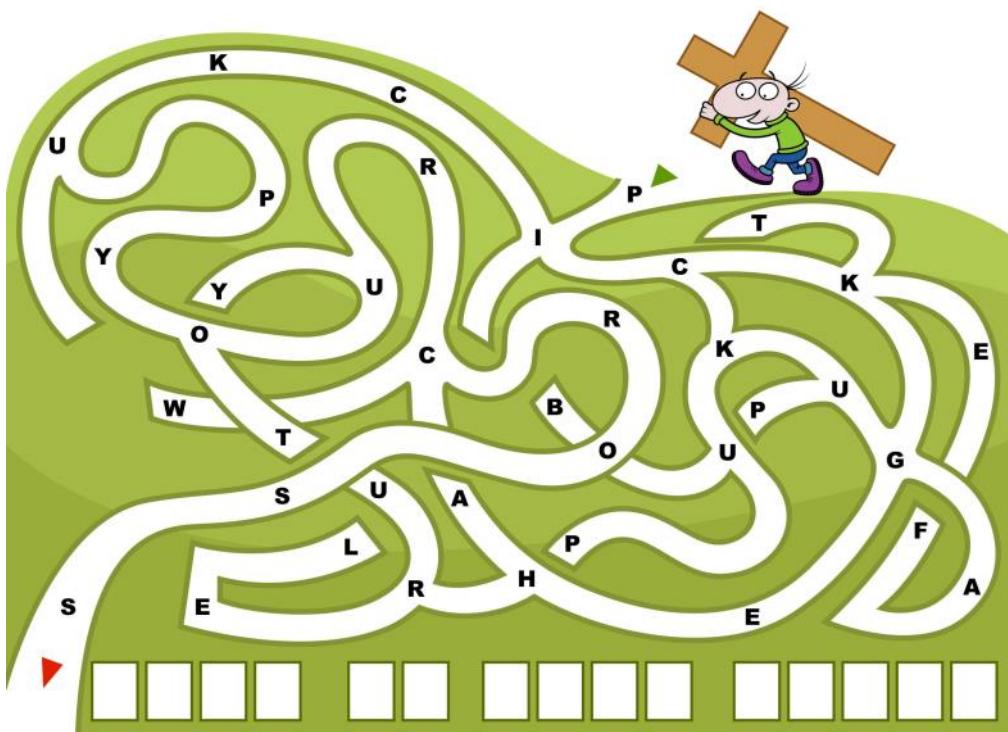
#### ***Why do we celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary's birthday***

The feasts of saints are traditionally celebrated on the day of their death, because that is the date on which they entered into eternal life. And, indeed, we also celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary's entrance into Heaven on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption.

There are only three people whose birthdays have traditionally been celebrated by Christians. Jesus Christ, at Christmas; Saint John the Baptist; and the Blessed Virgin Mary. And we celebrate all three birthdays for the same reason: All three were born without Original Sin. Christ, because He was conceived by the Holy Spirit; Mary, because she was kept free from the stain of Original Sin by the action of God in His foreknowledge that she would agree to be the mother of Christ; and Saint John, because he was blessed in the womb by the presence of his Savior when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, came to aid her cousin Elizabeth in the final months of Elizabeth's pregnancy (*an event we celebrate in the Feast of the Visitation*).

<https://www.thoughtco.com/nativity-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-542466>

Find the way through the MAZE. Discover what Jesus said to his disciples.



**S J 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:** 24 September 2017

**Topic:** TBA

**Guest Speaker:** TBA

Find us on  
[facebook.com/sj23ignite](https://facebook.com/sj23ignite)

**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 team.

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

Find us on  
[facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23](https://facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23)

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

## Word Find

Take up your cross and follow me

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

## Find these words

Cross	disciples	find	follow	forget	give	Jerusalem	life
		Peter	rise	Satan	three		

## Diocesan News

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

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

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

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

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

**22Oct** “Finding the Courage to make a Difference” Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO and Alpha Cheng. No need to book. No charge. Further information: 02 9990 7003 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)

### **7 Sept - 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 Sept - 2017 Faith in marriage seminar**

2017 Faith in marriage seminar: Men, Women & the Mystery of Love. Presented by Dr Edward Sri (*Dr. Sri is an American theologian, author and well-known Catholic speaker who appears regularly on EWTN. Each year he speaks to clergy, parish leaders, catechists and laity from around the world. He has written several best-selling books, host of the acclaimed film series Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained (Augustine Institute) and presenter of several faith formation film series. He is a professor of Theology and Vice-President of Mission and Outreach at the Augustine Institute in Denver, CO.*) at St Patrick’s Cathedral Hall Parramatta on Friday 8th September, 7.30pm sharp. Register: 8838 3460 or [lmf@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:lmf@parra.catholic.org.au) Sponsored by the Life Marriage & Family Office Diocese of Parramatta and Parousia Media Suggested donation: \$10 per person \*Light supper provided afterwards

### **8 Sept - Annual Diocesan CCD Mass**

All catechists and family members are invited to the Annual CCD Mass, concelebrated by Bishop Vincent Long and priests of the Diocese at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills on September 8th at 11am. Papal Blessings and other Certificates will be presented after Mass. A light lunch will follow in the Parish Hall. Please rsvp your parish coordinator or contact Maree Collis 98904731

### **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/>

### **15-17Sept- 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 info or to register contact Sr M Julie Brearer [juliebrearer@gmail.com](mailto:juliebrearer@gmail.com) or 0408 738 334.

### **16 Sept - 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.

**AD SPACE**

**AD SPACE**

 **Hills Family Funerals**  
A tradition of care and concern  
*A Tradition of Care & Concern*  
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<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr John McSweeney	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="mailto:FrJohn@john23rd.org.au">FrJohn@john23rd.org.au</a>
<b>Asst. Priest:</b> Fr Thomas Bui	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="mailto:FrThomas@john23rd.org.au">FrThomas@john23rd.org.au</a>
<b>Deacon:</b> Nicephorus Tan	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="mailto:DeaconTan@john23rd.org.au">DeaconTan@john23rd.org.au</a>

### 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

**Secretary:** Tanya Gatt  
 [secretary@john23rd.org.au](mailto:secretary@john23rd.org.au)

**Finance:** Mila Llamas (Fri)  
 [accounts@john23rd.org.au](mailto:accounts@john23rd.org.au)

**Admin Asst:** Jill Franco (Tues, Wed & Fri)  
 [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto:admin@john23rd.org.au)

**Business Manager:** John McCartney (*pro bono*)  
 [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@john23rd.org.au)

## D e v o t i o n s & 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

## O u r S c h o o l C o m m u n i t y

### Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

**Telephone:** (02) 8664 7100

**Email:** [holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

**Telephone:** (02) 9852 0500

**Email:** [smarks@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smarks@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

**Telephone:** (02) 9852 0585

**Email:** [celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au)

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