

# The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII

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

**Twenty Third Sunday Ordinary Time**  
**9 - 10 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."*

**"For where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them."**



## From the Pastor's desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

As we listen to the Gospel today we are reminded by the Lord that we have a responsibility for our brothers and sisters salvation. Let us always endeavour to help all those with whom we come into contact to come to the Lord and his church, for the salvation of their souls.

- Holy Cross School celebrates its Feast Day this Wednesday at 9.15am. All welcome.
- Our next Nursing Home Mass is this Friday at 11am. Again, all welcome.

God Bless

*Fr John*

SEP	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 11	
TUE 12	
WED 13	<i>Saint John Chrysostom (M)</i>
THU 14	<i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (F)</i>
FRI 15	<i>Our Lady of Sorrows (M)</i> <b>BLAZE</b>
SAT 16	<i>Saints Cornelius &amp; Cyprian (M)</i> 7:30pm - <b>Praise &amp; Worship</b> - Forgiveness Heals (Christian values part 1)
SUN 17	<b>Baptism</b> - Jayden, Rosario, Ruby

## Gospel Reflection

If we call someone our friend, we have the responsibility for one. This goes against the grain of people not wanting to get involved in the lives of others. We tend to mind our own business. But friends have a responsibility for their friends.

We Christians have a responsibility to others. Our readings today list three different kinds of responsibilities we have to others. They are the responsibility to speak, to respect and to heal.

We have a moral duty to speak the truth according to the bible about right and wrong, whether to our society or to individuals. There are different ways to doing it but as Christians can we be silent when there are attacks on innocent life, when our society is going in the wrong moral direction. The Lord says through Ezekiel that we have the duty to speak. To say nothing is to become morally complicit in the wrong another does. If we speak and that person refuses to listen, we will have done our duty.

Then there is the duty to respect another. We all have the duty to respect one another's life, marriage, property and integrity with respect to the teaching of the bible.

Lastly, the Gospel reading goes a bit deeper into our responsibility in dealing with conflict. Conflict is not alien to the Christian community or to the individual Christian's life. There is a Christian way of dealing with it that doesn't seek revenge but the mending of the conflict and the other's person's return to God's grace.

As Christians we have a responsibility to not stand by and watch others destroy themselves or us. We show that responsibility by speaking the truth to them. We show that responsibility by respecting another's life, marriage, property and integrity. We show that responsibility by seeking to manage conflict in a Christian way.

The point of today's readings is that Christian love is not a feeling or emotion but a responsibility. The greatest harm we can do to people when they face spiritual danger is to do nothing and just look the other way.

Deacon Tan

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

For an alternative view, here is a link to an article from Fr Frank Brennan, SJ, as published in Sydney Morning Herald, Sep 1, 2017 - <http://www.smb.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/legalise-samesex-marriage-for-the-common-good-says-catholic-priest-frank-brennan-20170901-gy8njv.html>

### Child Protection Sunday 10th September "See Me, Hear Me"



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. This year our theme is "See Me, Hear Me". The question is how do we,.....(parish, community, school, etc), play our part in listening to children to ensure they are kept safe? This year the National Committee for Professional Standards have commissioned a video and brochure through the Australian Catholic University reflecting on

research around what children think about their safety.

In the first reading for the 10th September, Child Protection Sunday the Prophet Ezekiel speaks of "being a sentry to the House of Israel". As already stated within our Catholic Communities there is horror, anger and sorrow over the abuse of children. As Pope Francis outlined before leading the crowds in the Angelus prayer in March last year it is important to "Listen: this is the key word. Do not forget, listen to the hurt, sick and marginalized, or among families" As a sentry, each of us plays a part in listening to what the children have to say, making sure that every child is safe and protected from abuse and harm.

We can see evidence of the strength of our community providing support, protection and opportunities to help keep our children safe through .....

#### **Pope Francis Day of Prayer and Penance**

In 2016, following a proposal from the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, the Holy Father established a 'Day of prayer and penance for the victims of sexual abuse and to ask God for a greater awareness of the responsibility of the members of the Church towards the underage people entrusted to them'. Here in Australia, this second-stated purpose is already a focus of Child Protection Sunday, which is observed each year on the second Sunday in September. Therefore the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has decided to observe the Day of prayer and penance for the victims of sexual abuse on Sunday or the preceding Friday.



**National Committee for Professional Standards**

## Entrance Antiphon

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

## Communion Antiphon

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

## First Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7-9*

*If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*Romans 13:8-10*

*Love is the fulfilment of the Law.*

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 94:1-2. 6-9*

**R. O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*2 Corinthians 5:19*

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

*If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

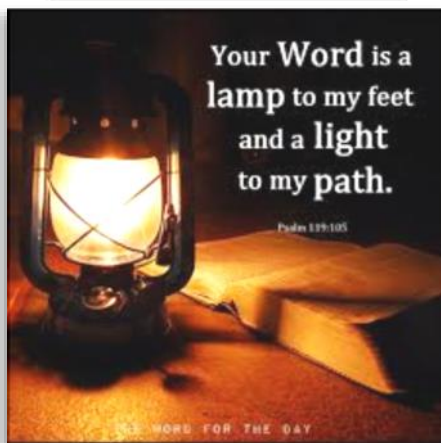
'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE WORD  
OF GOD



## 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

**11 Mon 23rd week ordinary time**

1st Reading Colossians 1:24 - 2:3

Psalm Ps 61:6-7. 9

Gospel Luke 6:6-11

**12 Tues 23rd week ordinary time**

1st Reading Colossians 2:6-15

Psalm Ps 144:1-2. 8-11

Gospel Luke 6:12-19

**13 Wed Saint John Chrysostom (M)**

1st Reading Colossians 3:1-11

Ephesians 4:1-7. 11-13

Psalm Ps 144:2-3. 10-13

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10

Gospel Luke 6:20-26

Mark 4:1-10. 13-20

**14 Thu The Exaltation of the Holy  
Cross (F)**

1st Reading Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm Ps 77:1-2. 34-38

2nd Reading Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel John 3:13-17

**15 Fri Our Lady of Sorrows (M)**

1st Reading Hebrews 5:7-9

Psalm Ps 30:2-6. 15-16. 20

Gospel John 19:25-27

Luke 2:33-35

**16 Sat Saints Cornelius & Cyprian (M)**

1st Reading 1 Timothy 1:15-17

2 Corinthians 4:7-15

Psalm Ps 112:1-7 / Ps 125

Gospel Luke 6:43-49 / John 17:11-19

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:

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

### Deceased:

Anthony & Lily Fernandes

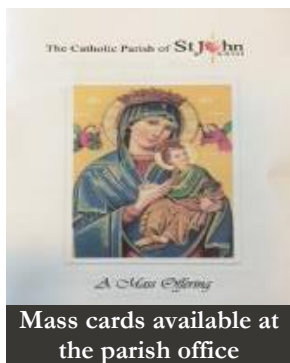
### Anniversary:

Lydia Chua, Villamor Sarabia, Cornelio  
Abellana, Amada Abellana, Bernardo  
Abellana, Gloria Abellana Gaitszch

### 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, Neil Buensuceso,  
Cora Salvador

### Thanksgiving:



## 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.

## 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 have no fears. In particular, I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful and to believe in goodness. Indeed, for 12 hours I can certainly do what might cause me consternation were I to believe I had to do it all my life. . — 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	

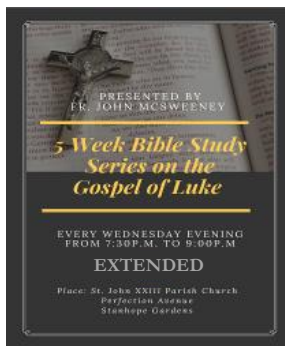
#### ⇒ Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses

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.





## PPC

### 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

### RCIA

⇒ 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

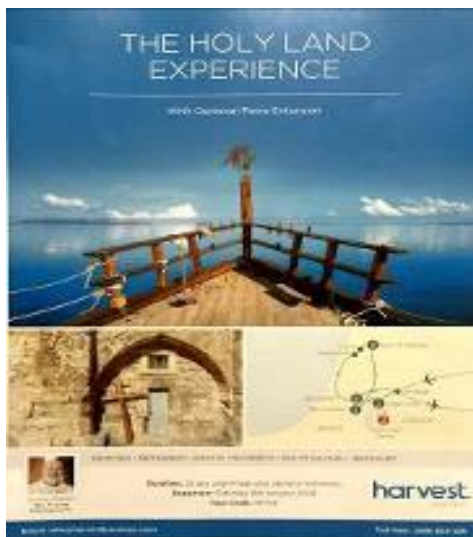
**Tour Code:** 8PV03

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

**Call** 1800 819 156 Toll free

**Spiritual Chaplain:** Fr John McSweeney

**Book now**



## Parish News

### COLUMBAN CALENDAR 2018

The Columban Art Calendar is an iconic Catholic Calendar, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information and is a major fundraiser for Columban Missionaries. The Columban calendar for next year 2018 is now available at the foyer. The cost is \$10.00. Please leave your money in the box provided.

### AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS

The latest edition of Australian Catholics is also available in the foyer - free!

## Why we do what we do

### **THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS** *by Scott P. Richert*

Celebrated every year on September 14, recalls three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation.

This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden.

***History of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*** - After the death and resurrection of Christ, both the Jewish and Roman authorities in Jerusalem made efforts to obscure the Holy Sepulchre, Christ's tomb in the garden near the site of His crucifixion. The earth had been mounded up over the site, and pagan temples had been built on top of it. The Cross on which Christ had died had been hidden (tradition said) by the Jewish authorities somewhere in the vicinity.

***Saint Helena and the finding of the True Cross*** - According to tradition, first mentioned by Saint Cyril of Jerusalem in 348, Saint Helena, nearing the end of her life, decided under divine inspiration to travel to Jerusalem in 326 to excavate the Holy Sepulchre and attempt to locate the True Cross. A Jew by the name of Judas, aware of the tradition concerning the hiding of the Cross, led those excavating the Holy Sepulchre to the spot in which it was hidden.

Three crosses were found on the spot. According to one tradition, the inscription *Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum* ("*Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews*") remained attached to the True Cross. According to a more common tradition, however, the inscription was missing, and Saint Helena and Saint Macarius, the bishop of Jerusalem, assuming that one was the True Cross and the other two belonged to the thieves crucified alongside Christ, devised an experiment to determine which was the True Cross.

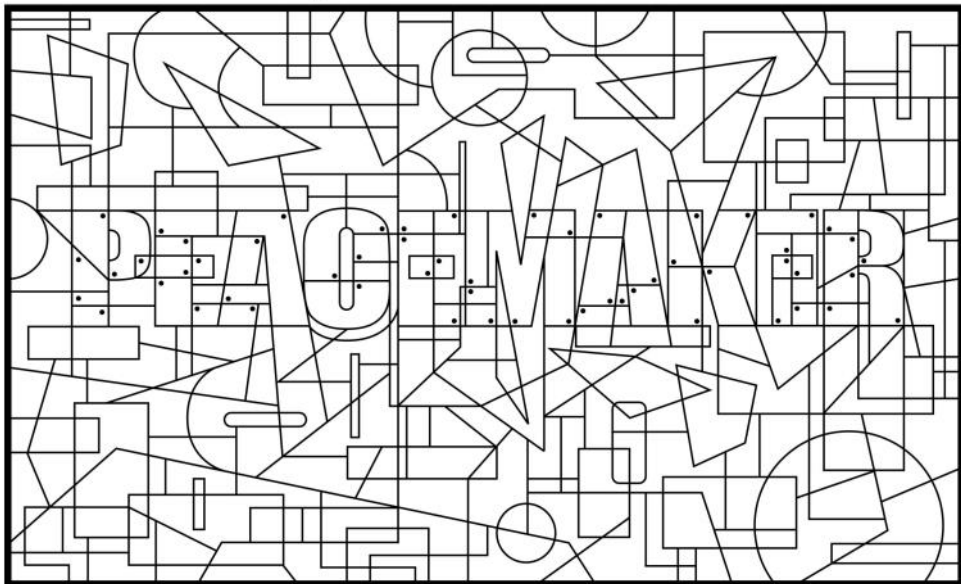
In one version of the latter tradition, the three crosses were taken to a woman who was near death; when she touched the True Cross, she was healed. In another, the body of a dead man was brought to the place where the three crosses were found, and laid upon each cross. The True Cross restored the dead man to life.

***The Dedication of the Churches on Mount Calvary and The Holy Sepulchre*** - In celebration of the discovery of the Holy Cross, Constantine ordered the construction of churches at the site of the Holy Sepulchre and on Mount Calvary. Those churches were dedicated on September 13 and 14, 335, and shortly thereafter the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross began to be celebrated on the latter date. The feast slowly spread from Jerusalem to other churches, until, by the year 720, the celebration was universal.

***The Restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem*** - In the early seventh century, the Persians conquered Jerusalem, and the Persian king Khosrau II captured the True Cross and took it back to Persia. After Khosrau's defeat by Emperor Heraclius II, Khosrau's own son had him assassinated in 628 and returned the True Cross to Heraclius. In 629, Heraclius, having initially taken the True Cross to Constantinople, decided to restore it to Jerusalem. Tradition says that he carried the Cross on his own back, but when he attempted to enter the church on Mount Calvary, a strange force stopped him. Patriarch Zacharias of Jerusalem, seeing the emperor struggling, advised him to take off his royal robes and crown and to dress in a penitential robe instead.

As soon as Heraclius took Zacharias' advice, he was able to carry the True Cross into the church.

Color in each shape that contains a dot to discover the hidden word.



For some centuries, a second feast, the Invention of the Cross, was celebrated on May 3 in the Roman and Gallican churches, following a tradition that marked that date as the day on which Saint Helena discovered the True Cross. In Jerusalem, however, the finding of the Cross was celebrated from the beginning on September 14.

**Why do we celebrate The Feast of the Holy Cross?** It's easy to understand that the Cross is special because Christ used it as the instrument of our salvation. But after His Resurrection, why would Christians continue to look to the Cross?

Christ Himself offered us the answer: *"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me"* (Luke 9:23). The point of taking up our own cross is not simply self-sacrifice; in doing so, we unite ourselves to the sacrifice of Christ on His Cross.

When we participate in the Mass, the Cross is there, too. The *"unbloody sacrifice"* offered on the altar is the re-presentation of Christ's

Sacrifice on the Cross. When we receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we do not simply unite ourselves to Christ; we nail ourselves to the Cross, dying with Christ so that we might rise with Him.

*"For the Jews require signs, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews indeed a stumbling block, and unto the Gentiles foolishness . . ."* (1 Corinthians 1:22-23).

Today, more than ever, non-Christians see the Cross as foolishness. What kind of Savior triumphs through death?

For Christians, however, the Cross is the crossroads of history and the Tree of Life. Christianity without the Cross is meaningless: Only by uniting ourselves to Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross can we enter into eternal life.

<https://www.thoughtco.com/feast-exaltation-of-the-holy-cross-542472>

## 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:** 24 September 2017

**Topic:** TBA

**Guest Speaker:** 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

### 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:** 15 September 2017



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

## Word Find

Carefully point out what is wrong

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

### Find these words

Church go listen private refuse Scriptures sin  
True two unbeliever witnesses wrong

## 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 Sept- 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 Bracar [juliebracar@gmail.com](mailto:juliebracar@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.

## 21 Sept - Martin Luther – The man and his music

A concert commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation will be held at St. Finbar's Church, Glenbrook on Thursday 21st Sept 2017 at 7.30pm. Sing and learn about some of the great hymns composed by Martin Luther and other Reformation hymn writers. Performances by the Blue Mountains Chorale with Robert Ampt (*Organist, Martin Luther Church, Sydney*). Suggested donation: \$20, \$10 concession. Enquiries 4754 1780

## 24 Sept – 6 Oct - Pilgrimage: A taste before the real thing!

An AMAZING 13-day Encounter tour of Timor Leste. An experienced guide leads your visit to communities where Palms volunteers work with host communities. Get a unique understanding of their daily lives; an incredible insight into Timorese culture. Witness sustainable development. Visit [palms.org.au/encounter](http://palms.org.au/encounter). Call Roger during business hours: 0431995058.

## 24 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.

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

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

**22 Oct** “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)



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<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr John McSweeney	✉	<a href="mailto:FrJohn@john23rd.org.au">FrJohn@john23rd.org.au</a>
<b>Asst. Priest:</b> Fr Thomas Bui	✉	<a href="mailto:FrThomas@john23rd.org.au">FrThomas@john23rd.org.au</a>
<b>Deacon:</b> Nicephorus Tan	✉	<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

☎ (02)9852 0580 ☎ 0403 766468 AH

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

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

Admin Asst: Jill Franco (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)

## 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](mailto:holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

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

### Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

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

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