

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII

Perfection Ave cnr Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens www.john23rd.com

Twenty Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time
23 - 24 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."



The first will be last.....

From the Pastor's desk

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

We often judge from a position of strict justice; this is expected in human society. But God looks at things differently. The powerful Parable in today's Gospel speaks of God's loving generosity. Although they worked only one hour in the cool of the evening, the latecomers receive the same pay.

All who respond to the Call of the Gospel will receive the same reward: Eternal Life... and this will be the case whether we've been faithful all our lives or have come to the Lord in the twilight of our years. God's generosity is all-encompassing.

We should never compare ourselves with others. This will only allow jealousy and envy to conquer. Rather, let's strive to imitate our loving Father and rejoice with all who are welcomed into the Kingdom, no matter what!

SEP	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 25	
TUE 26	
WED 27	<i>St Vincent de Paul (M)</i> 7:30pm Bible Series on Luke
THU 28	
FRI 29	<i>Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael (F)</i>
SAT 30	<i>Saint Jerome (M)</i>
OCT	
SUN 01	Baptism - Savanah, Jed

1. IGNITE for young adults is on after mass this Sunday (24/9); all welcome to the third and final talk on The Interpretation of the Bible. This time the topic is on the Art of Interpretation (Hermeneutics).
2. The second of the extra three evenings on Luke's Gospel is this coming Wednesday from 7:30, in our Church. Again. We will start from Ch. 17, and look at Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem... all welcome.
3. REMINDER: the ubiquitous Daylight Saving commences next Sat night! So, don't be late for Mass!!!

God Bless you all. *Fr John.*

It's time to set a new course toward the future Father William Grimm, MM, Tokyo Japan

Why is it that Catholics in 2017 are still expected to use forms of worship that go back to late classical times?

Pope Francis has set about to introduce reforms in the Catholic Church and to redirect the way it functions. One step he has taken recently has far-reaching consequences not only for the entire church but particularly for local churches in Asia.

The pope has made a change to canon law that will put authority over liturgical translation clearly where it was put by Vatican II: "*Translations from the Latin text into the mother tongue which are intended for use in the liturgy must be approved by the competent territorial ecclesiastical authority.*"

That authority is the bishops' conferences.

Since all the English-speaking bishops' conferences in the world unanimously approved a translation prepared in 1997 that was later rejected by non-English speaking hierarchs in Rome, it should be a simple matter to replace the present maltranslation with that one in real English.

However, it remains to be seen if what should be will actually be done by bishops appointed in part because of their fidelity to Roman centralization and an atavistic nostalgia for ancient forms. How else is one to interpret the fact that in 2017 Catholics are still expected to use forms of worship that go back to late classical times?

The pope is allowing modern languages and sensibilities to be part of that ancient usage, but the central act of Catholic worship remains a translation of a dead language that embodies dead customs and attitudes. We continue to sail back in time.

There was a time when the liturgy developed in various ways in response to differing cultures. That is why we have more than 20 rites in the Catholic Church. But, at some point in history, a conviction apparently arose that the Holy Spirit was no longer around to work in different times and climes, at least in Catholic times and climes.

So, the language of Shakespeare in literature and the King James Bible and Book of Common Prayer in worship, a language that continues to embody the aspirations and wisdom of vast numbers of God's children, cannot be used to create liturgy, but may merely be a tool for translation of dead Latin.

Is it impossible that 21st-century Catholics are less able than our brothers and sisters a millennium and a half ago to develop liturgies and prayers that respond to the working of the Holy Spirit in our age and proclaim that working in ways intelligible not only to others but to ourselves as well?

Yet, we continue to sail away from our own time and culture, all the while moaning that the world is little interested in journeying with us. And that ship bears more than liturgy into the past.

Last year, a commission appointed by Pope Francis began to study the history of the early church to see if the presence of women deacons then can be used to justify opening that ministry to women today. Why?

The presence or absence of women deacons then is irrelevant today. The church in its first centuries did not look to precedents in answering the needs of the community. There were none. Those Christians apparently had enough confidence in the presence of the Holy Spirit among them that they simply did what needed to be done.

Pastoral letter on the same-sex marriage postal survey

Dear sisters and brothers,

As I write to you, the national debate on same-sex civil marriage is in full swing. It is an issue that many feel passionate about and hence, it has potential to polarise the community. I appeal to all Catholics in the Diocese of Parramatta to conduct this dialogue with a deep sense of respect for all concerned, and for the opinion and decision that each person is free to make.



It is important to remember from the very outset that the postal survey is about whether or not Australians want the legal definition of civil marriage changed to include same-sex couples. It is not a referendum on sacramental marriage as understood by the Catholic Church.

Many years ago, divorce was legalised in Australia; but this change did not alter the law of the Church. Therefore, whatever the outcome of the survey or the eventual legislation by the government, the Church will continue to hold that marriage is a natural institution established by God to be a permanent union between one man and one woman, directed both to mutual companionship and to the formation of a family in which children are born and nurtured.

For many Catholics, the issue of same-sex marriage is not simply theoretical but deeply personal. These may be same-sex attracted people themselves or that may be the case with their relatives and friends. In such cases, they are torn between their love for the Church and their love for their same-sex attracted child, grandchild, sibling, cousin, friend or neighbour.

As your bishop, I wish to reiterate the commitment I made at my installation: "I am committed to make the church in Parramatta the house for all peoples, a church where there is less an experience of exclusion but more an encounter of radical love, inclusiveness and solidarity." As a community of disciples, we seek to accommodate, accompany and care for one another irrespective of sexual orientation, marital status and situation.

I invite all Catholics in our Diocese to exercise our responsibility as citizens to engage in this community discernment. It should not be a matter of a simple answer Yes or No to the postal survey. It should be an opportunity for us to witness to our deep commitment to the ideal of Christian marriage. But it should also be an opportunity for us to listen to what the Spirit is saying through the signs of the times.

Throughout much of history, our gay and lesbian (or LGBTI) brothers and sisters have often not been treated with respect, sensitivity and compassion. Regrettably, the Church has not always been a place where they have felt welcomed, accepted and loved. Thus, regardless of the outcome of the survey, we must commit ourselves to the task of reaching out to our LGBTI brothers and sisters, affirming their dignity and accompanying them on our common journey towards the fullness of life and love in God.

Let us pray, discern and act with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Catholics, in keeping with the tradition of the Church, are asked to exercise their consciences, ensuring that they are informed as they come to exercise their democratic rights in the coming postal survey.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ Vincent Long

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta

Given at Parramatta on 13 September A.D. 2017, Memorial of St John Chrysostom

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

Communion Antiphon

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:20-24, 27

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results - I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

cf Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

*The Sword of the
Spirit is The Word
of God*

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Parish News

Senior Moments' Morning Tea

Calling all Seniors! Join us for a special morning tea just for you, with baked goodies made especially by the children of our parish. Come enjoy your morning with a cuppa and cake!

Date: Sunday 8 October

Time: 9am -10.30am

Place: Outside the Church Kitchen

For enquiries, please contact Jill (Pastoral Care team) on 0402 172346 or admin@john23rd.org.au



Enthusiastic kiddy bakers needed!

Do your children love to bake? We need their help!

We are looking for enthusiastic kiddy bakers who would like to contribute something special for our Senior Moments' Morning Tea on **Sunday 8 October**. Each child will receive a certificate of appreciation for his/her effort. For enquiries, please contact Jill (Pastoral Care team) on 0402 172 346 or admin@john23rd.org.au



8th Oct, Sun: 15th Year Anniversary - Parish Formation St John 23rd

Happy Anniversary to us. It's been 15 years since we formed the Parish of St John 23rd.

To commemorate this auspicious occasion, we will be having a food fiesta on **Sunday 8th October after the 10:30am mass**. Food contributions will be most welcome. For further information please contact Techie Sarlabus on 0438 201436 or the parish office.

15 Oct, Sun: CAKE ANGELS STALL

The Cake Angels are having a fundraiser food stall after the 7.30am and 9am masses. All proceeds will go towards the church debt.

They are also looking for new members and welcome all avid cooks or those who just love food (like they do!). For enquiries, please call or SMS Jill on 0402 172 346.

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

25 Mon 25th week ordinary time

1st Reading Ezra 1:1-6

Psalm Ps 125

Gospel Luke 8:16-18

26 Tues 25th week ordinary time

1st Reading Ezra 6:7-8. 12. 14-20

Psalm Ps 121:1-5

Gospel Luke 8:19-21

27 Wed Saint Vincent de Paul (M)

1st Reading Ezra 9:5-9

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Psalm Tobit 13:2. 4. 6-8 / Ps 111:1-9

Gospel Luke 9:1-6 / Matthew 9:35-37

28 Thu 25th week ordinary time

1st Reading Haggai 1:1-8

Psalm Ps 149:1-6. 9

Gospel Luke 9:7-9

**29 Fri Saints Michael, Gabriel &
Raphael (F)**

1st Reading Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14

Revelation 12:7-12

Psalm Ps 137:1-5

Gospel John 1:47-51

30 Sat Saint Jerome (M)

1st Reading Zechariah 2:5-9. 14-15

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Psalm Jeremiah 31:10-13

Ps 118:9-14

Gospel Luke 9:43-45

Matthew 13:47-52

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,
Emilia Pignatell, Aida Landicho

Deceased:

Ramon A Reyes, Najib Nakad

Anniversary:

Villamor Sarabia, Consolacion Lascano,
Ammini Joseph, Cyril Rose, Kathy Kovac,
Paqtrick Cherry, Flora Ferino, Tess Rehac,
Fraternidad Ramirez

Sick:

Evelyn Paguinto, Josephine Calabria,
Pat Daly, Jan Mandla, Genevieve D'Silva,
Andrea Rodrigues, Epifania Samaniego,
Lucie Gallagher, Neil Buensuceso,
Sigrid Barredo, Anna Simic, Reg Chapman,
Karam Matte, Lala Salonga, Alfred Miler,
Cay Espanta, Liezl Sultana, Carmel Byrne,
Cora Salvador, Patria Florence Cerdenia

Thanksgiving:

Ramon & Maria Zamora,
Carolina Q Alvarez

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 by **29th September**.

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, photocopies, 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.



Evangelicum

The question should be, not what was done to answer needs nearly two thousand years ago, but what must be done to answer needs today. Just as there are likely different needs in different circumstances, so too, there will be different responses, just as different rites developed in different places.

And in cultures and societies where gender is becoming less a factor in the search for competence, gender will be less of a factor for 21st-century answers if the church sets course for the future.

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/its-time-to-set-a-new-course-toward-the-future/5920>

Parish Pastoral Corner

"The true and solid peace of nations consist not in the equality of arms but in mutual trust alone"
— Pope John XXIII

FAITH FORMATION

⇒ Our Lady of Perpetual Help Statue

We continue to ask for host families to pray the Rosary at home and request our Blessed Mother's intercessions. Tuesday nights beginning with Evening Prayer at 6.30pm, Rosary at 7.15pm, Mass and Novena prayers at 7:30pm with sung Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after the novena mass.

If you want the opportunity of having the statue of Our Lady visit your home contact Bart Sarlabus bart.sarlabus@gmail.com or Melva Paguinto (*after novena mass*). Pick up the statue after the novena mass and return a week after, before the start of the novena mass. ***"A family that prays together, stays together: Fr Patrick Peyton"***

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

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.

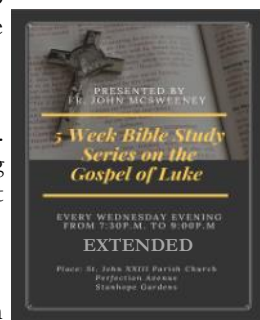
Enrolment forms are available at the foyer, in our parish website and in our parish FaceBook page. Course schedule, venues and other details can be found in the form. Note endorsement from Fr John is required. Email a completed form to Bob Agbulos on bragbulos@gmail.com or call 0422 106525 for more details.

⇒ 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.

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.



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

⇒ **Congratulations SRE's!**

Some SRE teachers from our parish were awarded certificates by Rev. Bishop Vincent Long, at the recently held Diocesan CCD Mass.

Colleen McCunnie – 25 years as an SRE

Josephine Falzon – 20 years as an SRE

St. Mark's students representing the schools' student teachers

Helen Zammit - completion of level 3 CCD course

Congratulations and thank you for your wonderful work for our parish.

PASTORAL CARE

⇒ **Pastoral Care Team Launch**

The Pastoral Care Team will be launching the start of their ministry with a morning tea on **Sunday 24 September** after the 9am and 10.30am masses. Come and meet the Team

THE HOLY LAND

Duration: 15 day pilgrimage plus optional extension

Departure: Saturday 6th January 2018

Tour Code: 8PV03

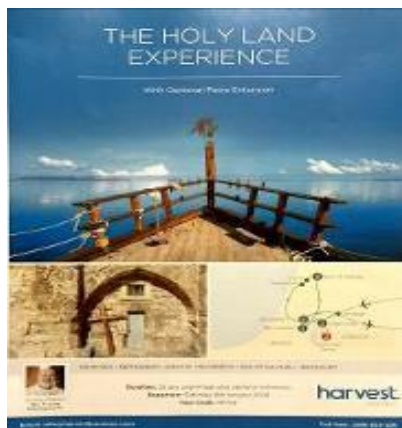
Email: info@harvestjourneys.com

Call 1800 819 156 Toll free

Spiritual Chaplain: Fr John McSweeney

Book now

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



PARISH ASSEMBLY

Our recent parish assembly was a great success, with over 120 parishioners in attendance. There was a lot of discussion and the discussion groups came up with over 280 comments, suggestions and ideas.

The organising committee is collating those suggestions and the various ministry groups in our parish will be reporting back with their plans in the near future. We would like to thank everyone who attended, the organising committee and those who prepared the marvelous lunch.

Why we do what we do

What is the origin of the sign of the cross at the gospel, bowing at the Creed, and shaking hands for the sign of peace?

These gestures are prescribed in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, and accordingly should be practiced by all the faithful. Each of them also has a strong tradition in the celebration of Mass.

Concerning the making the sign of the cross at the proclamation of the Holy Gospel, after the deacon or priest says, “A reading from the Holy Gospel according to,” he and the faithful make the sign of the cross with the thumb on the forehead, lips, and breast over the heart. (*The deacon or priest also makes the sign of the cross on the Lectionary or Book of the Gospels.*)

The first recorded instance of making the sign of the cross at the proclamation of the gospel is found in the ninth century: Regimius of Auxerre (d. c. 908) in his *Expositio* recorded how the people in the congregation would sign their foreheads, and the deacon would sign his forehead and breast. By the eleventh century, as attested to by Pope Innocent III, the deacon would make the sign of the cross on the Lectionary or Book of Gospels, and then both he and the congregation would sign the forehead, lips, and breast. The significance of the threefold signing is that we want to hear the Holy Gospel with an open mind, proclaim it with our lips, and cherish and safeguard it in our hearts. We are imploring the Lord for the grace to receive, acknowledge, and then profess the faith that has been received in the Holy Gospel through our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate.

During the Profession of Faith (the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed) all bow at the mystery of the incarnation: “...by the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the Virgin Mary and became man.” Prior to the *Novus Ordo* of 1969, all genuflected at these words, and on the Solemnity of the Annunciation and on Christmas, we still do. The earliest record of this practice originates in the twelfth century, as found in the writings of Blessed Peter of Cluny (d. 1156), and in the rituals of the Carthusians and Premonstratensian orders. This physical gesture – whether bowing or genuflecting – makes us mindful of the ineffable mystery of the incarnation, when our Lord, Jesus Christ, entered this world for our salvation, true God becoming also true man.

Finally, the offering of a sign of peace (formally called the “Kiss of Peace”) boasts an even greater tradition. St. Justin the Martyr (d. 165) in his *First Apology* (which provides one of the earliest written accounts of the Mass) described the offering of a sign of peace after the readings and introductory prayers, but before the offertory prayers. Tertullian (d. 250) regarded the Kiss of Peace as a “seal” placed upon the prayers offered. St. Cyril of Jerusalem (d. 386) in his *Catechetical Lectures* also recorded how the deacon would call for the congregation to exchange a sign of peace. Moreover, St. Cyril explained, “Do not suppose that this kiss is like those given by mutual friends in the marketplace. Such a kiss this is not. This kiss blends souls one with another, and woos for them forgetfulness of every injury. This kiss, then, is a sign of the intermingling of souls and of the banishment of every remembrance of injury. It was in this regard that Christ said, ‘If you are offering your gift at the altar, and while there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift at the altar and go out first and be reconciled to your brother; and then come up and offer your gift.’ The kiss, therefore is reconciliation, and because of this it is holy. Just so, where the blessed Paul cried out, saying, ‘*Bid one another welcome in a holy kiss*’ and Peter, ‘In a kiss of charity.’”

Use the words below to find out what Jesus said.



□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

IS NOW

□ □ □ □ □

WILL

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

LAST EVERYONE BE WHO FIRST

Seen as a natural prelude before the reception of Holy Communion and an affirmation of the whole meaning of the Mass, Pope Innocent I in a letter to the Bishop of Gubbio (416) mandated that the Kiss of Peace occur after the consecration. Later, Pope Gregory the Great (d. 604) set the exchange of the Kiss of Peace after the Our Father.

Because of the growth of the size of congregations over the centuries, how the Kiss of Peace was exchanged evolved. By the tenth century, the Kiss of Peace began at the altar and then emanated to the congregation. By the thirteen century a kissing board or "Pax board" (osculatorium) was introduced which the priest kissed and then this was passed through the congregation with each kissing it. Eventually, the sign of peace was offered only during the High Mass as an embrace between the priest, deacon, and subdeacon. In the low Mass the priest would simply kiss the altar, and say, "Pax tecum" followed by the response, "Et cum spiritu tuo."

In the Novus Ordo, the Kiss of Peace has been restored to its more traditional practice. The priest may invite the congregation to offer to each other a sign of peace "according to local custom." Note that the priest does not have to invite the congregation to do so; the verbal exchange between the priest and the congregation of "The peace of the Lord be with you always" followed by "And also with you" may suffice for this ritual. The actual sign of peace may include a handshake, embrace, or even a kiss for a loved one.

These gestures should be taken seriously and performed reverently. They are physical actions which help us form a proper spiritual disposition and reverence during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

<http://catholicstraightanswers.com/what-is-the-origin-of-the-sign-of-the-cross-at-the-gospel-bowing-at-the-creed-and-shaking-hands-for-the-sign-of-peace/>

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: TBA



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

Word Find

The first will be last

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

Find these words

First	generous	hour	jealous	last	market	money
Pay	sun	three	vineyard	workers		

24Sep – 6Oct: Pilgrimage: A taste before the real thing!

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

24Sep: Q & A Programme “Let’s Talk About What Matters”

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

24Sep “Social Media – A force for good?”

Professor Gerard Goggin & Cecilia Hilder;

10Oct “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

Email: catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au

24Sep: Social Justice Sunday

The Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Social Justice Sunday on 24 September. This year, the Australian Bishops’ Social Justice Statement is titled: *‘Everyone’s Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy’*. The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or call (02) 8306 3499.

24Sep: Discernment to the Permanent Diaconate

Come and learn more about vocations to the Diaconate and have a chat with our team members. We are looking for men aged between 35 to 55 and residing in the Diocese of Parramatta. Our discernment program consists of five sessions, with each session dealing with different aspects of the Diaconate. This is the fourth session of the 2017 program. Subsequent sessions will be announced in due course. Venue: St Anthony of Padua Parish, 27-33 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie, NSW 2146. Time: 2:30 to 5 pm (including Mass and fellowship).

For further information visit <http://parracatholic.org/permanent-diaconate/> or please contact any of the following deacons:

Deacon James deacon@stanthonychurch.org.au

Deacon Tan deacontan@john23rd.org.au or call 0407270782

Deacon George - g.bryan1@bigpond.com

30Sep - 2Oct: Time for Us Weekend for Families

Time for Us Weekends at Mount Schoenstatt include inputs for adults, programmes for children of all ages including baby-sitting, couple and family time, games fellowship with other families, prayer, reflection and Holy Mass. For more info or to register contact Sr M Julie Bracar: juliebracar@gmail.com or 0408 738334.

VOLUNTEER OVERSEAS - The Cagliero Project

We are seeking volunteers for January 2018 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, Zambia & Solomon Island. Applications close October 15th. Send us an inquiry - www.cagliero.org.au



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

Mass Times

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

Baptism 12:00pm *Sunday by appointment*

Reconciliation (First Rite)

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

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 8.30 - 4.00pm

Parish Office Contacts

☎ (02)9852 0580 📞 0403 766468 AH
 Secretary: Tanya Gatt
 ✉ secretary@john23rd.org.au
 Finance: Mila Llamas (Fri)
 ✉ accounts@john23rd.org.au
 Admin Asst: Jill Franco (Tues, Wed & Fri)
 ✉ admin@john23rd.org.au
 Business Manager: John McCartney (*pro bono*)
 ✉ businessmanager@john23rd.org.au

Devotions & Prayers

Novena Masses

Tuesday 7:30pm
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help
First Friday 7:30pm
 Sacred Heart of Jesus

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday after the 7:30pm novena mass
First Friday 6:30pm followed by
 7:15pm Benediction
Saturday 8:00 - 9:00am (*Vocations*)

Sacrament of the Sick

First Saturday 9:00am Mass or upon request

Divine Office

Friday 12:00pm with Adoration
Sunday 8:15am

Praise & Worship

3rd Saturday 7:30pm
 led by SJ23rd Prayer Group
2nd Saturday 7:30pm
 led by CRL (*Community of the Risen Lord*)
Friday evenings 6:30pm
 led by Christ Catholic Community Prayer
 Group at the Parish Office's kitchen



Chairman

Bart Sarlabus

Deputy Chairman

Chris Drummond

Secretary

Nanette Gamboa

Members

Bernadette Virwani

Gary Lee

Julienne Crasto

Nidarshi Fernando

Our School Community

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

☎ (02) 8664 7100

✉ holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au