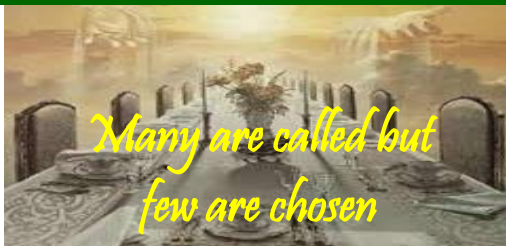


## Twenty Eighth Sunday Ordinary Time 14 - 15 October 2017

### Our Parish Mission

*The parish of St John XXIII is a faith community with the Eucharist as its heart. Inspired by John XXIII's prophetic opening of the windows of the Church, we welcome the fresh air of the Holy Spirit, inviting every person to share in the responsibility of enriching the life and faith of our community by sharing their gifts and talents."*



### From the Pastor's desk

*Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ*

Two weeks ago the Gospel challenged us to be open to change any hypocrisy in our lives: to say "yes" and mean it, rather than simply giving lip-service to our faith.

Last week we were warned that we may suffer the same fate as the wicked tenants of the vineyard, unless we produce the appropriate fruit in due season.

And this week we are once again offered a warning as Christians; if we are invited to the wedding feast in the kingdom, we need to make certain that we are dressed for the occasion, and have not soiled the white garment of our Baptism!

If we fail - and, at times we do - we wash those garments clean again in the blood of the Lamb. We seek Reconciliation and wash away the grime of our human weakness.

We have every opportunity to be ready for the wedding Feast! Let's not miss out on what is offered to us!

OCT	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 16	
TUE 17	<i>Saint Ignatius of Antioch (M)</i>
WED 18	<i>St Luke (F)</i>
THU 19	
FRI 20	
SAT 21	
SUN 22	<b>Baptism</b> - Jaxson, Mason, Briene, Jet

1. It with great sadness that I have to announce today that Deacon Nicephorous Tan is being moved at the end of the month. Tan has been an integral part of our community over his years here, and we will miss his presence. Let's keep him and his wife Clare, in our prayers as he takes up his new ministry as Deacon in the parish of Westmead from 1 Nov.
2. There will be a Farewell Morning Tea for Deacon Tan after 10.30am mass next Sunday (22/10). Please bring a plate to share.

## Gospel Reflection

We like to get together with other people to socialize, to mark the more important occasions of our lives with celebrations or just to pass the time. It is a basic human need. We share a meal together symbolizing the fellowship and close relationships for which we all long for. In other words, we depend on each other to embrace as friends.

Jesus presents the image of a very loving God who has kept on reaching out to the people who were supposed to be his friends, and constantly experienced rejection. It is an image of a suffering, rejected God who, in desperation, is finally driven to look around for other friends. It is easy enough to recognize that we depend on God, but that God depends on us might be more difficult to accept. We all want to lean on God sometimes, but what about a God who looks to us for our support?

Returning to the parable, the great feast to which God is inviting his people can't take place without them, that is, without ourselves. We are those other friends the Lord has chosen. We are the people the Lord has gathered together from the highways and byways of the world to be his faithful community of friends. The Lord wants to wipe away the tears from our eyes and welcome us to his table. And what is supposed to happen when we come to that table? The Lord wants to give us gifts-especially a share in his Spirit.

But receiving a gift from the Lord, as in any friendship, is always one part of an exchange, because the Lord wants our hearts, our love, in return. Practically, it means that we must be ready to give up something that is close to our hearts, namely, some control over our lives. When we accept the invitation to the Lord's banquet, and if that acceptance comes from our hearts, we will have to make room on our calendars for what he might ask of us in return. And that will mean giving the Lord some part of our lives. Whether a small part, or a large part, will be up to us.

*Deacon Tan*

## From the Pastor's desk

3. From the 1 Nov we will be welcoming a new permanent Deacon to our community. Rodrigo (Rudy) Rupac will be ordained next Saturday morning (21/10), 10:30am at St Patrick's Cathedral. Let's keep Rudy and his wife Agnes in our prayers at this precious time.
4. I will be on Annual Retreat this week. And from next Sunday afternoon I will be on Annual Leave until 15 November.

God bless you all

In my prayers,

*Fr John*

## VOTIVE CANDLE STANDS

We have replaced the votive candle stands for Our Lady, the Sacred Heart and the Holy Family. We would like to thank the family who have very kindly donated the stand for Our Lady. Is there anyone who would like to donate or at least contribute towards the cost of the Sacred Heart and Holy Family stands? Please speak to Fr John.

These are real candles but with a very low smoke emission. There is a simple procedure – take a candle from the stand, light it from one of the lit candles and place it carefully in the glass holder.

An offering of at least a gold coin would be appreciated.

## FIRST RECONCILIATION

### Enrolment

Parents of Year 3 children are invited to pick up an enrolment package from the parish office or online at <http://john23rd.com>. All forms must be handed in at any of the enrolment masses:

SAT 21 OCT - 6pm Vigil

SUN 22 OCT - 9am, 10.30am & 6pm

Please put your form in a **sealed** envelope with the course fee. Loose forms and money will not be accepted.

Please note the Parish Office will not be accepting any completed forms.

## CATHOLIC OUTLOOK

Catholic Outlook: News from the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta is now digital. **CatholicOutlook** is the official publication of the Diocese of Parramatta news.

To access the E-Edition follow the link

<https://catholicoutlook.org/e-edition/>

## Parish income & expenditure financial year 2016/2017

### Income

Planned giving	233,292
Loose 2nd collection	122,133
Donations	40,929
Interest received	2,160
Total	<b>398,514</b>

### Expenditure

Parish Loan repayments	120,000
Staff wages & on costs	71,393
Insurance, rates & utilities	48,334
Repairs & maintenance	37,959
Ministry formation & resources	33,519
Car expenses	22,999
Other operating expenses	21,510
Telephone & IT expenses	12,361
DWF	12,000
Altar & church requisites	11,098
Printing & stationery	9,301
Total	<b>400,474</b>

**Deficit (1,960)**

## Entrance Antiphon

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand? But with you is  
found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

## Communion Antiphon

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but  
those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

## First Reading

*Isaiah 25:6-10*

*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the  
tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will  
prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich  
food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich  
and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this  
mountain he will remove the mourning  
veil covering all peoples, and the shroud  
enwrapping all nations, he will destroy  
Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away  
the tears from every cheek; he will take  
away his people's shame everywhere on  
earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it  
will be said: See, this is our God in whom  
we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the  
one in whom we hoped. We exult and we  
rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand  
of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20*

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing  
I shall want. Fresh and green are the  
pastures where he gives me repose. Near  
restful waters he leads me, to revive my  
drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path; he is  
true to his name, If I should walk in the  
valley of darkness no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your  
staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the  
sight of my foes. My head you have  
anointed with oil; my cup is  
overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow  
me all the days of my life. In the Lord's  
own house shall I dwell for ever and  
ever. **R.**



## Second Reading

*Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20*

*I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.*

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere; full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*cf 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!

## Gospel

*Matthew 22:1-14*

*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited," he said, "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

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

**16 Mon 28th week ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 1:1-7

Psalm Ps 97:1-4

Gospel Luke 11:29-32

**17 Tues Saint Ignatius of Antioch (M)**

1st Reading Romans 1:16-25

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

Psalm Ps 18:2-5 / Ps 33:2-9

Gospel Luke 11:37-41

John 12:24-26

**18 Wed St Luke (F)**

1st Reading 2 Timothy 4:10-17

Psalm Ps 144:10-13. 17-18

Gospel Luke 10:1-9

**19 Thu 28th week ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 3:21-30

Psalm Ps 129:1-6

Gospel Luke 11:47-54

**20 Fri 28th week ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 4:1-8

Psalm Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11

Gospel Luke 12:1-7

**21 Sat 28th week ordinary time**

1st Reading Romans 4:13. 16-18

Psalm Ps 104:6-9. 42-43

Gospel Luke 12:9-12

Full weekly readings can be found in the parish  
website <http://john23rd.com/our-parish/daily-reading/>

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**If you or a family member is homebound and would want to receive communion in  
your home please contact the parish office.**

## Special intentions

### Recently Deceased:

Ornanong Muangruen, Lawrence Peiris,  
Victor Silva

### Deceased:

### Anniversary:

Joseph Rayenoux, Teresa R Ribargoso

### 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 Cerdania,  
Baby Monica Cobarubbias

### Thanksgiving:

Juliet Festejo, Anne Sebastian

## Paying our debt together

**The First Collection** – for the diocese.  
The 1st Collection is used for the support  
of the Bishop and priests of the Diocese.

**The Second Collection** – for the parish.  
The 2nd Collection is used to meet our  
parish running costs (*rates, utilities, insurance,  
telecommunication, computers, photocopiers,  
stationery and postage, church and altar requisites,  
repairs and maintenance of the church, presbytery,  
office buildings and grounds*).

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

Money received in the 2nd collection is  
banked into the parish "Church Account".

If you would like to be a part of the  
church's plan giving program, an **SJ23rd  
form** (white) is available at the church foyer  
or contact the parish office.

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

If you wish to change your pledge please  
contact the parish office. We would  
encourage you to change from the envelope  
system to either direct debit or credit card.



## Parish Pastoral Corner

*"I have looked into your eyes with my eyes. I have put my heart near your heart." — 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					
Oct	3	10	17	24	31
	<i>Ivon</i>	<i>Sebastian</i>	Pangilinan R	Shalini	Jacinta
Nov	7	14	21	28	
	Pangilinan R	Peiris	Ranasinghe	Manoj	
Dec	5	12	19	26	
	Paguinto S	Drummond	Erasmio	Paguinto M	
Jan	2	9	16	23	30
	Paguinto M	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>

### COMMUNITY BUILDING

#### ⇒ Knitting club

There will be no meeting for the month of October

#### ⇒ 15th Anniversary celebration

Thank you to everyone who donated food, who made monetary contributions and all the helpers who made the event a big success. We did raise around \$400.00 which will go towards the supply for our Sunday morning tea.

#### ⇒ Cake Angels

On the 12th of November, the Cake Angels will be having their cake stall after the Sunday masses. Contributions of savoury or sweets would be greatly appreciated. Please call or SMS Jill on 0402 172346.

### PASTORAL

#### ⇒ Pastoral Care Ministry

We would like to thank everyone who supported the Senior Moments' morning tea. It is good to see the interest of so many. We have raised \$359.60 and this will go towards the funding of our activities.



## LITURGY

### ⇒ Junior Altar Servers training

We are having our Junior Altar Server Training over two Saturdays, the **11th and 18th of November**. The two sessions will be held in the church from 10am to 12 noon, followed by their commissioning at the 10.30am mass on Sunday the 26th of November.

To be an altar server,

- you need to be over 10 years old;
- have received the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion; and,
- are prepared to assist before, during and after the mass.

For further details, contact Bob Agbulos from the Liturgy team. Application forms are available at the foyer, in our parish website and in our parish Facebook page.

### ⇒ Alb fundraiser

The fundraising for the Altar Servers' alb has been quite a success. We were able to raise, \$906.50

- \$200. pledge collected
- \$270.00 pledge to be collected
- \$436.50 fundraised from games on 08/10/17
- pledge for the cost of 2 albs

Thank you all for your generosity. We are still open to for any monetary contribution towards this endeavour.

### What's next?

If we buy the textile, do you know any dressmaker or tailor who can sew the albs before Christmas? If not, do you know of any business who sells albs?

## THE HOLY LAND

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

**Departure:** Saturday 6th January 2018

**Tour Code:** 8PV03

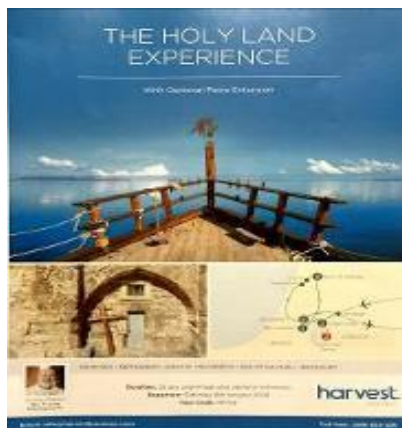
**Email:** [info@harvestjourneys.com](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com)

**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*)



## 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

## Why do Catholics light candles?

One of the oldest Christian practices, here we look at the reason Catholics use candles as both symbols and prayer intentions.

### ***Origins of candles in liturgical worship***

Fire and light have always been an important feature of worship in the Christian and Jewish religions. As far back as the time of Exodus we hear how the people were instructed to “*keep a flame burning perpetually*” (Exodus 27:19-20), as “perpetual incense before the Lord from generation to generation” (Exodus 30:7-8) and as a “*lamp stand in the Tent of Meeting... set up before the Lord as He has commanded Moses*” (Exodus 40:24-25).

We see here that the ancient Jewish people used a perpetual fire to be two major things: a constant act of devotion, and a symbol of a holy space where God dwells. This practice is most clearly seen being continued by the tabernacle in every church. The tabernacle, which is the Latin for ‘tent’, is where the body and blood of Christ are kept between Masses. Just like in ancient times, a candle is kept perpetually burning beside it for the same reasons practiced back then; God is physically with us within the ‘tent’ and we wish to perpetually adore him.

### ***Additional symbolism from the New testament***

This being the basis, Christ’s coming added further dimensions to our use of candles. In John 8:12, Jesus says of himself: “*I am the Light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have light and life*”. The early Christians, who already saw lighting candles as an act of worship and devotion, began to also see the candle as a symbol of communion with Christ and a symbol of Him and His love in the darkness.

As the liturgy took shape, candles became a crucial symbol in many of the sacraments. While the reasons for this are now covered by reading the following scripture you can see how the Catholic use of candles in the liturgy has a very strong biblical basis: *Exodus 25:31-38, Exodus 30:7-8, Exodus 40:24-25, 2 Chronicles 13:11, 1 Maccabees 4:49-50, 2 Maccabees 10:3, Matthew 5:14-16, Mark 4:21-22, Luke 11:33 and Hebrews 9:2*

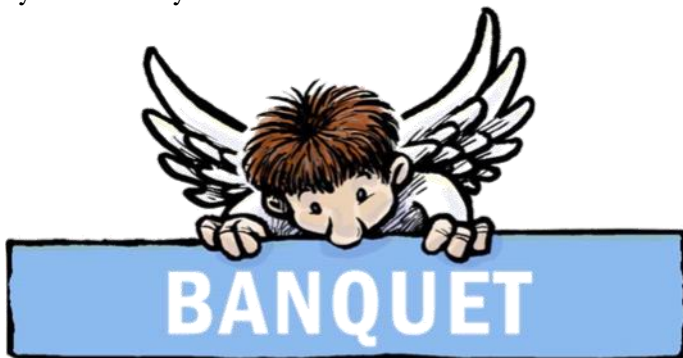
### ***So why do Catholics light candles at statues and icons?***

With our understanding of lighting candles now as an act of devotion, a symbol of God’s presence and communion with Him through Jesus, early Christians began placing candles on the tombs of martyrs in the catacombs. They did this because they understood the martyr to be a person who, now being certainly in heaven, was in complete communion with God. As Catholics, we believe it is only those in hell who are truly dead and that those in heaven especially are living in a higher reality (John 3:16).

This being so, we ask this person in full communion with Christ to pray for us in much the same way we would ask a dear and close friend. Due to their complete communion with God, their intercessions are especially helpful.

In lighting a candle before a relic, statue or icon we are saying that God resides fully within that person, the person is in full communion with God and that that person is giving perpetual glory to God. Catholics practice this not to honour the image itself, but rather the one it truly represents. When we ask this saint to pray with and for us, this light, as it is kept burning, also shows our desire to remain in God’s presence as we go through our daily duties at home and in the workplace.

How many words can you make from the letters in the word BANQUET?




### Why we do...

Lastly, when candles are lit before Christ's image, it is done to show our reverence to Him who deserves our adoration and thanksgiving and who alone can forgive our sins and bring us back into a deeper relationship with Him. Only when candles are lit before images of God are they being used for worship of the depicted figure.

<http://donym.com/voices/why-do-catholics-light-candles/>

## 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:** TBA

**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:** 13 October



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

## Word Find

The banquet is ready

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

*Find these words*

Army   banquet   farms   furious   good   guests   king   room  
 Servants   son   street   wedding

## **Call for Nominations: Deanery & Diocesan Pastoral Councils**

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv is calling for nominations for Deanery Pastoral Councils and the Diocesan Pastoral Council. For more information, including the nomination kit, please visit [parracatholic.org/advisorycouncils](http://parracatholic.org/advisorycouncils) or contact Richard or Tanya from the Diocesan Ministry Centre on 02 8838 3460. Nominations close on Sunday, 5 November 2017. 18 Oct: National Catholic Mission and Identity Symposium

## **Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse**

Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing [info@griefftograceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griefftograceaus.org.au) or phone 0407704539. For more information visit [www.griefftograce.org](http://www.griefftograce.org)

## **18 October: National Catholic Mission and Identity Symposium**

BBi is hosting an exciting and ground-breaking event that will bring together respected and dynamic leaders in Catholic education, along with esteemed Bishops and mission identity thought leaders. The purpose of the symposium is to engage Australian educational leaders in the most essential issue in Catholic education: honouring the call to prophetic leadership for the 21st century. For more details please visit: [www.bbi.catholic.edu.au](http://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au)

## **20 October: Holy Hour for Vocations**

Everyone is welcome to join the Holy Hour for Vocations from 6:30pm-7:30pm for an hour of adoration, prayer, music and quiet time at Mt Schoenstatt Shrine. For information about priesthood in the Diocese of Parramatta and Holy Spirit Seminary, please contact Fr John Paul

Escarlan, Director of Priestly Vocations, [vocations@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:vocations@parra.catholic.org.au)

## **21 October: Ordination to the Diaconate**

Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, will be the principal celebrant for the Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate of Jerome Emmanuel and Rodrigo Rupac on Saturday 21 October 2017 at 10.30am. The ordination will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Light refreshments to follow.

## **22 October: Q & A Programme "Let's Talk About What Matters"**

Held at The Crypt, St Patrick's Church, Grosvenor Street, Sydney, 1.30pm – 3.00pm. October 22 "Finding the Courage to make a Difference" Fr Frank Brennan sj AO and Alpha Cheng. No need to book. No charge. Further info: website: [catalyst-for-renewal.com.au](http://catalyst-for-renewal.com.au) Email: [catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au) or 02 9990 7003

## **3-5 November: Rachel's Vineyard Healing Retreat**

This weekend retreat in Sydney is designed to bring psychological and spiritual healing to anyone who has been affected by an abortion experience including women, men, couples and grandparents. Rachel's Vineyard Ministries Australia is supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Confidential inquiries: tel or SMS 0400 092555, [info@rachelsvineyard.org.au](mailto:info@rachelsvineyard.org.au)  
For more information visit: [www.rachelsvineyard.org.au](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.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

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