

**Thirty Third Sunday Ordinary Time**  
18 - 19 November 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."*

*Your talent is  
God's gift to you.  
What you do with it  
is your gift back to God.*

**From the Pastor's desk**

The Gospel reading of this Sunday has a message for us: In life, we need to have the courage to take risks. Jesus was very hard on the Pharisees who prevented any change and wanted to erect a fence around the Law and the traditions of Israel to protect them. Christianity is not a museum religion. We must let the Spirit blow where He wants and continually renews the face of the earth. With the gifts of the Holy Spirit given at our baptism and then more fully at our Confirmation, have we used them well for the Lord and for others?

At the end of our lives, a simple question will be asked, "With the little world entrusted to us by God, is it more beautiful, more just, and better because we've been there?" Hopefully we will all hear the Lord say: "Good and faithful servant, come in and share the joy of your Lord."

NOV	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
MON 20	
TUE 21	<i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (M)</i>
WED 22	<i>Saint Cecilia (M)</i>
THU 23	
FRI 24	<i>Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions (M)</i> BLAZE Night
SAT 25	
SUN 26	<b>Baptism</b> - Willow, Elizabeth, Taylah, Bradley, Lena 7:15pm - IGNITE

1. Book of Remembrance for the month of November, reminder to put names of your departed loves ones. Please place the envelope with your November mass offering in the Special Needs mailbox at the back of the church (at the sacristy door) – do not leave envelopes with money on the Book of Remembrance table.

## Gospel Reflection

The Parable of the Talents is part of the so-called 'Eschatological Sermons' (Chapters 24 and 25 of Matthew's Gospel) which consist of prophetic pronouncements and parables about the Second Coming of Christ. These accounts remind us to be always vigilant and prepared for Christ's unexpected return.

The Parable of the Talents is narrated in the Gospel for this last Sunday (33<sup>rd</sup>) of Ordinary Times (Year A). 'Ordinary' here, does not mean the 'simple routine' of life. But it means the orderliness of life with God which we should always aim and work for.

This parable is described by some biblical commentators as quite difficult. This is probably because of the unusual use of business words like 'invest, interest, trade, bankers and the like'. This parable is clearly not just about trading and business, not about making profit nor investing wealth and the like. It is about how we could use God's gifts prudently in dealing with others and doing our daily life activities.

The surprisingly favourable endorsement of the master to the first and the second servants as 'profit-takers' in the parable may add to its difficulty. There is no doubt that the parable challenges us to a deeper reflection in finding its meaning and lessons in our faith life. The master in the parable depicts God as generous and trustworthy God. He gives us gifts and rewards in abundance. He totally trusts us and takes risks on us and on how we could use his gifts wisely and productively.

The third servant did nothing except to hide his talent in the ground. He is then branded as a 'wicked and lazy slave' by the master.

Like the third servant, we are always faced with the danger to fall into complacency. This is like being trapped in a life of laxity with 'lacklustre and care-free attitude' that impedes and endangers our relationship with God and with each other.

Like the third servant, any inaction may also have been triggered by fear...fear of change, fear of responsibilities, fear of getting involved and even fear of God. As humans, we usually find ease, satisfaction and comfort to deal only with what are 'predictable, manageable and under-controlled' situations.

The Parable is about seeking enthusiastically and joyfully to relate to others. It teaches us to face life with courage and prudent decisions. It encourages us to use our talents, potentials and gifts and to multiply these to a hundred fold. By constantly using these gifts, we develop ourselves as loving and grateful persons. The parable also teaches us to be willing to dare, to take risks, to be passionate and committed to serve God and His Kingdom. These are essential parts of our faith life.

The last verse of the Gospel (v30) warns us, with extreme images highlighting urgency, about the dire consequences of inaction and complacency. Jesus does not intend to instil fear but He always invites us through the Gospel, the sacraments and the Church to remain faithful to God. He encourages us through the Holy Spirit to use our talents and gifts to be vigilant and prepared to meet Him when He comes in glory. **NOW is the time to ... Use it or lose it.**

**VOTIVE CANDLE STANDS**

We have such generous families in our parish who have contributed to the cost of the three candle stands. Thank you!

**MINISTRY SUNDAY – 25-26 NOVEMBER**

Your parish really needs your help to keep it running smoothly. A number of groups need more people to offer a few hours of their time each month

- \* Gardening - look after a small part of the garden (at least 10 more people)
- \* Cleaning – assist with cleaning the church (at least 15 more people)
- \* Altar Society – preparing the altar for mass and other liturgies; cleaning and mending altar cloths (at least 6 more people)
- \* Counting – counting the weekend collections (at least 10 more people)
- \* SRE Teaching – sharing your faith with school students at our Public Schools (at least 15 more people)
- \* Acolytes/Senior Servers – (at least 6 more people)
- \* Welcomers – welcoming people to Sunday mass (at least 15 more people or families)
- \* Handymen – a range of skills experience, eg plumbing, electrical, general repairs and maintenance

Please think how you could give back to your parish. Fill in the form on Ministry Sunday or don't wait until then, call or email the parish office today [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@john23rd.org.au) or 9852 0596.

**WE NEED PLANTS**

Have you used your annual allocation of two plants from Blacktown Council? If not, please could you sign the form at the front door which will allow us to use your allocation.

Many thanks, St John XXIII Gardening Team

14**MEDIA RELEASE****DIOCESE of  
PARRAMATTA***15th November 2017***Same-sex marriage postal survey result**

The Diocese of Parramatta respects the will of the Australia people as expressed through the results of the same-sex marriage postal survey.

It now seems likely that civil marriage will be open to people of the same-sex and we respect that outcome.

The Catholic Church will continue to promote and practice the tenet of our faith that marriage is a lifelong union of a man and a woman, open to the possibility of children. The survey has confirmed that this is a position shared by millions of people in this country.

The focus is now on our parliament to ensure that the proper freedoms are legislated to guarantee that the many people who remain in favour of the traditional definition of marriage are free to speak, teach and act on this belief.

Media inquiries - Joseph Younes, Director of Communications,

(02) 8838 3435, 0416 619500, [JYounes@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:JYounes@parra.catholic.org.au)

## Entrance Antiphon

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

## First Reading

*Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31*

*Give her a share in what she has worked for.*

A perfect wife - who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Communion Antiphon

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

## Second Reading

*1 Thessalonians 5:1-6*

*The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons,' since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is,' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 127:1-5*

**R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **R.**

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R.**

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. **R.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*John 15:4, 5*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

## Gospel (long)

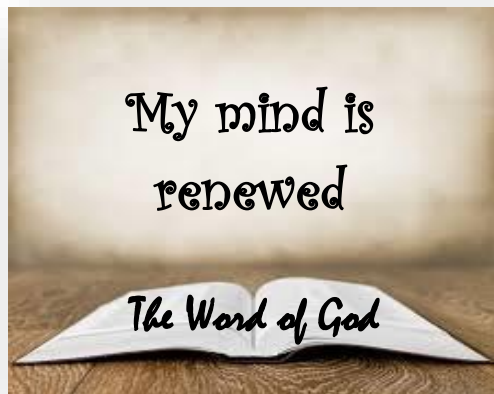
Matthew 25:14-30

*Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

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

### 20 Mon 33rd week ordinary time

1st Reading Maccabees 1:10-15. 41-43. 54-  
57. 62-64

Psalm Ps 118:53. 61. 134. 150. 155. 158

Gospel Luke 18:35-43

### 21 Tues Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (M)

1st Reading 2 Maccabees 6:18-31  
Zechariah 2:14-17

Psalm Ps 3:2-7 / Luke 1:46-55

Gospel Luke 19:1-10  
Matthew 12:46-50

### 22 Wed Saint Cecilia (M)

1st Reading 2 Maccabees 7:1. 20-31  
Hosea 2:16-17. 21-22

Psalm Ps 16:1. 5-6. 8. 15  
Ps 44:11-12. 14-17

Gospel Luke 19:11-28  
Matthew 25:1-13

### 23 Thu 33rd week ordinary time

1st Reading 1 Maccabees 2:15-29

Psalm Ps 49:1-2. 5-6. 14-15

Gospel Luke 19:41-44

### 24 Fri Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions (M)

1st Reading 1 Maccabees 4:36-37. 52-59  
Wisdom 3:1-9

Psalm 1 Chronicles 29:10-12 / Ps 125

Gospel Luke 19:45-48  
Matthew 10:28-33

### 25 Sat 33rd week ordinary time

1st Reading 1 Maccabees 6:1-13

Psalm Ps 9:2-4. 6. 16. 19

Gospel Luke 20:27-40

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:

Thereisa Michael, Fr Robert Young,  
Peter Paul

### Deceased:

Salim Diaja, Limon Yan, Tioe Lien Ku

### Anniversary:

Poy Arambulo, Felicisimo Gabriel Sr,  
Des Balangue, Soja Anthony

### Sick:

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

### Thanksgiving:

Monica N Cobarrubias, Zamora Family,  
Orille Dias

## 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.





*"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

Nov	7	14	21	28	
	Pangilinan R	Peiris	Ranasinghe	Manoj	
Dec	5	12	19	26	
	Paguinto S	Drummond	Erasmo	Paguinto M	
Jan	2	9	16	23	30
	Paguinto M	Magpayo	Sebastian	Shalini	Ivon
Feb	6	13	20	27	
	available	available	available	available	

### ⇒ Advent Retreat 2017

**Do I Need a Saviour?** (A retreat guide on the prophet Isaiah)

Join us for our annual retreat in preparation for Christmas!

**Date:** 02 Dec 2017 **Time:** 9:00a.m. to 2:30p.m.

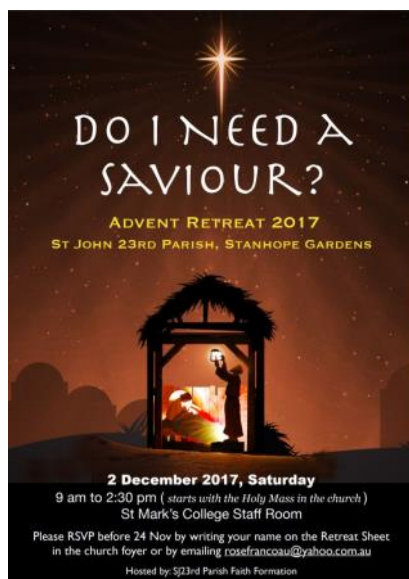
**Venue:** St John XXIII Parish Church then proceed to St. Mark's Staff Room

### Retreat Programme

(Video Presentation by Fr. John Bartunek, LC)

- Mass and Benediction (church)
- Morning Tea (St. Mark's Staff Room)
- Introduction
- First Meditation – Who Will Be My Saviour
- Second Meditation – The Saviour Comes
- Lunch
- Conference – Your Prophetic Mission

RSVP to [rosefrancoau@yahoo.com.au](mailto:rosefrancoau@yahoo.com.au) by 24 Nov. 2017 for purposes of handouts and catering.





## 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

## LITURGY

⇒ **Junior Altar Servers training**

Commissioning of our new altar servers will be on Sunday the 26th of November at the 10.30am mass. 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.

⇒ **Alb fundraiser**

The fundraising for the Junior Altar Servers' albs was a big success. Our total collection is \$1,206.50 from individuals' donations and from the games we conducted during the Parish Anniversary on 08/10/17. This will allow us to purchase around 16 new albs for our Junior Servers.

We are still accepting any monetary contributions for this endeavour. Thank you once again for your generosity.

## 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)

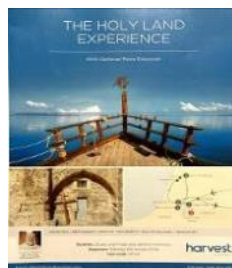
**Call** 1800 819 156 Toll free

**Spiritual Chaplain:** Fr

John McSweeney

**Book now**

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



## PASTORAL

⇒ **SENIOR'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

Dear Seniors, you are invited to a Christmas lunch just for you on Sunday, 3 December, 12pm at the St Mark's school hall.

If you are coming, please write your name and number down on the sheet provided in the church foyer. For any enquiries, please call Jill on 0402 172 346

Helpers and Food donations needed for Seniors' Christmas Party. The Pastoral Care Ministry is hosting a Christmas lunch for our parish's seniors on Sunday 3rd December, 12pm at the St Mark's school hall.

Your help and support will be greatly appreciated as we hope to make this a memorable event for our seniors. Please contact Jill on 0402 172 346 for more information



## THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday in October (*and Reformation Sunday*) on the Extraordinary Form Calendar and on the and the final Sunday of the Liturgical year on the Ordinary Form calendar, is a feast day that focuses on the authority of Christ. While the problems our world faces today differ from the particular events that inspired Pope Pius XI to establish this feast in the 1920s, his message and call to honor Christ the King in a society that denies the authority of Our Lord is no less pertinent now than it was then.

### History of the Feast

The solemnity is a newer feast in the Catholic Church; it was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. The pontiff was witness to a turbulent time in the world's history. Secularism was on the rise and dangerous dictatorships were emerging in Europe and beyond. Christ had long been referred to as King, but Pope Pius and the Christian faithful saw the respect and reverence for Christ's authority waning in the midst of the unrest during the first part of the 20th century. In response, the feast was set with the intent to reaffirm and refocus faith and respect in the kingship of Jesus.

On the importance of the public world recognizing the kingly authority of Jesus, Pope Pius XI wrote:

*"When once men recognize, both in private and in public life, that Christ is King, society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace and harmony. Our Lord's regal office invests the human*

*authority of princes and rulers with a religious significance; it ennoble the citizen's duty of obedience. It is for this reason that St. Paul, while bidding wives revere Christ in their husbands, and slaves respect Christ in their masters, warns them to give obedience to them not as men, but as the vicegerents of Christ; for it is not meet that men redeemed by Christ should serve their fellow-men. 'You are bought with a price; be not made the bond-slaves of men.'*

If princes and magistrates duly elected are filled with the persuasion that they rule, not by their own right, but by the mandate and in the place of the Divine King, they will exercise their authority piously and wisely, and they will make laws and administer them, having in view the common good and also the human dignity of their subjects. The result will be a stable peace and tranquility, for there will be no longer any cause of discontent.

Men will see in their king or in their rulers men like themselves, perhaps unworthy or open to criticism, but they will not on that account refuse obedience if they see reflected in them the authority of Christ God and Man. Peace and harmony, too, will result; for with the spread and the universal extent of the kingdom of Christ men will become more and more conscious of the link that binds them together, and thus many conflicts will be either prevented entirely or at least their bitterness will be diminished."

As detailed at Churchyear.net, Pope Pius XI was hoping for these effects to occur:

1. That nations would see that the

Church has the right to freedom, and immunity from the state.

2. That leaders and nations would see that they are bound to give respect to Christ.
3. That the faithful would gain strength and courage from the celebration of the feast, as we are reminded that Christ must reign in our hearts, minds, wills, and bodies.

Christ the King in Immaculate Conception Basilica

The feast was initially fixed to the final day of October, the day before All Saints Day. Later, in 1969, Pope Paul VI moved the feast to the last Sunday before Advent, to emphasize the importance of the feast. This is fitting within the Church year. The liturgical year begins with Advent, the season of awaiting the coming of Christ, and now the year ends with celebrating the Kingship of Christ.

### History of the Title “Christ the King”

While the feast is relatively new, the tradition of calling Christ “King” is not. Jesus is referred to as King throughout the New Testament:

*To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen – 1 Tim 1:17*

*Nathan'a-el answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” – John 1:49*

*Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” – Mt. 27:11*

*And this will be made manifest at the proper time by the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords – 1 Tim 6:15*  
*And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, “Great and wonderful are thy deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are thy ways, O King of the ages!” – Rev. 15:3*

*And from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood – Rev. 1:5*

*On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, King of kings and Lord of lords. – Rev. 19:16*

Clearly “King” was one of the earliest titles given to the Son of God. The title does not refer to a status of an earthly king, which many of the Jews had been expecting – someone to overthrow the Roman rule and be earthly king of the Israel. Rather He came to be the spiritual king; His kingdom is in heaven, not confined to the earth alone. In respecting the name of Christ the King, and in celebrating the yearly feast, both citizens and leaders are to remain reverent and devoted to the higher authority of Christ.

<http://www.aquinasandmore.com/blog/christ-the-king-sunday/>

## SJ 23rd Youth Ministry

*"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" - Philippians 4:13*

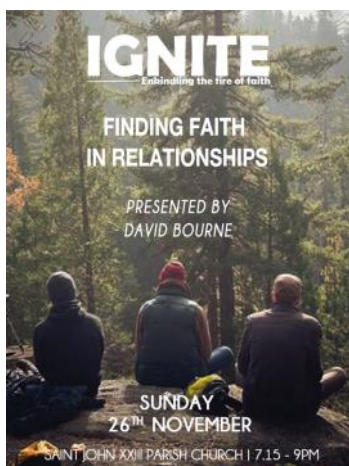
### IGNITE - Enkindling the fire of faith

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:** 26th November 2017

**Topic:** Faith in Relationships

**Guest Speaker:** David Bourne



### 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 4 Series, 'Fake News' explores the Good News of Jesus, not fake news. It looks at who Jesus really is - the God who became man, died for our redemption, and rose from the dead. It dispels myths that Jesus is just a good guy, who teaches us how to be good, is tolerant of our life choices, and chooses the path of least resistance. His Passion and Death is certainly not the path of least resistance, and we are called to follow in His footsteps.



**Next Session:** 24th November 2017



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

## Word Find

Come and share in my happiness

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

*Find these words*

Away	charge	faithful	five	happiness	little	money
More	servant	share	thousand	three		

## Parish News

### CAKE ANGELS

A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported us last week. We raised a massive \$800! Funds raised will go towards helping pay for the new candle stands. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and see you next year!

### Seniors' Christmas Lunch

The Pastoral Care Team is looking for anyone who would like to donate a dish for the Seniors' Christmas Lunch. We are requesting roast chickens, a ham, salads, roast potatoes and bread rolls. If you would like to help, please call Jill on 0402 172 346. Thank you.

## Diocesan News

<http://parracatholic.org/events/>  
CatholicOutlook E-edition  
<https://catholicoutlook.org/e-edition/>

### 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@griegtograces.org.au](mailto:info@griegtograces.org.au) or phone 0407704539. For more information visit [www.griegtograces.org](http://www.griegtograces.org)

## Kid's Corner



## COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

*“Come and share in my happiness!”*

**START**

<b>C</b>	O	M	N	R	Y	I	L	E	J
N	M	S	D	S	H	N	D	O	M
L	E	A	N	L	A	K	X	T	I
V	X	R	I	E	R	S	I	N	E
T	I	D	N	J	A	P	P	L	S
M	E	O	M	Y	H	R	E	K	<b>S</b>

**FINISH**



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**Parish Priest:** Fr John McSweeney ✉ [FrJohn@john23rd.org.au](mailto:FrJohn@john23rd.org.au)  
**Asst. Priest:** Fr Thomas Bui ✉ [FrThomas@john23rd.org.au](mailto:FrThomas@john23rd.org.au)  
**Deacon:** Rodrigo Rupac ✉ [DeaconRudy@john23rd.org.au](mailto:DeaconRudy@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](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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