



**This is my  
Son,  
listen to  
Him!**

FEB	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
Mon 26	
Tue 27	7:30pm - Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed 28	
MAR	
Thu 1	
Fri 2	7:00pm - BLAZE 7:00pm - Stations of the Cross 7:30pm - First Friday novena
Sat 3	
Sun 4	Baptism - Alexander, Angelo, Estelle, Jerome, Estella, Chloe

### **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

Today's Gospel of the Transfiguration tells us four things:

1. We need to be an active part of a Christian Community, a Church, in order to receive the support needed for our spiritual lives.
2. We need to read and reflect on the Scriptures constantly, in order to be nourished with God's Word every day.
3. We need to spend time in silent prayer and reflection as often as is possible.
4. And we need to be active in faithful Ministry to our neighbour, in order to be faithful to God's Command on the Mountain.

Let's do what we can this week to put these four aspects of our faith into action in stronger ways.

1. This week I will be undergoing some surgery on my leg to remove a clot. I will be on sick leave from Tuesday night after the Novena Mass until Wednesday next week. I would appreciate your prayers.

2. I'm happy to announce that Jill Franco is now our official Sacramental Co-ordinator, in addition to her many other roles.

## Gospel Reflections

The story of the Transfiguration is found in Mark, Matthew and Luke. Although there are variations in the telling, the main points of the episode remain the same.

- Jesus takes his three close friends (Peter, James and John) with him up the mountain
- They witness the transformation of Jesus; and see Moses and Elijah – the representatives of the Law and the Prophets of the Old Covenant
- They experience the Cloud covering the mountain – the ancient sign of God's Presence with His People
- And they heard the command of the Father: "This is my Beloved Son; listen to him".

From this we can glean the following points for reflection:

- Relationships in the Lord are important as they help us be open to religious experience. Intimate friendships in Christ are needed for us to be supported and encouraged, so that we can enter into those times of grace which enable us to 'see' the Lord
- The Scriptures are important for our growth in Faith. Not only the Gospels but the stories of the Old Covenant help us understand God's Plan for humanity. Without constant meditation on the Word of God, we will not be able to understand the message of God for us all. We need to enter into the Cloud of Unknowing, the ineffable and unfathomable mystery of Divinity. Without times of quiet reflection and openness to the Presence of God in our lives, we will never be able to experience those moments of grace which will enable us to keep on living our Life in the Spirit
- And we need to take to heart the message on the Mountain: "This is my Beloved Son; Listen to Him". We need to recognize and acknowledge that Jesus of Nazareth is, indeed, the Christ, the Son of God, the Messiah, the Revelation or Word of God for humankind. And, having accepted Christ Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, we need to listen to Him: to hear and understand the message of the New Covenant – and be evangelists to all the world, bringing all men and women into an intimate relationship with the Lord.

And so, to summarise –

- We need to be part of a Christian Community, a Church, in order to receive the support needed for our spiritual lives.
- We need to read and reflect on the Scriptures constantly, in order to be nourished with God's Word (our 'daily bread') every day
- We need to spend time in silent prayer and reflection as often as is possible
- And we need to be active in faithful Ministry to our neighbour, in order to be faithful to God's Command on the Mountain.

As we celebrate this Second Sunday in Lent, let's recommit ourselves this penitential season to the practices of reading the Scriptures, spending time in silent Prayer, and loving our neighbour in practical ways. Let's allow our brothers and sisters in the Lord, the Church community, to support us in all these holy endeavours.

### WE GIVE THANKS ...

- Carmel and Jeff, for cleaning the Sacred Heart candle stand
- Our new Senior Servers, Cohen, Mariya, Natasja, Anna, Charlotte, Kristine. James, Tony, PJ, Julian, Shen, Ronaldo



### Rite of Election St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta

This year our Parish is blessed with 3 catechumens preparing for Baptism at Easter. The catechumens, Brad Mungean, Linh Klisovic and Vik Pitre were presented to Bishop of our diocese, Most Rev. Vincent Long by Fr Thomas Bui at the Rite of Election ceremony at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> Feb. We thank God for them and request our Parish community to pray for them as they are in the final weeks of preparation.

### NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome to our parish community! Please take a welcome envelope pack from the front entrance. Please also check out our website and Facebook pages

Fr John McSweeney  
Parish Priest



## Entrance Antiphon

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide  
not your face from me.

## First Reading

*Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18*

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Communion Antiphon

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am  
well pleased; listen to him.

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 115-10, 15-19*

**R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted.' O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. **R.**

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. **R.**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

## Second Reading

*Romans 8:31-34*

*God did not spare his own Son.*

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Matthew 17:5*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud, the Father's voice  
is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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



*God told us to  
share His Word*

### Prague to Dubrovnik Shrines & Cathedrals of Central Europe

**Departure:** 27th September 2018

**Tour Code:** 8PV46

**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 is \$800



## Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus  
Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

*At the words that follow, up to and including 'the Virgin  
Mary', all bow.*

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was  
buried; he descended into hell; on the third  
day he rose again from the dead; he  
ascended into heaven, and is seated at the  
right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of  
the body, and life everlasting.  
Amen.

## Readings for Next Week

### **26 Mon 2nd Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Daniel 9:4-10

Psalm Ps 78:8-9. 11. 13

Gospel Luke 6:36-38

### **27 Tues 2nd Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Isaiah 1:10, 16-20

Psalm Ps 49:8-9. 16-17. 21. 23

Gospel Matthew 23:1-12

### **28 Wed 2nd Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Jeremiah 18:18-20

Psalm Ps 30:5-6. 14-16

Gospel Matthew 20:17-28

### **1 Thu 2nd Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm Ps 1:1-4. 6

Gospel Luke 16:19-31

### **2 Fri 2nd Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28

Psalm Ps 104:16-21

Gospel Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

### **3 Sat 2nd Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Micah 7:14-15, 18-20

Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 9-12

Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

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

Julia Lapuz, Dante Lat, Pauline Famon,  
Philomina Rachala, John Pachala

### Deceased:

Joseph & Carmen Formosa & Family,  
Sammy Formosa, William & Emilia Mifsud,  
Jeffrey Turner

### Anniversary:

Wini Jayakody, Gertrude Silva, Yelly Joko,  
Vences Fernando

### Sick:

Giuseppe David LoRusso, Lolita Diaz,  
Margaret Iringan, Romy Masangkay,  
Liezl Sultana, Edmond Rizon

### Thanksgiving:

## Paying our debt together

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

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

And to pay for staff salaries and superannuation and priests' car expenses, loan interest and loan repayment. Also, used to provide for our pastoral and outreach ministry activities of the parish.

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

### PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

For parishioners are already part of the program, we would encourage you to change from the envelope system to either direct debit or credit card. If you wish to change your pledge please contact the parish office.



*“We are not here to guard a museum, but to cultivate a flourishing garden of life.” — Pope John XXIII*

## FAITH FORMATION

### ⇒ Our Lady of Perpetual Help Statue

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

If you want the opportunity of having the statue of Our Lady visit your home contact Bart Sarlabus [bart.sarlabus@gmail.com](mailto:bart.sarlabus@gmail.com) or Melva Paguinto (*after novena mass*). Pick up the statue after the novena mass and return a week after, before the start of the novena mass.

***“A family that prays together, stays together - Fr Patrick Peyton”***

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights					
Feb	6	13	20	27	
	Manalo	Houghton	Dasan	Tiong	
Mar	6	13	20	27	
	Paguinto R	Sebastian	Shalini	Viola	
Apr	3	10	17	24	
	Cendana	Manalo	Sebastian	Shalini	
May	1	8	15	22	29
	Ivon	Shalini	Manalo	available	available
Jun	5	12	19	26	
	available	available	Olan	available	

### ⇒ Lenten Program

Dear parishioners, are you ready for **Holy Week**? Pray, Share and Live the Gospel during Lent this year by joining or forming your own Lenten Discussion Groups. Discussions will be guided by a participant’s book plus DVD and CDs entitled **Blessed + Broken** which will be provided. Elements of the program are:

- Prayer (in the book, music on CD 1 and 2)
- Gospel Reading (book + CDs)
- Gospel Reflection (book, CDs and DVD)
- Stories ‘blessed, broken and given’ (DVD and CD only)
- Pray, Share and Live the Gospel Day by Day (book)

Groups meet once a week starting Ash Wednesday and run for the 6 weeks in Lent. Sign-up sheets are available at the church foyer. For more information, please contact **Vittorio Lim** on tel. 0411 765 050 or **Rowena Esmero** on 0490 231 427.

## PASTORAL CARE

⇒ We have a Parishioner who lives in Glenwood that needs a lift to attend any Sunday Mass. If you are able to assist please call Parish Office.

### ⇒ Pastoral Care: Retirement home visits

The Pastoral Care team visits the elderly at Dudley Foord House (Anglican Retirement Village) in Stanhope Gardens **every 3rd Saturday of the month** from 10.30am-11.30am. For



one hour, we spend time talking to the residents, playing games or doing arts and crafts with them.

Our next visit will be **Sat 17 March.**

If you would like to join us, we would love to have you! We also warmly welcome families with children aged 8 and above to come and help us brighten up the residents' day. Please contact Jill on 0402 172 346 or [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto:admin@john23rd.org.au)



## VINNIES

### ⇒ CALL OUT FOR TOWEL DONATIONS

Vinnies is currently seeking donations of towels, bathmats and face-washers in good, clean condition for our Caroline Chisholm Centre, which now provides shower and washing machine facilities to people experiencing primary homelessness. Many of our service users take their towels with them after using our facilities.

If you are spring cleaning or know of anybody who has some towels, face-washers, bathroom toiletries or bathmats that they no longer need, please get in touch with our Caroline Chisholm Centre on 8804 3434 or drop them off at our church foyer and we will take them to the Caroline Chisholm Centre.

## SRE

### ⇒ BECOME A CATECHIST

#### From the Bishop

The passing on of the Catholic faith to younger generations, especially in public schools, is an exciting task for our Diocese. The role of the Catechist in passing on our living faith is crucial. This role of service to the youngest members of our community brings much to the lived experience of faith, not only to the students of our state schools, but also to the catechists themselves.

I encourage you to consider if you may be called to this role and bring God to the ones whom Christ taught that the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

*Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM  
Conv. Bishop of Parramatta*

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 0430 020265 or Renuka 0414 795814

## LITURGY

### ⇒ Call for Actors and Volunteers for the Way of the Cross

Every Good Friday, we Catholics traditionally go to our church to pray the Stations of the Cross. Here at St John XXIII, we do it differently. We have a living Way of the Cross. Numbers each year have been increasing and estimates from last year was 600. The Way of the Cross will be held on 30th of March, Good Friday from 10am at the Holy Cross Primary School, Glenwood.

Our Way of the Cross is different because we have real people re-living the 14 stations. From Jesus condemnation by Pilate to his crucifixion and to His burial, With people rather than pictures or carvings, it makes more real and our prayers more meaningful.

This would be our 7th year that we will be having our Way of the Cross. We need your help to make this real. We are seeking for actors to play the roles of Jesus, Mother Mary, John the Beloved, Mary Magdalene, Veronica, Simone of Cyrene, Pilate, Roman soldiers, and men, women of Jerusalem. We also need volunteers for greeters & collectors, logistics, supply and keeping of costumes and props.

If you are interested, please email Bob Agbulos, Liturgy coordinator on [bragbulos@gmail.com](mailto:bragbulos@gmail.com) by **28th of Feb.** Practice is scheduled on Sat, 10th of March from 3-5pm at Holy Cross Primary. Many thanks and God bless.

## WHY GO TO CONFESSION?

Fr. Saunders

*Some of my Protestant friends have asked why Catholics go to confession. What would you say?*

Jesus entered this world to forgive sins. Recall the words of our Lord: *"God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not die but may have eternal life."* (Jn 3:16) During His public ministry, Jesus preached about the forgiveness of sins: remember the parables of the Prodigal Son (Lk 15:11ff) or the Lost Sheep (Lk 15:1ff), and His teaching that *"There will likewise be more joy in heaven over one repentant sinner than over 96 righteous people who have no need to repent."* (Lk 15:7) Jesus Himself forgave sins: remember the story of the woman caught in adultery (Jn 8:1ff) or the woman who washed His feet with her tears. (Lk 7:36ff) He also taught us to pray for forgiveness in the "Our Father": *"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."* His mission of reconciliation would climax in His passion, death and resurrection: Jesus suffered, died and rose to free us from sin and death.

However, Jesus never trivialized sin or rationalized it. No, for Jesus, sin is sin, a violation of love against God and neighbor. However, in His divine mercy, Jesus called the sinner to realize the sin, to repent of it, and to be reconciled with God and neighbor.

Jesus wanted this ministry of reconciliation to continue. On the first Easter Sunday evening, Jesus appeared to His Apostles, *"breathed on them,"* and said, *"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound."* (Jn 20:21-23) Only twice in Sacred Scripture do we find God breathing into human beings. First, in the Genesis account of creation, God breathes the life of a soul into the man He has created. (Gen 2:7) Now, Jesus, the Son, breathes His life into His Apostles His priests, so that through

them He will "breathe" life into the souls of contrite sinners. In this scene, Christ instituted the sacrament of penance and made His Apostles the ministers of it.

At the ascension, Jesus again charged His Apostles with this ministry: *"Thus it is written that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead on the third day. In His name penance for the remission of sins is to be preached to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of this."* (Lk 24:46ff) Clearly, Jesus came to forgive sins, He wanted that reconciliation to continue and He gave the Church a sacrament through which priests would continue to act as the ministers of this reconciliation.

Perhaps many Protestants do not see the need for confession because most Protestant denominations do not have sacraments or at least the understanding of sacraments as efficacious signs through which the Lord gives us grace. *(However, traditional or "high" Episcopalians have confessions. The Lutherans also have a ritual for reconciliation.)*

Nevertheless, we see this ministry of reconciliation lived out in the early Church. St. Paul wrote, *"God has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation."* (2 Cor 5:18) The Didache (or Teachings of the Twelve Apostles), written about 80 AD, stated, *"In the congregation you shall confess your transgressions"* and *"On the Lord's Day, come together and break bread...having confessed your transgressions that your sacrifice may be pure."* St. Cyprian in his *<De lapsis>* concerning the reconciliation of Christians who had succumbed to offering pagan worship rather than face martyrdom, wrote, *"Let each confess his sin while he is still in this world, while his confession can be received, while satisfaction and the forgiveness granted by the priests is acceptable to God."* At this time of persecution, when local "parishes" were small, individuals publicly confessed their sins at the beginning of Mass (as mentioned in the Didache) and received absolution

from the bishop or priest.

After the legalization of the Church by Constantine, the Church fathers continued to emphasize the importance of confession. St. Ambrose wrote, *"It seemed impossible that sins should be forgiven through penance; Christ granted this power to the Apostles and from the Apostles it has been transmitted to the office of priests."* (<De poenitentia>) Similarly, St. Athanasius asserted, *"As the man whom the priest baptizes is enlightened by the grace of the Holy Ghost, so does he who in penance confesses his sins, receive through the priest forgiveness in virtue of the grace of Christ."* (<Contra Novatus>) By the mid-400s and the pontificate of Leo I, private confession under the seal of secrecy becomes the norm to safeguard the reputation of the penitent and to attract others to the sacrament.

Therefore, we go to confession because it is a sacrament given to us by Christ, and it has always been a practice of the Church.

This sacrament is so important in our sharing in the life of Christ, the Church has even mandated its practice. To prevent laxity, the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215 required that *"every faithful of either sex who has reached the age of discretion should at least once a year faithfully confess all his sins to his own priest. He should strive as far as possible to fulfill the penance imposed on him, and with reverence receive at least during Easter time the sacrament of the Eucharist."* This rule is still a precept of the Church. The Council of Trent in 1551 in its <Doctrine on the Sacrament of Penance>

asserted that since mortal sin "kills" the life of God in our souls, these sins must be confessed and absolved through the sacrament of penance (a principle repeated by Pope John Paul II in <Veritatis Splendor>). Trent also said "it is right and profitable" to confess venial sins.

We could end the answer here. However, regular confession is a healthy spiritual practice. Each sincere Catholic needs to periodically—every month or two—do a good examination of conscience holding himself to the standard of Christ. Each person should reflect on how well he has lived a *"Christ-like life"* by following the commandments and the teachings of the Church.

Perhaps one's failures are not so much commissions as they are omissions. For all of these, we bring our soul to the Lord and receive forgiveness. The healing grace of the sacrament of penance washes away sin and give us the strength to avoid that sin again. The more we love the Lord, the more we are aware of the smallest sins and the more we want to say, *"I am sorry. Please forgive me."* I am sure this is why Mother Teresa and Pope John Paul II go to confession weekly. As we continue our Easter celebration, may we take full advantage of this beautiful sacrament which draws us closer to the Lord.

*Fr. Saunders is president of the Notre Dame Institute and associate pastor of Queen of Apostles Parish, both in Alexandria, VA.*

<http://www.ewtn.com/library/answers/gotocon.htm>

## PARISH INFORMATION

Do you know we have a website – <http://john23rd.com/>

We also have a Facebook page – please Like us - <https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/>



Welcome to the community of the Catholic Parish of St John XXIII Glenwood Starthage Gardens where the love of Christ is shining in so many ways.



Saint John XXIII Catholic Parish  
Fr. Saunders



## 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: 2018**

**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 7 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**.



**OVERFED YET STARVING**

*Part 2 of the Alive and Dangerous Series*

**Next Session: 02/03/2018**



# Word Find

This is my Son and I love him

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

## Find these words

Alone	clothes	cloud	frightened	high	Moses
Mountain	Peter	shelters	Son	teacher	three

### Pre-marriage preparation courses

The Life, Marriage and Family Office are again offering Pre-Marriage preparation courses for couples intending to marry. Couples are invited to book online to attend either a weekend course or individual couple preparation. The website for online booking is [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp). The dates for all courses in 2018 will be found online. Further enquiries: 02 8838 3460.

### Walk the Lenten Journey on your mobile phone

The Xt3 Lent Calendar App 2018 is available for download on Apple and Android devices (*search for Xt3 Lent*) and can be viewed from the website: [www.xt3.com/lent](http://www.xt3.com/lent). The Lent calendar will run from Ash Wednesday to Divine Mercy Sunday. Each day will unlock a new video, meditation or podcast, to help you prayerfully journey through Lent. The theme for the Xt3 Lent Calendar 2018 is "Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus."

### Walking with Refugees and People Seeking protection.

Bishop Vincent Long has asked parishes to open up a conversation about those who come to Australia fleeing persecution and in search of safety. To start this conversation the Seven Hills Parish is running a Table Talk. Listen to person seeking protection share their experience, share your own story, ask your questions in a safe, respectful space and consider how we can act. It's on Thursday 1st March 2018 7pm - 9:30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Seven Hills Parish Hall, 7-9 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. This could be one of your Lenten efforts. Register online at <https://www.trybooking.com/UAOX> or phone Terry Jordan, Social Justice Group, OLOL Seven Hills on 0409373715.

### Kid's Corner



Spot the 5 differences between the 2 images.





St John XXIII Parish cannot take responsibility if the service provided by an advertiser does not meet expectations. To advertise in this space, please contact the parish office



**SAL Consulting provides  
Cognitive Assessments and  
Reports for Children and  
Adolescents who:**

- May be gifted and talented Struggle with problems at home or school
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**Parish Priest:** Fr John McSweeney  
**Asst. Priest:** Fr Thomas Bui  
**Deacon:** Rodrigo Rupac

✉ [FrJohn@john23rd.org.au](mailto:FrJohn@john23rd.org.au)  
 ✉ [FrThomas@john23rd.org.au](mailto:FrThomas@john23rd.org.au)  
 ✉ [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 Emergency

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

Finance: Mila Llamas (Fri)

✉ [accounts@john23rd.org.au](mailto:accounts@john23rd.org.au)

Sacramental Co-ordinator: Jill Franco

(Tues, Wed & Fri)

✉ [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto:admin@john23rd.org.au)

Business Manager: John McCartney (*pro bono*)

## Devotions & Prayers

### Novena Masses

*Tuesday* 7:30pm  
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help

*First Friday* 7:30pm  
 Sacred Heart of Jesus

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

*Tuesday* after the 7:30pm novena mass

*First Friday* 6:30pm followed by  
 7:15pm Benediction

*Saturday* 8:00 - 9:00am (*Vocations*)

### Sacrament of the Sick

*First Saturday* 9:00am Mass or upon request

### Divine Office

*Friday* 12:00pm with Adoration

*Sunday* 8:15am

### Praise & Worship

*3rd Saturday* 7:30pm

led by SJ23rd Prayer Group

*2nd Saturday* 7:30pm

led by CRL (*Community of the Risen Lord*)

*Friday evenings* 6:30pm

led by Christ Catholic Community Prayer  
 Group at the Parish Office's kitchen



#### Chairman

Bart Sarlabus

#### Deputy Chairman

Chris Drummond

#### Secretary

Nanette Gamboa

#### Members

Bernadette Virwani

Gary Lee

Julienne Crasto

Nidarshi Fernando

## Our School Community

### Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

☎ (02) 8664 7100

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

### John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

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

### Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

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

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