



MAR	PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR
Mon 12	
Tue 13	7:30pm - Novena OLPH
Wed 14	
Thu 15	
Fri 16	7pm - BLAZE night 7.30pm - Stations of the Cross
Sat 17	<i>Saint Patrick (S)</i>
Sun 18	Baptism - Bethany, Laura, Elli, Isaiah, Aiden and William

### **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**

Our first reading last Sunday was about the covenant God made with his people as they were traveling through the desert on their way from Egypt to the Promised Land. In that covenant God promised his people liberty, land, prosperity and he promised them they would be his special people. What God demanded of his people in return was obedience to his commandments, especially the ones we call "The Ten Commandments." Our first reading this week skips over seven centuries, centuries marked with religious fervor at times, but mostly characterized by indifference to God and to his laws. This indifference took its toll on their strength as a nation and when the powerful Babylonians came against God's people around 600 B.C. they were unable to defend themselves. As a result their land was destroyed and those who managed to survive the Babylonian invasion were enslaved and deported to Babylon. Today's first reading describes this calamity and how God freed them from their Babylonian captivity almost two generations later. Their liberation from Babylon took place when the Persian king, Cyrus, conquered the Babylonians. Next week we will hear Jeremiah promise that God would make a new covenant with his people since the old one was so poorly kept. We celebrate and renew God's new covenant as always as we celebrate the Eucharist today.

## Gospel Reflections

How does God picture us? St Paul reveals one of God's favourite ways of regarding us.

'We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus, to live the good life as from the beginning He had intended us to live it.'

Just as an artist respects the medium he or she is working in, whether it be oils or crayon, so too God respects us as human beings with free will. Which is why His works of art don't always look the way He intended!

Now, if one has a work of art in the house, a picture or print that means a lot to you, or perhaps the first sketch by a child, do you put it in the darkest corner of the room? Or do you allow just enough light to fall on it so as to reveal how terrific it is, why it gives you pleasure? Of course, the latter.

Now, if you and I are God's work of art, God wants exactly the same. He wants us to be revealed in the light. What sort of light? Christ our Light.

Of course, it might be necessary for the Light to dispel some darkness, some shadow dimension of our lives. In this regard Christ is a healing Light, but this is so that he might illuminate us in a way which more clearly reveals the love which the Divine Artist has for His creation.

We might take a moment to pray for the courage to expose ourselves to Christ's healing light this Lent to be more beautifully illuminated at Easter.

© Fr Michael Tate

## WE GIVE THANKS ...



### 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.



## Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult  
and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

## Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one  
together. It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name  
of the Lord.

## First Reading

*2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23*

*The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile  
and liberation of his people.*

All the heads of the priesthood, and the  
people too, added infidelity to infidelity,  
copying all the shameful practices of the  
nations and defiling the Temple that the  
Lord had consecrated for himself in  
Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their  
ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger  
after messenger, since he wished to spare  
his people and his house. But they ridiculed  
the messengers of God, they despised his  
words, they laughed at his prophets, until at  
last the wrath of the Lord rose so high  
against his people that there was no further  
remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of  
God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set  
fire to all its palaces, and destroyed  
everything of value in it. The survivors were  
deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon;  
they were to serve him and his sons until  
the kingdom of Persia came to power. This

is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled  
that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this  
land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until  
seventy years have gone by, it will keep  
sabbath throughout the days of its  
desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of  
Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that  
was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord  
roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to  
issue a proclamation and to have it publicly  
displayed throughout his kingdom: "Thus  
speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the  
God of heaven, has given me all the  
kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me  
to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in  
Judah. Whoever there is among you of all  
his people, may his God be with him! Let  
him go up."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 136*

**R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever  
forget you!**

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and  
wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars  
that grew there we hung up our harps. **R.**

For it was there that they asked us, our  
captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy.  
'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's  
songs.' **R.**

O how could we sing the song of the Lord  
on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let  
my right hand wither! **R.**

O let my tongue cleave my mouth if I  
remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem  
above all my joys! **R.**

## Second Reading

*Ephesians 2:4-10*

*When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.*

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*John 3:16*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## Gospel

*John 3:14-21*

*God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

"The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believed in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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



## 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

### **12 Mon 4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Isaiah 65:17-21

Psalm Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13

Gospel John 4:43-54

### **13 Tues 4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12

Psalm Ps 45:2-3. 5-6. 8-9

Gospel John 5:1-3, 5-16

### **14 Wed 4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Isaiah 49:8-15

Psalm Ps 144:8-9. 13-14. 17-18

Gospel John 5:17-30

### **15 Thu 4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm Ps 105:19-23

Gospel John 5:31-47

### **16 Fri 4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading Wisdom 2:1, 12-22

Psalm Ps 33:16. 18. 19-21. 23

Gospel John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

### **17 Sat Saint Patrick (S)**

1st Reading Jeremiah 1:4-9

Psalm Ps 116

2nd Reading Acts 13:46-49

Gospel Luke 10:1-12. 17-20

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

*Copyright (c) LabOra Worship 2016*

### 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

**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:

Ricardo Crame, Ronald Allan Songco, Dora Agustiyam Wanahita, Nicola LoRusso, Audrey Dias, Arlene Munoz

### Deceased:

Reno Camilleri, Saver Bugeja, Maryann & Joseph Bugeja, Jeffrey Turner, Victor Francis, Edgardo Coronel, Joseph Thomas. Rosemarie de la Paz

### Anniversary:

Alex de Boucherville, Gregory Reynolds, Doniciano Vitug, David Kisorbo, Max Cerdor, Antoine Worsford, Naomi Raj, S Sockalingam, George Kiddle

### Sick:

Sonia Mikac, Giuseppe David LoRusso, Margaret Iringan, Romy Masangkay, Lolita Diaz, Liezl Sultana, Edmond Rizon, Jesse Perrone, Margaret Iringan

### Thanksgiving:

Andrea Reyes, Scott Mays, Josh Bishop, Florencia Aurelio, Letlet Fontanilla, Gloria and family, Rohan & Ryan Virwani

## 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.



## 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 23rd Glenwood Stanhope Gardens where the love of Christ is shining in so many ways.



**SUGGESTION BOX - We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.**

*“The secret of everything is to let oneself be carried by God.” — 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					
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	
	Ivon	available	Olan	Shalini	

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)



## SRE

### ⇒ BECOME A CATECHIST

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

### 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*

## LITURGY

### ⇒ Choir practices for Holy Week liturgies

Choir practices are scheduled for the following dates and times:

**14 Mar, Wed** - 7.30-9.30pm for Good Friday

**21 Mar, Wed** - 7.30-9.30pm for Easter Vigil

**23 Mar, Fri** - 8-10pm, for Holy Thursday

**28 Mar, Wed** - 7.30-9.30pm, where required  
We hope to see every member from all Parish choir groups. We also encourage any new musicians and singers to join us.

If you have any queries, please refer to Bob Agbulos, Liturgy Coordinator on [bragbulos@gmail.com](mailto:bragbulos@gmail.com).

### 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

**22 DAYS**

## Prague to Dubrovnik

*Shrines & Cathedrals of Central Europe*

Prague • Czestochowa • Auschwitz • Krakow • Zakopane  
• Budapest • Bratislava • Vienna • Ljubljana • Lake Bled  
• Rijeka • Plitvice Lakes • Dubrovnik

Accompanied by  
Rev. Fr John McSweeney PP  
and Leesa Gillard

Departs 27 September 2018

Long Blvd. Koroča

THE GENUINE EXPERIENCE

harvest.  
journeys

## Fasting and Abstinence

It is a traditional doctrine of Christian spirituality that a constituent part of repentance, of turning away from sin and back to God, includes some form of penance, without which the Christian is unlikely to remain on the narrow path and be saved (*Jer. 18:11, 25:5; Ez. 18:30, 33:11-15; Joel 2:12; Mt. 3:2; Mt. 4:17; Acts 2:38*). Christ Himself said that His disciples would fast once He had departed (*Lk. 5:35*). The general law of penance, therefore, is part of the law of God for man.

The Church for her part has specified certain forms of penance, both to ensure that the Catholic will do something, as required by divine law, while making it easy for Catholics to fulfill the obligation. Thus, the 1983 Code of Canon Law specifies the obligations of Latin Rite Catholics [*Eastern Rite Catholics have their own penitential practices as specified by the Code of Canons for the Eastern Churches*].

**Canon 1250:** All Fridays through the year and the time of Lent are penitential days and times throughout the entire Church.

**Canon 1251:** Abstinence from eating meat or another food according to the prescriptions of the conference of bishops is to be observed on Fridays throughout the year unless they are solemnities; abstinence and fast are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on the Friday of the Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Canon 1252:** All persons who have completed their fourteenth year are bound by the law of abstinence; all adults are bound by the law of fast up to the beginning of their sixtieth year. Nevertheless, pastors and parents are to see to it that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated in an authentic sense of penance.

**Canon 1253:** It is for the conference of bishops to determine more precisely the observance of fast and abstinence and to

substitute in whole or in part for fast and abstinence other forms of penance, especially works of charity and exercises of piety.

The Church, therefore, has two forms of official penitential practices - three if the Eucharistic fast of one hour before Communion is included.

## Abstinence

The law of abstinence requires a Catholic 14 years of age until death to abstain from eating meat on Fridays in honor of the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday. Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl. Also forbidden are soups or gravies made from them. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles and shellfish are permitted, as are animal derived products such as margarine and gelatin which do not have any meat taste.

On the Fridays **outside of Lent** the U.S. bishops conference obtained the permission of the Holy See for Catholics in the US to substitute a penitential, or even a charitable, practice of their own choosing. They must do some penitential/charitable practice on these Fridays. For most people the easiest practice to consistently fulfill will be the traditional one, to abstain from meat on all Fridays of the year. **During Lent** abstinence from meat on Fridays is obligatory in the United States as elsewhere.

## Fasting

The law of fasting requires a Catholic from the 18th Birthday (Canon 97) to the 59th Birthday (i.e. the beginning of the 60th year, a year which will be completed on the 60th birthday) to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Such fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The fast is broken by eating between meals and by drinks which could be considered food (*milk shakes, but not milk*). Alcoholic

## 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.

## 15 March - Mount St Benedict

Writing your own spiritual story – facilitated by Dr Peter Mudge. This day combines time for participants to reflect on writings from the desert monastics to Augustine, Benedict and Pope Francis, children's stories and poetry as inspiration for writing down stories from their own spiritual journey. No previous writing experience is necessary. Starts 9am on 15 March. Cost is \$30. For more info contact 02 8752 5390 or [mstbenedict@goodsams.org.au](mailto:mstbenedict@goodsams.org.au).

## 16-18 March - Sisterhood Catholic Women's Conference

Do you want to go deeper in your relationship with Jesus, do you want to grow as a Catholic woman and develop friendships with other women of faith? Join women of all ages for a weekend of prayer, keynote talks, the sacraments, adoration and quality sisterhood time. Keynote speakers include Darlene Darlene Zschech, Laura Roland, Sr Mary Rachel OP, Jonathan and Karen Doyle, Jo Hayes, Justine Cumbo, Francine Pirola and more. To register visit [www.sisterhood.org.au](http://www.sisterhood.org.au)

## 17 March - Individual Discernment Weekend

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth are hosting an individual discernment weekend retreat on 17 March 2018 from 4:00pm for women (aged 18-35) who want to discern their vocation to religious life. This retreat will be a one-to-one encounter.

14

beverages do not break the fast; however, they seem to be contrary to the spirit of doing penance.

**Those who are excused from fast or abstinence** Besides those outside the age limits, those of unsound mind, the sick, the frail, pregnant or nursing women according to need for meat or nourishment, manual laborers according to need, guests at a meal who cannot excuse themselves without giving great offense or causing enmity and other situations of moral or physical impossibility to observe the penitential discipline.

Aside from these minimum penitential requirements Catholics are encouraged to impose some personal penance on themselves at other times. It could be modeled after abstinence and fasting. A person could, for example, multiply the number of days they abstain. Some people give up meat entirely for religious motives (*as opposed to those who give it up for health or other motives*). Some religious

orders, as a penance, never eat meat. Similarly, one could multiply the number of days that one fasted. The early Church had a practice of a Wednesday and Saturday fast. This fast could be the same as the Church's law (*one main meal and two smaller ones*) or stricter, even bread and water. Such freely chosen fasting could also consist in giving up something one enjoys - candy, soft drinks, smoking, that cocktail before supper, and so on. This is left to the individual.

One final consideration. Before all else we are obliged to perform the duties of our state in life. Any deprivation that would seriously hinder us in carrying out our work, as students, employees or parents would be contrary to the will of God.

--- Colin B. Donovan, STL

*Vice President for Theology at EWTN and host of the Friday edition of Open Line (3-5 pm ET) on the EWTN Global Catholic Radio Network.*

<http://www.catholic.org/lent/abfast.php>

## 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.

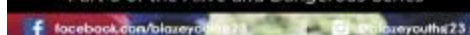
BLAZE runs during **Friday nights**, weeks 1,3,5,7 and 9 of the school term. Session **starts at 7:15 till 9pm**.

**Next Session: 16/03/2018**



**COUNTERFEIT**

Part 3 of the Alive and Dangerous Series



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

Word Find

God gave his only Son to save us

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

*Find these words*

Condemn    eternal    everyone    faith    love    never  
 Nicodemus    people    save    send    Son    world

It includes prayer times, talks, accompaniment and the opportunity to have a live-in experience with the Sisters. Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula on email

[vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com) or mobile 0449 656406.

### 18 March - Lenten Concert Reflection

'Ashes to Easter' with Peter Kearney on Sunday 18 March, 3.00-4.15pm in the Chapel of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic singer-songwriter and guitarist whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House' and 'The Beatitudes'. His 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week & Easter. To register, email

[concerts@peterkearneysongs.com.au](mailto:concerts@peterkearneysongs.com.au) specifying 'Parramatta' and number of seats needed. Suggested donation \$10 at door.

### 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 St Michael's Baulkham Hills is running a Table Talk with guest speakers including a person seeking protection, as well as Miriam Pellicano, Exec Manager of the House of Welcome. Listen to a real life experience of seeking safety, share your thoughts, ask your questions in a safe, respectful space and consider possible actions. This could be one of your Lenten efforts! Friday 16 March in the Downey Room at St Michael's, 1 Canyon Rd Baulkham Hills. Light refreshments at 7pm for a 7.15pm start; finish by 9pm. Please RSVP to Barbara Stenning on 0413 055 511

### Kid's Corner

#### Spot the difference (8)



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
- Have learning disabilities
- Need strengths and learning style identified

Ph: 02 9481 7862

[www.salconsulting.com.au](http://www.salconsulting.com.au)



**Hills Family Funerals**  
*A tradition of care and concern*

*A Tradition of Care & Concern*

*Pre-paid funerals available*

340 Old Northern Rd. Castle Hill



9659 0900

[www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au](http://www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au)



**Therapy & Psychological Services for:**

**Children – Adolescents – Adults**

Developmental Trauma - PTSD - Behaviour Problems

- Anxiety - Depression - ADHD – Intellectual

Disabilities - Social & Skills Building -Autism

Spectrum Disorder - Phase of Life Challenges

Ph: 9481 7862 [www.salconsulting.com.au](http://www.salconsulting.com.au)

**CAKES by TATI**

Baking your ideas to life. We specialise in :

Wedding Cakes

Birthday and Occasion Cakes

Cupcakes & Cookies

Macarons, Cake Pops and

more...

Tel: +61 415 566 978

Email: [cakesbytati@gmail.com](mailto:cakesbytati@gmail.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/cakesbytati](http://www.facebook.com/cakesbytati)

Web: [www.cakesbytati.com.au](http://www.cakesbytati.com.au)



**Residential Commercial Body  
Corporate**

O: 8809 7945 M: 0414 467 981

Environmentally friendly products used

Safe for family and pets

[www.allridpests.com.au](http://www.allridpests.com.au)

**Property Sales & Management**  
making your move easy...

**move**  
REALTY

Joshi John 0410 066578/9631 1101

[joshi@moverealty.com.au](mailto:joshi@moverealty.com.au)

**ZAC SAFE DRIVING  
SCHOOL**

Let me help your kids be safe drivers

**DOMINIC**

0412 945264

**L P**

**Bella's Law Group**

Mobile and home visits

Local Lawyer for over 15 years

Wills Powers of Attorney

Estates

Family Law Conveyancing

**0498235527** 0498(Bellas)

[Belinda@bellaslawgroup.com.au](mailto:Belinda@bellaslawgroup.com.au)

**Need Legal Advice?  
Need Migration Assistance?**

**Morning Star**

**Legal & Migration Services**

[www.morningstarlegal.com.au](http://www.morningstarlegal.com.au)

or call 0478 173 474

MARN 1461332

**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)

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