

Cnr Perfection Ave and Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens

<http://john23rd.com/> <https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/>



Divine Mercy Sunday
Second Sunday of
Easter
08 April 2018

From the Pastor's desk

This Sunday is the Divine Mercy Sunday and its readings show us how merciful our God is.

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles shows us Christian communities that have welcomed this mercy of the Lord. Their meeting with Him totally changed the lives of these people. They understand that they are called to become a community of sharing, prayer and discovery of God.

It is for us to create forms of fraternity and solidarity. By our life and our actions, we want to announce the fraternal Kingdom that God wants to build by spreading his Spirit of love. This mercy we enjoy is offered to all people around the world.

In the second reading, St. John wants to bring us back to the heart of faith in Christ. Faith radically renews our vision of the world. Faith makes us see everything in the light of this love manifested in Jesus.

It is by looking at his cross that we begin to understand. This world that God loved so much, we should love it too. If we love God, we must love all our brothers and sisters, all the people of this world too.

It's an everyday fight against the forces of evil. But the Lord does not abandon us. Saint Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from his love.

With the Gospel, we are more than ever in the mercy of Jesus. On this first day of the week, he re-joins his disciples. He finds them living in fear, distress, and in locked rooms. However, they cannot count on him anymore. They now expect to suffer the same fate as their Master.

This danger is always present: how to face the mockeries of a world that thinks itself intelligent, of a world that attacks the Church teaching, and Christian values? We can see that it is not easy to live one's faith in today's world.

The temptation is great to fall back into small ghettos and stay in our comfort zone. On this Sunday, we pray to the Lord to be with us so that we are more courageous in the testimony, and also keep us more generous in the practice of fraternal charity. Amen



Entrance Antiphon

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Readings/Gospel

Acts 3:13-15. 17-19

Ps 4:2. 4. 7. 9

1 John 2:1-5

Luke 24:35-48

Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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 page

Fr John McSweeney, Parish Priest

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."



APR

PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon	9	
Tue	10	7:30pm - Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	11	
Thu	12	
Fri	13	
Sat	14	
Sun	15	Baptism - Georgia, Tobias, Liam, Elijah, Kasey, Breeze

MASS TIMES

Mon to Fri 9:00am

also Wed 9:00am

Holy Cross Primary school term
only

Sat 9:00am,
6:00pm (Vigil)
Sun 7:30am, 9:00am,
10:30am
6:00pm (Youth)

SACRAMENTS

Baptism by appointment

Sun 12:00pm

Reconciliation (First Rite)

Sat 5:00 - 5:45pm

And after any weekday masses

CLERGY

Parish Priest:

Fr John McSweeney

✉ FrJohn@john23rd.org.au

Asst. Priest:

Fr Thomas Bui

✉ FrThomas@john23rd.org.au

Deacon:

Rodrigo Rupac

✉ DeaconRudy@john23rd.org.au

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours

Tue to Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

Office Contacts

(02)9852 0580

(0403 766468 AH Emergency)

Secretary

Tanya Gatt

✉ secretary@john23rd.org.au

Finance:

Mila Llamas (Fri)

✉ accounts@john23rd.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator:

Jill Franco

✉ admin@john23rd.org.au

Business Manager:

John McCartney (*pro bono*)

✉ businessmanager@john23rd.org.au



Chairman

Bart Sarlabus

Dep Chairman

Chris Drummond

Secretary

Nanette Gamboa

Members

Bernadette Virwani

Gary Lee

Julienne Crasto

Nidarshi Fernando

PARISH NEWS

OUR COLUMBARIUM IS ON SALE !

People on the Expression of Interest list receive preference and will be able to place their orders and make payment this weekend. They will also be able to select their preferred niches on the wall.

Columbarium niches will go on sale to the general parish next weekend.

By making the minimum deposit of \$500 for each niche you will lock in the early-bird prices detailed in the flyer in the pews.

\$2 000 for the 1st niche

\$1 800 for a 2nd niche

\$1 500 for 3rd and subsequent niches

We expect these prices to be reviewed in the next financial year.

Final payment will be required by 30 June 2018, by which stage construction will have commenced.

If, for any reason, our application is unsuccessful and we have to abandon the project, you will receive a full refund.

If you have any questions in the meantime please contact John McCartney,

businessmanager@john23rd.org.au

Christian Meditation is an ancient Christian practice that was revived last century by Fr. John Main, a Benedictine monk. We at St. John 23rd Parish are planning to start a weekly meditation group. This group welcomes everyone and consists of a welcome, a short teaching that we listen to, 20-25 minutes silent meditation together finishing with a prayer and short period of sharing afterwards. We plan to hold this meeting on Monday evenings. If you are interested in learning about Christian meditation and joining this group, please talk to Fr. John or Fr. Thomas or call me on 0438072334 Frances Pegrem.



DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA NEWS

POSITIONS VACANT

Risk Officer - Chancery Office, Parramatta

Interviewer - Tribunal Office, Parramatta

More details www.parracatholic.org/employment

Credo Youth Group Coordinator - St

Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

For further information, please visit

www.stpatrickscathedral.com.au

16 April - Discussion on Asylum Seekers and Refugees

The Social Justice Commission of Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair invites you to a Table Talk:

Walking with Refugees and People Seeking

Protection. Mon, 16 Apr from 7.30pm-9pm at

Holy Spirit Church, 5 Todd Row, St Clair.

RSVP to Jacinta before Tues 10 Apr via

admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au or 02 9670 8222.

1 May - NSW Pastoral Conference

NSW Pastoral Conference: Forming

Missionary Disciples - Join with pastoral

council members, parish clergy, staff and

volunteers across NSW to explore strategies

for forming missionary disciples. How do we

renew our baptismal call and enable our gifts

in parish and school life? Tuesday, 1 May,

Lidcombe, cost \$65. Find out more:

www.tinyurl.com/disciples2018 or contact Tanya

Quinn 02 8838 3441 or

tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org

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 of the church and provide for ministry expenses.

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** is available at the church foyer or contact the parish office.

We would encourage instead of the envelope system to either direct debit or credit card deduction.

Parish Pastoral Corner

FAITH FORMATION

⇒ Our Lady of Perpetual Help Statue

We continue to ask for host families to pray the Rosary at home and request our Blessed Mother's intercessions. Tuesday nights beginning with Evening Prayer at 6.30pm, Rosary at 7.15pm, Mass and Novena prayers at 7.30pm with sung Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after the novena mass.

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

"A family that prays together, stays together - Fr Patrick Peyton"

PASTORAL CARE

⇒ 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.

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

LITURGY

⇒ WE GIVE THANKS TO.....

Everyone who contributed so much to the wonderful, spirit filled Easter Triduum Liturgies.

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

	3	10	17	24	
Apr	<i>Cendana</i>	Manalo	Sebastian	Shalini	
May	1	8	15	22	29
	Ivon	Shalini	Manalo	Lobo	Lee
Jun	5	12	19	26	
	Ivon	<i>available</i>	Olan	Shalini	
Jul	3	10	17	24	31
	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>
Aug	7	14	21	28	
	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	Macrohon	
Sep	4	11	18	25	
	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	

YOUTH CORNER

"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

Find us on
facebook.com/sj23ignite

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:
20/4/18

Find us on
facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23

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

Devotions & Prayers

Novena Masses

Tue 7:30pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
First Fri 7:30pm
Sacred Heart of Jesus

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tue after the 7:30pm novena mass
First Fri 6:30pm followed by
7:15pm Benediction
Sat 8:00 - 9:00am (*Vocations*)

Sacrament of the Sick

First Sat 9:00am Mass or upon request

Divine Office

Fri 12:00pm with Adoration
Sun 8:15am

Praise & Worship

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

Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Lolita Tirol, Jeanie Drummond, Maureen
Graham, Romeo Masangkay, Magdalena
Ramirez

Deceased:

Jeffrey Turner, Hennessy Family

Anniversary:

Nanda Abeysingha, Arturo Cobbarrubias Sr,
Ernesto R Ribargoso, Zaida R Kawarai,
Regalado Morales

Sick:

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

Thanksgiving:

Giorgio Kavo, Rishni, Paul Irvine, Xavier
Grana Selca, Theophil Jude Theodore,
Mary Hanlus

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood
Principal: Marina Hardy
☎ (02) 8664 7100

✉ bolycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens
Principal: Dr Peter Webster
☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens
☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au



SUGGESTION BOX
We welcome your comments
and constructive suggestions.

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

ST JOHN XXIII WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE BUSINESSES FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

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

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