



Cnr Perfection Ave and Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens  
<http://john23rd.com/> <https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/>



**Sixth Sunday  
of Easter  
6 May 2018**

**From the Pastor's desk**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

In today's Gospel Jesus invites his disciples to "love one another as I have loved you." This New Commandment is based on "agape" love - that is, unconditional love that seeks the good of the other; a love that is NEVER self-serving. It is this love which underpinned everything that Jesus said and did throughout his life. And it is this love which must be at the basis of our living out of the Gospel of Jesus in our lives.

Each one of us know the ways that we are called by God to be loving people who care for others, even those who persecute us. However, we need to ask ourselves how we can improve our interaction with those with whom we come into contact.

Are there areas in our lives in which hate or envy or jealousy or any form of negative emotion must be destroyed, so the "agape" love can replace them? Are we willing to let the Spirit of our loving God help us to walk in the footsteps of the Lord more closely?

Let's reflect on the Lord's New Commandment for us in the week ahead: "love one another as I have loved you."

1. Parish Finance Committee meets Tuesday evening.
2. Please pray for the children who are about to commence their preparation for First Communion.
3. Jack Green, who ministered as a seminarian in our parish last year, will be ordained to the transitional Diaconate (on his way to priesthood) at Sacred Heart Church, Westmead on Saturday 2nd June at 6pm. Let's keep him in our prayers.

God bless you all. Fr John

**Entrance Antiphon**

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

**Readings/Gospel**

Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48 1 1  
John 4:7-10  
John 15:9-17

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 97:1-4  
The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

**Gospel Acclamation**

John 14:23  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, 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

**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."*



MAY	THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH
Mon 7	9am - Mass 7:30pm - Bible Study about the Virgin Mary
Tue 8	9am - Mass 7:30pm - Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, benediction to follow
Wed 9	9am - Mass
Thu 10	9am - Mass
Fri 11	9am - Mass and Benediction
Sat 12	9am - Mass 4pm - Bible Study about the Virgin Mary 4.30pm - First Communion - Children's Session 1, St Mark's Staff Room 7:30pm - Praise & Worship (CRL)
Sun 13	Ascension of the Lord Mother's Day 12pm - Baptism - Please pray for Selena 4.30pm - First Communion - Children's Session 1, St Mark's Staff Room

## OFFICE

160 Perfection Avenue,  
Stanhope Gardens, 2768  
(next to St Mark's College Admin Office)

## MAILING

PO Box 23, Stanhope Gardens,  
NSW 2768

## NORMAL MASS TIMES

Mon - 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](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)

## PARISH OFFICE

**Office Hours**

Tue - Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

**Office Contacts**

(02)9852 0580

(0403 766468 AH Emergency)

**Secretary**

Tanya Gatt

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

**Finance:**

Mila Llamas (Thur)

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

**Sacramental Coordinator:**

Jill Franco

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

**Business Manager:**

John McCartney (pro bono)

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

## PARISH NEWS

### COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Thank you to all who have shown an interest in the columbarium project and purchased niches. We have 18 niches left - St John XXIII (6) and St Mary of the Cross Mackillop (12). Our DA has gone to Council so we await their decision. If you are interested in purchasing please contact John McCartney [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@john23rd.org.au) 0414 909178.

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

**Christian Meditation** is an ancient Christian practice that was revived last century by Fr. John Main, a Benedictine monk. We at St. John 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 0438 072 334 Frances Pegrem.



### WE GIVE THANKS TO.....

Stella, Sophia and Chris for the wonderful sanctuary curtains.

### SUGGESTION BOX

We have a suggestion box in the front foyer and welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

## DIocese of Parramatta News

### Catholic Outlook Survey

Tell Bishop Vincent and the Diocese of Parramatta what you think about *Catholic Outlook*. All responses are anonymous and confidential. Take the survey here: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/catholicoutlook](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/catholicoutlook)

### 12 May: Breakfast with the Bishop

Each year Bishop Vincent hosts a breakfast with youth and young adults from across the Diocese of Parramatta. Attendees have an incredible opportunity to listen to the yearly vision of our Bishop and ask him questions about the challenges they are facing and the priorities they have identified for the year ahead, in their local context. The event is also a chance for the team at Catholic Youth Parramatta to motivate and encourage a successful year of ministry with young people. Further details at [www.parracatholic.org/cyp-lifted-breakfast/](http://www.parracatholic.org/cyp-lifted-breakfast/)

### 18 May: Mass For Neophytes

The annual Mass for Neophytes (newly Baptised Catholics and those who have been received into Full Communion with the

Catholic Church) will be celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and held on Friday 18 May, 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. For further information contact the Office For Worship on 02 8838 3456 or [ingridvergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingridvergano@parracatholic.org).

### 26 May: Ordination to the Diaconate of Christopher del Rosario

Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, will be the principal celebrant for the Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate of Christopher del Rosario on Saturday 26 May 2018 at 6.30pm. The ordination will take place at St Monica's Church, Richmond. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### 2 June: Ordination to the Diaconate of Jack Green

Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, will be the principal celebrant for the Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate of Jack Green on Saturday 2 June 2018 at 6.00pm. The ordination will take place at Sacred Heart Church, Westmead. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## 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.

### 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.



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

## 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](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"*

### LITURGY

#### ⇒ LITURGY MINISTERS' RETREAT

Attention all Liturgy Ministers: Acolytes, Sr and Jr Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Ministers of the Word. We invite you to a spiritual retreat on **Sat, 19th May** from 9am to 1pm. Please diarise this date. More details to follow or email Bob Agbulos on [bragbulos@gmail.com](mailto:bragbulos@gmail.com).

#### ⇒ JUNIOR ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Do you wish to serve in our liturgies? Are you 10 years old and over? Have you received the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Holy Communion? If so, we invite you to join our Junior Altar Server ministry. Application forms are available in the church, from our parish office and parish Facebook page. For further details, email Bob Agbulos on [bragbulos@gmail.com](mailto:bragbulos@gmail.com).

### Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

	1	8	15	22	29
May	Ivon	Shalini	Manalo	Lobo	Lee
Jun	5	12	19	26	
	Ivon	Richards	Olan	Shalini	
Jul	3	10	17	24	31
	Houghton	available	available	available	Macrohon
Aug	7	14	21	28	
	available	available	Pangilinan E	available	
Sep	4	11	18	25	
	available	Houghton	available	available	

### COMMUNITY BUILDING

#### ⇒ ZUMBA SOCIAL

Watch this space for this exciting event.

#### ⇒ WELCOMERS

We are still looking for more committed volunteers to be part of this committee. For those interested please contact Techie Sarlabus on 0438 201436 or email [techiesarlabus@gmail.com](mailto:techiesarlabus@gmail.com) alternatively Vanessa Turner (Team Lead) [vbt2k@yaboo.com](mailto:vbt2k@yaboo.com)



Cake Angels Food Stall is on this Sunday morning (6 May 2018). Try out our variety of sweets and savouries. 100% of the proceeds will be donated to the Church. Thank you All for your continued support.

#### ⇒ YOUTH MINISTERS

We are looking for committed young people to assist in the facilitation of our BLAZE fortnightly sessions. You will be assisting like minded youth in the development of the younger generation in our parish and help in their spiritual growth. Enquiries can be sent to [youth@john23rd.com.au](mailto:youth@john23rd.com.au).

## YOUTH CORNER

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

### 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: 18/05/2018



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

## Youth Ministry

### ATTENTION

SJXXIII Youth is looking for volunteer youth facilitators who are can commit to assisting with our BLAZE fortnightly sessions. Any enquiries can be sent to [youth@john23rd.com.au](mailto:youth@john23rd.com.au).

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

**Devotions & Prayers**

**Novena Masses**

Tue 7:30pm  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
1st Fri 7:30pm  
Sacred Heart of Jesus

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Tue after the 7:30pm novena mass  
1st Fri 6:30pm followed by  
7:15pm Benediction  
Sat 8:00 - 9:00am (Vocations)

**Sacrament of the Sick**

1st Sat 9:00am Mass or upon request

**Divine Office**

Fri After 9:00am Mass and  
Benediction  
Sun 8:15am

**Praise & Worship**

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

**Special intentions**

**Recently Deceased:**

Victor Grech, Lucia Dizon, Gordon Collins

**Deceased:**

Jeffrey Turner, Michael Lobo

**Anniversary:**

Noleta Athayde, Monica Cobarrubias,  
Francis Charles Atton, Primitivo Marinas

**Sick:**

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

**Thanksgiving:**

Ronaldo, Kristine, Maria, Vincenzo & Ramon  
Zamora, Rohan Virwani

**OUR PARISH SCHOOLS**

**Holy Cross Primary**

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

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



**Chairman**

Bart Sarlabus

**Dep Chairman**

Chris Drummond

**Secretary**

Nanette Gamboa

**Members**

Bernadette Virwani

Gary Lee

Julienne Crasto

Nidarshi Fernando

**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*

**Therapy & Psychological Services for: Children – Adolescents – Adults**



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