



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



**Twenty Fourth
 Sunday in
 Ordinary Time
 16 September 2018**

From the Pastor's desk

Here in our Australian democracy we hardly feel the force of the famous gospel passage in which Jesus forewarns his disciples of the high cost of following him. We trivialise the meaning of taking up the cross to make it refer to bearing a chronic ailment, or putting up with a particularly irritating family member or work colleague: 'It/he/she is the cross I have to bear.'

No, our Lord was referring to the terrible reality which could be inflicted on his followers, as even happens today: the beheadings by ISIL in Iraq, the rape and enslavement of women in Nigeria, the displacement from homelands in Syria. The True Cross is not to be found in splinters of wood but in the various means by which suffering is inflicted on those whose allegiance to Jesus Christ does not waiver.

Peter could not, would not, grasp this. His head was full of political fantasy, easy sovereignty. Jesus rebuked Peter quite savagely: 'Satan, get behind me.' Only after the resurrection, believing that our Lord had conquered the worst that death could do, did Peter follow Jesus to crucifixion, upside down at the base of the Vatican Hill.

We could take a moment to pray for and, where possible, give appropriate political support to, our fellow Christians wherever they are persecuted, forced to bear the true cross of suffering. May God give those Christian martyrs victory in the embrace of the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

© Fr Michael Tate

Dear friends

I would like to thank those who've been praying for me since my recent knee surgery. I'm well and truly on the mend now. Thank heavens all is fine, as it's only 12 days until the Pilgrimage to the Shrines and Cathedrals of Central Europe is underway!

We pray for those young men who are being baptised and/or receiving Confirmation and First Communion this weekend and next. It's great to see teenagers and those in their early 20's wishing to receive the Sacraments! Let's keep them in our prayers.

God Bless you all!

Fr. John

Mass Times

Mon - Fri 9:00am
 also Wed 10:00am
 Holy Cross Primary *school term only*
 Sat 9:00am, 6:00pm (Vigil)
 Sun 7:30am, 9:00am,
 10:30am, 6:00pm (Youth)

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

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."



SEP

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon 17	9.00am - Mass 7:30pm - Christian Meditation Group
Tue 18	9.00am - Mass 7:30pm - Novena Mass with Benediction
Wed 19	9.00am - Mass 7pm - Mothers' Group
Thu 20	<i>Saints Andrew Kim Taegon and Paul Chong Hasang (M)</i> 9.00am - Mass
Fri 21	<i>Saint Matthew (F)</i>
Sat 22	9.00am - Mass
Sun 23	12pm - Baptism - Please pray for Tauriel, Valentina, Emily, Esabelle, Elsie

Entrance Antiphon

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

First Reading

Isaiah 50:5-9

I gave my body to those who struck me.

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 114:1-6, 8-9

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

I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him. **R.**

They surrounded me, the snares of death, with anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God, deliver me! **R.**

How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me! **R.**

He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. **R.**

Second Reading

James 2:14-18

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Galatians 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 8:27-35

You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

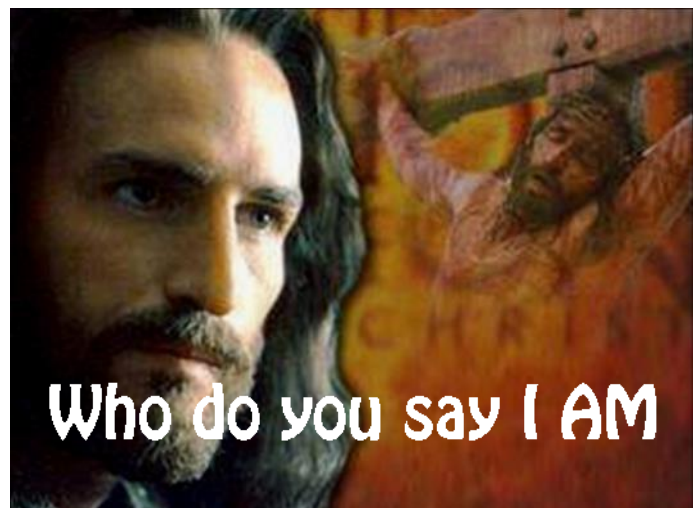
He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.



OFFICE

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

MAILING

PO Box 23, Stanhope Gardens,
NSW 2768

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 - Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

Office Contacts

(02)9852 0580

(0423 160 567 AH Emergency)

STAFF

Secretary

Tanya Gatt

✉ secretary@john23rd.org.au

Finance:

Renuka Soosaipillai

✉ accounts@john23rd.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator:

Jill Franco

✉ admin@john23rd.org.au

Business Manager:

John McCartney (*pro bono*)

✉ businessmanager@john23rd.org.au

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome to our parish
community!

Please take a welcome envelope
pack from the front entrance.

Also visit our website or like our
Facebook page

www.facebook.com/john23rdparish



Consult not your fears
but your hopes and
your dreams
- Pope St John XXIII

Welcome to the community of the Catholic Parish of St John 23rd Stanhope Gardens
where the love of Christ is shining in so many ways.

SUGGESTION BOX
We welcome your comments
and constructive suggestions.

PARISH NEWS

DISABLED PARKING

We have designated two additional disabled parking bays in the small top carpark. They have been designated specifically for Saturday and Sunday so general parking is still permissible during the week. Please be considerate when parking on the weekends.

COLUMBARIUM

Off-site construction of the walls has commenced. The foundations/footings, constructed to Engineer's specifications, will be completed towards the end of this month. Final payments are due by Monday 10 September.

A number of people have approached us with ideas for sponsoring the items listed on page 6 of the bulletin. You don't have to sponsor an item on your own – a number of groups in the parish or individuals are banding together to sponsor one of the larger items such as the altar or cross. Take another look at the list on page 6 and see if your parish group or family might like to jointly contribute to something.

CONGRATULATIONS SRE's!

At the recently held Diocesan CCD Mass, a few of our SRE teachers were recognised.

25 YEARS OF SERVICE – Josephine Falzon

15 YEARS OF SERVICE – Denise Simpson, Lucy Camilleri

LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE – Veronica Skipper

CONGRATULATIONS and thank you for your wonderful work.

WE GIVE THANKS TO.....

...for our SRE's continued service to our Parish. Well done everyone

SUGGESTION BOX RESPONSES

Our suggestion box in the foyer gathers a number of comments and suggestions from parishioners. As most are anonymous we aren't able to respond directly, so in this new column we will endeavour to address many of those contributions.

Q. During Benediction, the list of petitions should not be read aloud. Instead there should be a silent pause at that time to allow everyone to recall their own petitions. After all these petitions are meant for the Lord, they make no sense to the congregation and are best reflected upon personally and individually, while still silently praying for the petitions of others in the congregation.

A. This suggestion has much merit, although it would need some discussion with those who attend the Novena Masses. Since the NSW Privacy Act states that we cannot mention that someone is sick without their permission or the permission of their next-of-kin, perhaps we should restrict the listing of names to those who have died?

COELIACS Those who are gluten intolerant may receive communion with a gluten low host. Please inform the acolyte before Mass.

Changes to our collection

First Collection will occur after the Homily and which will be brought to the altar during the offertory procession. The **Second Collection** will occur after the offertory and will be brought forward during the Holy, Holy.

Paying our debt together

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

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.

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"

⇒ Christian Meditation Group

Christian Meditation Group held every Monday at 7.30 in the Conference Room for further enquiries call Frances Pegrem on 0417 406715.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

⇒ Food Pantry

Vinnies Stanhope Gardens Conference is starting a **"Non-perishable Food Drive"** to help feed the needy in the community. When we get calls for assistance with food, we help out with a bag of groceries and a food voucher to buy fresh meat etc. At the moment, our cupboard is looking bare for some items and we are asking for help. We believe that if every family was to contribute one item of **non-perishable food a month** our cupboard would never go bare. At present, we need **long life milk, cereal, pasta sauce, tinned vegetables, tinned meat and tinned fish**. We will have a labelled plastic bin in the church foyer for your donations. We will advise you every month as to what food item is running low. Thank you very much for all the help you have given our Vinnies Conference so far. God bless you all.

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

Sep	4 <i>Ivon</i>	11 <i>Houghton</i>	18 Shalini	25 Olan	
Oct	2 Olan	9 Sebastian	16 Pangilinan	23 Ramirez	30 Manalo
Nov	6 Pangilinan R	13 Cabug-os	20 Gan	27 Cano	
Dec	4 Paguinto S	11 Drummond	18 Richards	25 Paguinto M	
Jan	1 Shalini	8 Lequin	15 <i>available</i>	22 Olan	29 Sebastian

PASTORAL CARE

⇒ Mother's Group

Our next Mothers' Group is on Wednesday 19 September, 7pm at the church. All mothers welcome! We are a friendly bunch of mums who offer prayers for our children and support for each other. Come join us! Contact Jill on 0402 172 346 or Savia at sarvi305@gmail.com.

⇒ First Reconciliation

Our First Reconciliation program will begin in October with the Parents' Information Evening on **Wednesday 10 Oct, 7.30pm** at the church. Enrolment forms will be distributed then. We are inviting all Year 3 students to apply. For more information, please email Jill via email admin@john23rd.org.au



Chairman	Members
Bart Sarlabus	Bernadette Virwani
Dep Chairman	Gary Lee
Chris Drummond	Julienne Crasto
Secretary	Nidarshi Fernando
Nanette Gamboa	

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

Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Father Eric, David Carroll,
Doreen Farrow

Deceased:

Victor Francis, Charles Briffa,
Angelina Adan, Henriqueta Pereira,
Guilhermina Pereira, Edwin Almeida,
Rodolfo Menezes

Anniversary:

Thelma Llosa Pore, Helena Artig,
Pedro Birnardo, Ammini Joseph,
Kathy Kovac, Maligaya Morales

Sick:

Jaxon Touneur, Ceasar de Jesus,
David Lanza, Angie De Lara,
Genevieve Goco, Leticia Carpio,
Stella Cristobal, Margaret Iringan,
Jaroslava Knotek Roland Sampy,
Ronelle, Giuseppe David LoRusso,
Sonia Sampaio, John Wormald,
Jesse Perrone, Edmond Rizon,
Fe Suderio, Ariel Ignacio, Lolita Diaz,
Liezl Sultana, Sonia Mikac,
Madz Aguas

Thanksgiving:

Ravi & Bernadette Virani & family,
Marisa, Chris & Family
Ed & Clare Pinedo

Church Funnies



I THINK THAT YOU HAVE SOME SERIOUS FAITH ISSUES

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Marina Hardy

☎ (02) 8664 7100

✉ 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

Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ celkstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.celkstanhope.catholic.edu.au

Diocesan News

Plenary 2020 Information and Training

Learn about the Australian Catholic Bishops Plenary Council's impact on you. Receive support to share the Plenary invitation with parish, friends and family.

20 Sep, 7-9.30pm, Parramatta Cathedral Hall

29 Sep, 10am-12.30pm, St Thomas Aquinas Springwood School Hall (168 Hawkesbury Rd)

29 Sep, 2-4.30pm, Emu Plains School Hall (17 Troy Street)

RSVP: marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org
8838 3460 with date, time and parish/agency.

Adult Confirmation for 2018

Adult Confirmation for 2018 will be held on Friday 12 October, 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Any adult over 16 years of age wanting to be confirmed please see your Parish Office for information. Alternatively you can contact The Office for Worship on 02 8838 3456 or ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org

Save the Date – Seminar for Couples Hoping to Conceive

Date: 11 November 2018. Waiting for Gabriel is an information afternoon. You'll hear testimonies & learn about natural options which assist fertility. For more information contact Natural Fertility Serv, Diocese of Parramatta catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org
0400 427 605

Lawn and Garden Services: Help CatholicCare to Help Disabled Workers

CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains (CatholicCare) is the diocesan social services organisation. Our Mamre Garden Services employed disabled people in a lawn and garden service lawns for both residential and commercial clients. The team of workers is supervised by our Garden Crew Supervisor. Each job is quoted separately and you will not be disappointed with the quality of the work. If you're interested in having your lawns and/or gardens serviced by CatholicCare or would like more information, please contact 02 8843 2500 or visit our website www.ccss.org.au

Other News

Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse

This is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held May 26–31 2019. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0478599241. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org

30 September: Social Justice Sunday

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 September. This year, the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land'. The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing. For further details about the Social Justice Statement visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or call (02) 8306 3499.

ST JOHN XXIII GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE AND COLUMBARIUM

Preliminary work on the Garden of Remembrance and columbarium has commenced. We will be at all masses this weekend to receive payments from those who have reserved niches.

We are also asking anyone who has not taken up their free plant allocation from Blacktown Council to sign the form at the doors of the church. This will enable us to take up your allocation.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

A. Sponsorship and promotional opportunities

There are a number of opportunities for parishioners and suppliers to contribute to the construction of our columbarium, either by way of monetary donations or provision of materials or labour.

Here are a few ideas – the smallest contribution will be gratefully received

1	Sandstone altar	\$ 4 000
2	Cross	\$ 3 000
3	Wooden bench (6)	\$ 300 each
4	Lighting & CCTV	\$ 3 000
5	Plaque – St John XXIII	\$ 500
6	Plaque – St Mary MacKillop	\$ 500
7	Water feature	\$ 900
8	Paving	\$ 5 000
9	Turf	\$ 5 000
10	Landscaping	\$ 5 000
11	Lighting & CCTV	\$ 3 000

Acknowledgement incentive

Items 1 – 3

If you wish, a plaque acknowledging your contribution is included + if you wish, full colour acknowledgment in the parish bulletin for three weeks

Items 4 – 11

If you wish, full colour acknowledgment/ad in the parish bulletin for three weeks

B. Give of your time at a working bee

There will be a number of working bees, not just for the Garden of Remembrance, but the church gardens generally, for example planting a hedge and other shrubs and plants

C. Gardening or Housekeeping

Offer your time to look after a small garden area or to take care of the Garden of Remembrance eg general tidying up

Contact: John McCartney - businessmanager@john23rd.org.au or 0414 909 178

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: 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

Youth ministry

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.

Kids' Corner

COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

START

I

F Y O E

Y D W U T

Z N A L W

V T U E R

D F Y M I T X P I A B O K

G O H E B O Y S R U S T U

J L R C A T A O U M H T J

F L O W E R S Y E T Q A W

S D L K O P F G P U E K B

E W S O Y

A V I U Z

T X C R A

S O R Q H

S D U E O

A R K Y S

N G L L O

D F O F W

R I E P M

E U W T

FINISH

WORD SEARCH

Take up your cross and follow me

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

Cross disciples find follow forget give Jerusalem life
Peter rise Satan three

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



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

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CREED PTY LTD
 For All Your Painting Needs!
www.creedpl.com
creedpl@bigpond.com
 PO BOX 6450, Rouse Hill, NSW, 2155
email: info@creedpl.com
mob: 0400 663601

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KUMON

'Find out why I'm good at maths and love reading!'
 Your child can strengthen essential maths and English skills with Kumon. Contact your local Kumon Centre to hear how we can support your child's learning.

STANHOPE GARDENS
 0415 700 887
GLENWOOD
 0411 029 597



<http://au.kumonglobal.com>

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CAKES by TATI

Baking your ideas to life.
 We specialise in: Wedding
 Cakes, Birthday & Occasion
 Cakes, Cupcakes & Cookies,
 Macarons, Cake Pops and more...
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 Email: cakesbytati@gmail.com
 FB: www.facebook.com/cakesbytati
 Web: www.cakesbytati.com.au



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