

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'.

The word of the Lord. Th

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14*

R. To you, **O** Lord, I lift my soul.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my Saviour. **R**.

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **R**.

His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will. The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant. **R**.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel <u>Luke</u> 21:25-28. 34-36

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



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 <u>nnm.facebook.com/john23rdparish</u>



come to the community of the Catholic Parish of St John 20rd Glenwood Starthope Ga where the Sove of Ohrist Is shining in so many ways.

SUGGESTION BOX We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS

The latest edition of Australian Catholics has arrived and is available free in the foyer of the Church.

ENROLMENT OPPORTUNITIES for 2019

Limited positions are available in Years 4, 9. 10 & 11 at John XXIII and St Mark's College. Please contact our Enrolment Officer, Ph: 9852 0500.

WE GIVE THANKS TO ...

Cake Angels for the yummy goodies they provided as a sign of gratitude to all our parishioners who continues to support them in their activities.

COLUMBAN CALENDAR

The 2019 Columban Mission Calendar celebrates the work of the Missionary Society of St Columban. Founded, 1918, Columban priests and lay ministers work in 17 countries helping the poor and marginalized people of the world.

Calendars are now available on sale for \$10, at the church foyer.

DEANERY SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

19th December 2018 - 7:30pm St Michael's Baulkham Hills

PARISH NEWS

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULES

24th DECEMBER

Christmas Eve (All Masses in Church) 6.00pm Family Vigil 9.00pm Vigil 12.00 Midnight Mass

25th DECEMBER

Christmas Day 7.30am 9.00am 10.30am NO EVENING MASS



WATCH LISTEN READ HAVE YOUR SAY -

PlenaryCouncil 2020

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.

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 <u>brought to the altar</u> <u>during the offertory procession</u>. The Second Collection will occur after the offertory and will be brought <u>forward during the Holy</u>, <u>Holy</u>.

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

\Rightarrow Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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"

\Rightarrow Mass of the Rooster (Misa de Gallo)

Join us for the Rooster Masses at St John XXIII Parish, Stanhope Gardens Date: December 16—24, 2018 Time: 6:00am



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

\Rightarrow 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.

<u>RCIA</u>

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) sessions have started. Sessions are on Wednesdays at 7.00pm during school term. If anybody is interested in getting to know more about the catholic faith, please feel free to join us.

For any queries, please email: *rcia.sj23rd@gmail.com* or call Parish Office (Tues - Fri) on (02) 9852 0580

We request the Parish community to pray for the enquirers and the RCIA team.

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights										
ec	4	11	18	25						
	Paguinto S	Drummond	Richards	Paguinto M						
12	1	8	15	22	29					
n	Shalini	Lequin	Thirimanne	Olan	Sebastian					
eb	5	12	19	26						
	Manoj	Sebastian	Blasonato	Mira						
lar	5	12	19	26						
	Paguinto R	Jacob	Shalini	Reodique						
pr	2	9	16	23	30					
	available	Olan	Pangilinan E	Sebastian	Shalini					
Iay	7	14	21	28						
	Drummond	available	available	available						

COMMUNITY BUILDING

We would like to thank all parishioners who continuously support our endeavours. We received



donations of \$113.25 over the weekend. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

We will return during the new year and looking forward to baking more goodies for you, our parishioners.

LITURGY

\Rightarrow Family Christmas Mass

The Family Christmas Mass will be held at 6pm on 24th December in our church. We will include a short play of the Nativity story before the mass commence as we have done in the past.

We are inviting children to take part in the Nativity play to:

- 1. play characters from the Nativity story,
- 2. narrate the Nativity story,
- 3. read during the Mass, or

4. participate in the offertory procession.

Please contact Bob Agbulos on <u>bragbulos@gmail.com</u> for expressions of interest.

\Rightarrow Seeking Audio/Visual Operators

The Liturgy Team is seeking anyone interested in learning to operate the A/V System. We plan to roster one person for each weekend Mass and especially during January, when choirs usually take a break. You will be required to operate slides & play corresponding CD music. Interested? Training will be provided. Call Bob Agbulos on 0422106525 or email bragbulos@gmail.com



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:

Dianne Hockings

Deceased:

Anniversary:

Paul Camilleri, Elpedio Beltran, Vince & Giuseppe Perrone, Emy & Sebastian Livolsi, James Youngman, Joseph Francis, Teresita Pangilinan, Alfredo Pangilinan Sr

Sick:

Names will normally only be published in the bulletin with an individual or family member's permission.

Ronelle, Giuseppe David LoRusso, Sonia Sampaio, John Wormald, Jesse Perrone, Edmond Rizon, Fe Suderio, Ariel Ignacio, Lolita Diaz, Liezl Sultana, Patricia Maldonado, Kayla Tourner, Jose Mari Samson, Clare Pineda, Inneke Halim, Madz Aguas, Sole Espiritu, Sonia Mikac

Thanksgiving:

Ronald, Kristine, Maria, Vincenzo Zamora, Amelia Supe, Sarah-Grace Paguinto

Church Funnies



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 *celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au*

Positions Vacant

Chaplaincy Manager - CatholicCare Western Sydney and Blue Mountains More details at *www.ccss.org.au*

The Epiphany Pilgrimage: the journey of the Magi

The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-forprofit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and an outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland and join parishioners in daily Mass, Adoration, prayer, catechesis and fellowship.

To register for all or part of the pilgrimage visit *www.epiphanypilgrimage.org* For updates and to follow the journey see *www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage*

4 DEC - St Anthony Relic Procession and Novena

All are welcome to a candle light procession with the first class relic of St Anthony of Padua, 'the Miracle Worker' every first Tuesday at 7pm, followed by "bread blessing" and social gathering. St Anthony of Padua Church, 7-33 Aurelia Street, Toongabbie. Other Dates: 4 December (2 December), 5 February (3 February) etc

7 DEC - Thanksgiving and Farewell Mass

Celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, a thanksgiving Mass for the service of Fr Peter Confeggi as he moves into retirement, Fr Luis Herrera as he returns to Columbia and for the service of all those in ministry at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. Fellowship after Mass. 7.30pm

St Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown.

For catering purposes, RSVP to 9622 1125 or admin@mqofblacktomn.org.au

17 DEC - Concert at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Australian Brandenburg Orchestra Concert Tickets via www.brandenburg.com.au/ – More details at https://stpatscathedral.com.au

Diocesan News

Other News

6 DEC - Holy Hour for Vocations The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite YOUTH (ages 18-35) to join us for Holy Hour for Vocations on Thursday, 1 November at 7:00 pm. Join us also for pizza at 8:00pm, Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula on vocationscsfn@gmail.com or 0449 656 406.

8 DEC - Australian Catholic Historical Society Lecture

Annual Mass and Christmas Lunch at midday. Mackillop Centre, Mount Street, North Sydney. Visit the ACHS website *www.australiancatholichistoricalsociet y.com.au* for more information.

Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 2019: Thirsting for Justice

A wonderful opportunity for a faith formation experience for parishioners, leaders, teachers, catechists ... all people in ministry and all people who would like to enrich their faith! Join this pilgrimage group to attend the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 18-30 March 2019. Cost of pilgrimage \$4350 for 12 days with some additional expenses. Please contact Lisa Bright on 9622 1125 orlbright@mqofblacktown.org.au for an information pack.

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@grieftograceaus.org.au* or phone 0478 599241. For more information visit *www.grieftograce.org*



For more news check out https://parracatholic.org/#LATESTNEWSEVENTS https://catholicoutlook.org/

ST JOHN XXIII

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE AND COLUMBARIUM

UPDATE

- The first two walls (St John XXIII and St Mary MacKillop), the altar and the cross are up.
- The next two walls (St Matthew and St Mark) will be completed by the end of November.

With the first two walls sold out, we now invite expressions of interest in the St Matthew and St Mark walls.

The cost of niches (incl GST) is:

- 2500 for the 1st niche
- 2000 for a 2nd niche
- \$1 800 for 3rd and subsequent niches
- \$1 500 for 5 niches or more

Please email your interest, with your name and the number of niches to *businessmanager@john23rd.org.au*. This is not a commitment, merely an expression of interest. We will hold a formal sales weekend at all masses in the near future.

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.

Thank you to all our generous individuals and families who have sponsored items in the Garden of Remembrance We will formally acknowledge your contributions soon.

Here are	e a few ideas left, the smallest contril	Acknowledgement incentive					
1	Sandstone altar	\$ 4 000	Items 1 – 2				
2	Cross	\$ 3 000	If you wish, a plaque acknowledging your				
3	Lighting & CCTV	contribution is included + if you wish, full colour acknowledgment in the parish					
4	Plaque – St Mark	\$ 500	bulletin for three weeks				
5	Paving	\$ 5 000	Items 3 - 7				
6	Turf	\$ 5 000	If you wish, full colour acknowledgment/ad				
7	Landscaping	\$ 5 000	in the parish bulletin for three weeks				

B. Give of your time as 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

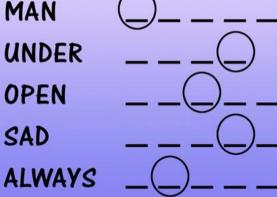
Offer your time to look after a small garden area or to take care of the Garden of Remembrance eg general tidying up

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

	YOUTH CORNER	
"I can do all things through Christ w	Youth Ministry	
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 teem. BLAZE runs during Friday nights, weeks 1,3,5,7 and 9 of the school term. Session starts at 7:15 till 9pm.	 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 	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 <u>youth@jobn23rd.com.au</u> .
🖾 For all youth ministry enquirie		

ind the opposite of each word, then use the circled letters to complete the sentence below

MAN UNDER OPEN SAD



"the Son of Man will be seen, coming in a cloud with great _____ and glory."

		Prepare for the arrival of Jesus															
W	0	Κ	Т	Ι	D	Q	У	Ρ	Ρ	Н	W	Х	С	N	W	С	Ζ
0	D	V	V	У	Q	Ι	G	L	Е	S	Ι	R	Ρ	R	U	S	A
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R	Α	Ν	V	V	F	Ν	S	0	Κ	J	S	U	A	V	Q	Α	R
	E	F	Μ	У	R	I	Α	Ι	Ζ	F	Α	R	В	G	R	U	V
D	S	J	R	Α	Е	Ν	С	Н	S	D	Ρ	В	Т	Т	0	S	Ι
	В	Е	R	Α	Е	G	F	Α	0	Μ	С	D	R	Ν	Н	Ι	Е
	Р	J	S	J	Ι	Α	Ν	Α	Т	I	0	Ν	S	A	Н	В	J
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E	Q	Ι	У	J	Α	С	J	Μ	У	U	Х	Е	A	Κ	G	Е	Ζ
	I	Ζ	Κ	Α	У	Ρ	S	L	В	С	Ν	R	R	W	L	D	F
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	Α	Α	F	В	L	J	С	С	С	В	У	Т	V	С	Р	Κ	С
R	Μ	G	В	V	Κ	Т	Ν	Ι	G	0	Ν	Α	С	T	С	I	Х
	У	Κ	С	G	Α	G	V	Ρ	Α	0	V	J	J	0	U	U	F
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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

