



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



**Fifth Sunday of  
Easter  
19 May 2019**

#### From the Pastor's desk

'Love one another as I have loved you.' You may think that Our Lord's extravagant extreme of love in voluntarily undergoing death for us, is something no human being could ever measure up to.

But actually, something like this happens whenever a mother or father sits by the bedside of a child suffering the terrible pain of a chronic illness or traumatic accident and, perhaps, even facing the prospect of death. Such a parent will invariably say 'I would rather suffer and die than see my child suffer and die.' It is the same with a person seeing their much loved life partner in a similar situation.

Each of us, usually to a lesser degree and in less fraught circumstances, has the opportunity to absorb, to some extent, the sufferings of others. We are thus given the possibility of fulfilling the command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

The effect of this sort of loving will be realised at the end of history, not in a garden of Paradise, but as in a wonderful City where all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

We could pause for a moment on our way to that future City, resolving to be alert to opportunities to fulfil our Lord's command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

© Fr Michael Tate

Please collect your new batch of Planned Giving envelopes from the foyer of the church. Please also consider switching to the direct debit system

#### 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 with Exposition  
of the Blessed Sacrament &  
Benediction**

*2nd Tue* 7:30pm  
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
*1st Fri* 7:30pm  
 Sacred Heart of Jesus

**Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament & Benediction**

*Fridays* after the 9am Mass

**Rosary & Novena prayer**

*Tues* 7:00pm

**Sacrament of the Sick**

*1st Sat* 9:00am Mass or upon  
 request

**Divine Office**

*Sun* 8:15am after 7.30am Mass  
*Mon* 7:30pm Christian Meditation  
 Group in Parish Office Conference  
 Room led by Frances Pegrem  
 (0417 406715)  
*Fri* 6:30pm led by Christ  
 Catholic Community Prayer Group  
 in the Parish Office Conference  
 Room

#### MAY

#### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon 20	9.00am - Mass 7:30pm - Christian Meditation in Parish Office Conference Room
Tue 21	9.00am - Mass 7:00pm - Rosary and Novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed 22	9.00am - Mass 10:00am - Liturgy of the Word at Holy Cross
Thu 23	9.00am - Mass
Fri 24	9.00am - Mass
Sat 25	9.00am - Mass
Sun 26	12pm - Baptisms Please pray for Mathew, Ella, Kyder, Isaiah, Isabel & Selena

#### 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."*



### Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### First Reading

*Acts 14:21-27*

*They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.*

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

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

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 144:8-13*

**R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. **R.**

Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age. **R.**

### Second Reading

*Revelation 7:9. 14-17*

*He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.*

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new'.

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

### Gospel Acclamation

*John 13:34*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

### Gospel

*John 13:31-35*

*I give you a new commandment: love one another.*

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

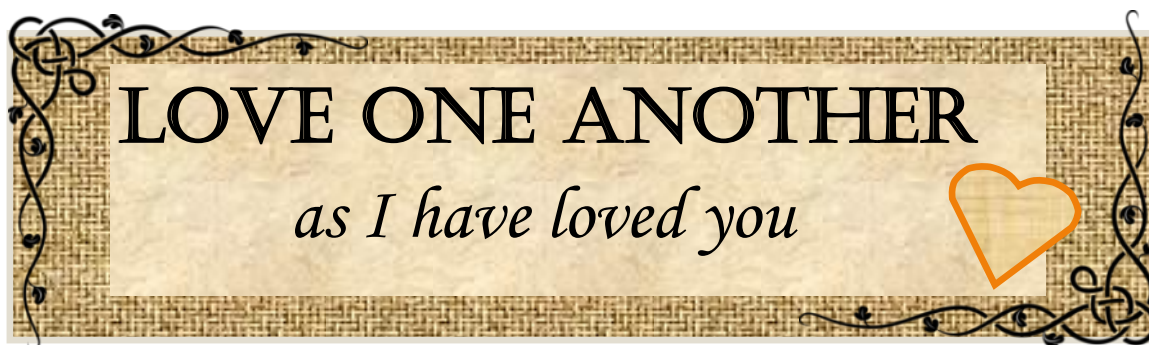
'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples'.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### Communion Antiphon

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.



## 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](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

(0423 160 567 AH Emergency)

## STAFF

### Secretary

Tanya Gatt

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

### Finance:

Renuka Soosaipillai

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

### Sacramental Coordinator:

✉ [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

Our Columbarium is now a registered columbarium under the Cemeteries and Crematoria ACT of NSW.

### COLUMBARIUM – THANK YOU

With the completion of the Garden of Remembrance and Columbarium it is time to thank many people who have contributed their time, resources and money towards the project:

- Fr John, for proposing the project in the first place
- Glenn Darroch at Globe Memorials for his advice and support in construction
- Anh Nguyen of Mantis Landscape Design for his enormous contribution of time and resources
- Our gardeners who keep all the gardens looking so good
- Many others who helped with the preparations and sales days
- Rivers Edge Turf
- Kevin Gurney at Engadine parish for his valuable advice on planning, financing and constructing the columbarium
- The many families and individuals who contributed to the Garden of Remembrance by sponsoring plaques, benches, landscaping, trees, the altar and the cross – Basto, Bonaccorso, Cala, De Jesus, Franco, Joseph, Lee, Pangilinan, Pathmanathan, Sarlabus, Sullivan, Sultana, Surjanto, Van Dort, Villafana, Anonymous families
- All the families and individuals who have purchased niches in the columbarium

Thank you everyone!

*John McCartney, Columbarium Coordinator*



### THE PROJECT CONTINUES

The project is not yet over. Please tell your family and friends about the columbarium. We have opened it up to parishioners from other parishes so there is an opportunity for them to have their ashes placed in church grounds, beside a church where family and friends may conveniently visit after mass.

There are still opportunities to sponsor items for the garden eg plants and other landscaping costs.

Please email your Expressions of Interest, sponsorship offers or any queries to [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@john23rd.org.au)

### OUR JUNE EOFY SPECIAL

Any niche purchased from 1 – 30 June 2019 and fully paid for by 30 June 2019 will go into a draw.

One niche drawn will earn the lucky purchaser a full refund of that niche purchase price. The more niches you purchase, the more entries you will have in the draw. The draw will take place after the 10.30am mass on Sunday 14 July.

### Procedure

Visit the Garden of Remembrance and select your niches.

Email your wall selection and the column and row (eg St Mark, G6 and G7) to [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@john23rd.org.au)

Your selection will be confirmed – an Application Form and payment details will be emailed to you.

Full payment must be made by 30 June to be eligible for the draw.

One niche will be drawn and the winner will receive a full refund for the purchase price of that niche (eg purchase price of four walls is \$8 910 = \$2 227.50 each. That would be the refund amount)

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish)

## NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Please note that the Tuesday evening mass & novena will only now be celebrated on the 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH. This takes into account the future availability of mass celebrants.

However, the weekly rosary devotion to OLPH will continue with the families passing on the statue. The process will still have to be finalized.

**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.



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

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



## FAITH FORMATION

### ⇒ Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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

We continue to ask for host families to pray the rosary at home and request our Blessed Mother's intercessions. Pick up the statue and pass on to the next family after a week. This will give you a chance to meet other families and maybe join each other in praying the rosary.

- 7:00pm Tuesday nights - Rosary and novena prayers at church
- 7:30pm 2nd Tuesday each month - Mass celebration together with novena prayers, rosary, exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

*"Mary joins us, she fights at our side. She supports Christians in the fight against the forces of evil. Especially through prayer, through the Rosary. Hear me out, the Rosary. ... Do you pray the Rosary each day?" Pope Francis*

## EVANGELIZATION

### ⇒ SRE Teachers needed

*The harvest is great but the workers are few (Matthew 9:37)*

If you have the desire to spread God's word to children and could spare an hour during weekdays, please consider this ministry. Training and resources will be provided. We currently have 4 public primary schools and a high school in our parish that we teach in. The scripture classes are conducted during school hours for half an hour during Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more info call Asoki 0430 020265 or Renuka 0414 795814

## LITURGY

### ⇒ Music Ministry

*Psalms 100 "Make joyful noise unto the Lord....come before God's presence with singing"*

We need singers and instrumentalists. Share our talents. Join any of the existing choir groups or we can help you form your own group. Call Bob Agbulos on 0422 106525 and we can discuss your talents and availability.



### ⇒ Altar Servers Training 2019

- ◆ Are you 10 years old and over?
- ◆ Have received the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Holy Communion?
- ◆ You want to assist the clergy and acolytes at mass times?



If so, we invite you to join our Junior Altar Server ministry. Training sessions will be held on 26th May and 2nd June with commissioning on 9th June. Application forms are available in the church, from our parish office, parish Facebook page and website. Call or SMS Johanna Cusack on 0478035847 for further details.

## SACRAMENTAL

### ⇒ FAITH EDUCATORS NEEDED!

The Sacramental team is looking for anyone who would like to help facilitate a small group of children during the First Holy Communion and Confirmation sacramental programs. Only a passion to pass on the faith to our young ones is needed. Training provided. To find out more, contact Jill on 0402 172346 or at [admin@john23rd.org.au](mailto:admin@john23rd.org.au)

## Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

May	7	14	21	28	
	Drummond	Viola	Shalini	Sebastian	
Jun	4	11	18	25	
	Erasmus	Thirimanne	Richards	Sebastian	
Jul	2	9	16	23	30
	Peiris R	Shalini	Chula	Jacob	Javier C
Aug	6	13	20	27	
	Lozada E	Festejo	Mira	Jacob	
Sep	3	10	17	24	
	Lozada J	Tanganan	Jacob	Paguinto E	

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 [emcpi85@yahoo.com.au](mailto:emcpi85@yahoo.com.au)

## COMMUNITY BUILDING

### ⇒ 2nd Cake Angel Stall for the year- 19th May

We are holding our 2nd Cake Angel Stall for the year on the 19th May during the morning masses of Sunday.

Your continued support in this endeavour is greatly appreciated as the funds go back to the church.



If you would like to contribute some goodies or if you're interested to join this happy group and be part of the Cake Angels, drop a line to Madeline Huang on [huang64@gmail.com](mailto:huang64@gmail.com)

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The members of the St Vincent De Paul Society wish to thank our Parishioners for their ongoing support in the donations collected every week to be distributed to those in need in our community.

- Our pantry is running low on sugar, tea, milk, coffee, milo, spaghetti sauce and cereals. Any donations of these items is very much appreciated.
- Our "Soup and Roll" night this year is to be held on Saturday, 22nd June, after the 6 pm Mass. There will also be available hand made rugs for sale, with all proceeds to go to Our Society.
- Our annual Blanket Drive is now underway and will run till the end of June. Any donations of clean blankets may be left in the foyer of the Church for distribution to the homeless and those who need them.

Many blessings to all for your great generosity.

## Special intentions

### Recently Deceased:

Christobel Fernando

### Deceased:

Chandra Joachim, Peter Joachim,

### Anniversary:

Adele Cerdor, Rita Worsfold,  
Anna Perrone, Feliciano Suarez Jr,  
Bernardo Verdadero Gaudio, Ereso  
Victorinaa Ereso, Vincente Verdadero,  
Maria Verdadero, Hannibal Lorenzo  
Vedadero

### Sick: Names published with permission.

Virginia Santos, Fr John, Pat Doyle,  
Anshu Mala Nand, Joel Ocampo

### Thanksgiving:

Kirsty, Bernadette & Ravi Virwani,  
Ronaldo, Kristine, Maria, Ramon,  
Vincenzo Zamora

### Columbarium Memorial

*We remember our departed family and friends who  
have been inurned in our Columbarium in the past  
months*

Mark De Jesus, Jada Acevedo,  
Jesus Barretto, Nena Matias,  
Levi Gonzales, Victor Grech,  
Barbara Pitre, Denis Sullivan

*... and those to be inurned this week*

May Hurry, Betty McSweeney,  
Raymond McSweeney, Ivena Chambers,  
William Chambers

## 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)

For more news check out

<https://parracatholic.org/#LATESTNEWS>

[WSEVENTS](https://parracatholic.org/#LATESTNEWS)

<https://catholicoutlook.org/>

## Diocesan News

### 24 May - Exploring *Laudato Si*

CCD invites all parishioners and friends to attend a presentation by Sr Valda Dickenson RSM that explores aspects of Pope Francis' Letter on Our Common Home – *Laudato Si*. Held on Friday 24 May at the IFM Blacktown from 10am to 2pm. Please register with Maree on 02 8838 3486 and BYO lunch.

### 24 May - CYP At The Well – An Evening with Young Women

Catholic Youth Parramatta are excited to host another At The Well event, bringing young women together from across the Diocese for an evening of conversation on topics burning in the hearts of young women today. Friday June 24 from 7pm to 10pm. Event location TBA. Registration is free, but essential via <https://parracatholic.org/the-well/>

### 25 May - St Philomena Mass and Devotions

Mass and Devotions for St Philomena will be held on Saturday 25 May at St John Vianney Parish, Doonside. Mass will be held at 12Midday. Please bring a snack to share. For further information, contact Libby Peoples 0423 154463 or [epoples9@gmail.com](mailto:epoples9@gmail.com)

## Other Notices

### 24-26 May - Oz Rosary

Oz is happening again! 24-26 May. On the weekend of the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. Pray for Australia and its protection. This year we are praying in particular also for our political leaders and the spiritual leaders of our church, our Cardinals, Bishops and Priests.

To register: [facebook.com/OZROSARY53](https://facebook.com/OZROSARY53) or [ozrosary53@gmail.com](mailto:ozrosary53@gmail.com) or contact Jane on 0476 535 595.

### 25 May - ACU Catalyst for Renewal Forum

Renowned theologian Dr Anna Rowlands is visiting Australia for the first time and will speak at the Catalyst for Renewal Forum at the ACU Strathfield Campus, 25a Barker Road, Strathfield, 25 May from 10am to 3.30pm. \$25 entry. For enquiries please contact Catalyst for Renewal – 9990 7003 or [catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au)

### 25 May - The Marriage Project Seminar

Engaged & newly married couples are invited to The Marriage Project's next event on 25 May - Building a Marriage to Last a Lifetime - presented by Mike & Alicia Hernon, from the Messy Family Project. They offer down to earth, practical insights into marriage and family life. Come along and meet other young couples and hear from these well renowned international speakers!

Details at [www.themarriageproject.com.au](http://www.themarriageproject.com.au)

### 25 & 28 May - The Encounter

Jesus Light of the World Communities invite you to "The Encounter – The road to Emmaus Experience" led by Bishop David Campbell who will also celebrate Mass. These two days include a Retreat on 25 May from 9am-5pm at St Joseph Parish Hall, Rockdale and a Healing Mass on 28 May at 7pm at St Aidan's Parish, Rooty Hill.

RSVP Luming 0406 587717 or [jlowcommunity@gmail.com](mailto:jlowcommunity@gmail.com) or [www.jlowcom.org](http://www.jlowcom.org)

### 26 May - Palms Information Session

Communities in Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers for 1 to 2 years to mentor locals and build capacity. These assignments are not quick fixes. If you have teaching, medical, business, administration or trade skills, you can give opportunity by sharing them with our global family! Sunday May 26 from 10:30am at Aquinas Academy, 141 Harrington Street, The Rocks or [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) for more information.

### 1 – 2 June - MGL Retreat Weekend

The Missionaries of God's Love sisters help people know they are loved by God. If you are a young woman who feels even vaguely interested in that mission, consider coming to their weekend to ask questions, pray with the sisters and hear discernment stories. June 1-2 at the MGL sisters home in Quakers Hill. For more info and to RSVP: 9626 8382 or [mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)

## Parish News

### Come join us for a social games of BADMINTON

at The Ponds High School

every Monday & Thursday

from 7:30 to 9:30pm

Contact Bob on 0422 106525 for  
more details



## Pastoral statement on the 2019 Australian federal election



Dear friends,

The 2019 Australian federal election will be held on Saturday 18 May 2019 to elect members to the Parliament of Australia.

Voting is a privilege, a right and a responsibility of all Australians who wish to contribute to the ongoing health and prosperity of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Voting allows us to exercise “a primary and fundamental response to desire, seek and protect the good of others” as outlined by Pope Francis in his apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*.

As followers of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we are encouraged to ensure that our consciences are informed on all the issues that impact on our lives and the communities in which we live.

When informing their consciences, Catholics in the Diocese of Parramatta are encouraged to keep in mind Catholic teachings and principles which include:

- Care for the poor and the marginalised which is at the centre of Catholic social policy. This includes a taxation for justice so that the burdens of the community are shared and relief is given to those in greatest need;
- Vigorous defence of the dignity of the human person. This includes the protection of life from conception to natural death. The Church maintains all have an inviolable right to life and we give witness to the inestimable worth of each human person;
- Providing compassion, care and justice to the most marginalised and vulnerable groups in our society. This includes the Indigenous Australians, the aged, children, and those with disability. We are also called to support all those who have been hurt, damaged or alienated, be they abuse victims, survivors, divorcees, gays, lesbians or disaffected members;
- A deep commitment to safeguarding creation and the natural environment, especially as outlined in the encyclical *Laudato Si* by Pope Francis. This includes a greater commitment to renewable and cost-effective energy;
- A willingness to accept the gifts and care of immigrants, refugees and those seeking asylum, especially those who have escaped distressing, traumatising and difficult situations like war, famine and political hostilities. This includes ending indefinite mandatory detention of asylum seekers on Nauru and Manus Island;
- A commitment to the family as the central building block of the common good and society;
- Just and equitable funding for Catholic education which contributes so much to our Australian society;
- The development of a sustainable economy that recognises the right to work and the necessity of a just economy as outlined in the ACBC 2017-2018 statement *Everyone's Business - Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy*;
- Active engagement and promotion of peace within and between societies. The use of non-violence as an essential mechanism to solve disputes and as the agent of social change.
- Ensuring that no one is discriminated on the basis of race, gender, religion and that proper freedoms are legislated to guarantee that people are free to speak, teach and act according to their own religious beliefs, in line with the encyclicals of Pope Saint John XXIII *Pacem in terris* and *Mater et magistra* and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 18);
- A commitment to supporting the disadvantaged, the dispossessed, the oppressed beyond our borders, especially those in our region. This includes increasing overseas aid and helping West Papuan refugees.

I encourage all Catholics across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains to contribute to the common good by exercising their rights as citizens of Australia and engaging in the democratic process by voting in this election.

May the Holy Spirit guide us as we all work towards building a loving society where the poor and the suffering are our first priority.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv

Bishop of Parramatta

Given at Parramatta on 29 April 2019, Memorial of St Catherine of Siena

## 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**.

### **CRL** (*Community of the Risen Lord*)

**When:** 3rd Sunday  
Praise & Worship

**Time:** 4.00pm to 5.30pm

### **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](mailto:youth@john23rd.com.au).**

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

Use the words below to **COMPLETE** these Scripture passages

**Lord**  
**Enemies**  
**Hate**  
**Loved**  
**Heart**  
**Neighbour**  
**another**

"**Love** your \_\_\_\_\_, do good to those who  
\_\_\_\_\_ you."

Luke 6:27

"You shall **love** the \_\_\_\_\_ your God with all  
your \_\_\_\_\_, and with all your soul."

Matthew 22:37

"You shall **love** your \_\_\_\_\_ as  
yourself."

Matthew 22:39

"Just as I have \_\_\_\_\_ you, you also should  
**love** one \_\_\_\_\_."

John 13:34

Love one another

W  
O  
R  
D  
S  
E  
A  
R  
C  
H

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

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