

Cnr Perfection Ave and Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens

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Catholic Church

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time **18 August 2019**

From the Pastor's desk

A fierce fire in a eucalyptus forest bursts open the seed pods, cleanses the soil of smothering undergrowth, and returns nutrients to the soil to germinate the seeds. It is that sort of fire which Jesus brings to the earth.

So, at Pentecost, He sent His Holy Spirit '. . . like tongues of fire', bursting the early disciples out of the protective shell of the 'Upper Room', allowing them to be germinated as seeds of the early Church. It is the same in every generation which has to ask: What personal, family or social situations provide a hard casing which must be cracked open? What is the smothering undergrowth which prevents our germination as fearless disciples?

Jesus himself felt smothered by the small-minded people of Nazareth to which He never returned. He warns that families and good friends can try to smother the spark He wishes to ignite.

We might pause for a moment to pray that the fiery Holy Spirit might enable us to become a stand of tall trees reaching for the Risen Son in all His glory.

© Fr Michael Tate

AUG THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH Mon 19 9.00am - Mass 7:30pm - Christian Meditation in Parish Office Conference Room Tue 20 Saint Bernard (M) 9.00am - Mass 7:30pm - Rosary and Novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Wed 21 Saint Pius the X (M) 9.00am - Mass 10.00am- Mass Holy Cross Thu 22 Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (M) 9.00am - Mass 7.30pm - Mass 23 9.00am - Mass 24 Saint Bartholomew (F) Sat 9.00am - Mass 25 12.00pm - Baptisms Please pray for Michaela, Cruz, Esme, Jessie, Mia

Mass Times

Mon - Fri 9:00am also Wed 10:00am

Holy Cross Primary school term only

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

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 Iesus

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Fridays after the 9am Mass

Rosary & Novena prayer

7:00pm except for 2nd Tues as this will be a novena mass

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)

6:30pm led by Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group in the Parish Office Conference Room

St Vincent de Paul

Meeting every second and fourth Thursday in the Church kitchen at 7pm. All welcome.

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

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10

You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole world.

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2-4. 18

R. Lord, come to my aid!

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. **R.**

He drew me from the deadly pit, from the miry clay. He set my feet upon a rock and made my footsteps firm. **R.**

He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. Many shall see and fear and shall trust in the Lord. **R.**

As for me, wretched and poor, the Lord thinks of me. You are my rescuer, my help, O God, do not delay! **R.**

Second Reading *Hebrews 12:1-4*

Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon us.

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Iohn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 12:49-53

I have come not to give peace, but discord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.



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:

Helen Zammit

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



Welcome to the community of the Catholic Harish of St John 2 Ind Glenwood-Stantiope Gardens where the love of Christ is shiring in so many ways.

SUGGESTION BOX We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

20 August: IFM Reflective Ministry Program

The Institute for Mission's Reflective Ministry Program – Component 2 starts on Tues 20 Aug. This is a great opportunity to enrich and enthuse those involved in the ministries of the Catholic communities. Go to *ifm.org.au* for more info and registration, or contact the IFM team on 9296 6369.

20 August: Natural Fertility Services Information Evening

Are you looking for a healthy, natural and effective method to manage your fertility? Learn how to identify the best time to achieve or postpone pregnancy. You are warmly invited to this event on Tuesday 20 August at the Diocesan Ministry Centre, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown from 7pm. For more information and to register please contact Catherine on 8838 3460, 0400 427605 or catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org

30 August: 2019 Faith in Marriage Seminar American Catholic Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers is the guest speaker at The Life, Family and Marriage Office's 2019 Faith in Marriage Seminar on Friday 30 August at St Paul's Catholic College Hall, Greystanes from 7.30pm. Free entry and a light supper will be served afterwards. Donations are welcome. Please register your attendance to 8838 3460 or Imf@parracatholic.org

1 September: Bishop's Annual Appeal for Retired and Sick Priests

There will be a special collection for the Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese – on Father's Day. Your donation helps them cover healthcare costs and expenses associated with everyday living, supplementing the pension that some receive. Please give generously this Father's Day Appeal. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

10 September: Adult Confirmation

Adult Confirmation for 2019 will be held on Tuesday 10 September at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta from 7.30pm. A Catechesis Day for Adult Confirmation will be held of Saturday 31 August from 9.30am to 2pm. Any adult over 16 years wanting to be confirmed please see your Parish Office for info or contact the Office for Worship on 8838 3456 or mary-louise.walsh@parracatholic.org

14 September: Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying Ongoing Formation:

The Office for Worship is organising a formation day for those already involved in the ministry, Ministers of Communion to the Sick and the Dying on Saturday 14 September at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown, from 9:30am until 2pm. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. RSVP by 10 September. To RSVP, please contact the Office for Worship team on anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org or 8838 3456.

Other Notices

25 August: Divine Retreat Centre Spiritual Healing Retreat

The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is hosting a spiritual healing on Sunday 25 August. The day will include Eucharistic Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Mass and ministry for children and teenagers. For more information, please contact 0468 486782, emaildrcsydney@gmail.com or visit nmw.divineretreatcentre.org.au

29 August: Ecumenism in Australia, Yesterday and Today

The Commission for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations in the Archdiocese of Sydney invites you to a special lecture reflecting on Pope John Paul II's Ecumenical Encyclical, Ut Unum Sint (*That They May Be One*). Thursday 29 August from 6pm to 8pm at The Peter Cosgrove Centre, Level 18, Tenison Woods House, ACU North Sydney Campus. For more info and to book, visit www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=536172&

5 September: Holy Hour for Vocations

Youth aged 18 to 35 are invited to join The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth for the Holy Hour for Vocations at the Holy Spirit Convent, Plumpton, on Thursday 5 September at 7pm. Dinner will be served afterwards. RSVP to Sr Paula – vocationscsfn@gmail.com or 0449 656406.

7 September: Reflection Day for Women

Mount Schoenstatt, Mulgoa, is hosting a reflection day for women on Saturday 7 September from 9.30am to 3pm. Sr M Isabell Naumann will speak on the theme 'give me the living water, that I may never thirst again.' \$25 per person and BYO lunch. To RSVP by 4 September, please contact 02 4773 8338 or info@schoenstatt.org.au

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/Ministry Corner

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 during the 7pm novena prayers at church. Join us in saying rosary and novena prayers and get to meet other families during that night.

- 7:00pm Tuesday nights Rosary and novena prayers at church
- 7:00pm **2nd Tuesday each month** Rosary prayers, **followed by mass** celebration together with novena prayers, exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

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 emcipi85@yahoo.com.au

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⇒ Children's liturgy facilitators required

We are fortunate in our parish to have children's liturgy available to children who are school aged and not yet made the sacrament of First communion.

However, we have only a few facilitators able to take these Sunday sessions.

If you are able to assist in facilitating these 15-20mins sessions during the 10.30am mass, please contact Helen Zammit on 9852 0583. Thank you

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights											
Aug		6	13	20	27						
A	ug	Lozada E	Festejo	Mira	Jacob						
Sep	3	10	17	24							
	еp	Lozada J	Tangunan	Jacob	Paguinto E						
Oct	Oct	1	8	15	22	29					
	Jei	Wicks	Sebastian	Richards	Ramirez	Jacob					
Nov	5	12	19	26							
	NUV	Javier C	Javelosa	Peiris	Jacob						
Т)ec	3	10	17	24	31					
L	Jec	Paguinto	Drummond	available	available	available					

"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

Reminder to the families on the roster, please remember your roster. If unable to pick up please don't hesitate to contact Bart or Melva.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

⇒ CAKE ANGELS 8 September

Join us for another day of sweet treats on Sunday, 8th September, during the morning masses.

Any contributions of goodies would be most welcome. Or if you're interested to help out, drop Madeline Huang a line on huang64@gmailcom.



Plenary Council 2020

The National Centre for Pastoral Research has just published Listen to what the Spirit is saying, the final report of the Listening and Dialogue stage of the Plenary Council. The report captures the voices of the more than 222,000 people who shared their submissions, questions and stories of faith during the 10-month process. Access the report at: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports



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

Collection process for collectors:

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

Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Deceased:

Chantelle Raymond, Jocelyn Lacaze, Pierre Frncios, Elsie Michaud, Estrella Jimenez, Clive Crawley

Anniversary:

Joseph & Olive D'Souza, Drago Sako, Winsel Peiris, Jessie Nicol, Stuart Cook

Sick: Names published with permission. Benjamin Munson Jr, Jim Daley, Virginia Santos, Fr John, Pat Doyle, Anshu Mala Nand, Joel Ocampo, Deidre Thomson, Hazel Masher, Praba Daniel, Kim Dung Phan, Gloria Buosi, Violeta Javate, Bernie Presto, Greg Marcellana, Kalayani, Florentina Elsisura

Thanksgiving:

Vincenzo Zamora

Church Funnies



OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood Principal: Marina Hardy

2 (02) 8664 7100

Maria holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII and St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens Principal: Dr Peter Webster

1 (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

Bishop's statement on Abortion Legislation

7 August 2019

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

We believe that all human beings are made in the image of God and that all human beings matter.

The Church maintains the vigorous defence of the dignity of the human person. This includes the protection of life from conception to natural death.

I have been closely following this abortion debate as it has unfolded in our parliament and across the public sphere. I join my voice with my brother bishops and many people of goodwill across many faiths who are alarmed at the newly-proposed NSW abortion legislation.

It is not enough to argue that this legislation is simply about "decriminalising abortion." What's at stake is far more complex and goes to the heart of a healthy society. As human beings, we all have a responsibility to care for each other.

Pope Francis reminds us bluntly: "It is not right to kill a human being, regardless of how small it is, to solve a problem."

Whilst we affirm the sacredness of all life, the Church as a community of faith, hope and love stands by pregnant women to offer them support. That is why, closely linked to protection of the unborn is the ongoing care of women who are pregnant, especially those in difficult personal circumstances.

Our legislators and community need to provide more practical care and compassion to women facing these decisions.

In our diocese, our CatholicCare services offers a comprehensive pregnancy-related service for women and families that are expecting a baby. We want to help women in these complex situations.

Being born into this wondrous planet of ours is a blessing. May each of us, given this precious gift, never forget to pray with the Psalmist: "You created my inmost self, knit me together in my mother's womh. For so many marvels I thank you; a wonder am I, and all your works are wonders." Psalms 139.

This is an ongoing critical issue where the Church will continue to speak prophetically.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv Bishop of Parramatta

COLUMBARIUM NEWS

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 <u>businessmanager@john23rd.org.au</u>





MEMORIAL WALL

The wall in front of the church is devoted to the memory of our deceased family and friends especially if they are overseas.

Plaques cost \$250.00 and usually take around six weeks to manufacture. If you would like a plaque installed please contact businessmanager@john23rd.org.au

YOUTH CORNER

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

As members of the parish of SJXXIII our mission is to facilitate the understanding and growth of the faith of teens and young adults by means of music, games, discussion, prayer and reflection while exploring the catholic perspective on social issues.

The Youth Ministry of SJXXIII currently consists of a range of youth groups representing the cultural diversities within our parish including; Blaze, CRL, and YFC. Our goal is to have a central hub for the young people of our parish. A place where the various youth groups can run their youth nights out of, and a place where a community of young people can continually grow. To achieve this goal, with the blessings of Fr John McSweeney and the parish council, we have begun raising funds to renovate the space below our church to create a youth hub.

Please check out this link <u>https://www.gofundme.com/sj23-youth-space</u> and help us to achieve this goal.

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**.

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.

CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)

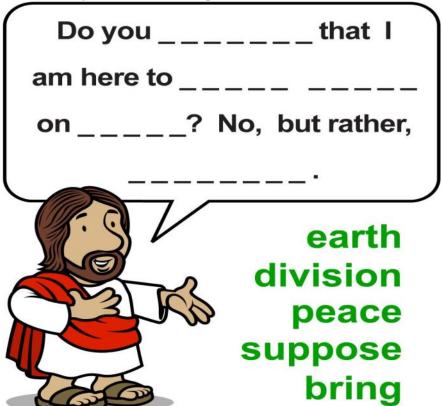
When: 3rd Sunday

Praise & Worship

Time: 4.00pm to 5.30pm YFC (Youth for Christ)

When: 3rd Sundays of the month

Use the words below to find out what Jesus said to His disciples.



	Jesus makes people choose sides														
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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



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