

Cnr Perfection Ave and Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens

http://john23rd.com/ https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 24 November 2019

Reflection on the Readings

If you memorise a tune or your 'times tables', you are said to 'know it by heart'. The sort of person who will always remember me is someone who 'knows me by heart'.

Here, a tortured criminal starts his plea: 'Jesus . . . '. This is one of only two instances where Jesus is addressed by his name which means 'The Lord saves'. The good thief went on: 'remember me when you come into Your Kingdom'. Jesus 'knows him by heart' and promises that He will re-member him in Paradise.

This is an exercise of sovereignty which befits 'Christ the King'. This is all the Kingly power which you or I will ever need, but to confidently invoke it we need to position ourselves alongside Jesus, like the 'good thief'. We do this by our practical concern for the poor and by coming to Mass which re-members the Body of Christ.

We could pause for a moment to pray: 'Jesus, remember me, know me by heart, for when you do I will be in Paradise.'

© Fr Michael Tate



We are in urgent need for volunteers to assist in our Parish's different ministries

⇒ Children's liturgy facilitators

We have only a few facilitators able to take these Sunday sessions. If you are interested and able to assist in facilitating these 15-20mins sessions during the 10.30am mass, please contact Helen Zammit on 8883 5981.

⇒ Sacrament of Baptism facilitators

We require assistance at the children's baptismal rites during Sundays 12pm. For interested parties please contact Krizzia Samonte on krizzia.samonte@gmail.com or the Parish Office.

⇒ SRE Teachers

If you could spare an hour during weekdays to spread God's word teaching scriptures to children, we need you. We currently have 4 public primary schools and a high school in our parish where we hold scripture classes during school hours for 30 minutes during Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more information call Asoki 0430 020265 or Renuka 0414 795814. Training and resources will be provided.

NOV	THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH
Mon 25	9.00am - Mass 7:30pm - Christian Meditation in Parish Office Conference Room
Tue 26	9.00am - Mass 7:00pm - Rosary & Novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed 27	9.00am - Mass 10:00am - Mass at Holy Cross
Thu 28	9.00am - Mass
Fri 29	9.00am - Mass
Sat 30	Saint Andrew (F) 9.00am - Mass
DEC	
Sun 1	12:00pm - Baptism please pray for Lucia & Darcy

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 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)

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

Praise & Worship

3rd Sat 7:30pm SJ23rd Prayer Group

SUGGESTION BOX

We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

COELIACS

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

Our Parish Mission

TII

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."

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Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

First Reading

2 Samuel 5:1-3

They anointed David king of Israel.

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-5

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. **R.**

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgment of the house of David. **R.**

Second Reading

Colossians 1:12-20

He has taken us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation; for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominions, Sovereignties, Powers - all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head.

As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 11:9. 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke 23:35-43*

Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom.

The people stayed before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

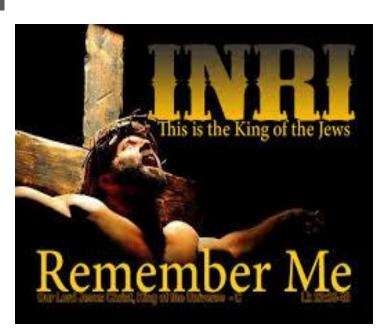
One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said, 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.





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

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours

Tue - Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

Office Contacts

(02) 8883 5981 (0423 160 567 AH Emergency) 160 Perfection Avenue, Stanhope Gardens, 2768 (St Mark's College Admin Office)

MAILING

PO Box 23, Stanhope Gardens, NSW 2768

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

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

SACRAMENTS

Baptism by appointment

Sun 12:00pm

Reconciliation (First Rite)

Sat 5:00 - 5:45pm

And after any weekday masses

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

Catholic Outlook is back!

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back from Sunday 1 December 2019. The revised Catholic Outlook will be published quarterly as an A4 magazine with a focus on Catholic faith formation, spirituality and a look at what is happening across the agencies and ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your local Catholic Church, Catholic school or Catholic office from Sunday 1 December.

Plenary Council 2020

The Plenary Council invites people to continue to participate in the journey towards the Council sessions in 2020. There are many opportunities to engage in the "Listening and Discernment" phase by participating in small group sessions within the Diocese. Ask you priests or Deanery Representatives for session dates in parishes and deaneries or contact the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838 3441.

The Epiphany Pilgrimage

The Epiphany Pilgrimage, through the Blue Mountains, is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk 110km through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating the Christmas season with each parish along the way. Registration and details epiphanypilgrimage.org and facebook.com/epiphanypil grimage

Chime in for the Bells of St Patrick's Cathedral

The Bells of St Patrick's Cathedral Appeal offers a rare opportunity to create history and donate a bell that commemorates a loved one, or honours your family name, organisation or community group. As a Benefactor, you'll also have the privilege of naming your bell in honour of a revered Catholic Saint and helping make the dream of a peal of bells for St Patrick's Cathedral become a reality. For f u r t h e r i n f o v i s i t yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bellsappeal

Other Notices

Positions Vacant

- Parish Renewal Team Leader (Full-time) -Archdiocese of Sydney
- Student Life and Alumni Relations Officer
 Campion College Australia

For more details, please visit catholicjobsonline.com.au

 Assistant Principal Religious Education/RE Coordinator - Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School - Santa Teresa, Alice Springs, NT

For more details, please visit https://www.ceont.catholic.edu.au/employment/current-vacancies/

Diocesan News 24 November: Walk with Christ

Please join your fellow Sydneysiders in the Walk with Christ annual Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Sydney on the Feast of Christ The King on Sunday 24 November at 2.30pm. Thousands of people took part in last year's joyful public proclamation and act of worship to invoke Christ's blessing upon our beautiful city. Meet at the corner of Martin Place & Pitt Street at 2.30pm on November 24. More details through the Archdiocese of Sydney.

29 November – 6 December: Wisdom of the Desert Retreat

Carmel Moore rsj and Jan Wylie will lead participants at the "Wisdom of the Desert" retreat at St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre, Galong, NSW, from 29 November to 6 December. Attend for either the weekend or for six days. There will be several periods of meditation, daily talks and quietness and prayer. For enquiries and booking, please contact *info@stclement.com.au* or phone 02 6380 5222.

30 November: Bach Akademie Australia Concert

Bach Akademie Australia will present its Cantatas for Christmas – Comfort and Joy, including Part 2 of the Christmas Oratorio and BWV 191 'Gloria in Excelisis Deo' at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on 30 November at 7.30pm. Tickets can be purchased through the Box Office on 1300 785 377 or https://cantatasforchristmas.floktu.com/

7 December: Order of Malta Annual Lourdes Day Mass

The Order of Malta will be celebrating their annual Lourdes Day Mass on Satuday 7 December at 10am at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP and the Chaplains of the Order will celebrate Mass and bless the congregation, with vials of Lourdes water to be distributed. For more info, or if you need assistance, contact 9331 8477,info@smom.org.au or macolmi@bigpond.net.au

17 December: Handel's Messiah at St Patrick's Cathedral

To end their inaugural year, River City Voices is proud to present an intimate performance of Handel's Messiah for Western Sydney audiences. The performance will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, on 17 December at 7.30pm. For information and to purch ase tickets, visit https://www.classikon.com/concert/river-city-voices-parramatta-2019-december-17/

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.

- 7:00pm Tuesday nights Rosary and novena prayers at church. Join us and take part in reciting the rosary and novena prayers
- 7:30pm 2nd Tuesday each month Novena mass after rosary prayers with exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

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

"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

⇒ Ministers' Advent Retreat

For all Liturgical ministers and Music Ministry, the Advent season is at hand and in order to prepare for this season, it is important that all Liturgical members attend this retreat. This will give as the opportunity to refresh, revitalise and rekindle our deep relationship with God and service to our parish community.

Saturday, 30th November at St Mark's staff room. This will commence at 9am mass till 2:30pm. Morning tea will be provided and bring a plate to share for lunch. RSVP to Wira Peiris or Vittorio Lim.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The St Vincent De Paul Conference wish to draw on your generosity once more asking for your assistance in providing items of food, toiletries, and small gifts for our Christmas hampers in order to help those in our Parish who are in need of our support. A list of acceptable items can be found below:

Canned meat (ham, corned beef, sausages, etc), rice, pasta, pasta sauce, one litre oil, tinned vegetables, tinned fish, Christmas cake, pudding, mince pies, fruit juice, biscuits, custard, coffee, tea, milk, and all toiletries.

Whether you wish to donate a complete hamper for a family or individual items , please ensure that enviro bags are used as determined by OHNS.

Donations of enviro bags will be very much appreciated. It has been decided that the cut off date for all donations will be the 30th November. The delivery of hampers will take place between the 15th and 20th of December.

Thank you for your continuous generosity and great support, we are constantly blessed with, in order to continue our mission. Many blessings to you all.

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights										
Nov	5	12	19	26						
	Javier C	Javelosa	Peiris	Jacob						
Dec	3	10	17	24	31					
	Paguinto S	Drummond	Pangilinan	Sebastian	Sebastian					
Jan	7	14	21	28						
	Lopez	Lozada	Jacob	Tangunan						
Feb	4	11	18	25						
	Richard	Sebastian	available	Jacob						
Mar	3	10	17	24	31					
	available	available	Richard	Jacob	available					
Apr	7	14	21	28						
	available	Sebastian	available	Jacob						

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

COMMUNITY BUILDING

⇒ Cake Angels

Save the date, 24th November, for another Sunday of sweet treats during the morning masses.

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



⇒ Helper's Party

For all parishioners who help out in the parish with their time and talent i.e. different ministry members, gardeners, choir groups, cleaners, collectors etc, save the date 7th December 2019, 7pm after the 6pm Vigil.

RSVP to Techie Sarlabus via email techiesarlabus@gmail.com or SMS 0438 201 436 BY 1st DECEMBER 2019.



Collection process FOR COLLECTORS:

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.

Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Asuncion Quierrez Cantrill, Lainie Soriano

Deceased:

Charles Briffa, Maria Tranganza, Teofila P. Javate

Anniversary:

Norma Lorenzo, Vilma Van Langenberg

Sick: Names published with permission.

Colleen McCunnie, Deidre Thomson, Benjamin Munson Jr, Jim Daley, Anika, Deacon Rudi, Virginia Santos, Fr John, Gloria Buosi, Hazel Masher, Pat Doyle, Anshu Mala Nand, Raymond Lanzona, Praba Daniel, Kim Greg Marcellana, Norbert Mascarenhas, Dung Phan, Florentina Elsisura, Violeta Javate, Ramon Minosa, Kalayani, Bernie Presto, Elmo Joachim, Elizabeth Candame, Karam Matte, Karam Sarsam

Thanksgiving:

Enrique & Ana Torroba, Ronaldo, Kristine, Maria, Ramon, 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

(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

In Memoriam

⇒ COLUMBARIUM

We have opened this 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.

⇒ MEMORIAL WALL PLAQUES

The wall in front of the church is devoted to the memory of our deceased family and friends, especially if they are overseas. The plaques cost \$250.00.

Please email for any queries to businessmanager@john23rd.org.au





Parish Notice

NOVEMBER BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The November Book of Remembrance has again been placed in the sanctuary to enable you to write the names of your departed family and friends. Please place your mass offering envelope in the Special Needs mailbox at the back of the church (at the sacristy door) – do not leave envelopes with money on the Book of Remembrance table. There is no need to repeat the names on the envelope.

WE GIVE THANKS TO ...

our tireless gardeners and cleaners. Their total commitment to the upkeep of our parish church and grounds.

We are still looking for people to join any of this groups and help once a month, as th saying goes - many hands make light work.

If you're interested can help please contact businessmanager@john23rd.org.au

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The Parish Faith Formation committee will conduct an ADVENT RETREAT ALL ARE WELCOME

Date: Saturday 30th November 2019

Where: St Mark's Staff Room

Time: 9.00 am to 2.30 pm (Retreat will commence with 9.00 am Mass)

By attending we will be able to:

- † Refresh, revitalise and have the opportunity for more time spent in prayer and contemplation
- † Rekindle and deepen our relationship with God.
- **†** Be given the opportunity to more clearly hear God's call and to seek God's healing grace and thereby attain a degree of spiritual renewal

Morning tea will be provided. Please bring a plate to share for lunch.

RSVP to Wira Peiris wira.peiris@yahoo.com.au or Vittorio Lim vivit.donna@gmail.com.

Notice to ALL members of the Liturgical and Music Ministry are asked to attend.

It is important that all - Ministers of the Altar, EMHC, MOWs and all members of the choir attend this retreat in order to prepare ourselves for the Advent season.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITY

16 - 24 December, 6am - Mass of the Rooster

Come and join us for a 9 day novena in preparation for the Advent season.



21 December, 7:30pm - SJ23rd Christmas Carols



Family Christmas Mass

The Family Christmas Mass will be held at 6.30 pm on 24th December at St. Marks College Hub which was opened very recently. We will be having a short play of the Nativity story before the mass commences as we have done in the past.

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

- play characters from the Nativity story
- narrate the Nativity story
- Volunteers for logistics, supplies and safe-keeping of costumes;
- Greeters and Collectors

Practice sessions are scheduled on the following days:

7th December, Saturday 2:00 - 4.00 pm at Church

14th December, Sunday, Saturday 2.00 - 4.00 pm at St. Marks College Hub

24th December, Tuesday 4.30 - 6.00 pm at St. Marks College Hub

Please contact **Helen Festejo** on *mhsestejo@gmail.com* or 0401 671 665 for more details if your child can take part or if you can assist in any way for the Nativity story at the Family Christmas Mass by 7th December or come to 1st practice session on Saturday, 7th December at 2:00 pm.



YOUTH CORNER

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

The Youth Ministry of SJXXIII which consists of a range of youth groups like Blaze, CRL, and YFC has one mission and that 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 representing the cultural diversities within our parish

We're aiming 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 and a place where a community of young people can continually grow. To achieve this, with the blessings from 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

Place a cross the next to the words that best describe Christ the King.

POWERFUL GREEDY

UNJUST LOVING

SELFISH DISRESPECTFUL

COMPASSIONATE PROTECTING

MERCIFUL FORGIVING



	Jesus Christ is king forever															
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Chosen Power criminals promise

fear i

insulted er save

Jews wine paradise wrong

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



A Tradition of Care & Concern Pre-paid funerals available 340 Old Northern Rd. Castle Hill **2** 9659 0900 www.hillsfamilyfunerals.com.au

OZ DRAFTER

For your PLANS and DRAWING needs Also offered: Assistance with -

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0491 631657 / ozdrafter@gmail.com

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ADVERTISE HERE



PRAISE AND WORSHIP 3rd Saturdays at 7:30pm SJ23rd Prayer Group

St Vincent de Paul Society Meets 2nd and 4th good works



Thursday at 7:00pm

ADVERTISE HERE



Malta Travel Tours

Tasmania: March 2020. Only 3 couples left! Be quick and call Monica Ledger - 9896 0712 or 0414 859386.

Gorgeous Hawaii: September 2020. Join us on a hilarious escorted tour: Honolulu - Pearl Harbour Polynesian Culture - Maui - Hilo -Kona - Kauai. Call Paul Vassallo: 9666 6684, Mob: 0416 951502.

NEW TOUR: East Canada & USA: July 2020. Boston - Montreal - Quebec - Ottawa - Kingston -Toronto - Niagara Falls - Washington -New York. Call Charlie - 9631 2689 or 0412 523893.

You get the lot: flights, hotels, food, touring, transfers and insurance.