



Cnr Perfection Ave and Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens

<http://john23rd.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/>



**Fourth Sunday  
of Lent  
22 March 2020**

### Message from Father John

Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the dis-ease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew.

God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one's arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world.

We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

© Fr Michael Tate

### Sunday Mass Times

Sat Vigil 6:00pm  
Sun 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

### Weekday Mass Times

Mon 9am Liturgy of the Word with Communion  
Tues-Fri 9am Mass  
+ Wed 10am (Holy Cross School during School Term)  
+Thurs: 11.15am (Church, during school Term)  
(+ School Masses please see "This Week in our Parish.")

### Masses for Special Occasions

1st Fri 7.30pm Novena Mass (Sacred Heart)  
2nd Tues 7.30pm Novena Mass (Our Lady of Perpetual Help)  
3rd Fri 11.00am Nursing Home Mass (ARV, The Ponds)

### Exposition + Benediction

Fri after 9am Mass  
1st Sat after 9am Mass  
after the Novena Masses

### Reconciliation

Sat: 5.00-5.45pm or upon request

### Sacrament of the Sick

1st Sat 9.00am Mass  
3rd Fri 11am (ARV Mass)

### Devotions & Prayers

Sun 8.15am Divine Office in Blessed Sacrament Chapel  
Mon 7.30pm Christian Meditation Meeting (in Parish Meeting Room) Frances Pegram 0417 406715  
Tues 7pm Rosary and Novena Prayer in church except 2nd Tues  
Fri 6.30pm Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group (in Parish Meeting room) Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039

### 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."*



MAR	THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH
Mon 23	<i>St Turibius of Mongrovejo</i> 9:00am - Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tue 24	9:00am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed 25	<i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i> 9:00am - Mass
Thu 26	9:00am - Mass
Fri 27	9:00am - Mass 7:30pm - Stations of the Cross
Sat 28	9:00am - Mass Lenten Retreat after Mass - St Mark's Staffroom 2:00pm - Good Friday Stations of the Cross Practice - Church 6:00pm - Vigil Mass
Sun 29	7:30, 9:00, 10:30am - Mass 12:00pm - Baptism please pray for Jake, Lara, Georga, Cruze 6:00pm - Mass

## FAITH FORMATION

### ⇒ Our Lady of Perpetual Help

*Oh Mother of Perpetual Help, grant that I may ever invoke your powerful name, the protection of the living and the salvation of the dying. Purest Mary, let your name henceforth be ever on my lips. Delay not, Blessed Lady, to rescue me whenever I call on you. In my temptations, in my needs, I will never cease to call on you, ever repeating your sacred name, Mary, Mary. What a consolation, what sweetness, what confidence fills my soul when I utter your sacred name or even only think of you! I thank the Lord for having given you so sweet, so powerful, so lovely a name. But I will not be content with merely uttering your name. Let my love for you prompt me ever to hail you Mother of Perpetual Help. Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for me and grant me the favor I confidently ask of you. (Then say three Hail Marys).*



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

- 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 after Mass.

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.

### ⇒ Lenten Retreat

Join us for a Lenten Retreat on 28th March at St Mark's College Hall. See invitation on page 7 of the bulletin.

## LITURGY

### ⇒ Holy Thursday - Washing of the Feet!

Once again, the Parish SJ23rd Liturgy Team wish to invite parishioners who would like to take part as one of the 12 Apostles for the washing of the feet during Holy Thursday Mass. This is a Sacred & Solemn event in our church's history which is well known as the Last Supper.

There will be a sign up sheet at the foyer. For those who are interested to be involved, PLEASE write down your name, email address and mobile number and we will get in touch with you. (Please one member from each family) Closing date to register will be on the 31st March. The Final 12 will be selected after consultation with Father John.

### ⇒ PALM SUNDAY

Florists in the Diocese have advised that they can no longer supply the traditional palms for Palm Sunday as they have been placed on the endangered species list. So, we are asking parishioners to bring their own palms or olive branches or even eucalypt branches.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL	
<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Members</u>
Gary Lee	Bing Catabas
<u>Dep Chairman</u>	Chris Drummond
Bernadette Virwani	Nanette Gamboa
<u>Secretary</u>	Margaret Harrison
Julienne Crasto	

## Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights

	3	10	17	24	31
Mar	Peiris	Erasmus B	Richard	Jacob	Manoj
Apr	Thirimanne	Sebastian	Shalini	Jacob	
May	Thirimanne	De Jesus	Sebastian	Jacob	
Jun	2	9	16	23	30
	available	Shalini	Richards	available	Jacob
Jul	7	14	21	28	
	Tanganun	Shalini	available	Jacob	

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

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 [emcipi85@yahoo.com.au](mailto:emcipi85@yahoo.com.au)

*"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*



We are in urgent need for volunteers to assist in the following ministries in our Parish:

### ⇒ 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](mailto:krizzia.samonte@gmail.com) or the Parish Office.

### ⇒ SRE Teachers

If you could spare an hour during weekdays to spread God's word teaching the 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.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL

### ⇒ VINNIES VAN

The Vinnies Van provides food, friendship, compassion and dignity to those experiencing homelessness and social isolation in the Mount Druitt and Parramatta areas. To become a volunteer of Vinnies Van you must be 16 years of age and over and available to attend induction training upon commencement. For more information on joining the St John 23rd Vinnies Van team, please contact Naomi Reynolds [naomi1.rey@gmail.com](mailto:naomi1.rey@gmail.com)

## Paying our debt together

**First Collection** – for the diocese. This is used for the support of priests and deacons 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; it is also needed to pay off our church mortgage.

**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. Instead of envelopes, the Parish Finance Committee encourages all parishioners to register for direct debit or credit card deductions. This will be very helpful for Budgeting.

## Special intentions

### Recently Deceased:

Madhu Narayan, Edvin Krsevan

### Deceased:

### Anniversary:

Felipe Villalba

### Sick: Names published with permission.

Clarence Duncan, Brian McCunnie, Colleen McCunnie, Deidre Thomson, Benjamin Munson Jr, Greg Marcellana, Jim Daley, Kim Anika, Virginia Santos, Anshu Mala Nand, Elizabeth Candame, Gloria Buosi, Hazel Masher, Pat Doyle, Raymond Lanzona, Florentina Elisura, Norbert Mascarenhas, Perla Magculang, Kalayani, Bernie Presto, Dung Phan, Elizabeth Newnes, Christina Properzi, Elmo Joachim, Zenira D'Souza, Isagani Ocampo, Sophie Deleon, Karam Matte, Karam Sarsam, Praba Daniel, Virginia Santos

### Thanksgiving:

## 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 e.g. 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 buried overseas. The plaques cost \$250.00.

Please email for any queries to [businessmanager@john23rd.org.au](mailto:businessmanager@john23rd.org.au)



## Parish Notices

### ⇒ SOUTH AFRICAN CUISINE NIGHT - 21st March, Saturday vigil

Join us for a fundraiser to assist with the purchase of the new sound system.

BUNNYCHOW

\$8.00- CHICKEN CURRY

\$6.00 - BEANS CURRY

Items above will be served with Carrot Salad  
SNACKS::

\$3.00 - ½ DOZEN CHILLI BITES

\$3.00 - ½ DOZEN PUMPKIN FRITTERS

DESERT:

MILK TART - \$6.00 - per tray

PEPPERMINT TART - \$6.00 – per tray

SNOWBALLS - \$6.00 ½ dozen

Please call or sms to Priscilla on 0412 865 047 to place your order.

### ⇒ GOOD FRIDAY - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Actors and volunteers for the Living Way of the Cross

Practice sessions are scheduled on the following days

**28th March, Saturday**

2:00 - 4:00pm at Church

**4th April, Saturday**

2.00 - 4.30pm at Holy Cross Primary

For further information please contact

Helen Festejo at [mbfestejo@gmail.com](mailto:mbfestejo@gmail.com)

### ⇒Easter Triduum Choir Practice

Do you enjoy singing? Parishioners are invited to join the choir for the Easter Triduum. Practices will be held at 7:30pm in the church on the following dates:

Thur 26<sup>th</sup> March

Wed 1st April

Wed 8<sup>th</sup> April

Everyone is welcome. If you would like more information, please contact [neville@zammit.net](mailto:neville@zammit.net).



## Church Funnies

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## COELIACS

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

## OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

### Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Louise O'Donnell

☎ (02) 8664 7100

✉ [holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](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)



Week 5 - Long life milk

Please call Margaret Harrison on 0413 900226 for more information.



### Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

### First Reading

*1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13*

*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 22 R. v.1*

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.** Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

### Second Reading

*Ephesians 5:8-14*

*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

*John 8:12*

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

### Gospel (short version)

*John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38*

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

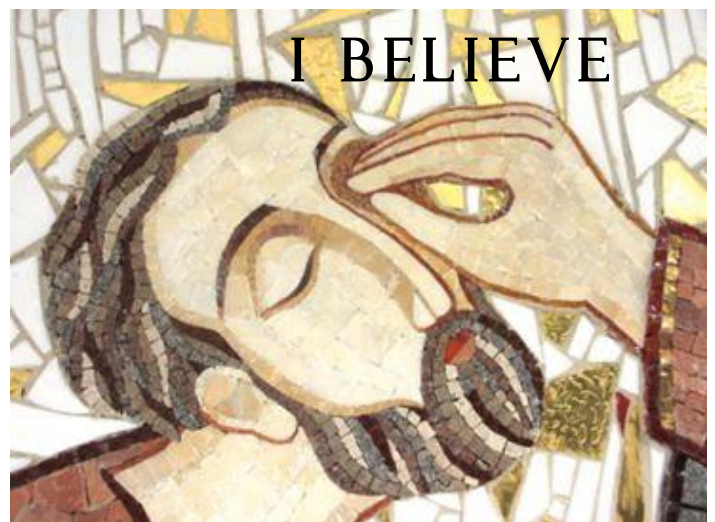
'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.





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

### MAILING

PO Box 23, Stanhope Gardens,  
NSW 2768

### CLERGY

#### Parish Priest:

Fr John McSweeney

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

#### Asst. Priest:

Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic

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

#### Deacon:

Rodrigo Rupac

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

### 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:

Helen Zammit

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

#### Business Manager:

John McCartney (pro bono)

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

### SACRAMENTS

#### Baptism by appointment

Sun 12:00pm

#### Reconciliation (First Rite)

Sat 5:00 - 5:45pm

And after any weekday masses upon request

## 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)

## SUGGESTION BOX

We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

## Diocesan News

### Positions Vacant:

**Volunteers – Mamre Creche - CatholicCare Disability Support Workers (Casual) - CatholicCare**

More details at [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

### Catholic Outlook Magazine March Edition

Look out for copies of the next edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine in your local Catholic Church, Catholic school or Catholic office from early March. Catholic Outlook is an A4 magazine published quarterly 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.

### CatholicCare Blacktown Neighbour Aid Volunteers Needed

Blacktown Neighbour Aid, a program with CatholicCare, is looking for volunteers to support our senior clients in the Blacktown area to remain living independently in their own home. If you feel you would like to make a positive difference to other's lives in this way, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or email [deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au](mailto:deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au).

### Natural Fertility Services

Natural Fertility Services, Diocese of Parramatta offers couples a NATURAL option to plan their families. Natural Family Planning is for couples wanting to achieve & avoid pregnancy. It is suitable for couples at all stages of their life including those preparing for marriage, breastfeeding women, couples looking for an effective, natural option and wanting to cease contraception and peri-menopausal women. For more information or to book an appointment contact Catherine on 0400 427 605, [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org) or visit [www.parralmf.org.au](http://www.parralmf.org.au).

### Volunteers needed for new Life, Marriage and Family Office program

The Life Marriage & Family Office is looking for married couples to volunteer to undertake a free training course for a new program to be launched in the Diocese in late 2020. The Retrouvaille program aims to assist couples struggling in their marriage. An information meeting about the new program will be held on Tuesday 21 April at the Diocesan Ministry Centre, Blacktown from 7pm. For more information, expressions of interest or to RSVP to the information night, please contact Karin Abrams on (02) 8838 3460 or email [lmf@parracatholic.org](mailto:lmf@parracatholic.org) Bishop's

### Good Samaritan Appeal

Help CatholicCare chaplains bring comfort, faith and hope to the sick and isolated. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare chaplains provide spiritual, sacramental and emotional support in the footsteps of the Good Samaritan. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal – [www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal)

### 24 March: Catholic Youth Parramatta Safeguarding Series #1

Catholic Youth Parramatta presents the first in a series of three safeguarding events in 2020, "Helping Youth Develop Safe & Healthy Relationships," facilitated by Cathy McClellan. The session will be held on Tuesday 24 March in the Greenway Room, Fiddler Hotel, Rouse Hill from 6.30pm to 9pm, with a light dinner provided. Register at <https://parracatholic.org/cyp-keeping-our-young-people-safe/>

### 19 April: Kellyville Parish Divine Mercy Sunday Celebrations

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville, is celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday on 19 April from 1pm. There will be a street procession with the Blessed Sacrament, and Veneration of the Relic of St Faustina. Mass will be celebrated at 3pm by Monsignor Cezar Echano. Images, banners and statues are welcome. For more information, please contact Steve Boland on 0405 206695 or the parish office on (02)9629 2595.

## OTHERS

### March 2020: ACU Themes of the Plenary Council Lecture Series

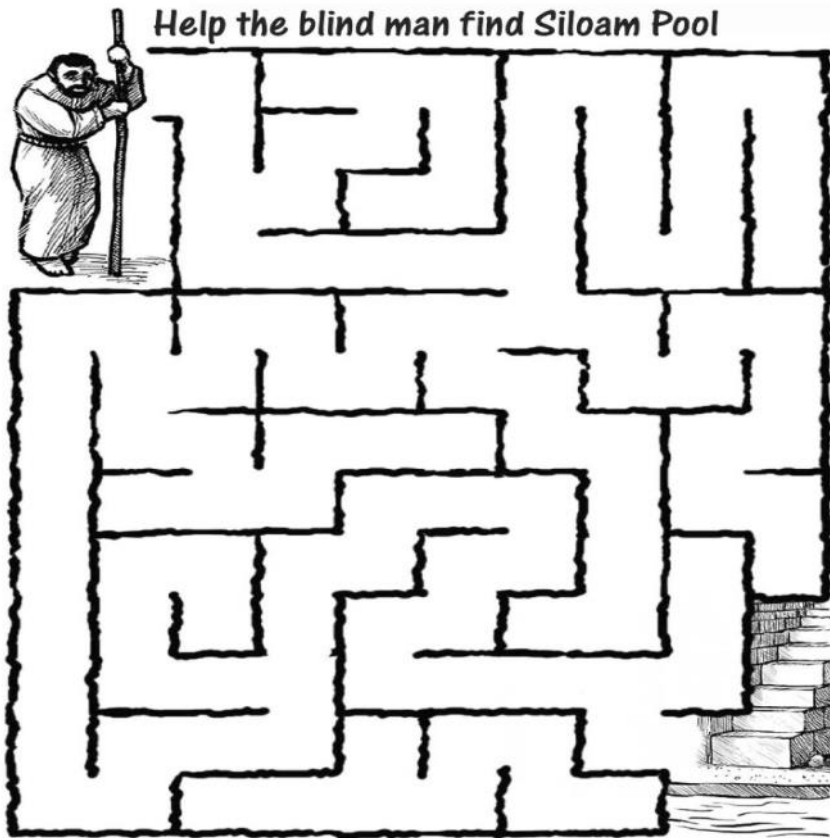
Australian Catholic University are hosting a series of lectures on the key themes of the Plenary Council 2020 during March. The lectures will be held in the Edmund Rice Building at its Strathfield Campus on each Wednesday through March. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and Fr Peter Williams will be guest lecturers. Cost for attendance is \$60, or \$100 with a certificate of accreditation. For more information and registration details, please visit [www.acu.edu.au/short-courses-sydney](http://www.acu.edu.au/short-courses-sydney)

### 27 – 29 March: Men's Prayer Weekend Retreat

St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, NSW, is hosting a men's prayer weekend from 27 to 29 March. Paul White and Fr Thang Nguyen msc will reflect on scripture and modern writers regarding the interaction between trust and discernment in times of transition in our lives. To RSVP, please contact (02)4630 0233, email [contact@towersretreat.org.au](mailto:contact@towersretreat.org.au) or visit [www.towersretreat.org.au](http://www.towersretreat.org.au).

### 2 April: Holy Hour for Vocations

Families and youth aged 18 to 35 are invited to join the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth for their Holy Hour for Vocations on Thursday 2 April at 7pm at The Good Shepherd Parish, Plumpton. A meal will be served afterwards. To RSVP, please contact Sr Paula on 0449 656 406 or [vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com).



I put my faith in you Jesus

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

Beggar  
One

blind  
Pool

eyes  
see

ground  
Siloam

man  
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mud  
wash

## AN INVITATION FOR LENT

## COVID 19 Update

Our Parish Faith Formation Committee will conduct a LENTEN RETREAT

Date: Saturday, 28th March 2020

Time: 9:00am to 2:30pm (*retreat will commence with 9am mass*)

Where: St Mark's Staffroom

By attending we will be able to:

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

***In order for us to prepare for the Lenten season, it is important that all of us attend this retreat.***

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

God bless you.

Fr John McSweeney  
Parish Priest



The Diocese directive is below - please read carefully. Key points:

- From this Sunday there is dispensation from the Sunday mass obligation until further notice
- Masses with more than 100 may be celebrated outside. In the case of St John XXIII that will be in the Garden of Remembrance but bear in mind there is no shelter or seating and will be limited to 500.
- Marriages, funerals and baptisms may proceed but should be limited to those directly involved and their immediate family

For all the above the social distancing requirement of 1.5m applies

- Confessions may be held but in the sacristy, also with the 1.5m distance applying
- All meetings relating to parish life should be suspended
- The parish office will remain open but with limited hours - to be advised
- The priests are still available for pastoral care.

Fr John has advised anyone who is concerned about the virus to stay at home. You are dispensed from Sunday mass and there are numerous online masses being broadcast - we will publish some of those soon.

This situation changes by the hour so stay tuned for further updates.

## 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.**

### **BLAZE YOUTH LEADERS**

Youth Coordinator - Amanda Lee - 0413 545 318

Assistant Youth Coordinator - Caitlin Green - 0425 579 594

#### **Youth Ministry Team**

Natasha Surjanto

Taylor Coutinho

Johanna Neve

Johnathan Soosaipillai

Joy Ragaza

#### **Support Leaders**

Andrew Gorkic

Rebecca Reynolds

Neville Reynolds

RJ Samonte

Vidya Jolly

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

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

**Time:** 4.00pm to 5.30pm

### **CRL YOUTH LEADERS**

Rojith de Silva - 0405 956 3210

Nimeshi Fernando -0417 101 009

### **YFC (Youth for Christ)**

**When:** 1st Saturday of the month - YFC Australia

3rd Sundays of the month - YFC International

### **YFC YOUTH LEADERS**

**YFC International**

Vince Erasmo - 0406 253 698

**YFC Australia**

Ben Lim - 0431 795 571

### **Youth Ministry**

**SJXXIII Youth is looking for volunteer youth facilitators who can commit to assisting with our BLAZE fortnightly sessions. Any enquiries can be sent to [youth@john23rd.com.au](mailto:youth@john23rd.com.au).**





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SJ 23

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*SJ23rd Prayer Group*



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contact Madeline Huang  
cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com