

Cnr Perfection Ave and Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens

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



Fifth Sunday of Lent **21 March 2021**

Reflection of the Gospel

The festival mentioned in the opening of the gospel (John 12:20-33) had earlier (11:55 and 12:1) been specified as the Passover. John has a peculiar habit of repeating: a series of units is not always truly sequential chronologically but are perhaps different aspects of a single episode, often threaded together by key phrases that may appear in other episodes too. Sometimes the Lectionary brings them together. Thus last Sunday's phrase "the Son of Man must be lifted up" (3:14) reappears today as "when I am lifted up" (12:28) and will be heard on Tuesday this week in "when you have lifted up the Son of Man" (8:28), but a variant echo early in today's pericope—"for the Son of Man to be glorified"—belongs to the pattern of overlapping nuances of verbs offer, lift up, and glorify; see also the reflection for the Second Sunday of Lent B. The last arises again near the end of today's reading with the voice from heaven saying "I have glorified [it] and again shall glorify [it]." The interweaving does not stop there; whereas the other gospels (except Luke's story of the twelve year old Jesus) mention Passover only in the final scenes, reference to it threads throughout John. And in today's pericope John also places both an element akin to the voice from heaven that the others have only at his baptism and transfiguration, and an echo of Jesus' anguish that the others place in Gethsemane. Thus in his own way John weaves here the theophanies at the baptism and transfiguration to prelude that which will unfold, whereby the single grain "dies" in order to bear many more.

The second reading (Heb 5:7-9) fore-echoes the gospel's Gethsemane element, the prayer to be saved from death, so it is surprising that the Lectionary does not include the other link to the gospel, Hebrews 5:5, "So also Christ did not glorify himself to become high priest, but he who had said to him 'You are my Son ...". Perhaps, however, it was to avoid the complication that would arise from the references to being "a priest in the order of Melchizedek" in v.6 and 10. Nonetheless, these two readings go hand in hand this Sunday to point to the approaching commemoration of Jesus' death, evoking as it does the old designation of Passiontide, which used to begin on this Sunday.

The first reading (Jer 31:31-34) takes us back instead to the giving of the Covenant during the Exodus, which we encountered two weeks ago. Jeremiah alludes to the Decalogue, carved in stone, but does so obliquely in indicating a new one will be put deep within the people's hearts, thus to be written in flesh. This fleshy image provides a tenuous link to the second reading's opening phrase, for although our Lectionary has "During his life on earth, Christ...", the Greek directly translates as "[He,] who in the days of his flesh..."; he who is the Word made flesh and thus already bears the Law in his heart "submitted... humbly" and "obey[ed] through suffering", in contrast to those Jeremiah mentioned who by disobedience broke the Covenant, but who will have the Law written on their hearts.

In the gospel there remains the odd business of the Greeks whose request to see Jesus leads to the soliloguy that seems to have nothing to do with them. We come then to the crunch as these various threads are drawn together: in John's gospel Philip and Andrew are servants of Christ's presence, but he is the presence of the Father; when he is lifted up, he will draw all people to himself, with no need of intermediaries, with none to say to another "Learn to know the Lord!" Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - 5th Sunday of Lent - Year B

T R I D U U M	Holy Thursday 1 April	7.30pm	Mass (School Hub)			
	Good Friday 2 April	10am	Stations of the Cross (St Marks School grounds)			
		3pm	Veneration of the Cross (School Hub)		1	1
	Easter Vigil 3 April	7.30pm	Vigil Mass (Church)		1	1
	Easter Sunday 4 April	7:30pm , 9am, 10:30am (<i>School Hub</i>) 6pm (<i>Church</i>)		A MANUTE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA		

For further updates with regards to our parish activities, always check our website http://john23rd.com/ and Facebook https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/ For Mass recordings check our website or subscribe to our YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/c/StJohn%20XXIIIGlenwood-StanhopeGardensParish

Sunday Mass Times

Vigil 6pm

7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 6pm

Weekday Mass Times

Mon 8.30am Tues-Fri 9:15am 9.00am

Masses for Special Occasions

1st Tues 7.30pm Novena Mass Our Lady of Perpetual Help 1st Fri

7pm Novena Mass Sacred Heart of Jesus

Exposition + Benediction

1st Fri after 9.15am Mass **1st Sat** after 9am Mass after the Novena Masses

Reconciliation

After any of the weekday masses Sat: after the 9am mass until 10am 5:15 - 5:45pm before the Vigil Mass Or upon request

Sacraments

1st Sat 9am Mass for the Sick Sun 12pm Baptism by appointment

Devotions & Prayers

Mon 7.30pm Christian Meditation via Zoom Frances Pegram 0417 406715

Tues 7pm Rosary and Novena Prayer in the church except for 1st Tues

Fri 6.30pm Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group 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."



Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4, 12-15

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**

Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me, that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. **R**.

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 12:26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 12:20-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die. The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.



Special intentions

Recently Deceased:

Ramon Garcia Eudela, Francisca Dychioco, Vince Moulay, David James Whitelaw, Merlyn Faro

Deceased:

Desmond Bruce Staples

Anniversary:

Felipe Villalba, John D'Cunha

Sick: Names published with permission.

Thelma Duncan, Iyrika D'Cruz, Pat Doyle, Colleen McCunnie, Benjamin Munson Jr, Florentina Elsisura, Lino Matteazzi, Kalayani, Rebecca Shields, Maria Romeo, Kristy Arceo. Anshu Mala Nand, Gustavo Montenegro, Elizabeth Candame, Christina Properzi, Raymond Lanzona, Elizabeth Newnes, Nathan Parker, Kim Anika, Perla Magculang, Geoffrey Robinson, Nathan Braganza, Zenira D'Souza, Dung Phan, Gloria Buosi, Karam Matte, Karam Sarsam, Hazel Masher, Praba Daniel, Bernie Presto, Steve Esteban, Deidre Thomson, Arlene Caraballo, Greg Marcellana, Elmo Joachim, Isagani Ocampo, Sophie De Leon, Thelma Duncan, Marvi Antonino, Virginia Santos, Rochelle Lopez

Thanksgiving:



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.

Church Calendar							
March							
Mon	22	8:30am - Mass					
Tues	23	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena Prayers Our Lady of Perpetual Help					
Wed	24	9:15am - Mass					
Thurs	25	The Annunciation of the Lord (S) 9:15am - Mass					
Fri	26	9:15am - Mass 7pm - Stations of the Cross 7:30 - Mass					
Sat 27		9am - Mass Confession to follow 5:15pm - Confession 6pm - Vigil Mass					
Sun	28	Palm Sunday Sunday Mass times 7:30, 9am, 10:30am, 6pm					

COVID-19 NOTICES



Please check out the following sites for any and all updates:

NSW Health COVID site

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pageslatest-updates.aspx

NSW Government site https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19

If you are not feeling well, please DO NOT come into church.

WEEKDAY MASSES do not require any on-line booking.

Sign in to register attendance, whether for mass or for visitation. Registration sheet and hand sanitisers can be found as you enter. Or you can scan the QR Code posted by the doors. **Entry and exit is via the rear doors.**

<u>WEEKEND MASSES</u> (Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses) still require **ONLINE BOOKING** via **Eventbrite** *https://john23rd.eventbrite.com.au/* until such time that further COVID legislation changes.

With the easing of restrictions, we are not doing live streaming of our Sunday 10:30am mass. We encourage parishioners to physically attend mass. If someone still wants to follow masses online you can watch the livestream mass at the Parramatta Cathedral.

Please arrive <u>15mins</u> before the mass times to give time for registration confirmation.

Arriving early will also give you time for reflection and prayer, quiet your thoughts before we start our communion with God.

Entrance and exit is via the front door.

If you are unable to attend your booked mass time, please ensure to cancel your booking to give a chance for others to attend the mass.

If you have not arrived in time for your allocated booking, your spot will be given to those waiting/wanting to attend mass.

PARRAMATTA DIOCESE UPDATES ON COVID19

THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA ENCOURAGES YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR LIFE OF PRAYER AND PARTICIPATION IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH DESPITE CHURCH BUILDING CLOSURES.

For more updates and useful resources visit https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19/#fag

The Diocese of Parramatta has communicated revised regulations to clergy, parishes, staff and the general public via a letter and online communication channels. These Diocesan guidelines are also available on the COVID-19 website at: https://parracatholic.org/covid19/

WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

Up to 300 people can attend weddings and funerals, provided the 2 square metre rule is adhered to

CHOIR AND CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Number of performers singing indoors increased to 30 (currently 5) **subject to** physical distancing requirements

Singing by congregants allowed in places of worship if masks are worn and subject to one person per 4sqm (currently no congregant singing allowed, with one per 2sqm permitted in places of worship)

WEAR A MASK

Wearing a mask, especially in indoor venues like churches and religious services, is not compulsory, but we highly recommend you wear one.

Masks can also be seen an act of charity towards others and can help stop the spread of viruses and other infectious diseases.



From St John XXXIII Parish Community

Happy 75 th Birthday



Father Zvonimir

Your holy service to the Lord inspires and touches the hearts of so many.

May God give you the power, courage and wisdom to continue ministering His words throughout the community!

Pastoral/Ministry Corner

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 favour I confidently ask of you. (Then say three Hail Marys).

"A family that prays together, stays together - Fr Patrick Peyton" If you want the opportunity of having the statue of Our Lady visit your home, please contact Bart Sarlabus via email bart.sarlabus@gmail.com or Melva Paguinto emcipi85@yahoo.com.au

Novena prayers 7pm every Tuesday except every First Tuesday it's a Novena mass 7:30pm

Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights									
Mar	2	9	16	23	30				
iviai	Cano	Paguinto	Richards	Shalini	Jacob				
Apr	6	13	20	27					
Apr	Deang	Erasmo	Sebastian	Shalini					
May	4	11	18	25					
Iviay	Manalo	Javelosa	Sebastian	Jacob					
Jun	1	8	15	22	29				
Juii	Paguinto	Shalini	Richards	Barnouti	Jacob				
Jul	6	13	20	27					
Jui	Tangunan	Ring	Deang	Jacob					
Aug	3	10	17	24	31				
nug	Ring	Lozada	Sebastian	Gan	Jacob				

Families on the 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

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. Mahatma Gandhi

We are in urgent need for volunteers to assist in the different pastoral ministries in our Parish.



⇒ 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.

⇒ GARDENERS AND CLEANERS

Garden Bees - our gardens look magnificent thanks to the work of our abled parishioners but more help is needed. The commitment would be whatever time you can spare – a few hours a fortnight to assist in the maintenance of the church's garden surrounds.

Cleaners – we have four teams of cleaners who clean the church on a monthly cycle and four teams who clean the votive candle stands every few months. Both groups needs more bodies to help out, urgently. The commitment would be a few hours each month. For more information contact maintenance@john23rd.org.au

⇒ 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.

FATHER ZVONIMIR HAS ONE BOOK LEFT 'IN SEARCH OF CARDINAL STEPINAC'

written by Father Zvonimir Cost is \$20 If you are interested please call Parish Office on 8883 5981



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chairman Gary Lee Dep Chairman Bernadette Virwani Margaret Harrison **Secretary** Julienne Crasto

Members Bing Catabas Chris Drummond Nanette Gamboa



Parking Reminder

Please make sure when you come to Mass, let us consider our neighbours. Do not block the neighbours' driveway.

Paying our debt together

FIRST COLLECTION – for the support of the priests and deacons of the Diocese.

SECOND COLLECTION – 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 as part of the second collection

A Planned giving Program is in place to help us with the planning/budgeting for the church expenses. To register an SJ23rd form is available at the church fover or contact the parish office. The Parish Finance Committee encourages all parishioners to register for direct debit or credit card deductions instead of the envelope system.

We encourage everyone to contribute financially as you leave by using the TapnGo machines or online via BPoint. We have *TapnGo* at both the doors.

This time of Lent join us for the Stations of the Cross





PALM SUNDAY

Anyone who can bring palms for Palm Sunday, please bring them by **21st March**, a week before Palm Sunday to give us time to prepare them for Palm Sunday. Thank you

CHOIR REHEARSALS PASCHAL TRIDUUM MASSES

There will be choir rehearsals for the Paschal Triduum masses on the following

dates:

18th March 25th March 31st March Time is 7-9pm



SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION





This year, our Parish is blessed to have four catechumens who are in their final weeks of preparation to receive the Sacraments.

We welcome our catechumens, Michael Cheong, Sue Lee, Jody Lee Leukes and Stephanie Luck, into the Catholic faith.

As a parish community, let us continue to pray for each of our catechumens.

YOUTH MINISTRY

"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 teem.

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

For all youth ministry enquiries, M blaze@john23rd.org.au or visit our FB page https://www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/





MORE YOUTH GROUPS

CRL (Community of the Risen Lord) **CRL YOUTH LEADERS**

Rojith de Silva - 0405 956 3210 Nimeshi Fernando -0417 101009 **YFC** (Youth for Christ)

YFC YOUTH LEADERS

YFC International

Vince Erasmo - 0406 253 698

YFC Australia

Ben Lim - 0431 795 571

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood Principal: Louise O'Donnell

1 (02) 8664 7100

⊠ holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII & 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



If you or a family member is homebound and would want to receive communion in your home please contact the parish office.

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours

Tue - Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

Office Contacts

(02) 8883 5981

0423 160567 (AH Emergency) 160 Perfection Avenue,

Stanhope Gardens, 2768

MAILING

PO Box 23, Stanhope Gardens, NSW 2768

CLERGY

Parish Priest:

Fr Jolly Chacko

⊠ jolly@john23rd.org.au

Assistant Priest:

Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic

Zvonimir@john23rd.org.au

Deacon:

Andrew Roonev

DeaconAndrew@john23rd.org.au

STAFF

Secretary:

Tanya Gatt

⊠ secretary@john23rd.org.au

Finance:

Renuka Soosaipillai

accounts@john23rd.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator:

Helen Zammit

⊠ sacramental@john23rd.org.au

Operations Manager:

Daphney Fernandes

operations@john23rd.org.au

OTHER CONTACTS

Maintenance issues:

David Gorkic

⊠ maintenance@john23rd.org.au

Columbarium queries:

Daphney Fernandes

⊠ columbarium@john23rd.org.au

Communication queries:

Techie Sarlabus

⊠ communications@john23rd.org.au

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome to our parish community!

Please take a welcome envelope pack from the front entrance.

Visit our website http://john23rd.com/ Like our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/john23rdparish

View our livestreams via YouTube https://www.youtube.com/c/StJohn%20 XXIIIGlenwood-StanhopeGardensParish

SUGGESTION BOX

We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

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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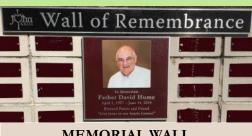
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MEMORIAL WALL

The wall in front of the church is devoted to the memory of our deceased family and friends, especially if they are buried overseas. For any enquiries please email columbarium@john23rd.org.au

The plaques cost \$350.00.

ADVERTISE HERE



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

Join and be

part of the

contact Madeline Huang

cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com

ake Unaels

St Vincent de Paul Society Thursday at 7:00pm

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