

It is with great joy that we prepare ourselves to open the doors of the churches to celebrate the Eucharist as a community.

It is anticipated that we will be able to come together as a community by the 18th of this month as we reach the 80% vaccination.

It is mandatory to wear the mask and the 4sq metre rule will be applied.

To accommodate everyone for the weekend masses, booking is essential.

We welcome everyone of you. May Christ open our spiritual eyes, to see our call to love others in action and worship.

The reference to trusting in God last Sunday makes a reprise today in Psalm 33(32):22, in the antiphon as "we place our trust in you" and in the text as "we place all our hope in you". This Psalm acknowledges that even those who revere God may experience difficulties; being good is no guarantee that bad things will not come your way, but when bad things do come, those who revere God wait on him to help them according to his will. It supports the short first reading (Isa 53:10-11) from the fourth Suffering Servant song (52:13-53:12), which was treasured by the early Church as referring to Christ, and which we read every year on Good Friday. The servant accepts his surprising treatment on the behalf of others so that when it is over they shall find relief. The idea of knowingly inflicting punishment on the innocent with a view to releasing the guilty is naturally repugnant and a violation of our sense of justice. And yet it is often employed: some offence having been committed in a classroom, with the guilty party not known, a whole class is detained until someone either confesses or rectifies the matter. While this is intended to force either correction of the crime or the guilty person to confess, it is not unknown for an innocent party to step forward and accept the penalty so as bring the punishment of all to an end. Looking from the perspective of God, such an analogy fails, for nothing is hidden from God; the crime and the guilty are known. But it works from the perspective of Christ in the flesh, especially when the focus is less on particular sin and more on the general experience of shared frailty. Today's Gospel reading, Mark 10:35-45, shares with Matthew's Christ's reference to "the cup that I (am to) drink". This image of the cup given by God to drink in the Hebrew Scriptures is negative, for it is the cup of wrath, a punishing potion. Only Mark speaks of "the baptism with which I am baptised", for which use we have no antecedent in Scripture that I have identified. The only correspondence seems to be in Paul's writings, where it signifies death, albeit our death in Christ. Together, the expressions do betoken his coming passion and death, for which "the Son of Man [came]... to give his life as a ransom for many." That this is the intended focus and linking theme in these passages is emphasised by the fact that the last verse also supplies the Gospel acclamation.

Mark wrote with his own logic, not for the benefit of future liturgical use, so he does not stick to the theme. He had, however, preceded this section with the third instance (omitted from the Lectionary) of Jesus telling the disciples about his approaching death and resurrection. We are side-tracked here by the request of the brothers James and John, and its effect on the others. Unlike Matthew, who has the brothers' mother petition a favour for them, Mark's uncompromising version places the failure to understand the teachings, and the presumptuousness it engenders, firmly on the brothers themselves. The question Jesus asks, "What do you wish (that I may do for you)?", is important, for next Sunday he will ask it of another. In both the request for favoured seats and the indignation of the other ten, Mark exposes the lack of understanding of all the Twelve. Jesus calls them all to him to tell them that leadership among them is not to be measured in terms of rank or domination, but in humility and service—the model of Jesus himself. This has, by chance, resonance with the second reading (Hebrews 4:14-46), where he is acknowledged as the Son of God, a higher rank than which cannot be accorded, and yet he is the one who humbly shares our frailty so as to know our weakness, and who is therefore able to understand and show mercy.

6pm Weekday Mass Times Mon 8.30am Tues-Fri 9:15am Sat 9.00am **Masses for Special Occasions** 1st Tues 7.30pm Novena Mass Our Lady of Perpetual Help 7pm Novena Mass 1st Fri 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

Sunday Mass Times

7:30am, 9am, 10:30am,

Vigil 6pm

Sat

Sun

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

Sacraments

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

Devotions & Prayers

Mon 7.30pm Christian Meditation							
via Żoom 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."

Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Entrance Antiphon

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First Reading Isaiah 53:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs and have long life.

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering. If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over he shall see the light and be content. By his sufferings shall my servant justify many, taking their faults on himself.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22*

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **R**.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **R**.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **R**.

Second Reading Hebrews 4.14-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Let us be confident in approaching the throne of grace.

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mark 10:45

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!

TO LEAD IS TO SERVE,



Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Jesus Calvo

Deceased:

Agnes Novelda Kumentas, Carlos Aliermo, Jessica Briboneria

Anniversary:

Sick: Names published with permission.

Fr Kevin Walsh, Rev Fr Jeffrey Fernandes, Natividad Reyes, Pat Doyle, Maria Romeo, Kristy Arceo, Iyrika D'Cruz, Tony Muscat, Elizabeth Candame, Colleen McCunnie, Raymond Lanzona, Geoffrey Robinson, Anshu Mala Nand, Florentina Elisura, Elizabeth Newnes, Christina Properzi, Deidre Thomson, Mavie Dela Cruz, Perla Magculang, Sophie De Leon, Greg Marcellana, Isagani Ocampo, Zenira D'Souza, Nonito Zamora Virginia Santos, Dragica Julich

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							
October							
Mon	18	<i>Saint Luke (F)</i> 8:30am - Mass 7:30pm - Rosary via Zoom					
Tues	19	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help via Whatsapp 7:30pm - Rosary via Zoom					
Wed	20	9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Rosary via Zoom					
Thurs	21	9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Rosary via Zoom					
Fri	22	9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Rosary via Zoom					
Sat	23	9:00am - Mass 7:30pm - Rosary via Zoom					
Sun	24	10:30 - Mass 7:30pm - Rosary via Zoom					

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

Check in and help keep everyone safe By law, some businesses, venues and



events need you to check-in. For ease on contact tracing, as per NSW COVID regulation, a QR Code is displayed at both church doors for scanning purposes.



PUBLIC MASSES WILL BE REOPENED WHEN WE REACH THE 80% TARGET FOR FULLY VACCINATED.

OUR SUNDAY 10:30am MASS WILL CONTINUE TO BE STREAMED LIVE VIA OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL AND FACEBOOK PAGE.

The NSW Government has recently published its pathway out of the pandemic and lockdowns, with the "roadmap" to easing various restrictions at the 70% and 80% double dose target for those who are vaccinated. There is a further lifting of restrictions to all citizens of NSW regardless of vaccination status from 1 December 2021.

It is envisaged that NSW will achieve its double dose vaccination target of 70% sometime this week and from next Monday 11 October, restrictions will start lifting for places of worship. Although we would be entitled to open our churches for public Masses from this date, we have decided that we will instead wait the estimated two further weeks until we reach the 80% target before conducting public Masses.

In consideration of the roadmap and its implications to the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta, a staged process should be applied towards full reopening.

Stage 1: When 70% of the double dose vaccination target is achieved by the state

The full details of the 70% roadmap can be found here: <u>https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/easing-covid19-restrictions/70-percent</u>. Our churches can be reopened for **private prayer and devotion only.** Parishes and parishioners will need to be mindful of the NSW Government requirements for this stage of the roadmap.

Stage 2: When 80% of the double dose vaccination target is achieved by the state

The full details of the 80% roadmap can be found here: <u>https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/easing-covid19-restrictions/80-percent</u>.

At this stage of the roadmap, our churches are to open to our entire community. There is no requirement from the Government to check the vaccination status of people attending our churches.

Stage 3: From 1 December 2021

- Density limits will move to one person per 2 square metres for both indoor and outdoor settings.
- Congregational singing can resume at our liturgies and services.
- Mask wearing will be encouraged but will no longer be mandatory for places of worship.

The updated 70% roadmap will allow:

- \Box 10 visitors to a home (not counting children 12 and under)
- \Box 30 people to gather outdoors
- \Box 100 people to attend weddings and funerals
- □ Indoor pools to reopen for lessons, training and rehab activities.

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/#faq

Pastoral/Minist Parish

FAITH FORMATION

\Rightarrow 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

/ MINIStry Corner									
Rosary Statue Family Roster for Tuesday Nights									
Oct	5	12	19	26					
	Erasmo	Sebastian	Shalini	Jacob					
Nov	2	9	16	23	30				
	Gan	Barnouti	Ring	Jacob	Melva				
Dec	7	14	21	28					
	Jacob	Richards	Richards	Richards					
Jan	4	11	18	25					
	Paguinto	Lozada	Javelosa	Cano					
Feb	1	8	15	22					
	Tangunan	available	Ring	Jacob					
Mar	1	8	15	22	29				
	available	Paguinto	Richards	Shalini	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.



\Rightarrow SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FACILITATORS

We require assistance at the children's baptismal rites during Sundays 12pm. For interested parties please contact Deacon Andrew on andrew@john23rd.org.au or the Parish Office.

\Rightarrow 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

\Rightarrow 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.

\Rightarrow WEEKDAY WARRIORS

The church pews are undergoing refurbishment. We are looking for volunteers to help carry some pews down to the basement where they are being repaired. If you can assist, please let Fr Jolly know or call the parish office.

\Rightarrow 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 available to attend induction training and upon commencement.

For more information on joining the SJ23rd Vinnies Van team, please contact Naomi Reynolds at naomi1.rey@gmail.com



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Members Bing Catabas Chris Drummond Margaret Harrison 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 foyer or the website.

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.

Parish Notices

Praying the Rosary in October



October is a special month on the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar. It is the month of the Holy Rosary, dedicated to the veneration of the Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus.

The Liturgical Ministry will be running rosary prayers every night in October at 7:30pm. Come and join us for a virtual night of prayer hosted by different parish groups.

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/98668602031?pwd=N1FRQWFOVEh pWHNtQVlybDdjbDBoUT09

Meeting ID: 986 6860 2031

Passcode: 395838

Note: 30th October, rosary will start at 7:00pm followed by Praise and Worship night.

SPONSOR A PEW



WE are refurbishing our church pews, as a cheaper alternative, to make mass attendance more comfortable and safe for everyone in the parish.

On this note, we would like to invite parishioners, if able, to sponsor a pew. It can be in memory of a deceased loved ones and wish to be remembered or it could be your family's gift to the

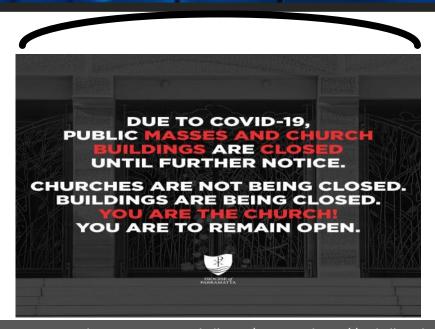
parish community. It could also be a way of thanking God for the graces of a lovely family you have and the blessings you received from the Lord. Each pew will cost from \$2,500 each. To remember the donor family and their loved ones, a small

remember the donor family and their loved ones, a small memorial plaque or Donated by plaque will be placed on each Pew, upon request. If you are interested please contact the Parish office on 8883 5981

VIRTUAL **Praise** & WORSHIP Night

30/10/2021 Saturday 7:30pm Via Zoom Let us keep the momentum on our virtual parish community activity. Join us for a virtual Praise and Worship Night hosted by the multiple parish choirs. It'll be an enjoyable night of singing and worship, 30th October, Saturday, 7:30pm right after the rosary prayer.

Open to everyone to join via Zoom.



For more events please go to parracatholic.org/events or https://catholicoutlook.org/

Diocese News



XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

This coming Sunday, 17 October 2021, dioceses around the world will launch local preparations for the XVI Synod of Bishops. The Synod, themed "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission", was solemnly opened in Rome last week by Pope Francis. If you haven't already done so, you may be interested to watch the Mass and read Pope Francis' homily as published on **Catholic Outlook** <u>here.</u>

<u>Click here to access the preparatory document for the</u> <u>XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of</u> <u>Bishops.</u>

Prayer for the Synod

As we embrace this Synodal Process, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

> We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

> With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.



This prayer can be used throughout the duration of the Synodal Process from October 2021-2023.



Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia Diocese of Parramatta Bethany Centre, 479 Church St. Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW 1750 © 02 8838 3400 🖀 02 9630 4813 Moderational Construction of the Curia Peter.williams@parracatholic.org Parracatholic.org

15 October 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

As was previously communicated, when the 80% double dose vaccination target is achieved by the state of NSW, our churches will be able to open to our entire community from the following Monday. From that time, all religious services will only be limited by the 4 sqm rule.

It was previously anticipated that the state would reach this milestone two weeks after the reopening at the 70% double dose target. However, the Premier reported this morning that we are likely to reach the 80% target today or certainly by tomorrow.

This would mean that our churches will be able to reopen to our entire community from this Monday 18 October 2021. While this cannot be confirmed until the weekend, for parishes, now would be a good time to start preparing for potentially reopening earlier than expected.

Yours in Christ

Very Rev Peter G. Williams Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia

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

BLAZE

BLAZE youth group is held every second Friday throughout the school term in the St John XXIII school hall. Youth runs from 7:15 to 9pm and accommodate a fun and engaging night of faith-based talks encouraging teens to walk with Christ in a nurturing community. If you would like to come along to one of our sessions, please contact the team at <u>blaze@john23rd.org.au</u>

Youth Coordinator Amanda Lee - 0413 545 318 Assistant Youth Coordinator Caitlin Green - 0425 579 594 *Youth Leaders* Anna Todhunter Taylor Coutinho Johnathan Soosaipillai Natasha Surjanto Charlotte Todhunter

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



Come and Join !

MORE YOUTH GROUPS

CRL (*Community of the Risen Lord*) **CRL YOU'TH 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 Jonathan Montaos 0401 478 733

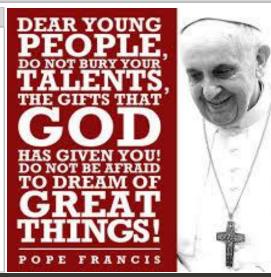
OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Holy Cross Primary
49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood
Principal: Louise O'Donnell

(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
(02) 9852 0585 *celestanhope@parra.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 ① 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 **()** 0417 541 637 (for emergency only) **Assistant Priest:** Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic Zvonimir@john23rd.org.au Deacon: Andrew Rooney Andrew@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 <u>http://john23rd.com/</u> Like our Facebook page <u>www.facebook.com/john23rdparish</u> View our livestreams via YouTube https://www.youtube.com/c/StJohn%20 XXIIIGlenwood-StanhopeGardensParish

SUGGESTION BOX

We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

If you would like to advertise your business please contact the parish office. St John XXIII Parish cannot take responsibility if the service provided by an advertiser does not meet expectations.



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