



Third Sunday of Lent 20 March 2022



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.

Last Sunday Christ was reported on the mountain speaking with Moses while appearing as burning brightly with a glory that did not consume the world. Today's first reading (Exodus 3:1-8,13-15) recounts Moses encountering God at the blazing yet unburnt bush on the holy mountain. These two accounts are linked in Eastern traditions that have Moses seeing and hearing the pre-incarnate Word in a way that pre-figures the birth of the incarnate Word by the Virgin Mary: the bush was not consumed by the fire of divine glory; Mary bore the incarnate divine Word without loss of her virginity. Thus icons depicting this account often have Mary as Theotokos, the God-bearer, in the heart of the flame, with the Christ-child in her lap speaking to Moses.

The narrative of Moses at the bush gives an interpretation for God's unpronounceable Name, expressed in the Tetragrammaton (the four letter word) Yhwh (or Jhvh in German form), pointing to a unique causative form of the verb to be that cannot normally be used; it translates roughly as I am who I am in the sense of I make me be me or I cause myself. This understanding shaped Jewish practice so that the Name was substituted by Adonai [the Lord] when reading the Scriptures, or often by Ha-Shem [the Name] in speech; it is oxymoronic effrontery to address God in a way that sounds as if we call ourselves our own maker. This practice was a natural part of Christianity from its origin as a Jewish movement, and it was maintained across translations of Scripture until the Reformation when reformers ignored the tradition and started to use the nonsense form Jehovah that blends the German transliteration of the written Name (all consonants) with the vowels of substitute Adonai. After Vatican II, eschewing the tradition that the Church in fact maintains in the Lectionary some publishers of Catholic editions of the Bible used the newly conjectured reconstruction of the Name (Y-hw-h + -a-e-), and composers then introduced it into hymns. Even now in our liturgies some readers and priests take it upon themselves to substitute their preferred Scripture translations, including the reconstructed Name. The direction issued by Rome under Benedict XVI to stop doing so and to return to our tradition is still ignored by many.

In icons of the transfiguration, and in many others, the cross within Christ's halo (or nimbus, the bright cloud) bears the Greek inscription 'O ΩΝ (Hō Ōn), literally He who is but often reproduced in English as I AM. John's gospel is the earliest witness to this association of Christ with Yhwh, as shown by the references to him both as the Word, another substitute for the unpronounceable Tetragrammaton, and in the frequent I am statements.

Turning back to the first reading we hear of the beginning of the rescue of the Hebrews that will culminate in the Passover flight that we recall on Holy Thursday night. The Hebrew word translated for as bush is rare and uncertain. In Jewish folklore it is a thorn-bush, and in Rabbinic thought an answer as to why God chose to reveal himself in the lowly thorn-bush is that it was to show that nowhere in creation is devoid of God's presence. This brings to mind the opening line by Gerard Manly Hopkins, "The world is charged with the grandeur of God. It will flame out..." His later observation "nor can foot feel, being shod" seems to refer to human dislocation from nature. Moses is instructed to remove his footwear, for he stands upon holy ground. Scripture's symbolic use of footwear indicates possession or domination of a land or people; neither Moses nor anyone else can possess the divine, and his removing his footwear expresses the humility of recognizing one's place as inferior to the other, but also allows a more immediate contact.

In the second reading (1 Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12) Paul draws from that Passover episode and following sojourn, seeing in the passage through the sea, in being fed with manna, and in drinking the water from the rock, their participation in spiritual realities, in the divine mediated through material things. However, he notes that they still slipped into sin and so warns Christians against making the same mistakes. Humility is called for; judge wisely the use of earthly things and activities, but seek always the hidden presence that is God who alone sustains.

Sunday Mass Times

Sat Vigil 6pm
Sun 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 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
1st Fri 7:30pm 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

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' he answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4, 6-8, 11

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. **R.**



Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:17

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Kenneth Fogarty

Deceased:

Anniversary:

Beryl Stewart, Gregory Reynolds,
Antonia Cremona, Jimmy Virata

Sick: Names published with permission.

Fr Kevin Walsh, Natividad Reyes, Pat Doyle,
Colleen McCunnie, Tony Muscat, Bev Lewis,
Greg Marcellana, Elvis D'sa, Zenira D'Souza,
Sophie De Leon, Hilary Regan, Gloria Bueno
Maria Romeo, Kristy Arceo, Iyrika D'Cruz,
Rosamma John Pellissery, Isagani Ocampo,
Dr Bronwyn Andrews, Elizabeth Candame,
Virginia Santos, Mavie Dela Cruz, Wally Atie,
Raymond Lanzona, Geoffrey Robinson,
Anshu Mala Nand, Christina Properzi,
Elizabeth Newnes, Florentina Elisura,
Deidre Thomson, Perla Magculang,
Dragica Julich, Jenat Perera

Thanksgiving:

Cremona family

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

PRAYING in the SILENCE of the HEART

Jesus our peace,
You call us to follow you throughout
our whole lives.

So, with humble trust,
we come to realize that you are
inviting us to welcome you again and
again, for ever.

Brother Roger of Taizé

MARCH Church Calendar

Mon	21	8:30am - Mass
Tues	22	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	23	9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Mass
Thurs	24	9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Lenten Program via Zoom
Fri	25	<i>The Annunciation of the Lord (S)</i> 9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Stations of the Cross 7:30pm - Mass 7:30pm - Lenten Program - St Mark's College Hall
Sat	26	9:00am - Mass 5:15pm - Confession 6:00pm - Vigil Mass
Sun	27	7:30am 9:00am 10:30 - Mass 6:00pm - Mass

LENTEN PROGRAMS

St John XXIII Catholic Church Faith Formation Team

BE WHO YOU ARE MEANT TO BE

GRACE GATHERINGS

"KINGS AND PRIESTS UNTO OUR GOD;
AND WE SHALL REIGN ON THE EARTH."
REVELATIONS 5:10

A HEART-TO-HEART DISCOVERY OF THE WORD OF GOD

EVERY THURSDAY OF LENT ZOOM ID: 478 311 4744
7.30 PM - 8.30 PM PASSCODE: 926923

Stations of the Cross

This season of Lent join us
every Friday at 7:00pm
to be followed by
mass at 7:30pm

COME AS YOU ARE!

Matthew 11:28

OUR WEEKLY MEETINGS EXTEND THE OPPORTUNITY TO
GATHER AS A COMMUNITY AND EXPERIENCE THE POWER AND
GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BY ENGAGING IN A TIME OF PRAISE,
WORSHIP AND PRAYER.

EACH WEEK ALSO INCLUDES A LIVE SCRIPTURE TEACHING.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US ON FRIDAYS TO
EXPERIENCE GOD'S LOVE, GOODNESS AND JOY!

EVERY FRIDAY 07:30 PM AT ST MARK'S COLLEGE HALL

BE UPDATED WITH US ON
Facebook: /CRLAUS
Instagram: @CRLAUS
Twitter: @CRLAUS
Website: WWW.RISENLORDCOMMUNITY.COM.AU

COVID-19 NOTICE

For any and all COVID updates <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

Check-in using the NSW QR Code and record keeping for attendees is no longer
required for places of worship.

Masks will no longer be mandatory for places of worship. However, masks are still
strongly encouraged where you cannot maintain a safe distance from others.

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>

SUGGESTION BOX

We welcome your comments and constructive suggestions.

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 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

	1	8	15	22	29
Mar	Jayakody	Paguinto	Richards	Shalini	Jacob
Apr	5	12	19	26	
	Barnouti	Erasmo B	Ring	Shalini	
May	3	10	17	24	31
	Javelosa	Paguinto	Erasmo B	Shalini	Jacob
Jun	7	14	21	28	
	Shalini	Richards	Barnouti	Phillip	
Jul	5	12	19	26	
	Tanganan	Jacob	Deang	Jacob	
Aug	2	9	16	23	30
	Barnouti	Ring	Sebastian	available	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 the Parish Office on 8883 5981.

⇒ 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, Thursdays and Fridays. For more information call Asoki 0430 020265 or Renuka 0414 795814.

Training and resources will be provided.

⇒ 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

⇒ CALLING ALL CHOIRS

Sing from the heart - Ephesians 5:19-20

Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We miss you!!!!



⇒ 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 SJ23rd Vinnies Van team, please contact Naomi Reynolds at naomi1.rey@gmail.com

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - GOOD FRIDAY

Dear Parishioners,

The Easter season is fast approaching and we are preparing for our traditional Way of the Cross service to be held on the morning of Good Friday, 15th April at 9am.

We are looking for school aged youth to participate in the service by acting as characters, reading and singing.

We will be holding practices on Saturday 2nd and Saturday 9th of April at 10am.

If you or your child is interested, please contact:

Helen Festejo E: helen.festejo@gmail.com

M: 0401 671665 or

Taylor Coutinho E: taylor.coutinho1999@gmail.com

M: 0426 382 537



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chairman
Gary Lee
Dep Chairman
Bernadette Virwani
Secretary
Julienne Crasto

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.

SPONSOR A PEW

Dear Parishioners,

We are getting close to our target amount for the pew replacements.

The total cost of the project is \$175,000 and we are GETTING CLOSE at 66% of our target. We request you to keep this going and sponsor a pew.

We would like to extend our gratitude to those who have already made contributions. It can be in memory of a deceased love one or your family or personal gift to the parish community.

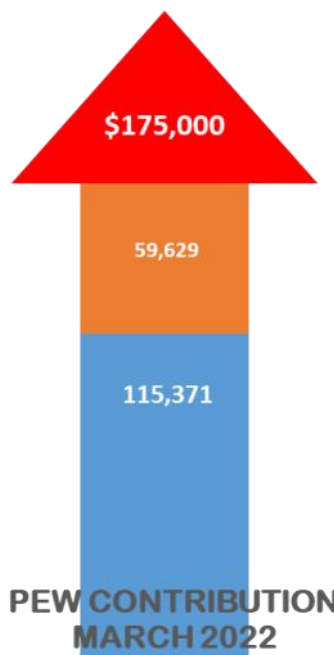
Each pew in the size of 4.6 metres will cost \$2500 and pews at the back will be almost double the size to match with the shape of the church. A small memorial or "donated by" plaque will be placed upon request. You can get family and/or friends to pool together or if you cannot afford to sponsor one full pew, any amount you donate will be a big addition to the cost of the pews.

Our comfort during worship is important so that our minds are centred to prayer and spiritual enrichment.

Be a community that cares for its spiritual home.

Finance committee, Fr Zvonimir and Fr Jolly

'Forms are available at the church foyer for those who wish to donate towards the cost of the pews'.



CONTACTS

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

📞 0417 541 637 (*for emergency only*)

Assistant Priest:

Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic

✉ Zvonimir@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

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Congratulations



This year our parish has been blessed with 2 new catechumens, **Jessica** and **Kevin**. They were presented to the Bishop last Sunday at the Rite of Election at Parramatta.

The RCIA team requests all parishioners to pray for them as they go through the final weeks of preparation to receiving the sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

Thank you

BISHOPS GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Catholic Care's Community Drop-In Centres Catholic Care is working hard to reach our neighbours in need and to reduce social isolation and loneliness throughout our community. Will you be a Good Samaritan and help Catholic Care reach our vulnerable neighbours, so they have safe, welcoming places to connect with others and access support?

Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.

Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.

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%20XXIII/Glenwood-](https://www.youtube.com/c/StJohn%20XXIII/Glenwood-StanhopeGardensParish)

[StanhopeGardensParish](https://www.youtube.com/c/StJohn%20XXIII/Glenwood-StanhopeGardensParish)

Paying our debt together

FIRST COLLECTION goes to support the priests and deacons of the Diocese.

SECOND COLLECTION provides for the running costs of the church and ministry expenses; it also goes to pay off our church mortgage.

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 using the TapnGo machines by the entrances or online via BPoint.

'The Well' offering on-demand spiritual nourishment

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with. In the lead up to Christmas, check out our featured range of videos and resources for children, families and young people to prepare us to welcome Our Lord at Christmas. Visit www.thewell.org.au today.

Young people of the Diocese – we are with you

"I am with you always" Matthew 28:20. The Diocese has launched a new website in response to the mental health crisis impacting our young people. The website parracatholic.org/withyou contains links and information about services that can help young people whose wellbeing is suffering. Please share widely with young people and their families.

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2022

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will begin in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on 8838 3456 or email anne.stanton@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au>

Office for Worship Resources available

The Office For Worship has a range of resources available for purchase for individuals and parishes. Resources such as parent material for a child's baptism and a collation of prayers can be purchased from the Office For Worship by contacting (02) 8838 3457.

UPDATE: Social Justice COVID-19 Food and Toiletries Drive

Under the remaining influence of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and House of Welcome (HoW) cannot receive physical food and toiletry donations. However, many refugee families are still relying on their foodbanks or the provision of food vouchers. In this difficult time, please support JRS and How with a cash donation if you can. Find more information at parracatholic.org/diocesanfooddrive or call JRS on (02) 9356 3888 or HoW on (02) 9727 9290.

Life, Marriage and Family Office Marriage Preparation Courses

Dates for the Diocesan Life, Marriage and Family Office's in-person marriage preparation weekend courses in 2022 are now available, with the Smart Loving Engaged Online course another option to prepare for your marriage. For more information, or to book your course visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

Vinnies Support Centres are still available to those in need

St Vincent de Paul Support Centres across Greater Sydney are still available and taking calls to arrange for food vouchers or other items to be provided to those in need. If you need assistance, call the Support Centres in Blacktown on (02) 8861 9777, Harris Park on (02) 8861 9757 and Penrith on (02) 8861 9770. To find out more about what support is available, visit <http://vinnies.org.au/covidsupportnsw>

What we are doing at Vinnies

The impact of the flooding in northern NSW has been devastating and is a further blow to a community that was adversely impacted by floods in 2021, bushfires in 2020 and the COVID pandemic.

NSW SES teams have received over 8800 calls for assistance, so far, with 300 flood rescues overnight alone. Further evacuations are in place today and you can check the affected areas [here](#) and access a list of current evacuation centres [here](#).

A Flood Response group at Vinnies has been formed and will meet regularly over the coming days to coordinate our response – to both support our people in affected areas and provide the most appropriate care and assistance to communities impacted by the floods.

The Society has launched a [Vinnies NSW Flood Appeal](#) / (St Vincent de Paul Society NSW - Flood Appeal vinnies.org.au) and is getting ready to support the community with financial payments as part of the recovery efforts. Members will lead this response on the ground, offering support at recovery centres and Society locations that are accessible. More information on this work will be shared as we establish our supports in key centres and as the floodwaters recede.

STAND FOR LIFE

**SIGN THE
E-PETITION TODAY**

TO ABOLISH THE VOLUNTARY
ASSISTED DYING BILL 2021



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

NOW is the time to let the Legislative Council know that all human life has inherent value and that we reject State sanctioned suicide!

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

BLAZE

Blaze is a youth group, Yrs 4 - 12, with the mission of creating a space for teens to learn, grow, serve and live out our Catholic faith. We facilitate the understanding and growth of our faith through various activities exploring the catholic perspective on a variety of themes such as social issues, teen challenges and faith-related topic.

Join us for a fun night filled with music, games, discussion, prayer and of course pizza. BLAZE youth session runs from 7:15 to 9pm and is held every second Friday throughout the school term in the St John XXIII school hall.

If you would like to come along to one of our sessions, please contact the team at blaze@john23rd.org.au

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



For all youth ministry enquiries,

✉ blaze@john23rd.org.au

or visit our FB page

www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/

[blazeyouthsj23/](https://www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/)



BLAZE REGISTRATION FORM

~ ~ **Come and Join!** ~ ~

UPCOMING EVENTS

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*)

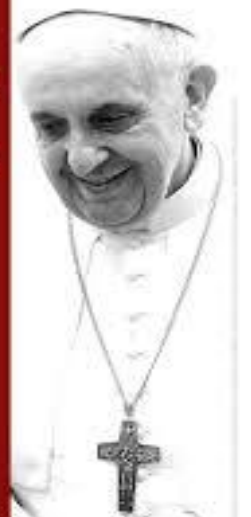
YFC YOUTH LEADERS

YFC International

Vince Erasmo - 0406 253 698

YFC Australia

Jonathan Montaos 0401 478 733



OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Louise O'Donnell

☎ (02) 8664 7100

✉ holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au

John XXIII & St Mark's College

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

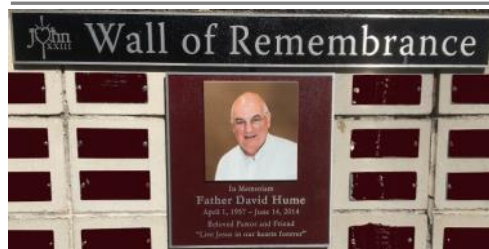
Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.stjohn23stanhope.catholic.edu.au

*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.*



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 \$400.00



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

Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group

Join us on Friday evening at 6.30pm in the Parish Office Staff room to look at the Gospel readings during Lent and pray
THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Everyone is welcome. 
Any questions? Call Pauline 0407 417 039



Vinnies
good works

Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday at
7:00pm



Join and be
part of the
Cake Angels

contact Madeline Huang
cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com

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