



# Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 7th August 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.

Today's gospel (Luke 12:32-48) extends last Sunday's theme of treasuring heavenly above earthly things in a different direction as it turns to readiness. But the text is somewhat disjointed as variously related elements are grouped together. The shorter form (Luke 12:35-40) retains the awkwardness of a sudden change of focus as it is the householder who becomes the one who must be vigilant for the unexpected and improper burglary, rather than the servants who await an expected return. We have a clumsy merger of two parables of vigilance, but, from whichever perspective, the point is the same: be vigilant. However, the shorter form omits the three opening verses (12:32-34) with the memorable saying, "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also". This saying not only connects us back to last Sunday's reflection but today is its sole occurrence in the Sunday Lectionary, and thus it is proclaimed only once every three years. In general, shorter forms of readings should be used only in genuine need. The emphasis in the merged parables in this section is entirely on vigilance, whereas the longer form (12:32-48) turns to the qualities of the first parable's steward, who is entrusted with the running of the household in the master's absence.

The development on personal qualities comes after Peter asks to know for whom the parable is meant, though it takes some time before his question is actually answered. What the master expects a good steward to be is one who uses the authority entrusted to him not for his own benefit but to care for those in the household under his supervision. Any steward who has contempt for the other servants and mistreats them, and consumes the master's goods for his own pleasure, invalidates his commission and is unfit for the job, but, what is more, he stands opposed to the master. The need for vigilance against such false stewards has always been with the Church. Laws were needed once to try to prevent aristocrats from appointing their own children, especially younger and illegitimate sons, to church positions, whence they might treat diocese and parishes as their personal fiefdoms. This type of corruption at times reached even the highest echelons as not a few popes were utterly contemptible in their behaviour. But there have been other less obvious forms of this lack of care for those entrusted to them. The lack of care for those abused by clerics and other leaders reveals a lamentable misunderstanding of the steward's, or shepherd's, commission. Some have treasured more highly the hierarchy's earthly esteem than the care of the master's servants. When Peter's question is answered, it is with a "both and": it is intended both "for us" (the apostles) and for everyone, but those in the first group have more expected of them.

Readiness is part of the first reading too, though only by recalling its point of reference, the night of the first Passover: in Exodus 12:11 the people were told to eat the Passover standing, "with a girdle round your waist" ("your loins girded" in the NRSV). The same phrase in the Septuagint is used in Luke 12:35, but now translated as "dressed for action" (also in the NRSV). This opens another interpretive aspect, for this vigilance is focused not on someone's return, but on a coming saving act. When we hear the gospel's call to readiness for the master's return, what do we think of if not when Christ "will come (again in glory) to judge the living and the dead"? And yet this teaching is given on the way to the cross. This is part of the paradox of the genre of the gospels, for they relate not merely past events and episodes of teaching, but comment on the post-resurrection community. Thus today's gospel of collected teachings was both a preparing of the first disciples for what was to come—that is, of both Christ's shocking arrest (for the defence against which the disciples were ill-prepared) and the wondrous saving work of the death and resurrection—and a reminder to us now of his coming again. The vigilance required is for all manifestations of God's saving work in the here and now, as well as in the distant future.

### Mass Times

Mon	8:30am
Tues-Fri	9:15am
Sat	9:00am
	6pm Vigil
Sun	7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 6pm

### Masses for Special Occasions

1st Tues	7.30pm Novena Mass <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</i>
1st Fri	7:30pm Novena Mass <i>Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>

### Exposition + Benediction

1st Fri	after 9.15am 7.30pm Mass
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### Reconciliation

After the weekday masses  
Sat: after the 9am mass until 10.30am  
5:15 - 5:45pm before the Vigil  
Mass *Or upon request*

### Sacraments

Sun	12pm Baptism <i>by appointment</i>
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### Devotions & Prayers

Mon	7.30pm Christian Meditation <i>Frances Pegram 0417 406715</i>
Tues	7pm Rosary and Novena <i>Prayer in the church except for 1st Tues</i>
Fri	6.30pm Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group <i>Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039</i>

### Praise & Worship

Fri	7:30pm Risen Lord Comm
3rd Sat	7:30pm SJ23rd Prayer Grp



### 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."

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands in which the Catholic Parish of St John XXIII and the Diocese of Parramatta sits, the land of the Darug and Gundungurra people. We would like to pay our respects to the Aboriginal Elders past, present and future for they hold the traditions, memories and wisdom of Mother Earth on which we place our feet upon today.

For further updates with regards to our parish activities, check the following website <http://john23rd.com/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/>

### Entrance Antiphon

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

### First Reading

*A reading from the book of Wisdom 18:6-9*

*Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage.

This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.

The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 32:1, 12, 18-20, 22*

**R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own. **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

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-12*

*We will look for the city designed and built by God.*

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

### Gospel Acclamation

*Matthew 24:42, 44*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!



### Gospel

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 12:32-48*

*See that you are prepared.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

"Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

"See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Peter said, "Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?" The Lord replied, "What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

"The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him."

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

### Communion Antiphon

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

## Special Intentions

### Recently Deceased:

Vicki Kirk, Ian Coffey, Helen Montgomery, Michael Grech

### Deceased:

Bibiyana Jesuthasan, Apolonio De Leon, Mary Phlomena, Calixto De Leon

### Anniversary:

Aleykutty Sebastian, Maria Lourdes Barias, Gregory Reynolds, Peter Fernandes, Angela Pelle

### Sick: Names published with permission.

Melissa Randall, Pat Doyle, Isagani Ocampo, Iyrika D'Cruz, Dragica Julich, Charlie Busuttil, Zenira D'Souza, Hilary Regan, Maria Romeo, Jenat Perera, Sophie De Leon, Adrian Gould, Perla Magculang, Anna Sebastian, Elvis D'sa, Tony Muscat, Kristy Arceo, Virginia Santos, Peter Dawson, Adolfo Mayo, Valeria Laureta, Ben & Etta Benesa, Dr Bronwyn Andrews, Rosamma John Pellissery, Greg Marcellana, Colleen McCunnie, Bev Lewis, Kelly Ryan, Wally Atie, Gloria Bueno, Mavie Dela Cruz, Elizabeth Candame, Rhonda & Damian, Geoffrey Robinson, Anshu Mala Nand, Raymond Lanzona, Elizabeth Newnes, Christina Properzi, Florentina Elisura, Johnathan Gemin, Deidre Thomson, Emma Matoza

### Thanksgiving:

Regina Soosaipilai

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

Christ of compassion you welcome us with our gifts and our frailties..

And by the Holy Spirit you liberate, you forgive, you guide us to the point where we give our very lives in love.

*Brother Roger of Taizé*

## COELIACS

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

## AUG Church Calendar

Mon	8	<i>Saint Mary of the Cross (M)</i> 8:30am - Mass
Tues	9	<i>Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (OM)</i> 9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena prayers Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	10	<i>Saint Lawrence (F)</i> 9:15am - Mass
Thurs	11	<i>Saint Clare (M)</i> 9:15am - Mass
Fri	12	<i>Saint Jane Frances de Chantal (OM)</i> 9:15am - Mass
Sat	13	9.00am - Mass 6:00pm - Vigil Mass
Sun	14	7:30am 9:00am 10:30 - Mass 6:00pm - Mass

## PARISH NOTICES

### DEACON ANDREW ROONEY ORDINATION

The much awaited time has come. Deacon Andrew will be ordained as a priest on Friday, 26th August at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta at 7:30pm.

All are welcome to witness his ordination.



## SAVE THE DATE

28th August 2022 10:30am mass.

Fr Zvon's sacerdotal anniversary, 50 years of service to God and the church community.

We will have a food fiesta after mass. Please contact Techie Sarlabus via email [communications@john23rd.org.au](mailto:communications@john23rd.org.au) or the parish office for any contribution and assistance.



## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

# PARISH SOCIAL VOLLEYBALL



10:00 AM SATURDAYS  
ST JOHN XXIII COLLEGE GROUNDS

If you wish to join, please call or text  
BOB AGBULOS | 0422 106 525

**Our parish social volleyball group plays every Saturday from 10am at the St John XXIII College grounds.**

**For more details and if you wish to join, please contact Bob Agbulos on 0422106525.**

**Many thanks.**

## 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>

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.

For more events please go to [parracatholic.org/events](https://parracatholic.org/events) or <https://catholicoutlook.org/>



## 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](mailto:bart.sarlabus@gmail.com) or Melva Paguinto [emcipi85@yahoo.com.au](mailto: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

Aug	2	9	16	23	30
	Barnouti	Ring	Sebastian	Vernon	Jacob
Sep	6	13	20	27	
	Lobo	Tanganun	Erasmus B	Javelosa	
Oct	4	11	18	25	
	Jacob	Ring	Shalini	Jacob	
Nov	1	8	15	22	29
	Barnouti	Barnouti	Barnouti	Ring	Paguinto
Dec	6	13	20	27	
	Jacob	Shalini	Paguinto	Paguinto	
Jan	3	10	17	24	31
	available	available	available	Sebastian	Tanganun

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.**



## WE NEED YOU BACK

### ⇒ 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

Now that the church is open for celebrations, its floors need to be swept of dust, cobwebs brushed off, candle stands cleaned and garden kept green. We would like to request all our volunteer cleaners and gardeners to come back and continue their ministry.

For more information contact [maintenance@john23rd.org.au](mailto:maintenance@john23rd.org.au) or the parish office.

### ⇒ 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](mailto:naomi1.rey@gmail.com)

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Below are the dates for the Confirmation ceremonies:

**9 Sep Friday - 6.30pm**

**10 Sep Saturday - 3.00pm**

**14 Sep Wednesday - 6.30pm**

**17 Sep Saturday - 11.00am**

**21st Sep Wednesday - 6.30pm**



### Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group

Please come and join the Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group at 6.30pm in the Parish Office Kitchen.

If you have further enquiries please call  
Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039

Imagine this: With some trepidation about their future, a small band of people with a newfound faith commit to a period of intense prayer, out of obedience to their spiritual master. He has left them seemingly on their own, promising something big on the horizon.

After they follow their leader's instructions for nine days, God answers their prayers by acting in a singularly dramatic, transformative way. And the world is never the same again.

That's precisely what happened to Our Lady, the apostles and the other early disciples of Our Lord. After His ascension they prayed, waited and perhaps even felt some anxiety over "losing" Him again.

But they also trusted and persevered. In the end, He rewarded them on the Day of Pentecost with the coming of the Advocate He had promised, the Holy Spirit (see Acts 1:1–2:4).

Jesus had instructed His followers to pray, and they obeyed. They were not disappointed.

Those nine days of prayer can be seen as the model for the Catholic tradition of the novena. A novena (from the Latin novem, "nine") is a prayer, or set of prayers, prayed for nine days, hours, weeks or even months.

It is often prayed for a specific intention or grace and may be directed to particular saints for their intercession.

Sometimes non-Catholics, and even a few Catholics, may ask, "Why should we pray novenas?" The short answer is simply that Jesus Christ calls us to pray. In fact, He tells us to "pray always without becoming weary" (Lk 18:1), to pray with persistence.

We'll never go wrong when we obey Christ. He promises that prayer works, and He often responds with electrifying results.

But that's only the first, most fundamental reason why we should pray novenas. A look at the history of this tradition provides ample encouragement for making it a personal practice.

### Historical Background

Over the centuries, four specific types of novenas have emerged: novenas for mourning, preparation, petition and indulgences.

Novenas of mourning are the earliest type. They probably grew out of an early Christian custom of offering nine days of Masses for the departed. The global Church witnessed such a novena in 2005 with the death of Pope John Paul II.

Preparation novenas are joyful and anticipatory. They look toward major feasts (such as a Christmas novena) or celebrate the founder of a religious order.

Novenas of petition developed historically among the laity. They most likely originated as petitions for good health and eventually became generalized to include requests for other needs as well. For instance, a novena to St. Hubert, for protection against madness caused by a dog bite, was first prayed in medieval times and is still prayed today.

Many other novenas of prayer, directed to saints for special intentions, have proliferated over time.

The final type of novena, the novena for indulgences, overlaps with the others. The Church offers partial and plenary indulgences for more than 30 novenas, including one of the most recent, the Divine Mercy novena.

If the Church has not only approved and recommended a variety of novenas, but has also designated certain novenas as a prerequisite for an indulgence, we can be sure that these prayers are much more than just an instance of popular piety.

The Church recognizes the special value of the novena, whose form is particularly suited to overcome certain tendencies of our fallen human nature.

### Boon to Prayer Life

We concupiscent human beings tend toward laziness. Countering that tendency, the repetitive form of the novena can serve to intensify and reinforce our prayer life. It forms a habit of persevering prayer in those of us who, left to our own devices, may fall away from prayer despite the best intentions.

Fallen human beings also tend toward rebellion. We balk at being told what to do. But following a divine prescription such as a novena can be the perfect remedy for such rebelliousness.

In praying a prescribed set of prayers, for a prescribed length of time, we are drawn out of ourselves and our vanities and into prayerful concentration and obedience. In this way, our prayer time is kept on track, becoming more focused by observing a set form.

A novena can also release us from a false attitude that we are somehow in control of a situation and its outcome through our prayers for a desired result.

With its repeated appeal to divine aid, the novena recognizes that we are helpless without God, and that control of the situation is squarely in His hands.

We are like the desperate widow in Jesus' parable who repeatedly asked the judge for help — whose humble, persistent petitions the Lord offers as a model in prayer (see Lk 18:1-7).

To suggest that with a novena we relinquish (rather than make a play for) control may contradict popular perceptions. After all, some novenas actually promise "never to fail" should we meticulously follow their directions.

Of course, such instructions (always tacked on anonymously) are little more than superstition. Novenas are not magic and cannot manipulate the Divine Will. After praying in a specific way for a specific number of days, we are no more in control than we were at the start.

Instead, we receive from God a result of His own choosing. Our part is simply to demonstrate faithfulness in our commitment to prayer.

That's not to say, of course, that novenas aren't powerful. They certainly are, as is any faithfully attended prayer. A novena may even lead to miraculous results.

So, even though the specific, "guaranteed" promises attached to a number of novenas needn't be taken literally, they do reflect the confidence in this approach to petition that has grown through the experiences of millions who have received answers to their prayers.

### Novenas Work

In short, novenas work, and we should pray them because they are a valuable form of conversation with God and His saints. They flow from faith, and God always attends to the prayers of His faithful.

We may or may not get what we want. But as we pray novenas, we are praising, preparing, waiting and trusting. And we will be rewarded, just as Christ's first disciples were, in whatever way God sees fit.

Perhaps, then, what "never fails" when we pray a novena is that we always grow in faithful perseverance. And again, like the first disciples, we will not be disappointed.

*KAREN EDMISTEN - Simply Catholic*



OFFICE FOR WORSHIP  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

DIOCESE of  
PARRAMATTA

CONTACTS

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2022

Getting married in 2022? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates, to book and pay. An online preparation called SmartLoving can also be booked via the website. For more information, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Karin on 0403 305 431 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.



'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. Check out our featured range of videos and resources for children, families and young people. Visit [www.thewell.org.au](http://www.thewell.org.au) today.

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 info or to book your course visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) or call (02) 8838 3460.

Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal is open

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta remains open and committed to assisting anyone with enquiries regarding marriage annulments. Interviews are being conducted via telephone and Zoom in response to COVID-19. Please contact the Tribunal office on (02) 8838 3480 or email [tribunal@parracatholic.org](mailto:tribunal@parracatholic.org).

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.

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

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NSW 2768

CLERGY

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

📞 0417 541 637 (for emergency only)

Assistant Priest:

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

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Support Diocese of Parramatta Holy Spirit Seminarians in the 2022 City2Surf

Alongside fun and fitness, a special group from the Diocese of Parramatta is set to bring faith to the annual Sydney City2Surf fun run and you're invited!

On Saturday 14 August 2022, a group of our Holy Spirit Seminarians, deacons, priests, and community members will be getting [#Active4Vocations in our City2Surf team](#). With the aim of raising awareness for Catholic vocations and funds for our Holy Spirit Seminarians' education and formation, our team will walk, stroll, jog, and run the iconic 14km journey from Sydney to Bondi Beach.

Leading the charge are: [Fr Pawel Barszczewski OP](#) and [Fr Chris del Rosario](#); [Deacon Adam Carlow](#) and [Deacon Matthew Dimian](#); Seminarians [Macky Amores](#), [Menard Gaspi](#), [Tom Green](#), [Patrick Laurente](#), and [Jose Valentine Lim](#); and [Mark Buhagiar](#), Diocese of Parramatta Head of Clergy Health and Wellbeing.

They're calling on parties of parishioners from our faith community to accompany them – either by [joining our team](#), [sponsoring them](#), or cheering them on through prayers of 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](https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish)

SUGGESTION BOX

We welcome your comments and  
constructive suggestions.

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**.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:blaze@john23rd.org.au)  
or visit our FB page  
[www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/](https://www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/)

**BLAZE REGISTRATION FORM**

## COME AND JOIN

### 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 253698

**YFC Australia**

Jonathan Montaos 0401 478733

**DEAR YOUNG PEOPLE,  
DO NOT BURY YOUR  
TALENTS,  
THE GIFTS THAT  
GOD  
HAS GIVEN YOU!  
DO NOT BE AFRAID  
TO DREAM OF  
GREAT  
THINGS!**  
POPE FRANCIS



### DIOCESE YOUTH ACTIVITIES

#### Youth Ministry Leadership Pathway

A new pathway for leadership in youth ministry is here! Duc In Altum is an initiative of Catholic Youth Parramatta designed to provide practical youth ministry training, build community between youth leaders across the Diocese, and offer intentional time for prayer and reflection. For more information and details to sign up visit [parracatholic.org/ducinaltum/](http://parracatholic.org/ducinaltum/) or email [qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org](mailto:qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org)

#### 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](http://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.

#### WYD 2023, Lisbon Launch Event

The Diocese of Parramatta is on pilgrimage to WYD23 in Lisbon, Portugal. Young people aged 16-35 are invited to an encounter with Jesus, Mary and the Saints. In anticipation of our LIFTED Live Night featuring our WYD Launch, Bishop Vincent and worship by Fr Rob Galea and his full band get a glimpse of where our itinerary may be leading before the big reveal on

**August 18, Thursday, St John XXIII Catholic College, Stanhope Gardens, 7 - 9:30pm**

[REGISTER FOR THE WYD23 LAUNCH EVENT HERE](#)



### OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

**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)

**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)

🌐 [www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au)

**John XXIII & St Mark's College**

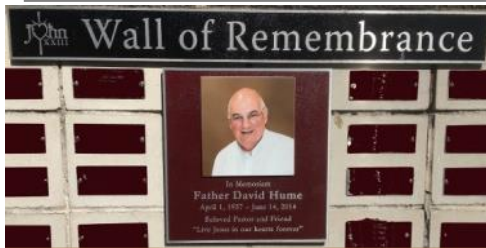
160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

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

🌐 [www.stjohn23stanhope.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohn23stanhope.catholic.edu.au)



### 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](mailto:columbarium@john23rd.org.au)

The plaques cost \$400.00



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**[www.qhfp.com.au](http://www.qhfp.com.au)**

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### Risen Lord Community Praise & Worship Night



**7.30pm  
FRIDAYS,  
St John23rd  
College Hall**

Come join us for an evening of deep intimacy with the Lord. Learn about the abundant and victorious life that Jesus died and purchased for us to have.

**Thinking of Selling or  
Buying a property?**



**JULIA STELLA**  
**Licensed Real Estate Agent**  
**0403 342 265**  
**[julia.stella@sre.com.au](mailto:julia.stella@sre.com.au)**

Go above and beyond

**Laing + Simmons | Kellyville**



### COLUMBARIUM

Columbarium Niches reservations are getting filled from neighbouring parishioners. For our parishioners who are planning to buy a Niche, do so without delay, because we always want to prioritise members of our parish who wish to buy the Niches.

Cost for a niche is \$3000.

For further information please contact the Parish Office.



Trust the sale of your home with your local Parishioner and award-winning licensed real estate agent,  
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**McGrath Northwest**

**McGrath**

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**ADVERTISE HERE**



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



**Vinnies**  
**good works**

**Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:00pm**



### Members

Bernadette Virwani	Chris Drummond
Julienne Crasto	Margaret Harrison
Bing Catabas	Nanette Gamboa
	Gary Lee



Join and be  
part of the  
***Cake Angels***  
contact Madeline Huang  
[cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com](mailto:cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com)



### Reminder

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