



First Sunday of Advent 27 November 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.

The third year of our Sunday Lectionary cycle ended rather neatly at the cross, but the apocalyptic imagery normally associated with the end of the liturgical year and the beginning of Advent had already appeared. Today as Advent begins we switch from the Gospel of Luke that of Matthew, but pick him up in the apocalyptic section with its cataclysmic imagery that precedes the passion and cross.

A key phrase in today's gospel (Matt 24:37-44) is heard every year on this Sunday – "Stay awake". That command makes most sense when there is a likelihood of falling asleep, as indeed we might expect from nightfall. This is emphasised in the attached imagery of burglars breaking in at night while those in the house are asleep. It is rather odd to liken the coming of the Son of Man to that of a burglar, a rather negative image and an event we would hope to be spared from. For surely we should welcome the Lord's arrival, not seek to prevent or repel him as we would a burglar. The oddity of mixed metaphors is somewhat compounded by our being told in the second reading (Rom 13:11-14) that the dawn is nearly here and so it is time to wake up, for salvation is at hand. Clearly when faced with such diversity it is the time to put precision aside lest we be bogged in details and miss the point. What is clearly common in the confused images can be summed up in words such as vigilance and expectation, even anticipation.

Those words may all have a shadow side, but the liturgy offers other important qualifications. In the first reading (Isa 2:1-5) we find language that is soberly exciting, and its exhortation by people from all nations to "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple" is expanded in the following psalm's antiphon, "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." This sounds the note should characterises Advent—rejoicing. Another sense preceded it in the opening prayer with reference to our running forth arrayed, as it were, in good deeds, to meet Christ arriving. In the Eucharistic Prayer's preface we refer to ourselves as "we who watch for that day [when he comes again in glory]" looking to "inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope". So, it is a hopeful vigilance, an enthusiastic expectation, and a joyous anticipation.

Although Advent opens foreboding judgement, and although its sharing the liturgical colour of Lent has led people to confuse the different characters of the two seasons, Advent is a season of joyful expectation. We do, as in Lent, abstain from singing the Gloria, but since this hymn echoes the angelic announcement of the birth it is fitting that it await the feast of the nativity. Unlike Lent we do not abstain from singing Alleluia, nor must we abstain from decorating the church with flowers, although some people mistakenly think they must; the General Instruction of the Roman Missal n.305 forbids flowers only in Lent and it exhorts that their use in Advent should not overshadow the full joy of Christmas – but how that can be, I do not know. In our part of the world many trees are in bloom, and our gardens are in full flush with summer's flowers, earthly delights that can quite fittingly play a part in our seeking to express the joy of this season and may even be considered to be some of "your gifts to us" from among which are gathered the bread and wine for our Eucharist. Even so, "as we walk amid [these] passing things" we remember they bear no true comparison to eternal delights, even as we receive the supernal gifts in the Eucharist, the foretaste of heavenly things.

Mass Times

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

Holy Cross Primary School Mass
 Tuesdays 9:15am during school days

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 7.30pm

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 *by appointment*

Devotions & Prayers

Mon 7.30pm Christian Meditation
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

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

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **R.**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **R.**

For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon - let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.'


'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



You don't know when
the Son of Man will
come

Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Felicidad Villanueva, Melissa Randal

Deceased:

Anniversary:

Kevin Daly, Riolen & Aeldred Weber,
Rev Sr Thomas Acquino

Sick: Names published with permission.

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

Thanksgiving:

Anna Sebastian

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, peace of our hearts,
in our nights as in our days, in the
hours of darkness as in those of bright
light, you knock at the doors of our
hearts and await our response.

Brother Roger of Taizé

COELIACS

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

Nov Church Calendar

Mon 28 8:30am - Mass

Tues 29 9:15am - Mass

Wed 30 *Saint Andrews (F)*
9:15am - Mass

Dec

Thurs 1 9:15am - Mass

Fri 2 9:15am - Mass

Sat 3 *Saint Francis Xavier (M)*
9:00am - Mass
6:00pm - Vigil Mass

Sun 4 7:30am 9:00am 10:30 - Mass
6:00pm - Mass

PARISH NEWS

Nativity Play: The Greatest Story Ever Told

Christmas Season is upon us once more. The Nativity Story has always been a huge part of our parish Family Mass on Christmas Eve. We are delighted to announce that the Annual Nativity Play is back!

We would like to invite children from ages 4-12 to participate in this year's Nativity Play. While we need older children to play the core characters like Mary and Joseph, The Three Wise Men, etc, we would also need little children to be the host of angels and a group of shepherd boys and girls to herd their sheep to the birthplace of Jesus. Let our children bring the story come to life!

Casting and rehearsal will be on Saturday 10 December 2022 at 3PM at the church. Second rehearsal will be on Saturday 17 December at 3PM. Please text Helen Festejo on 0401671665 or email: helen.festejo@gmail.com. Looking forward to having a great time with the kids.



SJ23RD YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS

SJ23rd "Young at Heart" Seniors' group are organizing a "Xmas Lunch at the Fiddler" on Wednesday the 14th of December, meet up at 11.30am for a 12.00 noon start.

ALL SENIORS ARE WELCOME

To join the group for lunch please contact Frank on 0459504625, as booking is essential. Closing date to register your name is on the 5th December.



Bleiburg: Massacre of the Croatian People 1945



ZVONIMIR GAVRANOVIC

Bleiburg: Massacre of the Croatian People 1945

by Fr. Zvonimir

Published by ATF Press.

PO Box 234, Brompton, SA 5007

Email: gbsiqueira@atf.org.au.

Until 1 December 2022

The book is \$40, postage \$10.

Forms at the church foyer.



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).

7pm every Tuesday - Novena prayers except

7:30pm every First Tuesday - Novena mass

You may want to invite either Fr Jolly or Fr Zvonimir to join you and your family in your rosary prayers at home.

Please organize with the parish office.

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

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

Rosary Statue Family Roster

	1	8	15	22	29
Nov	Barnouti	Barnouti	Barnouti	Ring	Paguinto
Dec	6 Jacob	13 Shalini	20 Paguinto	27 Paguinto	
Jan	3 Ring	10 Manalo	17 Manalo	24 Sebastian	31 Tanganan
Feb	7 Sebastian	14 D'Souza	21 Ring	28 Jacob	
Mar	7 Paguinto	14 Ring	21 Shalini	28 Jacob	
Apr	4 Deang	11 Jacob	18 Erasmio B	25 Sebastian	

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.



⇒ 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 or the parish office.

Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group

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

For further enquiries please call Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039

⇒ 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

⇒ 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.

Christmas Mass Times

Please join us for Christmas services as we enter into the joy of the Christmas season.

24th December, Saturday – Christmas Eve

6:00am - Dawn Mass (Mass of the Rooster)

9:00am

6:00pm – Family Mass including the Nativity pageant presented by the children of our parish.

9:00pm

25th December, Sunday – Christmas Day

12:00am – Midnight Mass

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am

We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Lord with you!



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.



QR code for

We encourage everyone to contribute financially using the TapnGo machines by the entrances or online via BPoint.

10 Things You Need to Know About the Advent Season

https://www.ncregister.com/blog/10-things-you-need-to-know-about-the-advent-season?gclid=CjwKCAiAmuKbBhA2EimAxQnt70njKMLrCEJ4daoSOqXoCDNEjfrl1-zCt5SB0GX6PBa018WvaTYpkxoCtR8QArD_BwE

1. What Is the Purpose of Advent?

Advent is a season on the Church's liturgical calendar - specifically, it is as season on the calendar of the Latin Church, which is the largest Church in communion with the pope.

Other Catholic Churches - as well as many non-Catholic churches - have their own celebration of Advent.

According to the General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar:

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation [Norms 39].

We tend to think of Advent only as the season in which we prepare for Christmas, or the First Coming of Christ, but as the General Norms point out, it is important that we also remember it as a celebration in which we look forward to the Second Coming of Christ.

Properly speaking, Advent is a season that brings to mind the Two Comings of Christ.

2. What Liturgical Colors Are Used in Advent?

Particular days and certain types of celebrations can have their own colors (e.g., red for martyrs, black or white at funerals), but the normal color for Advent is violet. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal provides:

The color violet or purple is used in Advent and Lent. It may also be worn in Offices and Masses for the Dead [346d].

In many places, there is a notable exception for the Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday:

The color rose may be used, where it is the practice, on Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent) and on Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent).

3. Is Advent a Penitential Season?

We often think of Advent as a penitential season because the liturgical color for Advent is violet, like the color of Lent, which is a penitential season.

However, in reality, Advent is not a penitential season. Surprise!

According to the Code of Canon Law (No. 1250):

The penitential days and times in the universal Church are every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent.

Although local authorities can establish additional penitential days, this is a complete listing of the penitential days and times of the Latin Church as a whole, and Advent is not one of them.

4. When Does Advent Begin and End?

According to the General Norms (No. 40):

Advent begins with Evening Prayer I of the Sunday falling on or closest to 30 November and ends before evening prayer I of Christmas.

The Sunday on or closest to Nov. 30 can range between Nov. 27 and Dec. 3, depending on the year.

In the case of a Sunday, Evening Prayer I is said on the evening of the preceding day (Saturday). According to the General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours:

Evening prayer, celebrated immediately before Mass, is joined to it in the same way as morning prayer. Evening prayer I of solemnities, Sundays, or feasts of the Lord falling on Sundays may not be celebrated until after Mass of the preceding day or Saturday.

This means that Advent begins on the evening of a Saturday falling between Nov. 26 and Dec. 2 (inclusive), and it ends on the evening of Dec. 24, which holds Evening Prayer I of Christmas (Dec. 25).

5. What Is the Role of Sundays in Advent?

There are four Sundays of Advent. The General Norms (No. 41) state:

The Sundays of this season are named the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Sundays of Advent.

We have already mentioned that the Third Sunday of Advent has a special name — Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for “Rejoice,” which is the first word of the introit of the Mass for this day.

The Church ascribes particular importance to these Sundays, and they take precedence over other liturgical celebrations. Thus the General Norms (No. 5) state:

Because of its special importance, the Sunday celebration gives way only to solemnities or feasts of the Lord. The Sundays of the seasons of Advent, Lent, and Easter, however, take precedence over all solemnities and feasts of the Lord. Solemnities occurring on these Sundays are observed on the Saturdays preceding.

You also cannot celebrate Funeral Masses on the Sundays of Advent (GIRM 380):

Among the Masses for the Dead, the Funeral Mass holds first place. It may be celebrated on any day except for Solemnities that are Holydays of Obligation, Thursday of Holy Week, the Paschal Triduum, and the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, with due regard also for all the other requirements of the norm of the law.

6. What Happens on Weekdays in Advent?

It is especially recommended that homilies be given on the weekdays of Advent. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (No. 66) states:

On Sundays and Holydays of Obligation there is to be a Homily at every Mass that is celebrated with the people attending and it may not be omitted without a grave reason. On other days it is recommended, especially on the weekdays of Advent, Lent and Easter Time, as well as on other festive days and occasions when the people come to church in greater numbers.

The General Norms (No. 41) also point out a special role for the weekdays of the week preceding Christmas:

The weekdays from 17 December to 24 December inclusive serve to prepare more directly for the Lord's birth.

This special role is illustrated, for example, by the Scripture readings used in the liturgy on these days.

7. How Are Churches Decorated During Advent?

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes:

During Advent the floral decoration of the altar should be marked by a moderation suited to the character of this time of year, without expressing in anticipation the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord. During Lent it is forbidden for the altar to be decorated with flowers. Exceptions, however, are Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), Solemnities, and Feasts.

8. How Is Music Performed During Advent?

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes:

In Advent the use of the organ and other musical instruments should be marked by a moderation suited to the character of this time of year, without expressing in anticipation the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord. In Lent the playing of the organ and musical instruments is allowed only in order to support the singing. Exceptions, however, are Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), Solemnities, and Feasts.

9. Is the Gloria Said or Sung During Advent?

Neither. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal provides:

[The Gloria or "Glory to God in the highest"] is sung or said on Sundays outside Advent and Lent, and also on Solemnities and Feasts, and at particular celebrations of a more solemn character.

10. What Private Devotions Can We Use to Grow Closer to God During Advent?

There are a variety of private devotions that the Church has recognized for use during Advent. The most famous is the Advent Wreath.



OFFICE FOR WORSHIP
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

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

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2022

Getting married in 2022? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit 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 or phone Karin on 0403 305 431 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.



'The Well' offering on-demand spiritual nourishment

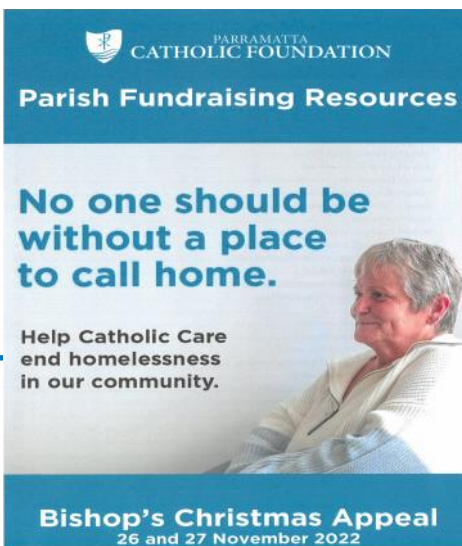
Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with. Check out our featured range of videos and resources for children, families and young people. Visit www.thewell.org.au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

Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing Service, 26th & 27th November

No one should be homeless or without support. Your Christmas gift today will enable Catholic Care to give homeless people practical and emotional support, and a safe place to call home.

Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal envelopes, at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.

Thank you for stretching out your hand in compassion for our homeless community.



PARRAMATTA CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
Parish Fundraising Resources

No one should be without a place to call home.

Help Catholic Care end homelessness in our community.

Bishop's Christmas Appeal
26 and 27 November 2022



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

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

Reminder

Please make sure when you come to Mass, let us consider our neighbours.

Do not block the neighbours' driveway.



'On Our Knees' booklets December issue.

Each booklet is a powerful aid to personal prayer inclusive of personal reflections based on the daily liturgical readings.

For anyone desiring to delve deeper into the living Word of God and discover how our Lord speaks to us through it, this is the prayer tool for you.

The booklets are free of charge and now available at the church foyer.

We pray that this resource blesses you and leads you deeper in your journey with Christ.

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>

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

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,

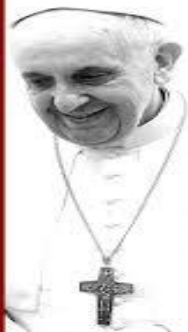
✉ blaze@john23rd.org.au

or visit our FB page

www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/



BLAZE REGISTRATION FORM



WYD Appeal - Blaze Youth

BLAZE Youth will continue to raise funds every second weekend by hosting various events to support the participating youth of our wonderful church. BLAZE leaders hope to raise \$20,000 and we are still way off our mark.. If you would be interested to make a donation towards our goal this can be done through the Parish's BPoint account <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/StJohnXXIIIPGSG> and caption your donation as "YOUTH - WYD DONATION".

We thank you in advance for your generous support and look forward to the year ahead as we prepare for what will be a life changing and spiritually enriching pilgrimage. If you have any queries, our leaders will be at morning masses weekly and you can contact us via email blaze@john23rd.org.au



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



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/ or email 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/ with you contains links and information about services that can help young people whose wellbeing is suffering. Please share widely with young people and their families.

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

St John XXIII Catholic College

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

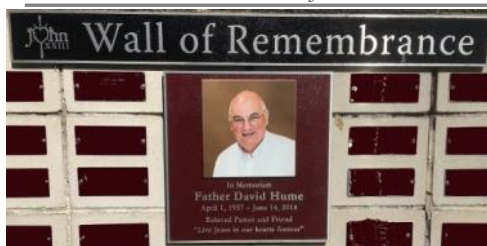
Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (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



JULIA STELLA

Licensed Real Estate Agent

M 0431 277 110

E julia.stella@theavenue.com.au

Scan for a property market update



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.



Members

Bernadette Virwani
Julienne Crasto
Bing Catabas

Chris Drummond
Margaret Harrison
Nanette Gamboa
Gary Lee

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.

Are you looking for a family doctor?

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Joseph - 0404 793800

Jason - 0427 933199

Preema - 0406 786768

GAME ON!!



**TABLE TENNIS
SOCIALS**

10:00 AM SATURDAYS
ST JOHN XXIII COLLEGE GROUNDS

Parish Sports
Coordinator
Neville - 0466 262850

Come and join our sports socials every Saturday, 10:00am at St John 23rd College's outdoor courts. If interested contact the coordinators listed above in order to be included in our WhatsApp Sports chat group.