



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.

Dear Parishioners,

As you have been noticing, our sound system is really getting old and slowly failing to function. We have been postponing fixing it due to our financial constraints. We are afraid, soon it might completely shut down and fail. We need to fix it as early as we can. It is very important for us to have a proper sound system that is functional for our liturgical use. The estimated cost of the project including the new cabling and live streaming is around \$75,000. We have received a contribution of \$4271 and the rest of the money needs to be raised. Please make a donation towards the project, small or big depending your ability.

Thank you for your cooperation and your generosity to the parish. It is much appreciated.

Father Jolly

Last Sunday we heard part of the second discourse in Matthew's Gospel about Christian mission and today we conclude that discourse with some words of Jesus about the costs and benefits of being a person of mission. We think of a cost-benefit analysis as being such a feature of modern business practice, yet here in Matthew we find a basic form of the same thing. You do not need to spend years at university studying business administration or marketing to know that if the benefits outweigh costs then an enterprise is worth undertaking.

What does it cost being a disciple of Jesus? It costs us everything. It costs us our time and effort. Well, anything worth having does! It costs us our freedom and our families. Well, that happens to some in business and we are warned that is too high a cost to pay for anything! It costs us our lives. Well, hang on a minute! The last level was already too high a price; how can we be expected to give even more commitment? Can anything be worth giving up our very lives?

To be worth it, the benefits have to outweigh the costs, right? If we have already paid everything, what benefit can there be that makes having surrendered everything worthwhile? The cost is too high, the benefits seem to have evaporated. Where is the return on our investments? If we are put to the sword, if we take up our cross and follow him, what do we get in return? Here we must factor in the kingdom of heaven, for without it the cost-benefit analysis Jesus provides makes no sense at all. Being a Christian is not about profit-taking and short-term returns. Being a Christian is about believing that a stock market crash is about the best thing that can happen to us. This is simply crazy! If we operated like that in the business world we would soon be out of business. No wonder so many people back out of being Christian when they discover what it will cost them, and if we are not paying that price then we are not being Christian. What makes it even more crazy is that when we pay that price we do not earn anything. What we get from God is a gift, and we get that gift before we pay.

Now, just as our heads stop spinning from all this craziness, we can add in the paradoxes from Matthew's Gospel. In order to live in peace Jesus does not tell us to take up the sword but to suffer the sword. Jesus does not tell us to hate father and mother and children (at least not in Matthew's version); we are to love our family, but to love God even more. Augustine of Hippo says, in one of his homilies: 'Love your father, but not above your Lord; love the one who begot you, but not above the one who created you ... Love your mother, but not above the Church, who bore you to eternal life' (Sermon 344). If we read the last part of the passage carefully, the reward that Jesus speaks of is not the reward given to us but the reward given to those who are good to us.

What is the reward God offers us? What is the gift God has given to us already even before we have paid the price? The Spirit is the gift of God. The Spirit incorporates us into life, an eternal and divine life lived in love. True love is not about what we get from others but about what we give to others. The cross is true love. If you want to love your wife, give your life on the cross. If you want to love your husband, give your life on the cross. If you want to love your children, give your life on the cross. If you want to love your parents, give your life on the cross. If you want to love your brothers and sisters, give your life on the cross. If you want to love your neighbours or love strangers, give your life on the cross. If you want to love your enemies, give your life on the cross.

We are thankful today for the cross of Christ, for the cross is the way to resurrection, it is the way to life, it is our way to respond to the gift of love God has given us. It is the strength to sustain us. In that same homily Augustine says, 'But let us have confidence, because the one who instituted this contest does not watch his own champion without helping them, nor does he encourage us to rely on our own strength' (Sermon 344). The help of God is given to us through the Spirit, the help of God is given to us in bread that is broken and in wine that is poured out. The help of God is given to us through the body of the Lord that was broken and the blood of the Lord that was spilled. We thank God for the gift of eternal life found only through the cost of discipleship. This is our mission, sisters and brothers: to lose everything to gain it all.

Geoffrey D Dunn

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."

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 | |
| Thurs | 9:15am during school days |

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 |
|----------------|---------------------|

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 |
| 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 |

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

All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

First Reading

A reading from the second book of the Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.' The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-3, 16-19

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

Happy the people who acclaim such a king, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, who find their joy every day in your name, who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R.**

For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; it is by your favour that our might is exalted: for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

1 Peter 2:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 10:37-42

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

Whoever receives you
receives me



Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Antionette De Souza, Teresita Contemplacion,
Jose Arceo, William Moore

Anniversary:

Sick: Names published with permission.

*Lord Jesus, heal me. Heal in me whatever You see
needs healing. Heal me of whatever might separate me
from You. Heal my memory, heal my heart, heal my
emotions, heal my spirit, heal my body, heal my soul.
Lay Your hands now gently upon me and heal me
through Your love for me. Amen.*

Cesar De Jesus, Hilary Regan, Emma Matoza,
Elsie Knapp, Susanne Krajancic, Tony Muscat,
Jerry Bondoc, Carrie Conolly, Charlie Busuttil,
Maryanne Jaramillo, Cindy Dadvivas, Zoey Illic,
Remidios de Huzman, Dr Bronwyn Andrews,
Elizabeth Langley, Father Joseph, Jenat Perera,
Isagani Ocampo, Mario Matias, Maria Romeo,
Valeria Laureta, Peter Dawson, Manuel Sarris,
Rosamma John Pellissery, Barbara Thompson,
Greg Marcellana, Mavie Dela Cruz, Wally Atie
Virginia Santos, Obet Dionisio, Cristina Arceo,
Perla Magculang, Florencia Cunanan, Pat Daly,
Zenira D'Souza, Jonathan Gemin, Kelly Ryan,
Anshu Mala Nand, Adrian Gould, Bev Lewis,
Liv Toole, Dragica Julich, Raymond Lanzona,
Sophie De Leon, Adolfo Mayo, Karam Matte,
Florentina Elisura, Deidre Thomson, Jo Daly,
Elizabeth Candame, Jennifer Estrada, Roland,
Michael, Rosario, Epifania Samaniego, Rhonda
Damian, Christina Properzi, Gloria Bueno,
Ben & Etta Benesa, Geoffrey Robinson

Thanksgiving:

Ravi & Bernadette Virwani

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, hope of our hearts,
you dwell in us, and by your Gospel you tell
each one of us: "Fear not, I am with you."

Brother Roger of Taizé

July Church Calendar

| | | |
|-------|---|---|
| Mon | 3 | <i>Saint Thomas (F)</i> 8:30am - Mass |
| Tues | 4 | 9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - First Tuesday Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help |
| Wed | 5 | 9:15am - Mass |
| Thurs | 6 | 9:15am - Mass |
| Fri | 7 | 9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - First Friday Novena to Our Sacred Heart of Jesus |
| Sat | 8 | 9:15am - Mass 6:00pm - Vigil Mass |
| Sun | 9 | 7:30, 9:00 - 10:30 am Mass 6:00 pm - Mass |

Praying together

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Prayer

*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).*

Novena mass - 7:30pm every First Tuesday

Join us for novena prayers every Tuesday, 7:00pm then pick up our Lady's statue. Roster below.

You may invite either Fr Jolly or Fr Zvonimir to join you in prayers at home.

Please organise with the parish office.



Rosary Statue Family Roster

| Jun | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | |
|-----|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|
| | <i>Sbalini</i> | <i>Cayas</i> | <i>Richards</i> | Barnouti | |
| Jul | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |
| | D'Souza | Ring | Vernon | Jacob | |
| Aug | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| | Lozada | Meena B | Sebastian | Pangilinan E | Jacob |
| Sep | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | |
| | Fernandes D | Erasmus B | Barnouti | Jacob | |
| Oct | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| | Deang | Erasmus B | Sebastian | Jacob | Richards |

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

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.

Alpha at St John XIII

- ? Are you looking to connect with others from the parish
- ? Have you got questions about life and faith
- ? Want to deepen your spirituality
- ? Or want to know more about the Alpha Program

Alpha has started on **Thursday 25th May at 7 - 9pm**

If interested to join please contact Mei Velasco via phone 0410 040 434 or email
mei.donnie.velasco@gmail.com



'On Our Knees' Booklet – July 2023 issue

Each booklet is a powerful aid to personal
prayer, including personal reflections based on
daily liturgical readings.

The booklets are free of charge and will be kept
in the church foyer.

Paying our debt together

Thank you to all our parishioners who have always so generously supported our Parish. We will
always be grateful for your generosity

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 from the website.

The Parish Finance Committee encourages parishioners to register for
direct debit or credit card deductions instead of the envelope system.

**Parishioners who want to make a financial contribution are encouraged to use the
TapnGo machines by the entrances or online via BPoint.**

or
scan the QR
code



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.

⇒ 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.

⇒ 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.

⇒ 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



SAVE THE DATE

26TH OF JULY, WEDNESDAY IS GRANDPARENTS' DAY

To celebrate, "THE YOUNG AT HEART" SENIORS OF THE PARISH will be organizing a morning tea after the 9:15am mass at the church kitchen, Wednesday 26th July.

ALL SENIORS AND GRANDPARENTS OF THE PARISH ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN.

Please bring a plate for sharing.

For more information, please contact following

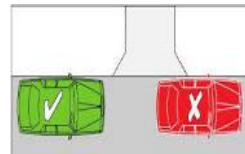
Frank 0459 504 625 or Trevor 0407 150 399



DRIVEWAY/CARPARK SAFETY

For everyone's safety, please park at least 1.8 meters from the church's driveway entrance.

Your parked vehicle must not block the flow of traffic or impair the vision of other drivers getting into or out of the parking lot, basically impeding vehicles from entering, exiting or turning into or from the church's driveway.



Vehicle safety is more than just staying alert when parking your car. Let us not become a danger to other road users.

Remember to please always use the footpath on both sides of the church car park when walking around the church parking lot, again for safety reasons.

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



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

Parish Council will be composed of 5 elected members, 3 people appointed by the parish priest, the parish representative to the deanery council and the heads of all ministries and representative each from both our schools.

Nominate a person whom you think is best suited to do the job or nominate yourself, if you consider you can offer a service to the community.

Nominated names can be dropped in the box located at both entrances of the church.

Please include three qualities that you see in the person whom you recommend.

Parish council nominations will close on the **9th July**. Election will take place during the general assembly of the parish on the **16th July, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm** in the Church.

The qualifications of the pastoral council member

- ◇ 18 years of age and above, practice the faith and be actively involved in the parish or willing to be involved.
- ◇ be able to discern, advice, cooperate and work with the parish priest and other members of the parish and be available for the parish meetings and able to respond if and when special need arises.

Parishioners are asked to come and attend the assembly.

Attendance for all ministry members is compulsory.

If you're wanting to deepen your faith, look no further than these useful ways to help.

So to help you try and focus on faith a little more, here is the only to-do list you really need to consider. And remember, as with all to-do lists, it can take a long time for everything to get crossed off, so don't panic if you can't achieve this as quickly as you'd like — baby steps all the way!

This might seem obvious, but sometimes there can be an event that stops you from going to church. Make sure your Sunday priorities start with Mass, and everything else can fall into line afterwards.

Going to confession can help you grow close to your Heavenly Father, as it's not just about confessing sins, it's about seeking His mercy, receiving it, and remembering that God loves you unconditionally. And afterwards you'll feel that little bit lighter and ready to embrace all life has to offer.

Now if you find it difficult to set time aside each day for prayers, then there are ways to incorporate prayers into your daily life without you neglecting other important duties. For example, if you're in traffic, then you can always take the time to pray, and while you're at it, you could also ask for a safe journey! Still, though, nothing will ever replace a set time for God each day. Try to work toward it little by little.

There are so many books that are great for Catholics. The Bible itself is in a category all its own as the Word of God. But beyond that, there are so many types of spiritual reading, from the Catechism to books from saints that can inspire you in your daily life, and even books that demonstrate love and kindness.

There are Corporal and Spiritual Acts of Mercy that you can easily carry out in your day, that won't take up too much time. From trying to forgive those who've wronged you, to offering food to those in need.

This might be tricky if you feel overwhelmed and pushed for time, but it's something you can work up to. The readings said at Mass each day are available on the Internet and on apps, such as Hallow.

Praying the Rosary might be a little time-consuming, but you could start with praying just a decade. Then over time, build it up and before you'll know it you'll be reaching out to Our Lady on a daily basis.

You can pray, and offer your help, but it's also important to take stock of everything you have. You can practice daily gratitude, in which you consider all the things you are grateful for in that day. You could either write them in a journal, or just think about it in your prayers. But once you appreciate everything you have, you'll certainly grow in faith.

It's lovely to grow in faith with other members of your parish or Catholic community. If you're not able to physically get out and about, you can join groups online that suit your particular needs.

<https://aleteia.org/2023/06/07/the-9-simplest-ways-for-catholics-to-grow-in-faith/>



LISTENING AT HOME TOWARDS OUR SYNOP

Bishop Vincent wants to hear from families and households across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Your stories will inform the direction of our local Church into the future through what is known as a synod.

A Synod is both an event and a process where people gather to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Synods are transformative experiences that lead to renewal in the Church's life.

We encourage you to pray, listen, and discuss the following questions, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

For guidance on how to have a Spiritual Conversation visit www.parracatholic.org/synod2023

1. As a household, identify one need in your community. What is one practical way the church can meet that need?

2. As a household, what are the joys and challenges you experience that impact your family's participation in church?

3. As a household, what do you believe the mission of the Church is in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains?



Submit your responses online
www.parracatholic.org/synod2023



LISTENING AT HOME TOWARDS OUR SYNOP FOR KIDS

Bishop Vincent wants to hear from you and your family. What you share will help shape the future of our local Church. We encourage you to pray, listen, and discuss the following questions, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

For guidance on how to have a Spiritual Conversation visit www.parracatholic.org/synod2023

1. How do you walk together with your family and friends when they are finding life hard?

2. What is the best thing about being part of God's family, The Church?

3. What are some ways we could share our gifts with the community?



Submit your responses online
www.parracatholic.org/synod2023

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 topics.

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.

COME AND JOIN

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 |

MORE YOUTH GROUPS

| CRL (Community of the Risen Lord) YOUTH LEADERS | | YFC (Youth for Christ) YOUTH LEADERS | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Rojith de Silva 0405 9563210 | Nimeshi Fernando 0417 101009 | <u>YFC International</u> Vince Erasmo 0406 253698 | <u>YFC Australia</u> Jonathan Montaos 0401 478733 |

WYD Appeal - Blaze Youth

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO OUR ENDEAVOURS



We will continue to try and raise funds every by hosting various events to support the participating youths of our wonderful church. If you'd like to make a contribution towards our goal, you can go to the Parish's BPoint account site and caption your donation as "YOUTH - WYD DONATION". <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/StJohnXXIIIPGSG>

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 you can contact us via email blaze@john23rd.org.au

Parish social sport is held on the first Saturday of each month in the college grounds following 9am mass. Sports include football, table tennis and volleyball. Come and join fellow parishioners, families and friends for a workout and fun. All ages and abilities are welcome. If you have any questions please contact Neville.

We would like to thank the St John 23rd College school administration for the use of their facilities.

SJ23 SATURDAY SOCIAL SPORT

Volleyball - Table Tennis - Football
All ages and abilities welcome.

**10 AM FIRST
SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH**

St John XXIII College
Grounds

ENQUIRES
NEVILLE: 0466 262 850



For all youth ministry enquiries,

✉ blaze@john23rd.org.au

or visit our FB page

www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/

blazeyouthsj23/



BLAZE REGISTRATION FORM

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

THANK YOU

We just take this opportunity to thank
our contributors for tinting the
Altar side windows of the church.
It has made a beautiful appearance
to the church.



MET
Pastoral Formation



OFFICE FOR WORSHIP
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA



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, NSW 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

COELIACS

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

Soul Food Podcast – Pastoral Formation

Do you find life & faith inspiration by listening to the experiences of others?

Pastoral Formation's Soul Food Podcast features life & faith stories of people from our diocesan family. Listen now for FREE via our website or on Spotify <https://pfparra.org.au/soulfood/>

Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal available for in-person, virtual appointments

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm for enquiries regarding marriage annulments. Interviews are being conducted in person with Zoom and telephone interviews available for those unable to attend the office. Please contact the Tribunal office on (02)8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org

Office for Safeguarding

The Parish and Diocese of Parramatta takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons seriously. This includes past or present forms of abuse.

Safeguarding those who are vulnerable is part of the mission that Jesus Christ entrusts to our Church. We all have a role to play in safeguarding those who are vulnerable.

If you have any concerns about someone's immediate safety, or you suspect a crime may have or is likely to occur, please contact NSW Police on Triple Zero (000).

Concerns about safeguarding in the Diocese may be referred to your Parish Priest, or directly to the Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards

Ph (02) 8838 3419

Email: safeguarding@parracatholic.org

Information about the Diocese's response and supports about safeguarding children and vulnerable people are available at www.safeguarding.org.au.

Bleiburg: Massacre of the Croatian People 1945



ZVONIMIR GAVRANOVIC

About the book:

This book tells the history of Croatia from its very beginning right up to 1945. In this way, readers would come to realise that the Croatian people are an ancient people who inhabited the region between the Drava River and the Adriatic Sea from the seventh century onwards. The book then deals with the creation of the Independent State of Croatia during the Second World War. Mention is also made of the suffering of the Slovene, German and Montenegrin peoples of the former Yugoslavia. It is good to acknowledge the past with all the horrors of war and learn to forgive the mistakes that were made. It is also important to think of

the present time and the future years to come and strive to improve our understanding of other people from different cultures and nations and not carry the hatred into future generations.

"This is a masterly book that can change lives. Zvonimir Gavranovic has spent a lifetime studying this and meditating on its wider meaning. His research is impressive, his findings sure and his applications to everyday life is sound. He knows that nurturing hatred for wrongs done in the past is bad for you. Yet if he urges forgiveness, he does not want us to forget our bloody past. It is a nourishing book." Edmund Campion, Sydney

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW

Book is \$50.

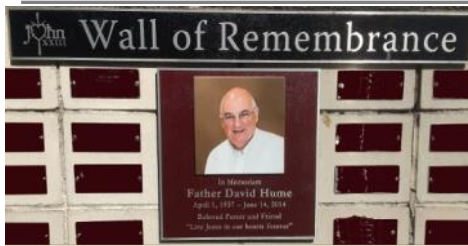
If you are interested to please call the Parish Office on 8883 5981.



Office for Safeguarding

The Parramatta Way of Safeguarding is to:

- ◆ Act with Justice, and state that we have a zero tolerance for any form of abuse or harm to children or any person
- ◆ Act with justice and ensure that laws and obligations are upheld, and safety is paramount <https://safeguarding.org.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

The plaques cost \$500.00



Are you looking for a family doctor?

- Long established accredited General Practice in Quakers Hill
- Multi Doctor practice with Christian values at the core
- In-house Allied health and Dental clinic

Books are now open for new patients

Tel – 02 9626 6300
www.qhfp.com.au



Active kids' vouchers are accepted.

Training at Blacktown Leisure Centre and Rural Recreation Centre.

info@royalsbasketball.com.au

www.royalsbasketball.com.au

SERVICE OFFERING

Progressive Level Training
Introduction to structured game plays and drills training.

Royals MVP
Master the foundations of the game skills training.

3x3 Hustle League
10-week league designed to provide grass roots level development and understanding of the half court game.

Join our club team
Local competition played at Hills Basketball

CONDITIONING | COACHING | SPORTS CLUB | 3x3 HUSTLE LEAGUE

ROYALS BASKETBALL MANAGED FOR 2015 | ROYALS BASKETBALL PTY LTD ACN 607 380 540

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.



JULIA STELLA

Licensed Real Estate Agent

M 0431 277 110

E julia.stella@theavenure.com.au

Scan for a property market update



ADVERTISE HERE



Trust the sale of your home with your local Parishioner and award-winning licensed real estate agent, **John Irudayaraj.**

A member of your church who believes in the power of giving back, mention this advert and if John sells your home he will make a donation directly to the Church.

0433 969 731

johnirudayaraj@mcgrath.com.au

McGrath Northwest

McGrath

ADVERTISE HERE



Members

Bernadette Virwani
Julienne Crasto
Bing Catabas

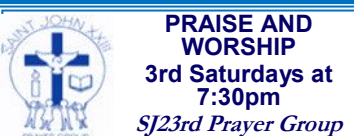
Chris Drummond
Margaret Harrison
Nanette Gamboa
Gary Lee

SJ23rd SATURDAY SOCIAL SPORT

Volleyball | Table Tennis | Football
All ages and abilities welcome.

10:00am
FIRST SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH
St John XXIII College Grounds

ENQUIRIES
NEVILLE 0466 262 850



Want to know more?
Contact Mei Velasco via
phone 0410 040 434 or
email
mei.donnie.velasco@gmail.com



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. For further information please contact the Parish Office.