

Cnr Perfection Ave & Bentwood Tce, Stanhope Gardens
<http://john23rd.com/> <https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish/> www.instagram.com/sj23stanhope

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 \$10923 and we need to raise another \$65 thousand to meet our target. We have reached 15% target 100%, need to raise 85% left to reach target. 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.

You can donate by doing either of the following:

- ♦ Visit the parish website and donating through BPOINT. Below is the QR code for BPOINT.
- ♦ You can do a bank transfer to our parish account :
Account name : Blessed John XXIII parish
BSB : 067 950
A/C : 00000313
Ref : SS (and your name)
- ♦ Envelopes provided in the church.
- ♦ Tapping on the "\$20 tap & go" terminals



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
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
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

Today we leap from the end of chapter 11 in Matthew to the series of parables constituting most of chapter 13. Today's parable is of the sower (v.3-9) whose seeds fell on the path's edge, in patches of rock, among thorny weeds, and on fertile soil. It is followed by an interruption presented as taking place in private (v.10-23) even though Jesus does not leave the crowds until v.36. This interruption forms a seam in the narrative's fabric, signalling commentary on what has just been told, so the majority of scholarly opinions holds the interpretation (v.18-23) to have been generated by the early Church; Matthew includes it for his own purposes. In it the disciples query why Jesus teaches in parables, for it is clear that while the Jewish members of the early Church were impressed by his teaching and followed him, not all their compatriots responded the same way. The quoted passage from Isaiah evokes language from psalms criticising the pagans' idols that have ears that cannot hear, and eyes that cannot see. In the attached interpretation the greater number of mentioned obstacles (path, rock, and thorns) may give the wrong impression that it is harder for God's word to find fertile soil than this hopeful parable suggests, for any farmer whose field was more path and rock and thorn than well-tilled soil would be a farmer of extraordinarily poor ability, or one who had very poor land. No, it is wondrous that grain grows and produces a crop at all, and excepting catastrophe, this is certain to happen, even though some seed is wasted according to the nature of the field. A risk-averse and thrifty sower more carefully avoids areas doomed to fail, but this means that the fertile soil is not sown to the edge; the spendthrift and risky sower wastes some seed but reaches all the fertile soil so as to produce a greater crop.

The common interpretation of the parable considers each person as a recipient of a seed, which then fails or succeeds according to the individual. It may be true that the word is sometimes wasted on deaf ears, hard hearts and vexed minds, but this is a pessimistic reading that views each person simply as either blessed or damned. It may also perversely give comfort to those who believe themselves to be worthier than others. The parable seems to me to be more about the generosity of God, who liberally sows the word, and who is convinced, according to the first reading (Isa 55:10-11), that the word from the mouth of God will achieve what it was sent out to do. What part then do people themselves play? Is it not possible also to understand the parable's field to be not just the world, but also each person who receives the word? The seeds sown may not take root and transform themselves in all parts of the person's life, but some do take root and grow in each recipient. Those with hearts and minds cultivated to receive it may be more aware of its work and rejoice in it, not as the fruit of their own labour but for the simple joy and wonder of it. Is it not also possible that if each person tends to the crop the word produces within them, then they may more consciously cultivate those parts revealed to be hard or shallow or distracted? Enjoying the crop while also aware of the shortcomings, the wiser farmer then attends to softening edges, picking out rocks, and uprooting thorns so as to make the heart as receptive and fertile as possible.

REMINDER PARISH ASSEMBLY AT
2.30PM TO 4.30PM SUNDAY 16TH JULY IN THE CHURCH.
LOOKING FORWARD TO SEE YOU THERE.

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

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 64:10-14

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **R.**

And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **R.**

You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **R.**

The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat, They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:18-23

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GROW WITH CHRIST



Gospel Acclamation

GA

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:1-9

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundred-fold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Ninnetta Ferlauto, Brigitte Soaibe, Mike West, Veronica Barzaga

Anniversary:

Lourdes Fernando, Chrisanta Fernando, Cora Vytiaco, Luz Pecson, Vicente Alino

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

Thanksgiving:

Isabella De Jesus, Charles & Chris De Jesus, Cesar De Jesus

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

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

Jul	4	11	18	25	
	<i>D'Souza</i>	<i>Ring</i>	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
Nov	7	14	21	28	
	Hala	Barnouti	Tina B	Jacob	

"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.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



There is a parent information evening in the church at 7pm on the 18th July for families wishing to enroll their child in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Children must be in Year 6 or above and have been baptised in the Catholic Church.

PRAYING in the SILENCE of the HEART

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

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

Brother Roger of Taizé

July Church Calendar

Mon	17	8:30am - Mass
Tues	18	9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	19	9:15am - Mass
Thurs	20	9:15am - Mass
Fri	21	9:15am - Mass
Sat	22	<i>Saint Mary Magdalene (F)</i> 9:15am - Mass 6:00pm - Vigil Mass
Sun	23	7:30, 9:00, 10:30am Mass 6:00pm - Mass

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

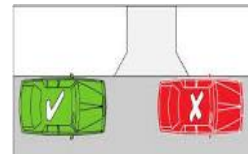
Frank 0459 504 625 or Trevor 0407 150 399



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.



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.

You can donate by doing either of the following:

◆ Visit the parish website and donating through BPOINT. Below is the QR code for BPOINT.



◆ You can do a bank transfer to our parish account :

Account name: *Blessed John XXIII Parish*

BSB: 067 950 **A/C:** 00000313


Ref: *SS (and your name)*

◆ Envelopes provided in the church.

◆ Tapping on the "\$20 tap & go" terminals

SYNOD

As we prepare for the upcoming Diocesan Synod, it is very important for each of us to share our hopes for the future. Your voice is vital important. So please take the form that is at the foyer of the church. Discuss with your family and submit your responses online. We will have also the opportunity to submit our response as a parish afterh the parish assembly.



LISTENING AT HOME TOWARDS OUR SYNOD

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 SYNOD**

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

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

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

- What are some ways we could share our gifts with the community?**

Submit your responses online
www.parracatholic.org/synod2023





**CHURCH
FUNDRAISING**

SAVE THE DATE - MINI FUNDRAISERS

We are organizing some mini fundraising events to help boost our parish community engagement as well as contribute to our church funds.

Any other suggestions for fundraising or availability of support are most welcome and greatly appreciated. Please contact either Nanette or Techie.

We encourage our parish community to support these small endeavours.



≧ Soup Night! ≦

Catch up with fellow community members over a bowl of hot soup - available to purchase fresh, or for takeaway.

All parishioners are warmly welcome!



Saturday 5th August, after the 6 pm Mass at the Church kitchen area.

Contact Nanette: 0404 465 600, or Techie: 0438 201 436



**Cake
Angels
Stall**

We will be having our stall of goodies and savouries during the morning masses, on **JULY 23, Sunday**

For any food donations, or if you would like to join this group of foodie parishioners and be a Cake Angel please contact Madeline Huang via cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com.

It will be greatly appreciated.

All proceeds goes to our church coffer.

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



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 so much for your kind generosity and overwhelming support for all our WYD fundraising endeavors. Thanks to the community, we have raised around \$10000. We are so excited for this new experience to come as we embark on our journey from the 21st of July to the 11th of August.

As a gesture of appreciation, we will collect prayer intentions over the next two weeks so that we can pray for the community throughout our pilgrimage. Whilst visiting the Sanctuary Grotto in Lourdes, we will also light a candle for the future of the parish which will burn for a year.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone who has helped us in anyway and we look forward to coming back and share our stories with you. We hope to be inspired on this journey, so that we will be able to serve the parish community with a brighter heart and a greater mind.

God bless,

BLAZE YOUTH GROUP



MET
Pastoral Formation



OFFICE FOR WORSHIP
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

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

Safeguarding Mandatory Modules Face-to-Face Training

The Diocesan Safeguarding team are organising sessions for parish clergy, staff and volunteers to complete their Mandatory Safeguarding Modules throughout July at St Paul the Apostle Parish, Winston Hills. The next available session is Saturday 22 July (12noon-4.45pm) for Modules 1-3. Please email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org or winstonhills@parracatholic.org to register for one of these face-to-face opportunities to complete your Mandatory Safeguarding Training.

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

MET Worship RCIA Teams Formation Seminars: Beginning 3 August

MET Worship's Formation Seminar for RCIA Teams will be commencing on Thursday 3 August throughout August from 7pm to 9pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. New topics will be covered each week throughout the Seminar including Using Rituals, Mystagogia and more! To RSVP and to learn more about the seminar topics, please contact mary.gale@parracatholic.org or call 0460 037795.

FaithLIFE – 3 Night Short Course on Synodal Spirituality: Beginning 22 August

Pope Francis has invited the Church to be more 'synodal'. But what does that mean as an expression of Christian spirituality? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on synodal spirituality with Sr Patty Andrew, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 22 Aug + 29 Aug + 5 Sep. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via <https://pjparru.org.au/faithlife/>

MET Marriage Retrouvaille Program Information Session: 25 August

The Diocese of Parramatta aims to offer the Retrouvaille program for couples who are having difficulties in their marriage. We are looking for married couples who are committed to helping others heal their marriage relationships. You will be trained to facilitate this program. An information evening will be held on 25 August at 7.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Contact Karin on (02) 8838 3460 or register at marriage@parracatholic.org

Diocesan Adult Confirmation: 5 September

Adult Confirmation 2023 will be held on Tuesday 5 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day to be held on Saturday 2 September at 9:30am – 2pm at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown (formerly known as the IFM). Adult Confirmation is a community celebration for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist but are yet to receive the Confirmation. If you would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037795 or hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.

Volunteer for the House of Welcome

Volunteers are needed by the House of Welcome to do odd jobs around properties which house refugees and people seeking asylum. If you are a handyman or woman with a few hours you can donate, contact Maricar at m.tupaea@houseofwelcome.com.au.

Penrith Parish Room for Rent

St Nicholas of Myra Parish in Penrith is renting out an upstairs office space next to Catholic Care, Penrith. Contact Rodney (Office Manager) at enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au or call (02) 4721 2509 for photos and more information.

Marriage Preparation Courses in 2023

Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp to view weekend course dates in the New Year, 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 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

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 Gavrancic

✉ 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.



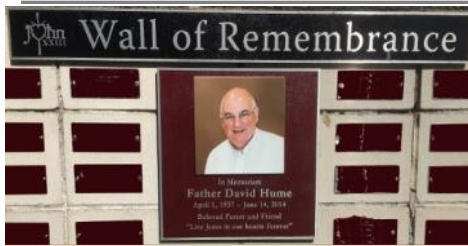
Office for Safeguarding

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/>

*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 \$500.00



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.

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



Active kids' vouchers are accepted.

Training at Blacktown Leisure Centre and Rural Recreation Centre.

info@royalsbasketball.com.au

www.royalsbasketball.com.au

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

Royaals 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 LICENSEE

ROYALS BASKETBALL ADMIN 0002 708 0045 | ROYALS BASKETBALL PTY LTD ACN 607 380 045



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Members

Bernadette Virwani
Julienne Crasto
Bing Catabas

Chris Drummond
Margaret Harrison
Nanette Gamboa
Gary Lee



Vinnies
good works

Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:00pm



Join and be part of the **Cake Angels**
SJ23rd
contact Madeline Huang
cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com



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



Young at Hearts Seniors Group
Contact Frank Coleiro
on 0459 504 625

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

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ADVERTISE HERE