

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 \$14,363 and we need to raise another \$61 thousand to meet our target. We have reached 20% target 100%, need to raise 80% 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
Tue 7:00pm Rosary and novena prayers (*Church Tabernacle*)
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's first reading (1 Kings 3:5,7-12) picks up a theme from last Sunday. Solomon asks for understanding to discern good from evil. His name became a byword for wisdom and shrewd judging, yet he did not always act rightly, nor live up to the love of God's Law sung of in the psalm. During his reign were sown the seeds that led to the division of Israel from Judah, yet it is looked upon as Israel's golden age of prosperity and peace.

The gospel reading (Matthew 13:44-52) presents three unique parables. The first two are similar, but they differ from the four that preceded them; instead of the certainty of the kingdom growing, the kingdom is within the grasp of those who seek it and prize it. They employ the language of hyperbole, for their logical conclusions are absurd: if you sell all you own to gain a great treasure, how will you live? You may well say you now own more than before to buy whatever you want. But what of the pearl? Having given up everything to gain your heart's desire, what is the point of selling it again? But you cannot eat it, nor will it shelter you. No, their absurdity is like the exaggeration of love poems and songs. How many lovers have offered to walk ten thousand miles for their lover? Vying in hyperbole, poets add obstacles of wind and weather, mountains and seas, even trials and torments. It is the language of the utterly besotted. So too in parables: to those who recognise and value the kingdom above all things, attaining it is their life, living it to attain it. This renunciation is not the giving up of something valuable to attain something else, but a self-giving to the intangible object of desire.

In contrast, the last parable returns to the idea of profligacy, but instead of being like seed sown broadly, the kingdom drags in all sorts. This reflects the difficulty recognised in the early Church: many members were not fully committed. The evangelist advises patience, leaving it to God to judge the good and the bad. This experience was perhaps even truer in the period of European Christendom, when Church and society were considered the same; baptism was performed indiscriminately in the hope that love of the kingdom would take root in the baptised. Although in Australia we live in a religiously plural society, as the early Church did, we have retained the medieval practice of near indiscriminate baptism for the same reason. It helps explain the mismatch between religious practice and the number of baptisms. According to our law, baptism is to be administered only on the founded hope of continuing practice, but perhaps recalling that we cannot know the hearts of one another we are more inclined to give the benefit of the doubt. This may have helped cultivate more of an attachment to the earthly institution than to the kingdom that surpasses it. When that attachment is merely an historical or sentimental fondness it cannot be classified as evil or wrong. But what of those cases where love of the earthly institution exceeds that of the kingdom so that the kingdom's ways are forsaken in the interests of institutional concerns? What of the shameful defence of the institution taking priority over the needs of those wronged and gravely hurt by its officer holders? These reveal defects in our leaders' discernment between good and evil. But how many of the rest of us would have failed in equal measure? The recognition that we cannot know may mitigate our judging. However, it points to the need for us all to cultivate carefully and consciously that love of the kingdom that cannot but suffuse the lives of those who actually live it. In this way we find that God works in those who surrender themselves to God's love.

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.

Entrance Antiphon

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First Reading

A reading from the first book of the Kings 3:5, 7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130

R. Lord, I love your commands.

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. **R.**

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. **R.**

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. **R.**

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

What is it worth?

Gospel Acclamation

cf Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They said 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Jaroslava Knopek

Anniversary:

Alfredo Cruz

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, Remedios 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:

Ma Ruby Cabrera, Christelle Reodique

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 rosary and 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

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	
Dec	5	12	19	26	
	Paguinto	Hala	Sebastian	Sebastian	

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

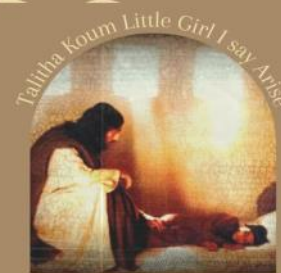
For the opportunity of having the statue of Our Lady visit your home, please contact Bart Sarlabus bart.sarlabus@gmail.com or Melva Paguinto emcipi85@yahoo.com.au. Families on the roster, if unable to pick up please don't hesitate to contact Bart or Melva.

PRAYING in the SILENCE of the HEART

Christ Jesus, Saviour of every life, you suffer with all who experience hardships and you always welcome any who entrust to you their own burdens.

Brother Roger of Taizé

ARISE



WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday 16th September, 2023
St Finbar's Catholic Church Glenbrook
8:30am - 8:30 pm.

Holy Mass, Guest Speakers, Confession, Prayer, Praise & Worship.
Eucharistic Healing Adoration.
\$100 ticket all meals included.
TRY BOOKING: <https://www.facebook.com/parishofstfinbar>
0800 112 784 024 / 0800 112 784 024



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



July Church Calendar

Mon 31 *Saint Ignatius of Loyola (M)*
8:30am - Mass

August

Tues 1 *Saint Alphonsus Mary de Liguori (M)*
9:15am - Mass
7:30pm - Rosary and Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wed 2 9:15am - Mass

Thurs 3 *Saint Dominic (M)*
9:15am - Mass

Fri 4 *Saint John Vianney (M)*
9:15am - Mass
7:30pm - Novena Mass to Our Sacred Heart of Jesus

Sat 5 9:15am - Mass
6:00pm - Vigil Mass
- Soup Night -

Sun 6 *The Transfiguration of the Lord (F)*
7:30, 9:00, 10:30am Mass
6:00pm - Mass

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. Mahatma Gandhi
We are in urgent need for volunteers to assist in the different pastoral ministries in our Parish.



WE NEED YOU

⇒ 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.

Meet our newly elected Parish Council

Congratulations ! our new Parish Council. Get to know them and if you have any concerns feel free to approach them.

Karen Green Dr Suni Fernando Mei Velasco Helen Festejo



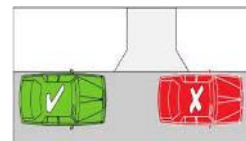
John McCabe Rebecca Reynolds Ajith Lobo Julian Martin



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.



⇒ 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



Our **Grandparents Day morning tea** celebration was attended by seniors and grandparents of our parish with Father Jolly joining in. Thanks to all, contributions of delightful sweets and savouries made the morning very enjoyable and very much appreciated.



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.

To download forms: https://parracatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-for-Kids_v1.pdf
https://parracatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-at-Home_v2.pdf



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, involving the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

For a guide on how to have a Spiritual Conversation visit: https://parracatholic.org/learn/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-for-Kids_v1.pdf

- 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/learn/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-for-Kids_v1.pdf](https://parracatholic.org/learn/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-for-Kids_v1.pdf)



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, involving the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

For a guide on how to have a Spiritual Conversation visit: https://parracatholic.org/learn/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-at-Home_v2.pdf

- As a household, identify one need in your community. What is one practical way the church can meet that need?
- As a household, what are the joys and challenges you experience that impact your family's participation in church?
- 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/learn/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-at-Home_v2.pdf](https://parracatholic.org/learn/2023/05/03.23_CYP_21090-SYNOD-Campaign_Synod-at-Home_v2.pdf)

DIOCESAN SYNOD PRAYER

O God,
who always walks with us on the journey of life, we call upon you to lead us forth united.
Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.
Keep us anchored in your love.
Open our hearts as we listen and discern.
Reveal to us the way we are called to go out into the deep.
Give us the courage to pursue the mission with bold humility.
May we experience renewal in our local Church today, and for generations to come.
We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ,
who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church,
to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and forever. Amen.
Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.



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.

Love an Indonesian satay dish?

Come and enjoy them on 20th August, Sunday. Selling will start after the 9:00am morning mass and until stocks last!



≧ 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

**Pre-order is available.
 Order forms available at the church foyer.**



General Health & Well Being



"The Young At Heart" is organizing a general health and well being event on Monday, 28th August, 10am at our church kitchen. We will be joined by a regular fellow parishioner, a doctor, whom everyone would have met.

All seniors are WELCOME.

For more information please contact Frank on 0459 504625 or Trevor 0407 150399

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.

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/



BLAZE REGISTRATION FORM

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Catholic Early Learning Centre

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ celstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.celstanhope.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



Cake Angels Thanks You!!

What a wonderful group effort in helping to raise
\$1,795.50 for our church.

A big thank you goes to our parishioners for their
generosity and patronage but most especially to our
members who continually provide support in these
endeavors. A lot of time and hard work goes into planning
and preparing for these type of events and so THANK
YOU, ANGELS

for your dedication to our parish community!!

Please continue to support the Angels in providing some
much needed financial assistance to our church
funds. Watch our for our next event!!





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.tupaeda@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.



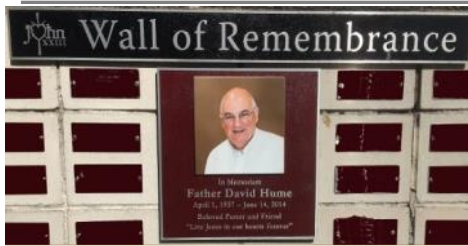
Office for Safeguarding

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



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Individuals, Partnerships, Companies, Trusts, and SMSFs.

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www.celestinos.com.au



Members

Karen Green
Ajth Lobo
Mei Velasco
Helen Festejo

Rebecca Reynolds
John McCabe
Suni Fernando
Julian Martin



Active kids' vouchers are accepted.

Training at Blacktown Leisure Centre and Dural Recreation Centre.

info@royalsbasketball.com.au

www.royalsbasketball.com.au

SERVICE OFFERING

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

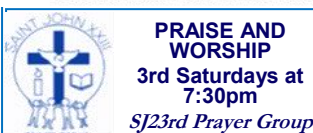
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10-week league designed to provide grass roots level development and understanding of the half court game.

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Local competition played at Hills Basketball

CONDITIONING | COACHING | SPORTS CLUB | 3x3 HUSTLE LICENSEE

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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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