

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.

Jonah is a delightful novella best read in its entirety. It speaks of God's compassionate response to the penitent, but with sinful foreigners as the role models of repentance the story is also a rebuke against the obstinacy of the people of Jerusalem and Israel who do not listen to the prophets. Due to its length, though not very long, reading the whole needs to be done outside the liturgy, but it is beneficial to encourage people to read and reflect upon it in order to prepare for this Sunday. The excerpts we read today stress the swiftness of the Ninevites' reaction: Jonah does not have good news for them but proclaims simply, in effect, "You will be destroyed"; they believe him, and they repent in fasting and in sackcloth. Then we hear the oft-repeated statement (but more often forgotten by critics of the Old Testament's so-called angry God): God relented and did not do what he had threatened.

In today's gospel (Mark 1:14-20) the public ministry of Jesus begins, but there are significant contrasts with Jonah: Jesus proclaims good news, saying "The kingdom of God has come", inviting the people to repent, to change their minds or ways. But will they? Unlike the Ninevites, and too much like the Jerusalemites whom the book of Jonah was apparently written against, we know that at Jerusalem he will, like prophets of old, be rejected and killed—but of course not by all. Later in the novella Jonah, with a disregard for the lives of the Ninevites and an overinflated regard for his own reputation as a truth-teller, takes umbrage at God's relenting ways; taking himself to the shade of a shrub, he cares more about it than the innocents in the city. Contrariwise, Jesus rejoices in the message he proclaims, that God is near and compassion has arrived; he delights more over repentant sinners than in the righteous who feel no need to repent; he takes no offence when sinners change, but will himself become the protective shade to those who seek shelter in his cross. Jesus, rather than flee his mission as Jonah in his story had attempted to do, embraces his work with vigour, and immediately he begins recruiting others to assist so that even more may be sent to the great work. Thus, rather than following the usual pattern of the first reading directly supporting the day's gospel, Jonah is employed as a contradictory parallel.

The Lectionary's second readings more often than not have little directly in common thematically with either the gospel or first reading. Today, however, there is some convergence as the second reading (1 Cor 7:29-31) opens in effect with the message, "The end is nigh". But rather than being alarmed, Paul's hearers are to look forward to it. Others fearing the end of the world experience distress, whereas the Christian message means more completion than destruction. There had sometimes been misunderstanding over these ideas, however, and it took some years before they realised that they had perhaps confused the advent of the Kingdom with the end of time. This reading discloses something of an expectation that the world will end soon, especially in the advice to live as if unmarried, in effect to cease propagating the species. The other advice about not being engrossed in or snagged by the ways of the world that will end, by which is meant human rule, is more easily interpreted in the other understanding, that is, that the world of waywardness will end; God's will will rule.

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	
Thurs	9:15am during school days

Masses of Devotion

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
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Reconciliation

After the weekday masses	
Sat	after the 9am mass <i>until 10.30am</i> 5:15 - 5:45pm <i>before the Vigil Mass or upon request</i>

Sacraments

Sun	12pm Baptism <i>by appointment</i>
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Prayers

Mon	7.30pm Christian Meditation <i>Frances Pegram 0417 406715</i>
Tue	7:00pm Rosary and novena prayers (<i>Church Tabernacle</i>)
Fri	6.30pm Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group <i>Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039</i>

Praise & Worship

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

Special Blessings

Blessing during masses	
1st Sun	Birthday celebrants
3rd Sun	Couple's Wedding anniversary

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

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The Ninevites renounced their evil ways.

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **R.**

Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 7:29-31

The world as we know it is passing away.

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near: believe the Good News! Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:14-20

Repent, and believe the Good News.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake - for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets, he called them at once, and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.



repent
believe
follow

Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Maria Francica, Varkey Chacko

Anniversary:

Alanna Eve Coakley, Luisa Sanchez,
Leonardo Simbulan, Rosario Hili

Deceased:

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.

Emma Q. Fernando, Wally Atie, John Tipton, Jovita Castillo, Marilyn Nalapo, Obet Dionisio, Isagani Ocampo, Helen West, Cindy Dadivas, Geoffrey Robinson, Gil Dormido, Paco Matias Jennifer Estrada, Louise Smith, Virginia Santos Cristina Arceo, Cesar De Jesus, Cathie Christie Emma Matoza, Theda Ojastro, Jackson Canlas Perla Magculang, Anna Sebastian, Elsie Knapp Peter McArdle, Ben&Etta Benesa, Victor Pons Bev Lewis, Christina Properzi, Charlie Busuttill Barbara Thompson, Pat Daly, Jonathan Gemin Raymond Lanzona, Matteazi Family, Fr Joseph Lenka Olivier Talija, Ksenija Bosnic, Zoey Illic Maria Romeo, Dudley Francis, Valeria Laureta, Florentina Elisura, Hilary Regan, Jerry Bondoc Rosamma Elizabeth Langley, Virgie Villanueva Dr Bronwyn Andrews, Jo Daly, Gloria Bueno, John Pellissery, Carrie Conolly, Jovita Castillo, Jakov & Marija Franich, Elizabeth Candame, Adrian Gould, Manuel Sarris, Peter Dawson, Maryanne Jaramillo, Susanne Krajancic

Thanksgiving:

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

Merciful God,
in the footsteps of the apostles and of the Virgin Mary, you are preparing us to abandon ourselves in you, in trust and in love.

Brother Roger of Taizé

December Church Calendar

Mon	22	8:30am - Mass
Tues	23	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	24	Saint Frances de Sales (M) 9:15am - Mass
Thurs	25	Conversion of Saint Paul (F) 9:15am - Mass
Fri	26	Australia Day 9:15am - Mass
Sat	27	9:15am - Mass 6:00pm - Vigil Mass
Sun	28	7:30, 9:00, 10:30am - Mass 6:00pm - Mass

Praying together

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Prayer

O 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

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.

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

Jan	2	9	16	23	30
	Ring	Vasram	Hala	Sebastian	Tangunan
Feb	6	13	20	27	
	Gan	Ring	Tina B	Meena	
Mar	5	12	19	26	
	Cruz	available	Jacob	Shalini	
Apr	2	9	16	23	30
	Festejo	available	available	available	available
May	7	14	21	28	
	available	available	available	available	

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

ALPHA PROGRAM

- ? Looking for a welcoming space to ask your life and faith questions?
- ? Interested in meeting other people in the parish?
- ? Want a space where you can invite your family and friends into the parish community?

St John XXIII's Alpha program is a great next step for you! We meet weekly, always with food, lots of laughter and wholesome life and faith conversation!

For program schedule or to express your interest, contact Mei and Donnie on 0432 042140 or fill up the form or scan the QR code



<https://forms.gle/sdEMryVwvhUpNPnZ7>

Looking forward to meeting you ☺

Paying our debt together

We are very grateful to all our parishioners who always generously support our Parish.

FIRST COLLECTION supports the priests and deacons of the Diocese. **SECOND COLLECTION** goes to the running costs of our church, ministry expenses and specially to pay off our church mortgage. A Planned giving Program is in place to help with the planning/budgeting of church expenses. The Parish Finance Committee encourages parishioners to register for direct debit or credit card deductions instead of the envelope system. An SJ23rd registration form is available at the church foyer or from the website.

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

scan the QR code



Pastoral Ministries

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 please call Asoki 0430 020265 or Renuka 0414 795814. Training and resources will be provided.

⇒ GARDENERS AND CLEANERS

Now that the church is open for celebrations, its floors need to be swept of dust, cobwebs brushed off, candle stands cleaned and garden kept green. We would like to request all our volunteer cleaners and gardeners to come back and continue their ministry. For more information contact maintenance@john23rd.org.au or the parish office.

⇒ MUSIC MINISTRY

If your passion is music and are interested to assist with the music ministry, you are most welcome to join and make our liturgy celebrations more alive.

Please contact Neil Mascarenhas, our music ministry coordinator via email neil.mas@gmail.com



We still have aprons for sale \$30.00
Please contact Techie on
0438 201436 or the parish office for orders.
Proceeds goes to our church funds

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

If you wish to donate flowers for the altar, please phone James David on 0413 787 596



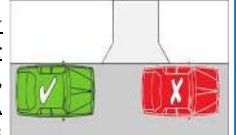
John McCabe
Karen Green
Julian Martin
Suni Fernando

Mei Velasco
Ajith Lobo
Helen Festejo
Rebecca Reynolds

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.



GOD LOVES US ALL!

Be inspired and liven up your spirit through Lanni Fides Books

Book 1: ENCOUNTERS WITH GOD THROUGH DREAMS AND VISIONS - author's testimonials of God's messages in sleep.

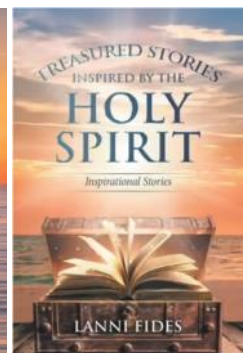
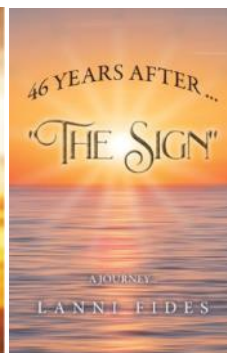
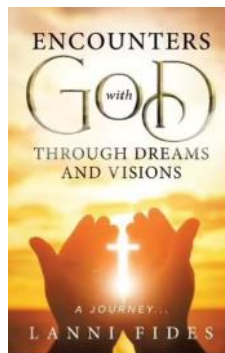
Book 2: 46 YEARS AFTER ... "THE SIGN" - author's remarkable revelation of her inspiring life story on faith, love, marriage, family, and purpose in life.

Book 3: TREASURED STORIES INSPIRED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT - inspirational stories of 22 different people in all walks of life, who experienced God's loving hands.

"Nihil Obstat" Published with Ecclesiastical Approval by Fr Wim Hoekstra, Censor Deputatus, Diocese of Parramatta

Now on sale at amazon.com.au / search lanni fides books or order directly from the author via email on lynpanqi@outlook.com. Only books 1 & 2 are in her stock, first come, first served basis applies.

Cost/book \$20. A portion of sales goes to Parish SS Project. Author's website: www.lannifides.com.au



COLUMBARIUM

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.

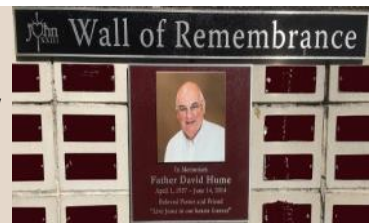


MEMORIAL WALL

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



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



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



Young at Hearts
Seniors Group contacts
Frank 0459 504625
Trevor 0407 150399



Vinnies
join the good works

Community Events



Building our Community
TOGETHER

We are organizing some mini events to contribute to our much needed church funds but **most especially** to boost our parish community engagements. It's about time to get together, know each other and begin to build up our Parish Community of St John 23rd.

We invite our different cultural community to host a Saturday Vigil or Sunday mornings mini event after our mass celebrations for a full community involvement. We encourage our parish community to support these mini endeavours.

Any other suggestions for church fanfare, activities or just availability of support are most welcome and greatly appreciated. Please contact either Nanette - 0404 465600 or Techie - 0439 201436.

**JOIN US,
ENJOY WITH US**
**UPCOMING
EVENT/S**
**Save the dates in
your diary**



11th February 2024

after the morning masses

Come and enjoy delicious savoury and sweet fare.

If interested to assist or would like to make some food contribution please contact Madeleine Huang via email

cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com



FOOD & DANCE FESTIVAL

Postponed to another date

More information to follow



YOUTH MINISTRY



For all youth ministry enquiries

✉ blaze@john23rd.org.au

or visit our FB page

www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/

REGISTRATION FORM

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

Blaze is a youth group, Yrs 4 - 12, with the mission of creating a space for teens to learn, grow, serve and live out our Catholic faith. We facilitate the understanding and growth of our faith through various activities exploring the catholic perspective on a variety of themes such as social issues, teen challenges and faith-related topic.

Join us for a fun night filled with music, games, discussion, prayer and of course pizza. BLAZE youth session runs from 7:15 to 9pm and is held every second Friday throughout the school term in the St John XXIII school hall.

If you would like to come along to one of our sessions, please contact the team at blaze@john23rd.org.au

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.bcglenwood.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

Youth Coordinator	Asst Youth Coordinator	Youth Leaders		
Amanda Lee 0413 545 318	Caitlin Green 0425 579 594	Taylor Coutinho Natasha Surjanto	Charlotte Todhunter Anna 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

Why Do Catholics Light Candles?

Candles are Practical

The word candle comes from the Latin “to burn.” Candles have been used since human beings have been able to start fire. Rudimentary wicks were encased in wax or animal fat and burned for light in the dark hours of the day. Oil candles were also made from pottery which held a reservoir of oil and a small wick. Candles had a practical purpose, as electricity is exceptionally new in relationship to the course of history. It was also not appropriate to have to start a large fire every time you wanted some light.

If you have ever lit a candle near a baby, then you can see how magnetic the firelight can be to the human brain. Even with little thought or comprehension, we like to look at fire. It draws our attention. Candles have been used in worship for millennia, in Judaism and in paganism. Since the beginning of Catholic worship, candles were used. There were certainly candles at the Last Supper, being a Passover meal.

Candles are Symbolic

Processions

Besides providing light, candles are used symbolically. In the early Church, it is recorded that candles were used even when artificial light was not necessary. Outside of the Church, in the Roman Empire, high dignitaries were led around in procession with lit taper candles. This tradition was carried on by acolytes carrying lit candles when the priest processed in and out of the Mass, and during extra-liturgical processions. From early days, candles were lit and carried to the ambo from which the deacon read the Gospels. St. Jerome commented on this saying that the Gospel candles were lit “not indeed to put darkness to flight, but as a sign of joy.”

Paschal Candle

Candles feature heavily in the Easter Vigil, likely since the days of the Apostles. One such candle that is a sign of Christ is the Paschal Candle. This large pillar candle is lit from the Easter fire and carried in procession into the church. Then, smaller handheld candles are lit from this large candle. The Paschal Candle is then lit for the celebration of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist (during the Easter Season), and during Funeral Masses. From the Paschal Candle is lit the smaller Baptismal Candles presented to the newly baptized by their godfather.

Excommunication

The lit candle is part and parcel of Catholicism. In fact, when a heretic, schismatic, or apostate was officially excommunicated, the bishop would ring a bell, close a holy book, and snuff out candles by putting the light into the ground. This symbolized that they were cut off from the light of Christ.

Reconciling of Penitents

On Holy Thursday, there used to be a ritual where penitents would come to the door of the church with lit candles. The bishop would invite the penitents to “Come!” three times after giving a lengthy address calling the penitents to repent. This shows that in those who have sorrow for their sins, the light of Christ is rekindled even before they reenter into communion with the Church.

Dedication of a Church and Blessing of Cemeteries

There are other times in the life of the Church where candles are used in a symbolic way. During the dedication of a new church and during the blessing of cemeteries, candles are blessed and used. The first part of blessing of candles from the blessing of cemeteries shows us the symbolism of candles in both cases: “Bless these light, Lord; may they remind us of Jesus who is the light of the world. By your grace, may we always recognize your light in our lives...”



Candles Draw Our Attention

Building upon their symbolic use, candles also help to physiologically draw our attention. The firelight flickers and pulls in our awareness. Therefore, there is a red lamp which is lit next to a tabernacle. It allows us to know briefly that the tabernacle contains the consecrated Blessed Sacrament. In other words, the candle draws our attention to the presence of our Eucharistic Lord.

In the same way, candles are placed by the tabernacle and on the altar. Christ becomes present through the Holy Mass by the words of consecration. To add to the solemnity of the liturgical action and draw our attention to the altar, candles are lit. During solemnities (like each Sunday), there are six candles lit. On ferial days, memorials, and lesser feasts, there might only be two or four candles lit. If the bishop is present at the Mass, then there are seven candles on the altar to symbolize the seven pillars of wisdom mentioned in Proverbs 9:1.

Devotional Use of Candles

During the Sacred Liturgy, candles often represent or point us towards our Lord Jesus Christ. But what about outside of the Mass and the other Sacraments? Do candles have any other special usage for Catholics? They do!

Like the way that candles in the Mass lend solemnity, candles are sometimes placed in front of shrines to the Blessed Virgin Mary or one of the other saints. This is to show honor, but not adoration, of course. This is an act of special devotion and a way to externalize our love and respect.

Other candles are known as votive candles. Usually racks for votive candles are placed in little alcoves or shrines in a church. Though it is not overly defined, the practice is ubiquitous. There are no right or wrong ways to light votive candles. The Catholic Encyclopedia states this devotion well by saying, “The candle burning its life out before a statue is no doubt felt in some ill-defined way to be symbolic of prayer and sacrifice.” When we light candles in a votive candle rack, we call to mind our prayer intention and the flames symbolize our desire.

<https://catholic-link.org/why-do-catholics-light-candles/>



MET
Pastoral Formation



OFFICE FOR WORSHIP
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

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

Do you find life & faith inspiration by listening to the experiences of others?
The Mission Enhancement Team'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/>

Ministries for Formation include Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar.

Comprehensive training for ministers who wish to serve at the altar during Mass for their parish.

For those who are interested to be part of this ministry, application forms are available at the church foyer or via the website <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

All applications need to be endorsed by your parish Priest prior to attending the first Introductory session.



OFFICE FOR WORSHIP
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Mary Gale
T: (02) 8838 3456
E: mary.gale@parracatholic.org

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2024

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Please choose ONE location per session

BLACKTOWN (Mondays 7.00pm) Bede Heather Centre (Formerly known as the Institute for Mission) 1-3 Marion St, Blacktown 2148	SESSIONS	PENRITH (Thursdays 7.00pm) St Nicholas of Myra Parish Entry Via Higgins St, Penrith 2750
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday 19th February	Compulsory Introductory Session	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday 22nd February
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday 26th February & 4th March	Ministers of the Word	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday 29th February & 7th March
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday 11th March & 18th March	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday 14th March & 21st March
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday 8th April	Communion to the Sick & Dying	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday 11th April
<input type="checkbox"/> Monday 29th April	Ministers at the Altar	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday 2nd May

* Please note if wishing to complete Communion to the Sick and Dying, it is compulsory to attend Ministers of Communion first.

* If you would like to become a Minister at the Altar, you must attend all 8 sessions.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parish: _____

Parish Priest: _____

Parish Priest Signature: _____

Please complete and return before Friday 9th February, 2024

Please Return Enrolment Form to:
Office for Worship, Bethany Centre, 420 Church Street, Parramatta NSW 2150 | mary.gale@parracatholic.org
parracatholic.org/office-for-worship

CONTACTS

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours

Tue - Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

Office Contacts

☎ (02) 8883 5981

(AH Emergency)

📞 0423 160567

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 (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

OTHER CONTACTS

Maintenance issues:

David Gorkic

✉ maintenance@john23rd.org.au

Columbarium queries:

✉ columbarium@john23rd.org.au

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COELIACS

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



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