

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.

The first reading (Lev 13:1-2,44-46) and gospel (Mark 1:40-45) both touch on a primal fear concerning some types of disease. Some translations now disavow the use of the words “leprosy” and “leper” as pejorative and demeaning, and therefore “politically incorrect”. Calling it by its modern name of Hansen’s disease may have other undesirable political overtones, but use of “a virulent skin disease” and “a person who suffered from a virulent skin disease” is verbosely obscure. “Leper” in all is fearful weight remains most apt in the Bible. In today’s passage Jesus breached the fearful and lawful separation of lepers by reaching out to touch the man; and the man is set free from his disease and is sent to comply with the Law so as to be able to return to his family a renewed man. He also becomes the first to do what Jesus tells him not to do: he tells everyone about it. There is a cost to Jesus again such that he then cannot go anywhere openly. Mark says he now had to stay outside the towns, in places where nobody lived; he becomes something like a leper himself in having to live apart. Perhaps last Sunday’s gospel acclamation would have worked better today: “He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering” (Matthew 8:17, adapting Isaiah 53:4).

But, to be honest, it was the short second reading (1 Cor 10:31–11:1) that caught my attention as the question popped unbidden into mind: How does one eat or drink for the glory of God? What can this mean? Almost immediately there came to mind flashes of scenes from the movie based on Karen Blixen’s short story “Babettes Gaestebud”. French refugee Babette had found sanctuary with two kindly Puritan sisters on the Jutland peninsula, becoming their cook and catering also to the ill to whom the sister took meals. It seems she was oblivious to how her handling of the stuff of this world, food, even in the bland cuisine of the region, affected people. Winning France’s national lottery enabled her to give a gift that was not wanted: a feast to celebrate the centenary of the birth of the sisters’ father, the founder of their peculiar sect. When some idea of what she was doing came to the attention of the sectarians who would be feasted, they kindly, not wanting to give offence in return, determined to eat and drink as if all were tasteless, all without merit. At the meal, however, not only were they conquered by what they received, slowly learning to delight in it all (even the cheering wine), but their reciprocal wrongdoings and hurts that had earlier been exposed were both acknowledged and set aside. For the first time in a long while, they were at one with one another, forgiving each other, even to the extent of sedately dancing their aged frames in a ring around the town’s well—a scene that calls to mind Fra Angelico’s “Day of Judgment” altarpiece that now resides in Florence’s Museo del Convento di San Marco. One part depicts the blessed ones being led to heaven, moving hand-in-hand as if dancing along the way that ringed the spring of water, the symbol of light and life-giving waters that so often appears in ancient apocryphal accounts of the visions of heaven.

Turning back to Paul’s letter, we should note that very soon after this excerpt Paul laments the way in which the Corinthian Christians behaved at the Eucharist, not discerning Christ in each other as members of his one body, and so eating and drinking of the Eucharist unworthily and to their own condemnation. Associations from the story of Babette’s feast echo in the prayer after Communion (in these or similar words): “Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we ask that we may always long for that food by which we truly live”.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES – 14TH FEBRUARY

Wednesday, 14th February, is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It is a day of fasting and abstinence. Please do participate in the Holy Mass on that day.

We have 3 Masses to make it convenient for everyone.



6.00am (Church)
9.15am (Church)
**11.15am (St John XXIII Whole School
Mass in School Hub)**
12.00pm (Holy Cross)
7.30pm (Church)

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
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

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

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

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading

A reading from the book of Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprosy: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 31:1-2, 5, 11

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. **R.**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:40-45

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.



Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Charlie Cutajar

Anniversary:

Emanuel Cremona

Deceased:

Victor Francis

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, Stella Drummond

Thanksgiving:

Cremona Family

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*

Breath of the Love of God, Holy Spirit, At times we are quite taken aback to discover how close you are to us.

To each one you say: surrender yourself very simply in God; your little faith is enough.

Brother Roger of Taizé

February Church Calendar

Mon	12	8:30am - Mass
Tues	13	9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	14	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> 6:00am - Mass 9:15am - Mass 7:30pm - Mass
Thurs	15	9:15am - Mass
Fri	16	9:15am - Mass
Sat	17	9:15am - Mass 6:00pm - Vigil Mass
Sun	18	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

Feb	6	13	20	27	
	Gan	Ring	Tina B	Meena	
Mar	5	12	19	26	
	Cruz	Dennis	Jacob	Shalini	
Apr	2	9	16	23	30
	Festejo	Vasram	Sebastian	Ring	Lali
May	7	14	21	28	
	Hala	Sebastian	available	available	
Jun	4	11	18	25	
	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



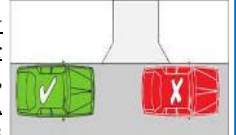
John McCabe
Karen Green
Julian Martin
Suni Fernando

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.

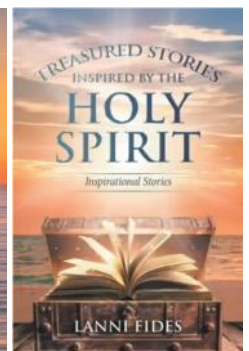
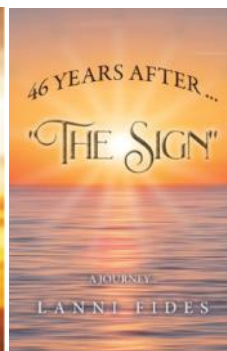
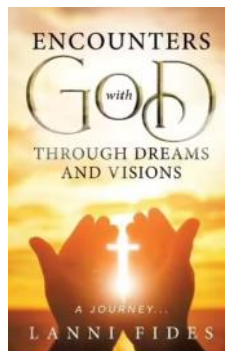
Book 2: 46 YEARS AFTER ... "THE SIGN" - author's remarkable revelation of her inspiring life story on faith, love, marriage, family, and purpose in life.

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



FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

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



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



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.

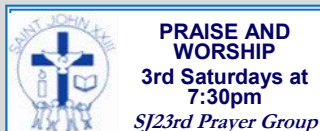
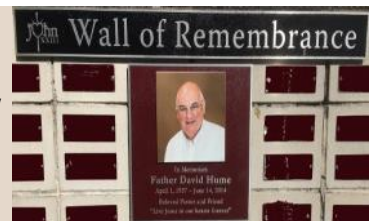


MEMORIAL WALL

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



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**

THANK YOU to everyone who have joined me in the memorial service to commemorate my father, Varkey Chacko's 40th day after his death.

Fr Jolly Chacko



Thank you to everyone who brought food for the occasion. It is so wonderful to see our community come together and commemorate the life of a dearly departed brother.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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



For all youth ministry enquiries
✉ blaze@john23rd.org.au
www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/

REGISTRATION FORM

BLAZE youth group is an initiative from Stanhope Parish to encourage community amongst the youth. It is a space for encouragement and open faith talk. Our sessions focus on one relevant theme each term. We start the night with casual conversation and dinner followed by games and then a faith-based talk, concluding with a discussion.

We encourage all youth from Year 7 to Year 12 to join in on the fun, meet like-minded people and gain a deeper understanding of their faith.

Sessions run from 7pm to 9pm every second Friday throughout the school term starting on **Friday the 16th of February** at St John XXIII College, C block.

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.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au

St John XXIII Catholic College

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Dr Peter Webster

☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ stmark.s@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 Natasja Surjanto Brendan Weber	Charlotte Todhunter Anna Todhunter	Johnathan Soosaipillai Earl Carvalho

MORE YOUTH GROUPS

CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)		YFC (Youth for Christ)	
Rojith de Silva 0405 9563210	Nimeshi Fernando 0417 101009	Vince Erasmo (International) 0406 253698	Jonathan Montaos (Australia) 0401 478733

PARISH FINANCE REPORT 2023

Dear Parishioners,

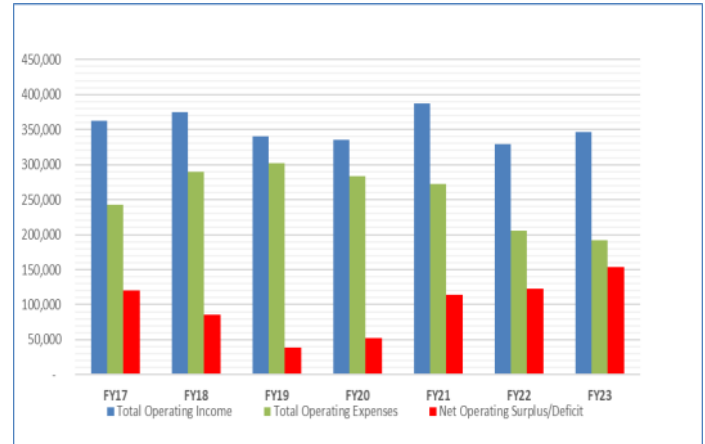
We take this opportunity to thank you all for being a part of our wonderful parish community. Your great desire for spiritual nourishment and growth is seen in your participation in the Holy Eucharist and the sacramental life of our church. You also express your great love of the parish through your friendship and support to your fellow parishioners. Many of you volunteered in different ministries and reached out to others through your pastoral involvements. We deeply appreciate what you have done. Each of us together form this great community of ours. We also take this chance to present the financial report of our parish for FY 22/ 23. It is important for you to know how we as a parish use our time, resources and knowledge for the good of our community. We have taken every care to make the best use of our existing resources and tried our best to reduce our operating expenses. As good custodians of your homes, you are used to looking after your homes. The parish is our spiritual home, and we need to look after it. Thus, we encourage you to take a close look at the financial highlights that are presented below,

How we have expended our funds in the last 3 years:

1. Fixed the roof of the Church at a cost of \$ 10 k.
2. Installed new Pews with proper kneelers, costing \$ 200 k.
3. Reduced Catholic foundations quota debt by \$40 k.
4. Reduced our parish loan by \$ 200 k.

Our imminent expenses

1. Sound system – Adequate funds have been raised and we are awaiting installation - (estimated cost \$75,000)
2. Repair of broken window Louvres (Total cost \$45,000, Received from insurance \$36 k and remaining \$ 9 k has been raised by the Resource development team.)
3. Repair of the Church ceiling and repainting the Church (Estimated coast of \$30 k to be raised through donations)
4. Our estimated insurance cost for FY 24 is \$50 k.



Our other expenses of the parish for the year:

Daily running cost, wages of the parish staff, monthly repayment of our loan (\$12 k), Remaining Catholic Foundation quota from previous years --\$ 35 k, various ministry expenses.

Our future

- Revisit Church Air-conditioning.
- Becoming debt free by repaying our remaining loan of \$3.42 million
- Building a gathering place and parish office close to the church.

All these are the needs of our community and the parish, and they can only be achieved through your continued involvement and contributions. Thus, we request your support to our Parish in whatever way possible.

We currently have approximately 270 families on a planned giving program, which helps us to budget our finances. We are appealing to all parishioners of St John 23rd to contribute to the financial well-being of the church. We thank all those who have continually and regularly contributed to the parish and encourage everyone else to support our parish according to ability. We are all custodians of our parish.

If you have any questions, please approach Fr. Jolly or members of the Finance committee.

- Registering and signing up to the monthly planned giving program
- Speaking with Fr Jolly if you are interested to contribute to a specific initiative.

Income & Expenses				
	FY 2022	FY 2023	Change	Half year to Dec 23
Income				
Planned giving	157,854	155,735	-1%	92,716
Loose 2nd Collection	119,324	169,151	29%	57,514
Other	51,440	21,283	-142%	37,072
	328,618	346,169	5%	187,302
Expenditure				
Staff wages & superannuation	91,275	99,146	8%	53,974
Repairs & Maintenance	9,952	10,297	3%	1,308
Insurance	33,632	38,328	12%	12,515
Motor vehicle expenses	18,178	11,507	-58%	8,849
Diocesan Works Fund - Parish Contribution	3,612	(21,203)	117%	(1,361)
Utilities & Telephone	15,134	19,913	24%	5,396
Other	33,495	33,880	1%	19,068
	205,278	191,868	-7%	99,749
Net Operating Surplus/Deficit	123,340	154,301	20%	87,553
Parish Loan Repayments	60,000	60,000	0%	45,308
Net Op Surp/Def After Debt Servicing	63,340	94,301	33%	42,245
Parish Loan Balance	3,523,178	3,463,178	-2%	3,426,238
Catholic Foundation Quota Payable	57,708	36,505	-58%	35,143



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://pfparr.org.au/soulfood/>



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER GATHERING

Friday 1st March at 6pm, at St John XXIII Church, Stanhope Gardens, everyone is welcome.

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement that brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, we can learn how our sisters of other countries, languages and cultures understand the Biblical passages in their context. We can hear their concerns and needs and can join in solidarity with them as we pray with and for them. In this way, it is possible to enrich our Christian faith as it grows deeper and broader in an international, ecumenical expression.

St John XXIII Parish Retreat

Theme: "Enlighten our spirit and renew our love" based on the Gospel reading, John 3:14-21

Dates:

Friday, 8 March starting at 7pm (includes Stations of the Cross, First Friday Mass and Reflection)

Saturday, 9 March starting at 10am, concluding at 5pm

Guest speakers for the retreat will include:

Sr Katherine from the MGL Sisters,

Colin Calmiano from Bangalore and

Alison from Parramatta Diocese, Mission Enhancement Team.

To register your attendance please RSVP at <https://lrco.de/sj23retreat> or scan the QR code



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

Form Name: Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2024

First Name: Last Name:

Address:

Suburb: Postcode:

Phone: Email Address:

Please choose ONE session per session

SESSIONS

☐ Monday 8th February: Compulsory Introductory Session

☐ Monday 28th February: Ministers of the Word

☐ Monday 18th March: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Monday 8th April: Communion to the Sick & Dying

☐ Monday 28th April: Ministers at the Altar

☐ Thursday 22nd February: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 28th February: Ministers of the Word

☐ Thursday 8th March: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 18th April: Communion to the Sick & Dying

☐ Thursday 28th April: Ministers at the Altar

☐ Thursday 22nd May: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 28th May: Ministers of the Word

☐ Thursday 8th June: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 18th June: Communion to the Sick & Dying

☐ Thursday 28th June: Ministers at the Altar

☐ Thursday 22nd July: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 28th July: Ministers of the Word

☐ Thursday 8th August: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 18th August: Communion to the Sick & Dying

☐ Thursday 28th August: Ministers at the Altar

☐ Thursday 22nd September: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 28th September: Ministers of the Word

☐ Thursday 8th October: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 18th October: Communion to the Sick & Dying

☐ Thursday 28th October: Ministers at the Altar

☐ Thursday 22nd November: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 28th November: Ministers of the Word

☐ Thursday 8th December: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 18th December: Communion to the Sick & Dying

☐ Thursday 28th December: Ministers at the Altar

☐ Thursday 22nd January: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

☐ Thursday 28th January: Ministers of the Word

☐ Thursday 8th February: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

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☐ Thursday 18th June: Communion to the Sick & Dying

CONTACTS

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours

Tue - Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

Office Contacts

☎ (02) 8883 5981

(AH Emergency)

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Stanhope Gardens NSW 2768

MAILING

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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

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Welcome to our parish community!

Please take a welcome pack from the church foyer

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
Parramatta Way 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/>

TO THE SENIORS OF OUR PARISH

Come and join! "Young at Hearts Seniors Club" invites you to join in a special presentation on **"Demystifying Dementia"** led by Donna Ward, Community Engagement and program Director, Group Homes Australia (GHA), who will be sharing valuable insights and a deeper understanding of dementia.

You'll also learn how to reduce risk factors and gain practical tips and strategies to support your loved ones and others in the Community to live well with dementia.

Following mass and morning tea,

WHEN: Wednesday 20th March 10.15am-11.30am

WHERE: Catholic Parish of St John 23rd, Stanhope Gardens.

To register your interest, (after the 16th of February) please contact either Frank 0459 504625 email frank.coleiro@gmail.com or Trevor on 0407 150399





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Risen Lord Community Praise & Worship Night



**7.30pm
FRIDAYS,
St John 23rd
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.



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