

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.

For the opening procession's commemoration of Jesus' entering Jerusalem there is a choice between the accounts of Mark and John. There are distinct differences between John and the Synoptic Gospels, in which Jesus rides a colt (Matthew having a donkey too!), and people sing variant forms of Psalm 118(117):25-26 and spread garments on the road, Matthew and Mark adding leafy branches. Matthew's prophetic citation is in fact a merging of Isaiah 62:11 and Zechariah 9:9. In John nothing is put on the road, but the people do sing another form of Psalm 118(117):25-26 and carry palms (as do the multitude from all nations greeting the Lamb in Rev 7:9), and only after this does Jesus himself find and sit on a young donkey which John links to a variant form of Zechariah 9:9. Thus John is the only one to mention palms, so it is his account that gave rise to the name of Palm Sunday. His version also has much in common with later descriptions of the rituals of the harvest festival, Sukkot (Tabernacles). John 7:2 has the New Testament's only explicit mention of that feast, when Jesus went up to Jerusalem in secret while the people, hoping he would come, kept watch for him. At the current feast, Passover, they again watch for him, and when they hear that he is coming they go out to greet him. Thus John threads the two feasts together via the people's watchfulness and the way they greet him five days before Passover with the ritual procession from the prior harvest festival. Since John's text for today's entrance immediately precedes last Sunday's gospel, we appear to have another link to its reference to the rich harvest consequent on the death of the single grain of wheat.

The theme of obedient submission even in the face of unjust treatment is picked up in the first reading (Isa 50:4-7), part of the Third Servant Song which provides the images all the evangelists employ to depict the mistreatment endured before the crucifixion. The responsorial psalm provides the source for the cry "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me" which Jesus uttered from the Cross. Although that sounds like a cry of despair, the psalm ends in hope and praise of God who reigns. Missing from our abbreviated form is the following reference to people of all nations bowing to God. That thought is reflected instead in the second reading (Philippians 2:6-11; see also the reflections for the feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross and the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time A) in the hymn that praises the reciprocal self-abasement of Jesus in his incarnate humility even unto death on the Cross, and of all beings bending the knee to his name.

Today's Passion narrative begins with Jesus at table in Bethany when an unnamed woman poured costly perfume on his head, an act he interprets as preparatory to burial. Matthew reports this too, but John tells a significantly different version, while Luke has yet another variant taking place much earlier and linked to the burial only by the names of the other attending women who will be present at the crucifixion. Mark's is the only account read at this time, being sufficiently brief a version to be accommodated in the Passion. For this reason it is advisable that, when possible, today's shorter alternative should not be used; this element then finds its parallel on Holy Saturday night when we read of the women taking perfumes to the tomb, belatedly to anoint his body for burial, only to find they are too late in a way they could not imagine.

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
Wed 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

**EASTER TRIDUUM
MASS TIMES**

28th March Holy Thursday
7.30pm School hub
29th March Good Friday
Stations of the Cross
10am School grounds
Veneration of the Cross
3pm School hub
30th March Easter Vigil
7:30pm Church
31st March Easter Sunday
Regular mass times
7:30am 9am 10:30am 6pm



**Church
Painting
and
Repairs**



We are certain you all appreciate a clean newly painted, and all the cracks in the ceiling fixed in the Church. It has a better look now, including the toilets, sacristy and kitchen area. The total cost of the project is \$30,000. While we had the scissor lifts around we changed all the damaged or to be damaged fire sensors which was also an absolute necessity. We have so far raised 40% of the total cost, we need to raise the remaining 60% of the cost. Please continue your support, so we can pay the painters.

Thank you very much for your continued support.
Finance Committee & Maintenance

Visit the parish website and donate through BPOINT or scan the QR code for BPOINT.

Or via bank transfer:
Account name : Blessed John XXIII parish
BSB : 067 950 A/C : 00000313
Ref : SS (and your name)

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

The children of the Hebrews, carrying olive branches, went to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: Hosanna in the highest.

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' **R.**

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 15:1-39

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
First thing in the morning, the chief priest together with the elders and scribes, in short the whole Sanhedrin, had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It is you who say it' he answered. And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again, 'Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you!' But to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?' For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priest, however, had incited the crowd to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead. Then Pilate spoke again, 'But in that case,' he said 'what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?' They shouted back. 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes. They led him out to crucify him. They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription, giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.'

And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said, 'Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!' The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. 'He saved others, they said 'he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.' Even those who were crucified with him taunted him.

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Ebi, Eli, lama sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said, 'Listen, he is calling on Elijah.' Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.' But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment

And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said, 'In truth this man was a son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

Special Intentions

Recently Deceased:

Flora Paraan, Brother Charles Barry,
Rita Muscat

Anniversary:

Clarence Duncan, William Alexander Dutfield
Crispina Alino, Prosper Dejos Sr

Deceased:

Mary T J Nelson

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.

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

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

PRAYING in the SILENCE of the HEART

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

Brother Roger of Taizé

March Church Calendar

Mon	25	8:30am - Mass
Tues	26	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Rosary and Novena prayer to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	27	9:15am - Mass
Thurs	28	<i>Maundy Thursday</i> 7:30pm - Mass (School Hub)
Fri	29	<i>Good Friday</i> 10:00am - Stations of the Cross - St Mark's School ground 3:00pm - Veneration of the Cross (School hub)
Sat	30	<i>Paschal Vigil</i> 7:30pm - Easter Vigil Mass
Sun	31	<i>Easter Sunday</i> 7:30, 9:00, 10:30am - Mass 10:30am - Easter Egg Hunt 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

Mar	5	12	19	26	
	<i>Cruz</i>	<i>Dennis</i>	<i>Jacob</i>	Shalini	
Apr	2	9	16	23	30
	Festejo	Vasram	Sebastian	Ring	Lali
May	7	14	21	28	
	Shalini	Sebastian	Shanti	Gan	
Jun	4	11	18	25	
	Erasmus	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	
Jul	2	9	16	23	30
	<i>available</i>	Tangunan	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>available</i>

"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 ☺

St John 23rd RCIA Programme

This year our Parish is blessed to have 2 catechumens who are in their final weeks of preparation to be baptized in the Church.

Paula Prats, Hadi Yazdi

They will receive the other sacraments, together with **William Bokenham**, as we pray for them each day in their final preparation in the faith journey and for their families.

May they be strengthened and blessed with graces to grow in the knowledge and in faith.

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.

scan the QR code



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

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

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

If you wish to donate flowers for the altar, please phone James David on 0413 787596



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

"Lent is a time to focus on prayer, to open our hearts and minds to God who loves us."

YOU are invited to experience God's Peace and Love by slowing down and reflecting in a small group each week.
EVERY FRIDAY EVENING at 7 pm at the Parish staff meeting room.
 Call Pauline on 0407417039 for any inquiries.



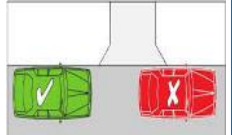
John McCabe
 Karen Green
 Julian Martin
 Suni Fernando

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.

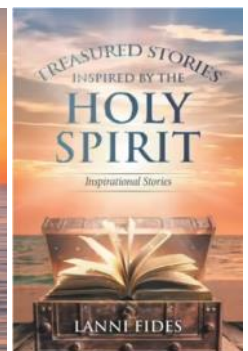
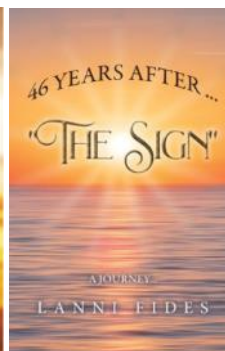
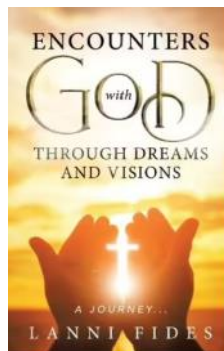
Book 2: 46 YEARS AFTER ... "THE SIGN" - author's remarkable revelation of her inspiring life story on faith, love, marriage, family, and purpose in life.

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

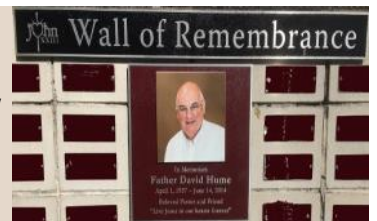
For our parishioners who are planning to buy a Niche, do so without delay, because we always want to prioritise members of our parish who wish to buy the Niches.

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



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**

**Stay with Me,
watch and pray**

Let us keep watch with the Lord during Holy Hour of Thursday at the Altar of Repose, between 9pm till midnight.

Everyone is invited to keep watch, stay and pray. Give an hour (or more) of your time with the Lord.



Easter Egg Hunt

31st March after the 10:30 am mass
Kids up to the age 10 years are welcome.
1 parent or adult can assist if need be.

For those participating, please stay in the church after the mass and wait for further instructions.




DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY WILL
COMMENCE ON
SUNDAY 7TH APRIL
BETWEEN 5-6PM
FOLLOWED BY
MASS

THEY'RE BACK - INDONESIA SATAY

7TH APRIL after morning masses

The Indonesian Prayer Group is hosting a sumptuous Indonesian Food (Satay) on Sunday 7th April after 7.30am mass onwards. Please support as funds raised will go to the church. Thank you.



YOUTH MINISTRY

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



For all youth ministry enquiries

✉ blaze@john23rd.org.au

Follow us

www.facebook.com/blazeyouthsj23/

<https://www.instagram.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

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

✉ celstanbope@parra.catholic.edu.au

🌐 www.celstanbope.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

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

Easter Triduum is a term used by the Roman Catholic Church to denote the three days from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. The Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and ends after evening prayers at sunset on Easter Day.

The term was used at the Second Vatican Council, when the revised liturgical calendar set the final part of Holy Week apart from Lent proper. Previously, these three days had already gained distinction from the rest of Holy Week with an observance of silence, which were also known as "the still days." During Mass, music was not to be played and all church bells were silenced. People were also encouraged to observe silence in their homes during this time.

Holy Thursday

The first celebration of the Triduum is the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. This Mass celebrates the last meal Jesus shared with his Twelve Apostles and disciples before his death. (cf. Paul the Apostle recounted in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, as well as the synoptic Gospel accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke)

After the homily on Holy Thursday, we imitate our master in the washing of feet. This ritual reminds us that our baptismal commitment means we are to be servants of one another. In the time of St. Ambrose in Milan, those who were baptized also had their feet washed, because of Jesus' words to Peter: "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed" (Jn 13:10). Many scholars have seen a baptismal reference in those words.

Per se, the Mass does not end. There is no dismissal or final blessing. The evening's celebration concludes with a "stripping of the altar" in which not only are all decorations removed, the Blessed Sacrament is taken from the tabernacle on the main altar and processed to an altar of repose outside the main body of the church. The sanctuary candle or paschal candle is extinguished or darkened, and not relit until the Easter Vigil. Eucharistic Adoration is common after the Holy Thursday Mass and continuing until midnight. It is reminiscent of waiting with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

Also in Roman Catholicism, images of saints are either kept or veiled until the Easter Vigil. Votive lights before these images are not lit. Crucifixes that are movable are hidden, while those that are not movable are veiled until the Easter Vigil.

Good Friday

On this day, Christians ritually recall the Passion and crucifixion of Jesus. Mass is not celebrated on this day, however, Holy Communion (reserved in the tabernacle on the altar of repose from the previous evening) is distributed at the Celebration of the Lord's Passion. The celebration traditionally occurs at 3 pm and consists of three parts: liturgy of the Word, veneration of the cross, and Holy Communion.

The first part, the Liturgy of the Word, consists of the reading or chanting of Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9, and the Passion account from the Gospel of John. The second part of the Good Friday liturgy is the Veneration of the Cross: a cross is solemnly displayed to the congregation and then venerated by them, individually if possible. The third and last part is Holy Communion. The Eucharist, consecrated at the Mass of Holy Thursday is distributed at this service. At the conclusion, the priest and people depart in silence, and the altar cloth is removed, leaving the altar bare.

Holy Saturday

Following Good Friday, Holy Saturday is a commemoration of the day that Jesus lay in his tomb. In the Roman Catholic Church, daytime Masses are never offered. It is a time of waiting.

Easter Vigil (Saturday after sunset)

Held after nightfall of Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Day, in anticipation of the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.

The Easter Vigil consists of four parts:

- The Service of Light
- The Liturgy of the Word
- Christian Initiation and the Renewal of Baptismal Vows
- Holy Eucharist

The Service of Light

The Vigil service begins outside the church around a large fire. This new fire symbolizes the radiance of the Risen Christ dispelling the darkness of sin and death. The Paschal candle is blessed and then lit. This Paschal candle will be used throughout the season of Easter, remaining in the sanctuary of the church or near the lectern, and throughout the coming year at baptisms and funerals, reminding all, that Christ is "light and life."

Once the candle has been lit there follows the ancient and dramatic rite of the Lucernarium, in which the candle is carried by a priest through the nave of the darkened church, stopping three times to chant an acclamation such as 'Christ our Light' to which the assembly responds 'Thanks be to God.' As the candle proceeds through the church, the baptized light their candles from the flame of the Paschal candle. As this symbolic "Light of Christ" spreads throughout those gathered, the darkness is dispersed. Once the procession has reached the sanctuary of the altar, with the church lit only by candle light, the Exultet (Easter Proclamation) is intoned.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Liturgy of the Word consists of seven readings from the Old Testament, although it is permitted to reduce this number for pastoral reasons (if reduced, it is customary to use readings 1, 3, 5 and 7). Each reading is followed by a psalm and a prayer relating what has been read in the Old Testament to the Mystery of Christ. After these readings conclude, the Gloria is sung for the first time since before Lent (with the exception of Holy Thursday, which is the only time it is heard during the 40 days of Lent), and the church bells and the organ, silent since that point on Holy Thursday, are sounded again – The opening collect (prayer) is read. A reading from the Epistle to the Romans is proclaimed, followed by the chanting of Psalm 118. The Alleluia is sung for the first time since the beginning of Lent. The Gospel of the Resurrection is proclaimed.

The Rite of Christian Initiation

People desiring to full initiation in the Church who have completed their formation are formally initiated as members of the faith the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist; the latter is celebrated during the Liturgy of the Eucharist). The Initiation celebration consists of the Baptismal Liturgy (litany of the saints, blessing of the baptismal waters, Baptism celebration, and Confirmation celebration, and a renewal of Baptismal vows of all present.

The Easter Vigil then concludes with a Liturgy of the Eucharist.



28 March
7:30pm Mass (School Hub)
Church will be open till midnight for anyone who might want to stay and pray.



28 March
10:00 am - Stations of the Cross (School ground)
3:00 pm - Veneration of the Cross (School Hub)



28 March
7:30 pm - Easter Vigil Mass (Church)
Incl Rite of Christian Initiation by 3 catechumen



28 March
Regular mass times
7:30am, 9:00am,
10:30am, 6:00pm



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://pjarra.org.au/soulfood/>



CYP GOOD FRIDAY NIGHT WALK (29th March)

Dear Parents,

I hope you've been well! I wish to invite you to CYP's annual Good Friday Night Walk! This event is held every year and offers an opportunity for you and your family to reflect on Jesus' journey during the lead up to Holy Week and Easter alongside others. This pilgrimage invites you to walk from Blacktown to Parramatta, passing through many churches, where we will engage in music, reflection and prayer. It will be held on Good Friday, the 29th of March at 10pm and will end on the 30th of March at 7am. The BLAZE leaders will be attending this event and we encourage you and your children to join us! All details can be found here: <https://parracatholic.org/events/gfnn/>. If you would like to register, please do so on the link provided. We would love for you and your family to join us, and if you do, please let us know. We would love to walk alongside you as a community of St John XXIII Parish. If your children are attending alone, please let us know as well so we can look out for them and accompany them throughout the night. I strongly encourage you and your children to experience this heartfelt and moving pilgrimage. Let us honour the life of our Lord together, through sacrifice and companionship.

God Bless, Amanda

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Welcome to our parish community!
Please take a welcome pack from the church foyer
Visit our website
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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/>

Applications are now open

KINDERGARTEN 2025

Please download your enrolment pack from our website and submit your documentation prior to 12 April 2024

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Risen Lord Community Praise & Worship Night



7.30pm FRIDAYS, St John 23rd College Hall

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