

Consult not your fears  
but your hopes and  
your dreams -  
Pope St John 23rd

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.

**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.

**Gospel Reflection**

Our Lenten basic training regime continues. Ten of the forty days have passed. What are we doing differently? What changes in our routines, outlooks are we noticing?

Ash Wednesday's gospel spoke of prayer, fasting and giving alms. Lenten groups, fasting, Project Compassion. Our aim is to come to a deeper relationship with Jesus as risen and present, a deeper maturity as believers and as human beings. Our Lord was the most fully alive human being who ever lived. So shall we be, as we walk in the path that is his life and accept the truth he spoke about God.

God the Father acknowledged Jesus as Son at significant moments in his life. The first was his baptism with the Father speaking and the Spirit descending. That Spirit then stayed indwelling Jesus and led him away from all that was familiar, into wilderness. There he came to grips with what kind of mission did he want? What kind of anointed leader would he be? He firmed in his ideas and thus equipped, embraced his public ministry. The devil plays with the idea of Jesus being the son of God: if you are ... This Sunday, Jesus takes Peter, James and John, the three who will accompany him into the garden of Gethsemane, the night before he died. The taste of the bread and wine of the Passover meal is still with them. This time, they go up a mountain for Jesus to pray. While praying, he is transfigured. His clothes

and features glow like lightning. The three are seeing something of the divine nature that is his by nature.

Moses and Elijah come and the three talk about the Exodus, the passing, Jesus will accomplish in Jerusalem with his suffering, death and resurrection.

Moses and Elijah are significant. Moses liberated the people from slavery and gave them the law that would guide their becoming the chosen people, in fact not just name. Elijah, the great prophet of the end time, appears saying by his presence that in Jesus the last phase of human history has begun.

Peter, James and John cannot unsee what happened before them. Jesus is talking about what will happen in Jerusalem – suffering and death and resurrection to new life. His Father reassures him that he is the son, the chosen one and the disciples are to listen to him.

These three will fail him when the end comes. Sleeping while he agonises over what is coming. Fleeing from the site of the crucifixion. But with the resurrection, they encounter not someone glowing like light but radiant with the fullness of humanity. St Paul reminds us that what happened to our Lord will happen to us – our lowly bodies will be transfigured. Heaven is our homeland. We shall walk the halls of heaven as transfigured human beings, not disembodied souls. We shall recognize each other and rejoice in being together again. Peter wanted to acknowledge the importance of Moses, Elijah and Jesus by erecting tents to which they could return. But the three are not on the same level of importance. The others disappear leaving only Jesus. He is the one whose words they are to take to heart. Let us listen to him as attentively as we can.

**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
- 2nd Sat** 7:30pm Indonesian Mass

**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**

- Tue** 7:00pm Rosary and novena prayers (*Church Tabernacle*)
- Fri** 6.30pm Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group parish office  
*Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039*
- Fri** 7:00pm Stations of the Cross & Mass

**Special Blessings**

- Blessing during masses**
- 1st Sun** Birthday celebrants
- 3rd Sun** Wedding anniversaries

For further updates on parish activities

<http://john23rd.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish>

If you want to be part of our mailing list please email

✉ [Communications@john23rd.org.au](mailto:Communications@john23rd.org.au)

**St. John XXIII Parish Yard Sale**

Join us for our **Parish Yard Sale** and find great bargains on **clothing, books, household items, plants, food and more....**

**SATURDAY**  
22ND MARCH 2025  
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

**ST. JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC COLLEGE, STANHOPE GARDENS**  
STUDENT PICK-UP POINT

Every purchase will help make a difference in our community. So spread the word, bring your friends and enjoy a fun day of shopping!

For details contact  
Nanette: 0404 465 600  
Agnes: 0438 487 050

We have a huge response for sellers, with items ranging from homewares to clothes, jewelries, toys, mini appliances, books and many more. And don't forget delicious savories and sweets.

With so many sellers, there will be something for everyone!

**Come, shop and enjoy the day.**  
**This is for a cause and discover great bargains!**

## CONTACTS

### PARISH OFFICE

#### Office Hours

Tue - Fri 8.30 - 4.00pm

#### Office Contacts

☎ (02) 8883 5981

(AH Emergency)

☎ 0434 033 326

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](mailto:jolly@john23rd.org.au)

☎ 0417 541 637 (emergency only)

#### Assistant Priest:

Fr Bartholomew Chukwu

✉ [chukwu@john23rd.org.au](mailto:chukwu@john23rd.org.au)

### STAFF

#### Secretary:

Tanya Gatt

✉ [secretary@john23rd.org.au](mailto:secretary@john23rd.org.au)

#### Finance:

Renuka Soosaipillai

✉ [accounts@john23rd.org.au](mailto:accounts@john23rd.org.au)

#### Sacramental Coordinator:

Helen Zammit

✉ [sacramental@john23rd.org.au](mailto:sacramental@john23rd.org.au)

### OTHER CONTACTS

#### Parish Council:

John McCabe

✉ [johnmccabe5@gmail.com](mailto:johnmccabe5@gmail.com)

#### Maintenance issues:

David Gorkic

✉ [maintenance@john23rd.org.au](mailto:maintenance@john23rd.org.au)

#### Columbarium queries:

✉ [columbarium@john23rd.org.au](mailto:columbarium@john23rd.org.au)

### Never miss our Bulletin

If you would like to be included in  
our mailing list

✉ [communications@john23rd.org.au](mailto:communications@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](http://www.facebook.com/john23rdparish)

### COELIACS

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

### HOMEBOUND

Homebound and would like to  
receive Holy Communion please  
contact the parish office or send  
text message to Rose Franco on  
0401 387427



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/>

## Praying together

*Praying together provides a lot of benefits like strengthening our faith and uniting hearts in our community. Join us and enrich your faith and let the Holy Spirit come to you.*

### NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

#### Our Lady of Perpetual Help Prayer

*O Mother of Perpetual Help, grant that I may ever invoke thy most powerful name, which is the safeguard of the living and the salvation of the dying. O Purest Mary, O Sweetest Mary, let thy name henceforth be ever on my lips. Delay not, O Blessed Lady, to help me whenever I call on thee, for, in all my needs, in all my temptations I shall never cease to call on thee, ever repeating thy sacred name, Mary, Mary.*

*O what consolation, what sweetness, what confidence, what emotion fill my soul when I pronounce thy sacred name, or even only think of thee. I thank God for having given thee, for my good, so sweet, so powerful, so lovely a name. But I will not be content with merely pronouncing thy name: let my love for thee prompt me ever to hail thee, Mother of Perpetual Help. (Then say three Hail Marys).*



Rosary and novena prayers  
every Tuesday at 7:00PM and  
**Novena mass every  
First Tuesday 7:30pm**

please contact either

Techie Sarlabus [techie.sarlabus@gmail.com](mailto:techie.sarlabus@gmail.com) or  
Melva Paguinto [emcipi85@yahoo.com.au](mailto:emcipi85@yahoo.com.au)

for the opportunity of having the statue of Our  
Lady visit your home, and be included in a roster  
below.

Families on the roster, if unable to pick up please  
don't hesitate to contact Techie or Melva.

If you would like to invite Fr Jolly or Fr Menard to  
join you in prayers at home, please organise with  
the parish office.

### Rosary Statue Family Roster

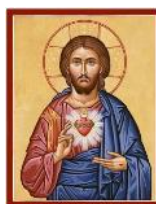
Month	4	11	18	25	
Mar	Paguinto	Hala	Lali	Barnouti	
Apr	1 Deang	8 Ring	15 Sebastian	22 Shalini	29 Jacob
May	6 Dennis	13 Sebastian	20 Ruggiero	27 Available	
Jun	3 Available	10 Available	17 Ruggiero	24 Available	
Jul	1 Available	8 Tanganan	15 Ruggiero	22 Available	29 Available

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

### HOLY HOUR

Spend an hour in prayer and meditation with  
the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday  
at 8:00PM



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7:00PM every Friday in Lent Mass follows.

### PRAYING in the SILENCE of the HEART

*with Brother Roger of Taizé*

Holy Spirit, filling the universe,  
as a breath of silence you tell  
each of us: "Be afraid of nothing.

Deep within you in the  
presence of God; seek, and you  
will find."

## Caring for our parish 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.

To help with the planning/budgeting of church expenses, we have a Planned Giving Program. We encourage parishioners to register for direct debit or credit card deductions as alternative to an envelope system. Support can be provided via the registration forms available at the church foyer or from the website or scan the QR Code.

scan this



TapnGo machines available by the entrances.

## OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

### Ambrose Early Learning

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ [celestanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:celestanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au)

🌐 [www.celestanhope.catholic.edu.au](http://www.celestanhope.catholic.edu.au)

### Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: Attila Lendvai

☎ (02) 8664 7100

✉ [holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au)

🌐 [www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au)

### St John XXIII Catholic College

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

Principal: Frank Chiment

☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ [stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmarks@parra.catholic.edu.au)

🌐 [www.stjohn23stanhope.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohn23stanhope.catholic.edu.au)

### Entrance Antiphon

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

### First Reading

*Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18*

*God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14*

**R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink? **R.**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer. Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.' **R.**

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face. Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. **R.**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord! **R.**

### Second Reading

*Philippians 3:17 - 4:1*

*Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.*

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

### Gospel Acclamation

*Matthew 17:5*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

### Gospel

*Luke 9:28-36*

*As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him!'. And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### Communion Antiphon

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.



## Lent Fasting Rules: Catholic Rules for Fasting During Lent in 2025

Along with prayer and almsgiving, fasting is one of the three pillars of Lent.

In a message for Lent in 2008, Pope Benedict XVI described these as “specific tasks that accompany the faithful concretely in this process of interior renewal.”

A decade earlier, St. (Pope) John Paul II described Lent as a “commitment to a new life, inspired by Gospel values,” moving away from selfishness and drawing closer to the path Christ.

That path, according to Pope John Paul II, can be summarized in the words of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, with fasting consisting of moderation in food and lifestyle as “a sincere effort to remove from our hearts all that is the result of sin and inclines us to evil.”

Prayer and almsgiving may be easier to fully grasp than fasting, for which the Church has provided specific rules and guidelines to help shape our Lenten journey towards renewal.

Here’s an overview of common questions about Lent fasting rules to guide your observance in 2025.

### Lent Fasting Rules: Frequently Asked Questions

#### ***What Is Fasting?***

In the Catholic Church, fasting is a practice in self-discipline with a penitential focus. In the context of Lent, it refers to reducing food intake and limiting how many meals we have.

#### ***What are the Lent fasting rules?***

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, fasting rules allow Catholics to eat only one full meal and two smaller meals which, combined, would not equal a single normal meal. Additionally, Catholics may not eat meat on these two days—or on any Friday during Lent.

#### ***What are the Lent rules on abstinence?***

In this context, abstinence refers to “abstaining” from meat on Fridays during Lent. Whereas Catholics fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday with just one large meal, Catholics must refrain from eating meat on other Fridays, though they can have three full meals.

#### ***At what age do you start fasting for Lent?***

Those ages 18-59, in reasonable health, are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those 14 and older must abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent. Canon Law does mention that for young children not fasting, parents should still communicate the meaning and penance.

#### ***Who is exempt from fasting during Lent?***

Children, adults with physical and mental illness, pregnant women and those nursing are all exempt. The USCCB stresses that “common sense should prevail” and that no one should jeopardize their health to fast.

#### ***When is fasting over?***

Lent ends on Holy Thursday, but Lenten fasting (and personal commitments) usually continues until Easter. Papal document *Paschalis Solemnitatis* recommends this in order that we “with uplifted and welcoming heart be ready to celebrate the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection.”

#### ***Can you eat meat on Good Friday?***

On the one hand, Good Friday is part of the Easter Triduum, which marks the end of Lent. However, since Good Friday itself is a day of abstinence, it’s best to abstain from meat, as in the Fridays of Lent.

#### ***Do Sundays count for fasting?***

It’s been a custom for Catholics to give something up during Lent, in addition to the fastings and abstinence rules. Some keep their sacrifice continuously, but Sundays during Lent are not “prescribed days of fasting and abstinence.” Ultimately, it’s a personal decision.

#### ***Are fish fries OK?***

Since serves fish instead of meat, your local church fish fry is a fine option for Fridays during Lent. Because the Lent season is one rooted in penance, a modest meal at your parish is probably a better option than a lavish seafood feast at a fine restaurant.

#### ***Does “abstinence” apply to sex? Do Catholics need to abstain from sex during Lent?***

No. Abstinence refers to food.

Some parish birth records from the Middle Ages show that births declined nine months after Lent and rose nine months after Easter, so there may be some historical precedent for the practice.

#### ***What can you drink on Ash Wednesday? What are the fasting rules around liquids like coffee?***

Normal rules around fasting before receiving Communion (abstaining from food an hour before Mass) apply during Lent. Outside of that, there are no specific rules around liquids, so coffee, tea and soda are fine. A smoothie that constitutes a meal would probably count as food.

#### ***What are the fasting rules around alcohol?***

The Church does not specifically limit alcohol. A person’s personal discretion is best.

<https://hallow.com/blog/lent-fasting-rules/>

## Community Events



Building our Community  
**TOGETHER**

As a 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 and encourage our parish community to support these mini endeavour.

Any other suggestions for church fanfare, fundraising activities or just availability of support are most welcome and greatly appreciated. Please contact either Nanette - 0404 465600 or Techie - 0438 201436.

## March Calendar

Mon	17	<i>Saint Patrick (S)</i> 8:30am - Mass
Tues	18	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm—Rosary prayers Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wed	19	<i>Saint Joseph (S)</i> 9:15am - Mass 8:00pm - Holy Hour
Thurs	20	9:15am - Mass
Fri	21	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Stations of the Cross 7:30pm - Mass
Sat	22	8:30am - Community Yard Sale 9:00am - Mass 6:00pm - Mass
Sun	23	7:30, 9:00, 10:30am - Mass 6:00pm - Mass

# UPCOMING Community EVENTS



16<sup>th</sup> March after morning masses

If you would like to provide support or assistance please contact

[cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com](mailto:cakeangels.stjohn23@gmail.com)

**We have a new fridge!!**

Thank you Bob and Grace Agbulos for the donation of the fridge for the Church Kitchen.

## Community YARD SALE

# Some items on sale and much much more!!



## 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](mailto:maintenance@john23rd.org.au) or the parish office.

### ⇒ Grief and Bereavement Support Ministry. (Shalom)

We are looking for members to be part of this great comforting ministry. If you want to be part of this, a training course will be provided.

For more information please contact the parish office or get in touch with Fr Jolly.

### ⇒ MUSIC MINISTRY

Calling all singers and musicians!

Do you have a love for singing and want to use your voice to enhance worship in our parish? We are looking for parishioners, young and old alike to join our Music Ministry. You can either start a new choir group or join existing choirs.

If you're interested in being part of this wonderful group, please reach out to Neil Mascarenhas: 0422 445152 | [neil.mas@gmail.com](mailto:neil.mas@gmail.com)



John McCabe  
Karen Green  
Julian Martin  
Suní Fernando

Mei Velasco  
Ajith Lobo  
Helen Festejo  
Rebecca Reynolds

## Special Intentions

### Born to eternal life:

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

Enriqueta Benesa, Jovencio Benesa

### Remembrances:

Patrick Gallagher, Venido Tria Angeles

### Anniversary:

Beryl Irene Stewart, Gregory Reynolds, Nigel Reynolds, Crispina Alino, Jayaraju

### 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.*

Brian McCunnie, Geoff Roney, John Todhunter, Dr Bronwyn Andrews, Rosanna John Pellissery, Cindy Dadvivas, Christina Properzi, John Tipton, Elizabeth Candame, Jovita Castillo, Ryan Dixon, Margaret Harrison, Carlo Bueno, Peter Dawson, Emma Matoza, Lino Matteazi, Isagani Ocampo, Florentina Elisura, Peter McArdle, Melissa Nava Cathie Christie, Jerry Bondoc, Elizabeth Langley, Geoffrey Robinson, Obet Dionisio, Bev Osborn, Maria Romeo, Louise Smith, Raymond Lanzona, Jonathan Gemin, Joshua McCarroll, Troy James Lucas Colleta, Adrian Von Hart, Ksenija Bosnic, Charlie Busuttill, Perla Magculang, Hilary Regan, Zoey Illic, Jakov & Marija Franich, Elsie Knapp, Bev Lewis, Lenka Olivier Talija, Myrna Manalili, Marilyn Nalapo, Dudley Francis, Manuel Sarris, Virginia Santos, Carrie Conolly, Natasha Leitao, Victor Pons, Jerwin McCarron, Valeria Laureta, Mary Phillips, Helen West, Emma Q Fernando, Brendan Prideaux, Fausto Bayot, Jude Newnes, Chet Catapang, Barbara Thompson, Alvin, Imelda Vinluan

### Thanksgiving:

Francisco Enriquez

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

### ALPHA PROGRAM

*I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them.*

*... The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realise that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms.' Pope Francis - Evangelii Gaudium #3*

Register now - <https://tiny.cc/AlphaStJohnXXIII> Feel free to call Mei 0410 040 434 or email [mei.donnie.velasco@gmail.com](mailto:mei.donnie.velasco@gmail.com) for any queries.



### FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

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



Let's make a joyful noise together and lead the congregation in deepening their faith through music!



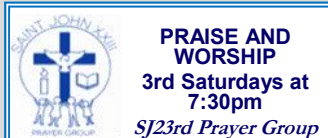
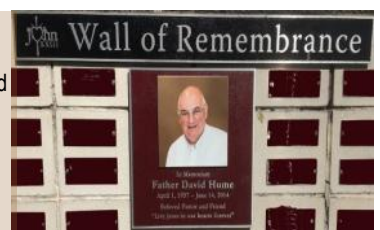
### COLUMBARIUM

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](mailto:columbarium@john23rd.org.au)  
The plaques cost \$600.00





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

"Would you like to be a part of a fulfilling ministry, shaping the future of young Catholics?"

**LOOKING FOR**  
**BLAZE**  
**YOUTH LEADERS**

CONTACT US IF YOU ARE INTERESTED!  
Email: [blaze@john23rd.org.au](mailto:blaze@john23rd.org.au)  
Instagram: @blazeyouthsj23

BLAZE Youth Group are looking for more youth leaders to help us run our sessions fortnightly!

If you would like to contact us, please feel free to do so via email or Instagram!

Proverbs 22:6 "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it."

**Calling All Young Singers!**

Do you have a love for singing and want to use your voice to bring joy to our church? We are looking for children aged **6–12 years** to join our **St John 23<sup>rd</sup> Children's Choir!**

If you're interested in being part of this wonderful group, please reach out to **Maria** at **0416 228 705** | [mariajohn14@hotmail.com](mailto:mariajohn14@hotmail.com)

Alternatively contact our Music Ministry Lead **Neil Mascarenhas** at **0422 445152** | [neil.mas@gmail.com](mailto:neil.mas@gmail.com)

Let's make a joyful noise together!

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE**  
#JUBILEE2025

**JUBILEE OF YOUTH**  
19 JULY – 5 AUGUST 2025  
18-35 YRS

GREECE & ITALY

**APPLY ONLINE:**   
[parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025](https://parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025)

**DON'T MISS OUT!**  
PLACE YOUR BOOKING BEFORE 31 MARCH TO SECURE YOUR PLACE.

Bookings: Spots are limited—secure your place by 31 March with an \$800 deposit! For more details and to register, visit [www.parracatholic.org/JubileeYouth2025](http://www.parracatholic.org/JubileeYouth2025).

**YOUTH**

**BLAZE YOUTH**  
**WHO:** Year 7 to Year 12  
**WHEN:** 7:00 - 9:00pm  
**WHERE:** St John XXIII College (C Block Bell space)

Please use the QR code to register. For any queries please email on [blaze@john23rd.org.au](mailto:blaze@john23rd.org.au) or DM [@blazeyouthsj23](https://www.instagram.com/blazeyouthsj23)


Youth Coordinators	Youth Leaders
Amanda Lee 0413 545 318 Caitlin Green 0425 579 594	Taylor Coutinho Natasja Surjanto Brendan Weber Anna Todhunter Earl Carvalho Charlotte Todhunter Johnathan Soosapillai

**IGNITE YOUNG ADULTS**  
**WHO:** 18 - 35 years of age  
**WHEN:** First Sundays of the month  
**TIME:** 7:00 - 9:30pm  
**WHERE:** St John XXIII College Staffroom

Please use the QR Code to register for our sessions. For any queries please either email [ignite.stjohn23@gmail.com](mailto:ignite.stjohn23@gmail.com) or DM on [@ignite\\_sj23](https://www.instagram.com/ignite_sj23)

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

**Indonesian Mass**  
 Every Second  
 Saturday, 7.30pm  
 St John 23<sup>rd</sup> Church



Please come and celebrate  
 The Eucharist together  
 (Indonesian Language)

**Risen Lord Community  
 Praise & Worship Night**  
 7.30pm  
**FRIDAYS,  
 St John 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 College Hall**



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**Richard Spiteri on 02 9659 0900**  
 (340 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill)



*Richard Spiteri (General Manager)*