

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

Today's first reading (Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4) sits oddly with the gospel; it is one of the few times when the two readings do not have an obvious connection. This is the sole reading from this prophet in the Sunday Lectionary, so with the pericope being composed of the opening of one complaint and the answer to a second and similar complaint it should perhaps be accepted as a sampler of this prophet, who proclaims trust in God's power to save, even though Israel is in the midst of woes and is surrounded by nations acting unjustly. Read in that manner it seems to have more correspondence with the second reading, 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14, the first of the series of extracts from this epistle to be read over four Sundays. Similarly to Habakkuk this epistle encourages steadfastness in the face of persecution. But this faith is not merely to be passively preserved; it is to be actively fostered, fanned into a flame. This then does find an echo in the apostles petitioning the Lord in the opening of the gospel pericope (Luke 17:5-10) to increase their faith. This section of Luke's gospel appears to be a collection of the Lord's sayings and of various encounters, and it is without an obvious narrative structure. The second part of today's passage has a sort of parable leading to a saying about servants doing their duty.

The gospel's first saying associates mustard seeds and mulberry trees, and contains a command that none in the world has ever accomplished. It leaves us perplexed, and wondering if something has been

lost in translation. We may spend much time quibbling over which species of mustard is meant and what size its seed is, or whether the tree is really a mulberry or a sycamore (a very large fig with mulberry-like leaves), or about their uses or symbolic meanings in ancient Israel, but it is easier to settle for the less literal yet perhaps more obvious meaning: even only a little faith can accomplish surprisingly great things. A modern image that comes unbidden to my mind, though not on the face of it a matter of religious faith, is that of the unknown courageous man with his shopping bags who stopped the procession of tanks in Tiananmen Square in 1989. He, though small and fragile in comparison to the tanks, stopped for at least a while that which was insurmountably stronger than him, such that the images captured of his actions (which China can never eradicate from the internet) endeared him to the world as a symbol of the power of the apparently powerless. So too throughout Christian history the gospel was spread not through the demonstration of great wonders that would sweep all doubt before them, but through combined efforts of the constant demonstration of small things done to those in need and the witness of those martyrs crushed by an almighty empire in its vain attempt to stop the spread of the gentle gospel in its tracks.

[1] Our Lectionary has 17:5-9, while the index has 5-19, but as per the Ordo Lectionum Missae has it correctly as 5-10.



Thank you for caring for our spiritual fathers.

Because of your compassion and generosity, our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal raised over \$3,830 to provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. Thank you once again.

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
Wed	8:00pm Holy Hour

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 (office) Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039

Special Blessings

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

Join & be part of our community.
scan the QR code



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

✉ Communications@john23rd.org.au

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Ambrose Early Learning

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens
☎ (02) 9852 0585
✉ celstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.celstanhope.catholic.edu.au

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood
Principal: Attila Lendvai
☎ (02) 8664 7100
✉ holycross@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.hcglenwood.catholic.edu.au

St John XXIII Catholic College

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens
A/Principal: Frank Chiment
☎ (02) 9852 0500
✉ stjohn23stanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.stjohn23stanhope.catholic.edu.au

Entrance Antiphon

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

First Reading

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

The just will live by faithfulness.

How long, Lord, am I to cry for help while you will not listen; to cry 'Oppression!' in your ear and you will not save? Why do you set injustice before me, why do you look on where there is tyranny? Outrage and violence, this is all I see, all is contention, and discord flourishes.

Then the Lord answered and said,

'Write the vision down, inscribe it on tablets to be easily read, since this vision is for its own time only: eager for its own fulfilment, it does not deceive; if it comes slowly, wait, for come it will, without fail. See how he flags, he whose soul is not at rights, but the upright man will live by his faithfulness.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Never be ashamed of witnessing the Lord.

I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God.

Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted to look after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

1 Peter 1:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the good news. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 17:5-10

If you had faith!

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.' The Lord replied, 'Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea," and it would obey you.'

'Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, "Come and have your meal immediately?" Would he not be more likely to say, "Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards"? Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, "We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty."'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.



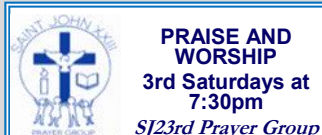
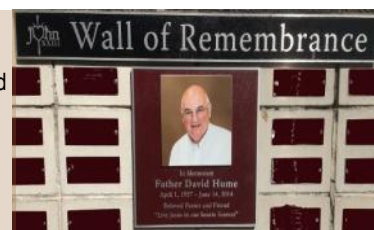
COLUMBARIUM

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 \$600.00



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

📞 0417 541 637 (emergency only)

Assistant Priest:

Fr Bartholomew Chukwu

✉ chukwu@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

Parish Council:

John McCabe

✉ johnmccabe5@gmail.com

Maintenance issues:

David Gorkic

✉ maintenance@john23rd.org.au

Columbarium queries:

✉ columbarium@john23rd.org.au

Never miss our Bulletin

If you would like to be included in
our mailing list

✉ 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

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



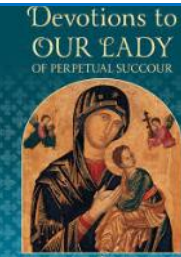
Office for Safeguarding Parramatta Way is to:

◆ 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.

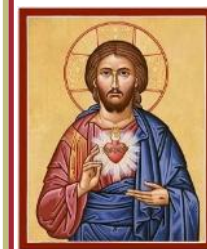


Rosary | novena prayers
Tuesday at 7:00PM and
Novena mass
First Tuesdays 7:30pm

Rosary statue roster
contacts Techie Sarlabus
techie.sarlabus@gmail.com or
Melva Paguinto
emcipi85@yahoo.com.au

HOLY HOUR

Eucharistic
Adoration
Wednesdays
8:00PM



Novena Mass
Our Sacred
Heart of Jesus
First Fridays
7:30PM with
exposition and
adoration
Sacrament.

Rosary Statue Family Roster

Oct	7	14	21	28	
	Valdez	Richards	Jacob	Nobleza	
Nov	4	11	18	25	
	Deang	Sebastian	Hala	Festejo	
Dec	2	9	16	23	30
	Cruz CG	Barnouti	Sebastian	Paguinto	Paguinto
Jan	6	13	20	27	
	Ruggiero	Ring M	Barnouti	Tangunan	
Feb	3	10	17	24	
	Available	Available	Available	Available	

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

PRAYING in the SILENCE of the HEART with Brother

Roger of Taizé

Holy Spirit, enable us to
turn toward you at every
moment. We so often
forget that you are
dwelling in us, that you are
praying in us, that you are
loving in us. Your
presence in us is trust and
constant forgiveness.

Diocesan News



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

11 October - Back to Basics Serving at the Altar Workshop:

Back by popular demand! We have decided to repeat the 'Back to Basics' Seminar for Acolytes and Ministers of the Altar (Senior Servers) who missed the last sessions and those who would like to attend again. This seminar will occur on Saturday 11 October from 9:30am to 3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Contact the Office for Worship team for more info: ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795. RSVP by 7 October via <https://parracatholic.org/events/serving-at-the-altar-workshop/>.

26 October - WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

You are warmly invited to attend the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to be held Sunday 26th October. Please join us for 2pm Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta celebrated by Bishop Vincent followed by afternoon tea at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent.

Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending to marriage@parracatholic.org by 15th October. Family and friends are welcome.

ship Team OFW@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.

Volunteers needed at Catholic Care Emerton!

Catholic Care is looking for volunteers to help at their Walk-In Centre in Emerton on Tuesdays to Thursdays. Volunteers would assist welcoming people into the drop-in centre, greeting clients for counselling appointments, assisting the local Aunties' yarnning and art gatherings, reception of the OzHarvest food delivery and overall assistance with Catholic Care projects and programs. For more information, please contact Catholic Care on (02) 8843 2500.

Volunteers needed at Catholic Care's Mamre Creche

Are you great with young kids? Catholic Care is looking for friendly, caring volunteers to support staff during crèche sessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm at Mamre House, Orchard Hills. If you enjoy spending time with young children (aged 0-5) and have a few hours to spare, we'd love to hear from you. Volunteers will need to obtain a Working with Children Check and Police Check.

To help make a difference in the lives of local families, call Catholic Care on (02) 8843 2500.

Grab your FREE copy of the Catholic Outlook Magazine!

Also available online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

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 provides for the running costs of our church, ministry 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 are available at the church foyer or from the website or scan the QR Code.

scan this



TapnGo machines available by the entrances.

Community Events



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.

UPCOMING Community EVENTS

October Calendar

Mon	6	8:30am - Mass
Tues	7	<i>Our Lady of the Rosary (M)</i> 9:15am - Mass 6:30pm - Rosary prayers 7:00pm - Novena mass Our Lady of Perpetual Help 8:00pm - Fellowship
Wed	8	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena Mass 8:00pm - Holy Hour
Thurs	9	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena Mass
Fri	10	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Novena Mass
Sat	11	9:00am - Mass 4:45pm - Praise & Worship 6:00pm - Mass
Sun	12	7:30, 9:00, 10:30am - Mass Blessing of the Hall Project Followed by the Feast day celebration 12:00pm—Baptism 6:00pm - Mass

St John XXIII
Catholic Church

FEAST OF ST JOHN XXIII CELEBRATIONS



12 OCT 2025

10:30am Holy Mass is celebrated by Fr. Peter Williams along with our combined choir

FOOD & SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT FOR KIDS

BLESSING OF NEW BUILDING - FREE ENTRY - FREE FOOD - FREE DRINKS - EVERYONE IS WELCOME

CNR PERFECTION AVE & BENTWOOD TCE, STANHOPE GARDENS

MORE INFO: 02 8863 5981
HTTP://JOHN23RD.COM HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JOHN23RDPARISH WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/SJ23STANHOPE

St John XXIII
Catholic Church

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS WE NEED YOUR HELP

VOLUNTEER AT THE ST JOHN XXIII FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

We are looking for volunteers to help in celebrations for the Feast Day of our Parish Patron, Pope St John XXIII.



St John XXIII
Catholic Church

Join the Parish celebration of the Communion of Saints!

HOLYWEEN SAINTS & HEROES NIGHT!

Friday 31st October 2025 | 6:00 PM
St John XXIII Catholic Church

Come dressed as your favourite saint or biblical character!

Prizes for the best outfit!
Enjoy games treats and fellowship...
All ages welcome.

Please register VIA this QR Code!




The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary Tuesday, 7 October 2025

- 6:30pm - Rosary
- 7pm - Mass & Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help

Novena & Mass for St John XXIII Wednesday, 8 October 2025

- Starting at 7pm

Novena & Mass for St John XXIII Thursday, 9 October 2025

- Starting at 7pm

Novena & Mass for St John XXIII Friday, 10 October 2025

- Starting at 7pm

St John XXIII Feast Day Saturday, 11 October 2025

- 4:45pm - Praise and Worship
- 6pm - Vigil Mass

ST JOHN XXIII FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, 12 October 2025

- 10:30am - Holy Mass is celebrated by Fr. Peter Williams
- Accompanied by our combined choir
- Food & Special Entertainment

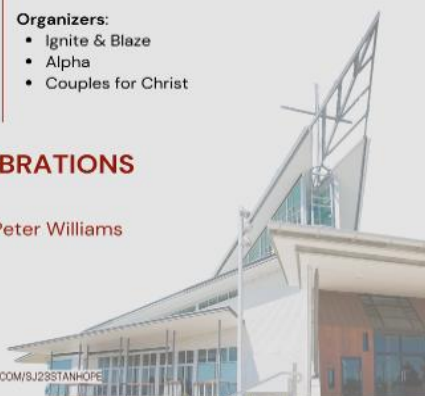
- Organizers:**
- Community Building & Rosary team
 - Vinnies
 - Cake Angels

- Organizers:**
- Fr Jolly and Liturgy team
 - St. John XXIII Prayer Group
 - SRE

- Organizers:**
- Risen Lord Community
 - Parish Pastoral Council
 - Finance Committee
 - Young at Heart

- Organizers:**
- Indonesian Prayer Group
 - YFC International & Australia
 - St. John XXIII Prayer Group

- Organizers:**
- Ignite & Blaze
 - Alpha
 - Couples for Christ



St John XXIII
Catholic Church

Acoustic Praise & Worship

11 October 2025
4:30pm - 5:30pm
St John XXIII Catholic Church

Come as you are, bring a friend, and encounter God through song and prayer.

Pastoral Ministries

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



John McCabe	Mei Velasco
Karen Green	Ajith Lobo
Julian Martin	Helen Festejo
Suni Fernando	Rebecca Reynolds

⇒ 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.

FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

For donation, please contact James David on 0413 787596

.....
We would like to extend our gratitude to those who continually support and donate flowers for the altar.



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

Joseph Bueno, Thanda Manjaly, Hilton Lowe

Remembrances:

Emy & Sam, James Youngman, Elisa Nazareno

Anniversary:

Renato Banaag

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, Valeria Laureta, Lucas Colleta, Dr Bronwyn Andrews, Rosanna John Pellissery, Cindy Dadvias, Christina Properzi, John Tipton, Margaret Harrison, Emma Matoza, Bev Osborn Florentina Elisura, Peter McArdle, Melissa Nava Cathie Christie, Elizabeth Langley, Ryan Dixon, Virginia Santos, Charlie Busuttil Imelda Vinluan Elizabeth Candame, Obet Dionisio, Zena Samar Jerwin McCarron, Lily Camilleri, Natasha Leitao Peter Dawson, Lenka Olivier Talija, Troy James, Perla Magculang, Marilyn Nalapo, Mary Phillips, Carrie Conolly, Fausto Bayot, Joshua McCarroll, Maria Romeo, Myrna Manalili, Jonathan Gemin, Carlo Bueno, Raymond Lanzona, Louise Smith, Gerald Simbulan, Dudley Francis, Jude Newnes, Jakov & Marija Franich, Victor Pons, Zoey Illic, Marcelino Matteazi, Emma Q Fernando, Alvin, Brendan Prideaux, Bev Lewis, Isagani Ocampo, Barbara Thompson, Elsie Knapp, Dexter Aguas Manuel Sarris, Rosie Carbonel, Ksenija Bosnic, Hilary Regan, Babies with Blister disease, Helen West

Thanksgiving

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



Cake Angel's Kitchen

Product details: Buttery Rusk
(AKA Filipino Iloilo Biscocho)
Weight: 260 grams per bag
Price \$5
Quantity available: 10 bags for \$50



If each individual can gather up orders for 10 bags to be shared amongst friends and family, we will have the opportunity to donate \$50 (or 100% of sales) towards the church hall project. We can also deliver upon request.

Contact: Send a text to 0423 777 430 (Madeline)

If you would like to assist in this endeavour please contact the Cake Angels
Proceeds from the **Cake Angels' Kitchen** will go towards the Hall/Office Project

Youth Ministry

BLAZE YOUTH

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

For any queries, please email blaze@john23rd.org.au or DM @blazeyouthsj23 on Insta | FB



IGNITE YOUNG ADULTS

WHO: 18 - 35 years of age
WHEN: First Sundays each month
TIME: 7:00 - 9:30pm
WHERE: St John XXIII Staffroom

For any queries please either email gnite.stjohn23@gmail.com or DM on @ignite_sj23



MORE YOUTH GROUPS

CRL (Community of the Risen Lord)

Rojith de Silva 0405 9563210
Nimeshi Fernando 0417 101009

YFC (Youth for Christ)

Dominic Lim 0468 826253 *Australia*
Ronan Limuangco 0478 629629 *International*

The Importance of the Holy Eucharist in Catholicism

Veiled in the quiet reverence of the Mass, the Holy Eucharist is the beating heart of Catholic worship. This sacrament is not merely a ritual, but a divine mystery that invites believers into a profound encounter with the living Christ. In the Eucharist, Catholics are united to Christ as they receive Him, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity under the humble appearances of bread and wine. Learn more about the importance of the Holy Eucharist in Catholicism and why we call it the “source and summit” of our Faith.

Foundation of Catholic Worship

The Holy Eucharist forms the bedrock of Catholic worship. Each Mass culminates in the offering of this holy Sacrifice; it is the center and purpose of the Mass, which is why we say the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The Holy Mass re-presents—that is, makes present again—the Sacrifice of Calvary. Through the hands of the priest, Christ makes Himself present once again and offers Himself to the Father for our salvation.

For us as Catholics, the celebration of the Eucharist is not just one part of our spiritual practice; it is the pinnacle of our worship. This sacred feast nourishes our souls, deepens our love for God, and bestows incredible graces. It invites us to participate in a mystery that has been at the heart of the Church’s life since her foundation.

Real Presence

Central to the Catholic understanding of the Eucharist is the doctrine of the Real Presence. This belief affirms that Christ is truly present—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—in the Eucharist. Consequently, Holy Communion becomes a sacred encounter with Jesus Himself.

This real and tangible presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a mystery that calls for profound Faith and reverence. Catholics approach the Eucharistic table with a spirit of awe, recognizing the presence of God and our own unworthiness. In this sacred meal, we find solace and strength, experiencing the divine presence that nourishes our spiritual journey.

Source of Grace

The Eucharist serves as a fount of divine grace, offering spiritual sustenance that fortifies us on our path of Faith. Every reception of the Eucharist is an infusion of grace that gives us the strength to live out our call to holiness. This sacrament is a wellspring of spiritual vitality that renews and refreshes the soul.

After all, this is not simply a divine gift—it is the greatest of all divine gifts, the gift of Christ Himself. He is the way, the truth, and the life, the inexhaustible well of God’s love and mercy. In this sacrament, He unites us to Himself and sustains us in times of trial and triumph. He gives us grace to propel us toward greater love, charity, and service to others.

Communion With Christ

Participation in the Eucharist is a profound act of communion that fosters a deep and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. As Jesus states in John 6:56: “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.” In Holy Communion, we enter a sacred union with Our Lord, Who abides within us.

Through this holy exchange, we are drawn closer to Christ and experience His love and presence in a tangible way. The Eucharist is a source of strength and comfort for us, anchoring us in our Faith amid life’s uncertainties. In this divine union, we find the courage to follow Christ’s example and embody His teachings in our daily lives.

Unity of the Church

The Eucharistic celebration powerfully unites the Church, drawing Catholics together as one Body in Christ. As we are united to Our Lord in the Eucharist, we are reminded of our shared identity as members of His Body. This communal aspect of the Eucharist reflects the universal nature of the Church and her mission to unite people together in Christ.

Through the Eucharist, we as Catholics are united with Christ and with one another, forming a bond that transcends cultural and geographical boundaries. This shared experience fosters a sense of belonging and solidarity, and we are reminded of our union with Catholics across the world. In the Holy Eucharist, the Church is strengthened and empowered to continue her mission of proclaiming the Gospel to the world.

Memorial of Christ’s Sacrifice

The Eucharist is a living memorial of Christ’s Sacrifice on the Cross, a testament to His enduring love and the redemption He won for humanity. In every Mass, Catholics commemorate the Passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and enter into the mystery of His self-giving love. This sacrament serves as a perpetual reminder of the depths of God’s love for His people.

The Eucharist invites us to participate in Christ’s redemptive mission. It is a call to imitate His example of selflessness and compassion and offer our lives in service to God and others. In the Eucharist, we are drawn into the heart of the Paschal Mystery and discover anew the spirit of sacrifice that Christ exemplified.

Anticipation of Heaven

The Eucharist is a foretaste of the heavenly banquet and offers a glimpse of the eternal communion with God that awaits the faithful. In this sacred meal, we experience a hint of the joy and glory of heaven, where we will be united with Christ, Our Lady, and all the saints in perfect love and harmony.

Through the Eucharist, we are reminded of our ultimate destiny and the promise of eternal life. It is a source of hope and consolation and assures us that our present struggles and sufferings will one day give way to the joy of eternal communion with God.

Fulfillment of Scripture

The Eucharist fulfills Jesus’ command at the Last Supper to “do this in memory of me” (Lk. 22:19), referring to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The Holy Eucharist is important in Catholicism as the direct continuation of Jesus’ ministry. Through the Eucharist, we participate in the ongoing mission of Christ, proclaiming His death and Resurrection until He comes again.

The Eucharist unites us with the Church throughout the ages as we share in the same mystery celebrated for centuries. The Eucharist is a testament to the enduring power of the Gospel and invites us to live out our Faith robustly and authentically. Through this sacrament, Catholics are called to be witnesses to the truth of Christ’s love and share His message of hope and salvation with the world.

To summarize, the Holy Eucharist is the center of our lives as Catholics. It unites us to Christ our Head, the source of our life and redemption. It is the summit of the sacramental life of the Church, an inexpressibly powerful source of grace that renews and strengthens us. The Holy Eucharist gives us the strength we need to carry out our mission of evangelization, love, and service within the Church. Through the Eucharist, we are united to the other members of the Church across space and time and anticipate the joy of eternal life. Ultimately, the Holy Eucharist is a foretaste of the eternal communion that awaits the faithful and affirms their hope in God’s promises.

Furthermore, we can cultivate a more profound reverence for the Holy Eucharist through books and supplies that aid our devotion. Books for Eucharistic Adoration, for example, encompass theological reflections, prayers, wisdom from the saints, and guides to fruitful Holy Hours. Eucharist-themed rosaries, chaplets, and sacred art illuminate the mystery and significance of the Eucharist and increase our love and reverence. We invite you to browse our Catholic supply store for Eucharistic resources that aid personal reflection and prayer and help you engage more fully in the mystery of the Eucharist.

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/blogs/magazine/the-importance-of-the-holy-eucharist-in-catholicism>

PRAYER FOR THE BEGINNING TO COMPLETION OF OUR NEW PARISH OFFICE & HALL

Almighty God, we thank you for your many blessings to our parish and to each of us.

We pray for your guidance and wisdom as we prepare ourselves to begin the construction. May your Holy spirit be with all our Engineers, architects, builders and all involved in this project. Protect them from harm and grant them skill and diligence. May this hall be a place of unity, fellowship and faith formation for our community, a space where we can grow in faith and serve others. Bless all our sponsors, donors and each of us who contribute in our own humble ways and means.

Whatever we do, may we do it for your glory.

St. Joseph, the patron of families and workers, Pray for us

St. John XXIII, Patron of our parish, Pray for us

ST. Vincent Ferrer, Patron of all builders, Pray for us

Ways we can help

- Make a personal or family donation;
- Pledge a regular amount for this project over the next 12 months;
- Be a general sponsor or of a specific area;
- Organize an event that could raise some funds;
- Share the campaign with family, friends or local business.

We are the stewards of our parish, and we are not just building a hall, we are building the heart of our thriving parish Community. Ideally, if we can find 350 people with a gift of \$3000 each, we can achieve this. In saying this we also invite gifts of any amount, according to your giving ability and most importantly to give with a happy heart. Let us all dream together as Father jolly always says.

From the PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE Ways to donate

Bank transfer

Account name : Blessed John XXIII Parish

BSB : 067 950 A/C : 00000313

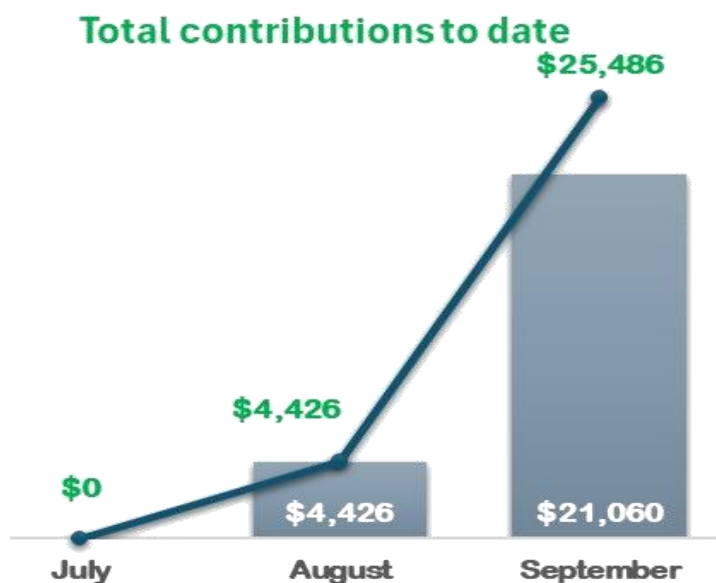
Reference: BD (your name)

BPOINT

For credit card donation visit

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/StJohnXXIIIPGSG>

or scan the QR code



Indonesian Mass



Every Second
Saturday, 7.30pm
St John 23rd Church

Please come and celebrate
The Eucharist together
(Indonesian Language)

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.



QUAKERS HILL FAMILY PRACTICE

- Multi Doctor practice with Christian values at the core
- In-house Allied health and Dental clinic

Complements from Quakers Hill
Family Practice

Books are now open for new patients

Tel – 02 9626 6300
www.qhfp.com.au

Climate airconditioning

DESIGN // INSTALLATIONS // SERVICE // REPAIRS

0400 841 601



Holy Family
Services



Retiring



Early Learning
Centre



Aged Care

hollyfamilyservices.com.au • Call us: 9678 8200

A Ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

Thinking of Selling or Renting Out Your House?



Call Julia Stella 0431 277 110

Over 20 years of Real Estate
Experience, I'm sure you'll be
delighted with your outcome! 🍀

Stella & Co
REAL ESTATE

www.stellaandcorealestate.com.au

Open 7 Days



Open 7 Days

MINCHINBURY
Fruit Market

1039 Great Western Hwy, Minchinbury NSW 2770

Your Local Grocer Since 1960

Maltese Food

- Maltese Biscuits
- Three Hills Kunsewa
- Pastizzi & Ravioli
- Mayor Zalza & Sugo
- Zalzett
- Kinnie



- * Fresh Fruit & Vegetables
- * Huge Selection of General & Continental Groceries
- * Frozen Foods Section * Delicatessen in store



Phone: 9625 8021

Email: admin@minchinburyfruitmarket.com.au



magnō KITCHENS

kitchens • laundries • vanities • wardrobes

4577 9575

magnokitchens.com.au



Michael Xiberras
0412 914 332

Call Michael for all of your plumbing needs

- ✓ plumbing
- ✓ gas fitting
- ✓ blockage clearing
- ✓ backflow prevention
- ✓ cctv in pipe camera inspections and locating
- ✓ drainage
- ✓ hot water
- ✓ excavations
- ✓ roof plumbing

michael@smickplumbing.com.au lic no. 246475C



Hills Family Funerals

A tradition of care and concern

'Let our family help you through'

'We understand the importance of family
and it shows in everything that we do,
a tradition of care and concern'

- 24 Hour Care
- Funeral Planning
- Prepaid Funerals
- Australian Owned & Family Operated

For Personal Attention please call
Richard Spiteri on 02 9659 0900
(340 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill)

Richard Spiteri (General Manager)



Grand Motors Sydney

Grand Motors Sydney offers a wide range of certified used vehicles to suit any budget.

We offer trade-ins, finance, and insurance, getting you on the road sooner. Contact Ravi Virwani, your local parishioner on 0421 876 584.

Visit us online or at 29 Brumby Street, Seven Hills.
www.grandmotorsydney.com.au

0416 336 894
info@pressurepro.sydney
sydneypressurepro
Sydney Pressure Pro

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

- ✓ Driveways & Retaining Walls
- ✓ Timber Decking & Patios
- ✓ All Outdoor Hard Surfaces
- ✓ Environmentally Friendly
- ✓ Prompt and Reliable
- ✓ Beat Any Verified Quote

LOOKING TO GET FINANCE FOR ANYTHING WITH WHEELS

We cater to most cases - Let's chat, give me a ring

Cherry Reyes
Drive Finance Solutions
creyes@drivefinance.com.au
Mobile: 0416 092 728
CODE: CRD