

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.

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.

Gospel Reflection

We all know how refreshing a glass of cold water is on a hot day. We also know these days, because it is on so many television shows, that water has a lot of health benefits as well. It maintains our fluid balance, helps control our kilojoule intake, gives energy to our muscles, keeps our skin clear, our kidneys functioning properly, prevents cramp and muscle ache, promotes clearer thinking, etc. Water is key to life.

Yet, fizzy soft drinks are more popular than water. Tea and coffee and alcohol are always popular thirst quenchers, and we know that they all have negative consequences when we consume them. Not everything we drink is good for us. Today's scriptural passages speak of the human thirst for life and how that thirst is met.

The people of Israel, we are told, after they had fled Egypt, wandered in the desert for forty years before they reached their ancestral home, the Promised Land. There are at least two things going on in this Exodus account just proclaimed. On the one hand, the people are thirsty; in fact they are tormented by thirst in the desert. God provides life-giving water for them. On the other hand, the people complain and grumble about being thirsty in the desert. As the psalm said, at Meribah and Massah their hearts hardened in the desert and they put God to the test. Even though God had liberated them from slavery in Egypt, this was not enough: they wanted more. I think we can say it is okay to want more, but the people of Israel questioned the gift of freedom God had given them through Moses. When they said they would have been better off staying in Egypt rather than being led by God through the desert, they were rejecting, or at least doubting, the gift of new life God was offering.

The Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, or the well of Shechem, also wants more out of life. In her dialogue with Jesus she begins to realise that she is thirsty for meaning in her life, thirsty for fulfilment, thirsty for satisfaction, and that she had not yet found it. The story, found only in John's Gospel, tells us she had been married and divorced many times; she had drunk the fizzy soft drink, the tea and coffee, the alcohol of life, but had not discovered the one thing that would benefit her: living water. Marriage can be a way of finding fulfilment and a way of finding God, but it had not worked that way for her. But rather than grumble about the failures of her life, this woman—this foreign woman, let us not forget—remained opened to promise. When Jesus offers her living water, she is ready to say yes to that.

Not only was the Samaritan woman thirsty, but Jesus was thirsty too. This is the part of the story we probably do not think much about, but St Augustine of

FOR YOUR URGENT ATTENTION

Recently, we have noticed that some parishioners are bringing coffee, snacks, and chewing gum into the church during Mass. We kindly ask that all eating and drinking be done outside the church, or in the church kitchen, if available.

We also remind everyone that chewing gum while attending Mass — especially when coming forward to receive the Body of Christ — does not reflect the reverence due the Eucharist. We respectfully ask that gum be discarded before entering the church.

We ask you to please avoid such behaviors. Let us remember that our church is a sacred place of prayer and worship. Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and for showing respect and reverence in the house of God.

Fr Jolly Chacko

Hippo did when he preached on this passage about 1600 years ago. He said, 'Yet in asking her for a drink, he was really thirsting for that woman's faith'. Augustine continued, 'He asks for a drink and he promises a drink. He is in need and wants to receive; he is rich and wants to satisfy the needs of others'. [Footnote: In Euangelium Iohannis Tractatus 15. The excerpts from the translations of Augustine's homilies on the Gospel of John come from Augustine, Homilies on the Gospel of John, trans. Edmund Hill, in The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century, part III/12 (New York: New City Press, and Augustinian Heritage Institute, 2009).]

What God is offering this woman through Jesus, according to Augustine, is the Holy Spirit. He asks her for her faith and she offers it to him by recognising him as the messiah. She runs to share this discovery with the rest of her village. Faith is not just for personal benefit: it is to be shared. As Augustine reminds us, 'She is a symbol of the Church not yet justified, but about to be justified, for this is the drift of their conversation'. She is also a symbol of those preparing for initiation. Jesus asks them to give him their faith and in return he gives them his body and blood as nourishment for a life that is full of meaning and satisfaction.

We are thankful today for the God who has given us living water in baptism to quench our thirst and give our lives true purpose, we are thankful for Jesus who breaks down all the barriers that divide us and reaches out to us in our need, we are thankful for the Spirit who fills us with faith.

Geoffrey D Dunn

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 <i>during school days</i>
2nd Sat	7:30pm Indonesian Mass

Masses of Devotion

1st Tues	7:30pm Novena Mass <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</i>
1st Fri	7:30pm Novena Mass <i>Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>

Exposition + Benediction

1st Fri	after 9.15am, 7.30pm
Wed	8:00pm Holy Hour

Reconciliation

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

Sacraments

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

Tue	7:00pm Rosary and novena prayers (<i>Church Tabernacle</i>)
Thurs	7:00pm Lectio Divina (<i>church</i>)
Fri	6:30pm Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group (<i>office</i>) <i>Pauline Camilleri 0407 417039</i>

Special Blessings

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

Homebound?

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

COELIACS

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

Join & be part of our community.
Welcome pack at the church foyer or scan the QR code



If you want to be part of our mailing list please email
✉ Communications@john23rd.org.au



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/>

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 available at the church foyer or from the website or scan the QR Code



TapnGo machines available by the entrances.

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

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First Reading

Exodus 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

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

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

of John 4:42, 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

Special Intentions

Names published with permission

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

Born to eternal life

Isidro Benesa, Leonardo Tamayo, Steven Lawrence Salmon

Remembrances:

Death Anniversary

Jovencio Benesa

Sick

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, John Tipton, Valeria Laureta, Bev Osborn, Lucas Colleta, Dr Bronwyn Andrews Dudley Francis, Marilyn Nalapo, Christina Properzi, Raymond Lanzona, Elizabeth Langley, Gerald Simbulan, Brendan Prideaux Marcelino Matteazi, Carlo Bueno, Helen West, Victor Pons, Ksenija Bosnic, Zena Samar, Charlie Busuttill, Elsie Knapp, Perla Magculang, Fausto Bayot, Isagani Ocampo, Myrna Manalili, Lenka Olivier Taliya, Florentina Elisura, Cathie Christie, Rosanna John Pellissery, Peter McArdle, Jerwin McCarron, Emma Matoza, Margaret Harrison, Elizabeth Candame, Joshua McCarrroll, Melissa Nava, Imelda Vinluan, Cindy Dadvivas, Louise Smith, Lily Camilleri, Hilary Regan, Mary Phillips, Jude Newnes, Manuel Sarris, Rosie Carbonel, Maria Romeo, Zoey Illic, Mary Bormate, Carrie Conolly, Jonathan Gemin, Babies with Blister disease, Bev Lewis, Renado Naldo, Ryan Dixon, Noah, Natasha Leitao, Troy James, Mr Thomas, Carlo Dominic, Barbara Thompson

Thanksgiving

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

Gospel (con't)

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Communion Antiphon

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

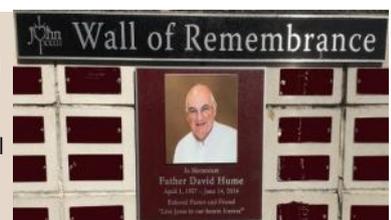


COLUMBARIUM

If you are considering purchasing a niche, we still have spaces available. These are open to parishioners, families, friends and our neighbouring parishes. For more 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

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

John McCabe

Mei Velasco

Julian Martin

Suni Fernando

Helen Festejo

Ajith Lobo

Rebecca Reynolds



OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Ambrose Early Learning

160 Perfection Ave Stanhope Gardens

☎ (02) 9852 0585

✉ celcstanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.celcstanhope.catholic.edu.au

Holy Cross Primary

49 Meurants Lane, Glenwood

Principal: 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

Principal: Frank Chiment

☎ (02) 9852 0500

✉ stjohn23stanhope@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.stjohn23stanhope.catholic.edu.au

Praying together

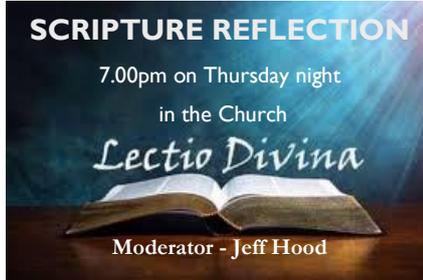
When we pray together, our faith is strengthened and our community is drawn closer. Join us to deepen your faith and open your heart to the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Rosary Statue Family Roster

	3	10	17	24	31
Mar	Paguinto	Hala	Available	Available	Available
Apr	Available	Sebastian	Available	Available	
May	Available	Sebastian	Available	Available	
Jun	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available

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

Rosary statue contacts Techie Sarlabus techie.sarlabus@gmail.com or Melva Paguinto mcpi85@yahoo.com.au



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.



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.

⇒ CLEANERS AND GARDENERS

As we give our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful volunteers who faithfully keep our church clean, our gardens green, and our surroundings welcoming, we also invite others to join this valued ministry. A few more helping hands would make a great difference in caring for our shared spiritual home.



If you are able to assist, please contact Tanya at the parish office.

⇒ CAKE ANGELS

If anyone is interested to be involved and take leadership of this fun loving dynamic group please contact Tanya at the parish office or Techie at 0438 201436.

A Friendly Reminder to Our Parish Community

We kindly ask all parishioners to help care for our church by cleaning up after themselves after masses
Small actions-such as returning items to their place and disposing of rubbish properly. Help keep our church clean, welcoming, and ready for everyone.
Thank you for your care and consideration in looking after our shared spiritual home.

March Calendar

Mon	9	8:30am - Mass
Tues	10	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Rosary & Novena Prayer <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</i>
Wed	11	9:15am - Mass 6:30pm - Parent Information <i>First Holy Communion</i> 8:00pm - Holy Hour
Thurs	12	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Lectio Divina (Scripture reflection)
Fri	13	9:15am - Mass 7:00pm - Station of the Cross 7:30pm - Mass
Sat	14	9:00am - Mass 6:00pm - Mass
Sun	15	7.30am, 9:00am, 10:30am Mass 6:00pm - Mass



Young at Hearts Seniors Group

Contact either of the following:
Frank Coleiro - 0459 504625
Trevor Coutinho - 0407 150399



Vinnies

join the good works

Message Rose Franco 0401 387427

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT GROUPS

BLAZE YOUTH 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

Contact Ellena - 0478 685 191



BLAZE TERM 1 - 20th March

IGNITE YOUNG ADULTS 18 - 35 years of age

WHEN: First Sundays each month 7:00 - 9:30pm

WHERE: St John XXIII Staffroom

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

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 Limguangco 0478 629629 International

Diocesan News



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

Parish Hall/Office Project Plan

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 available at the church foyer or from the website or scan the QR Code

TapGo machines available by the entrances.

HALL PROJECT

Prayer

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**

Church building project - Ways to donate

- ★ Dedicated "Tap & go" machines
- ★ Bank transfer

Account name - Glenwood Stanhope Gardens St John 23rd Parish
BSB - 067 950 **A/C** - 100002469
Reference - BD (your name)

- ★ BPOINT – For credit card donation visit

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

- ★ scan QRCode

Thank you for your support!

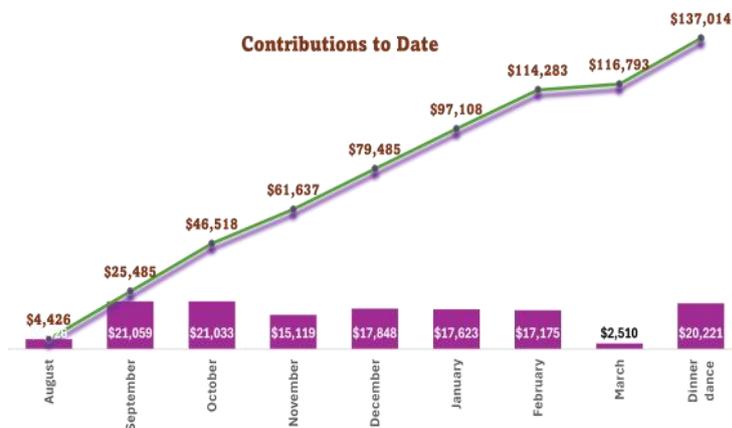


We are fast approaching the stage of inviting tenders for our building project.

As of now, we have identified five to six potential builders. Two have been recommended based on previous projects with schools and other parishes, two have been suggested by the Diocesan Property Office, and another two have been recommended by the architects.

We are currently in the process of gathering their capability statements. Together with Tracy from the Diocesan Property Office, and Nicolas, the architects, we will then prepare the necessary documentation to formally invite them to submit their tenders. From there, we will proceed with the selection process. The Education Office in Parramatta is also assisting us.

I just wanted to keep you informed of our progress. And as we move closer into the final phase and begin the actual construction, let us continue to support this important project through our prayers and generous financial contributions.



Shop 5/39-45 Rooty Hill Rd, Rooty Hill NSW 2766
 (02) 8809 7787 <https://www.mamalor.com>

PH 0406 181 188
<http://tripleevents.com>

Trust the sale of your home with your local Parishioner and award-winning licensed real estate agent, **John Irudayaraj**.

A member of your church who believes in the power of giving back, mention this advert and if John sells your home he will make a donation directly to the Church.

0433 969 731
johnirudayaraj@mcgrath.com.au
 McGrath Northwest

McGrath



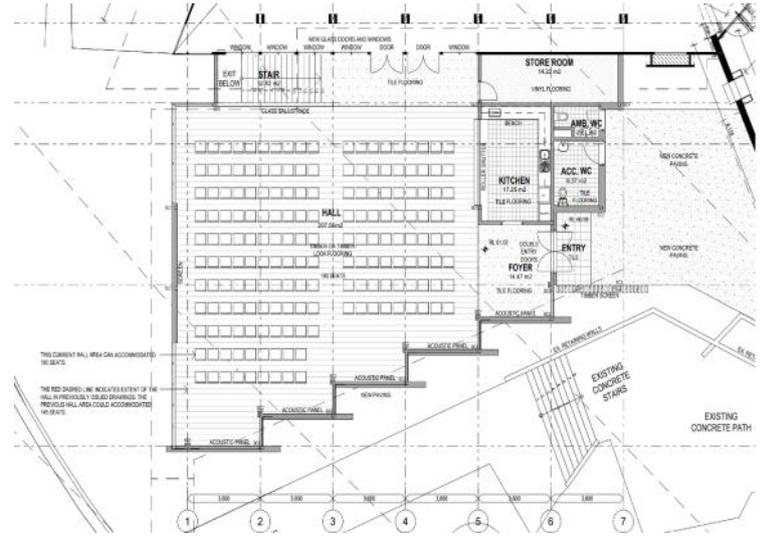
CLIMBING LADDERS
 Early Learning & Montessori Centre

LG1/25 Regent Honeyeater Grove, North Kellyville NSW 2155
 ☎ 02 9629 4444 🌐 www.climbingladders.com.au

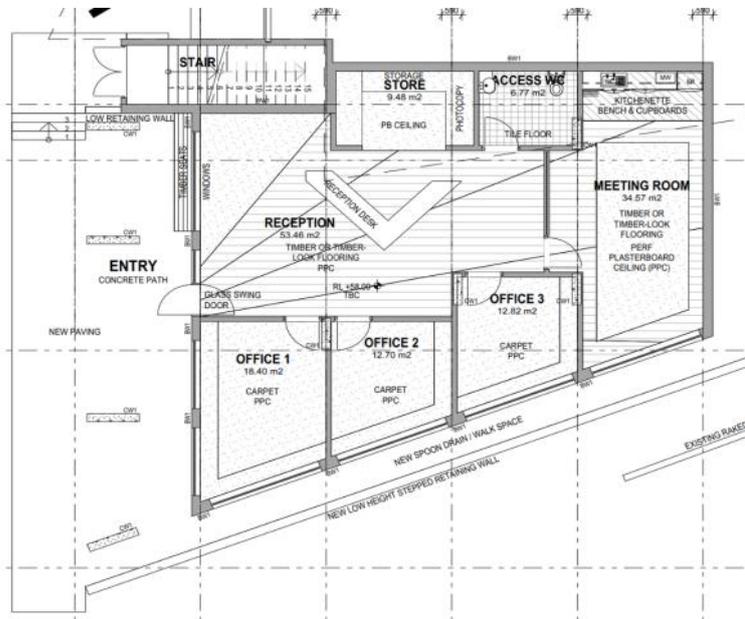
Parish Hall/Office Project Plan



Hall Floor Plan



Office Floor Plan



UPCOMING Community EVENTS

YAHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11 th March, Wednesday, after the 9:15am Mass	Psychology and spirituality of getting older, from the wisdom and insights by Jeff Hood RSVP 9 th March
<p>The Young At Heart would like to invite all parishioners to a very informative presentation by Jeff Hood, the seminarian in our parish on Wednesday the 11th of March, after the morning mass and a brief coffee time. Jeff will be sharing his thoughts on the psychology and spirituality of ageing as well as insights into his own story and experiences. Booking is essential, please contact Frank on 0459504625 or Trevor on 0407150399</p> 	
22 nd April, Wednesday	Picnic in the Park, TBC
15 th May, Friday, 11:30am	Mother's Day lunch - The Fiddler RSVP 8 th May
10 th July, Friday, after morning mass	Morning tea

For all inquiries/confirmation/RSVPs please call or text
Frank 0459 504 625 or Trevor 0407 150 399

NOTE THESE IMPORTANT DATES

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH, 6.30PM**
in the SJXXIII church.

This is for children who have received **FIRST RECONCILIATION**
and are in **YEAR 4 OR ABOVE**.

LENTEN REFLECTION

Saturday, 21st March 3:00 to 5:00PM (Church)
Further information to follow

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, 24th March 7:00 to 9:00PM

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, 29th March



Building our
Community

As a vibrant community of St John XXIII Parish, we invite our various cultural groups and ministries to take part in our parish life by hosting a Saturday Vigil or Sunday morning mini-event after our Mass celebrations. These gatherings are a wonderful way to share your culture, connect and strengthen our sense of family and belonging within the parish.

We encourage everyone to come along, participate and support these community-led activities. We also welcome suggestions for future events, fundraising ideas, or any offers of help — your creativity and support are always appreciated and play an important part in making our parish life joyful and thriving!

Please contact either
Nanette - 0404 465600
Techie - 0438 201436



THE FILIPINO CHAPLAINCY DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

FEAST OF ST JOSEPH

Saturday, 14 March 2026

St Patrick's Church

Mary Queen of the Family Parish

51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown 2148

Solemn High Mass @ 10:30 am

Followed by Lunch & Entertainment

Theme:

**"St Joseph: Guardian of the Holy
Family, United in the Mission of
Christ"**

04 March 2026	Wednesday	7:00 PM	MARY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC CHURCH 125 Barnier Drive, Quakers Hill 2763
05 March 2026	Thursday	7:00 PM	ST JOHN XXIII CHURCH 160 Perfection Avenue, Stanhope Gardens 2768
06 March 2026	Friday	7:00 PM	ST BERNADETTE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 10 Gardenia Grove, Lalor Park 2147
07 March 2026	Saturday	7:00 PM	ST PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH 40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hill 2153
08 March 2026	Sunday	7:00 PM	ST PADRE PIO CHURCH 34-38 William Howell Drive, Glenmore Park 2745
09 March 2026	Monday	7:00 PM	ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA CHURCH 326 High Street, Penrith 2750
10 March 2026	Tuesday	7:00 PM	ST AIDAN'S CHURCH 9 Adelaide Sreet., Rooty Hill 2766
11 March 2026	Wednesday	7:00 PM	ST ANDREW'S CHURCH 36-40 Breakfast Road, Marayong 2148
12 March 2026	Thursday	7:00 PM	ST PATRICK'S CHURCH 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown 2148

St John 23rd RCIA Program

This year our Parish is blessed to have **3 catechumens** who are in their final weeks of preparation to be baptized in the Church and be Confirmed and receive Holy Eucharist.

Please pray for **Eric, Evangeline & Jessica**

In addition to the 3 catechumens above, we have

Luca, Trysha, Jo and Patrick

receiving the sacrament of confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

Please pray for them each day in their final preparation in the faith journey and for their families.

The Catholic Parish of St John 23rd Glenwood/
Stanhope Gardens



Dear Parishioners,

Please consider transitioning from envelope giving to digital or cash giving

Currently 6% of the donations to our parish is received through envelope giving. We are planning to discontinue this option in the future. The reasonings behind this move are cost effectiveness, to reduce paper wastage and convenience. Switching from envelope to electronic/cash giving can significantly enhance convenience for both donors and to the parish staff. Whilst thanking you for your generous commitment in helping the parish finances, we request your kind consideration to switch from envelope giving to one of the following:

- **direct debit arrangements to your nominated bank account or credit card**
- **Regular bank transfers set up at your end to the parish bank account**
Account name - Glenwood Stanhope Gardens St John 23rd Parish
BSB - 067 950 A/C - 100002469
Reference: PG (your initial and family name)
- **Donating through cash or using the "Tap & go" machines**

Please contact the parish office to update us with your preferred giving option. Either by phoning 02 88835981 or emailing accounts@john23rd.org.au

God Bless you,

Fr Jolly Chacko

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

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If any sick or elderly parishioners or their family members, would like a visit from the Vincentians, please contact the Parish Office or share the relevant contact details with us.

We would be happy to arrange a visit if it would be appreciated.

If you would like to advertise your business please contact the parish office. This helps support our parish
 St John XXIII Parish cannot take responsibility if the service provided by an advertiser does not meet expectations.

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