

Tel: 9852 0580 Fax: 9852 0589 160 Perfection Avenue, Stanhope Gardens PO Box 23, Stanhope Gardens.NSW 2768  
www.john23rd.org.au

<p><b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Dave Hume Email: FrDave@john23rd.org.au Office: 9852 0580</p> <p><b>Assistant Priest:</b> Fr Joy Chukkananickal MS Email: FrJoy@john23rd.org.au Office: 9852 0580</p> <p><b>Saturday Vigil:</b> 6.00pm</p> <p><b>Sunday Masses:</b> 8.30am, 10.30am and 6.00pm.</p> <p><b>Baptisms:</b> <i>By appointment</i> on Sunday at 12.00pm</p> <p><b>Reconciliation:</b> <b>First Rite:</b> Saturday 4.30pm - 5.30pm &amp; After any Weekday Mass.</p> <p><b>Exposition:</b> Tuesdays and First Fridays 6.30pm-7.30pm (Vocations)</p> <p><b>Weekday Masses:</b> Mon, Wed, Thurs and Sat at 9.00am in the Church.</p> <p><b>Every Tuesday</b> <b>Exposition</b> at 6.30pm. <b>Evening Prayer</b> of the Church at 7.00pm <b>Rosary</b> 7.15pm <b>Novena Mass to Our Lady of Perpetual Help</b> at 7.30pm.</p> <p><b>Friday</b> 9.00am (Holy Cross Primary during school term)</p> <p><b>FIRST FRIDAY</b> <b>Holy Hour: 7.30pm –8.30pm Novena Mass to the Sacred Heart Of Jesus with Benediction And Exposition.</b></p> <p><b>Sacrament of the Sick:</b> First Saturday during 9.00am Mass:</p> <p><b>Morning Prayer of the Church:</b> - Sun 8.00am</p> <p><b>Schools</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Holy Cross, Glenwood.</td> <td>Principal:</td> <td>Jenny Bellenger</td> <td>02 9629 8742</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John XXIII, Stanhope Gardens</td> <td>Principal:</td> <td>Peter Stoyles</td> <td>02 9852 0500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St Mark's College, Stanhope Gardens</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Holy Cross, Glenwood.	Principal:	Jenny Bellenger	02 9629 8742	John XXIII, Stanhope Gardens	Principal:	Peter Stoyles	02 9852 0500	St Mark's College, Stanhope Gardens				<p><b>Office Hours:</b> 8.30am - 4.00pm (Monday to Thursday) 9.30am– 3.00pm (Friday)</p> <p><b>Parish Secretary:</b> Tanya Gatt 9852 0580 (Monday-Friday) email: secretary@john23rd.org.au</p> <p><b>Pastoral Associate/ Sacramental Coordinator:</b> Sue Andruskin 9852 0580 (Mon, Tues, Wed &amp; Thurs) Sacramental@john23rd.org.au</p> <p><b>Finance:</b> Mila Llamas 9852 0580 (Tuesday &amp; Thursday) accounts@john23rd.org.au</p> <p><b>RCIA Co-ordinators:</b> Sue Andruskin 9852 0580 Sacramental@john23rd.org.au</p> <p><b>Youth/ Young Adults</b> Simon Testa: simon.testa@hotmail.com Joshua Testa: littlejosh89@hotmail.com Rhea Lequin: rhea_lequin@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>House Keeper:</b> Theresa Cassar</p>
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**Response to Suffering**

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time : Year B 4/5 February**

Our readings today tell of suffering! Job was a good man yet he suffered terrible tragedies. This resulted in his gloomy view of life. In the Old Testament times suffering was seen as a punishment from God for sin.

Jesus did not accept the view that suffering was a punishment from God. God does not do evil. God does good. What we see in the Gospel is not so much an answer to the question ‘why suffering?’, as Jesus’ response to actual suffering.

That response was a very practical one – as we see from today’s Gospel. Here we Jesus surrounded by throngs of physically and mentally sick people. And he gives himself to each of them, healing them one by one. He didn’t insulate himself against human pain. He made himself totally vulnerable before the wounded and the sick.

Suffering is a lonely condition. Jesus wasn’t sentimental about suffering.

Nor did he preach resignation as we often do. He did not like to see people suffer. Suffering was one of the evils he came to fight. He had compassion on sufferers and made them well. He cast out the devils of guilt, fear, shame, despair ... that held people bound.

The problem of suffering became an opportunity for Jesus—an opportunity to show what God is like. By the way he gave himself to the sick, he reveals to us the compassion of God in the face of human suffering.

The suffering of others is an opportunity for us too. We may not be able to cure, but it is always within our power to care. And to care is a very healing thing. Just to be with the sufferer, is in itself a very worthwhile thing. But it’s no easy thing, because it means that instead of relieving someone's pain, we have to be prepared to share it.

Live Jesus In Our Hearts, Forever.  
*Fr Dave Hume*

**A LONELY PLACE**

Jesus often went off to a lonely place to pray. Yet the same Jesus who prayed in lonely places said, ‘When you pray, go into your room, and pray to your Father in secret.’ This means that the lonely place is not necessarily a place far away, or that by ‘room’ he means four walls that separate us physically from others. The room is the room of our innermost heart. This room is with us at all times. We should make it a place to which we can go to find rest and spiritual recovery when the world is too much with us. Then we will discover that the inner room is not empty after all, but is occupied by the God of love who dwells in us all.

**FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK**

**6 Monday** St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs.  
**10 Friday** St Scholastica, virgin

**Parish Mission Statement:**

*“The parish of Blessed 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.”*

## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - YEAR B

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### First Reading: Job 7:1-4. 6-7

A reading from the prophet Job

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery?

Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind.

Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Second Reading: Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straight-away. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



### Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 8:17

### Resp Psalm: Ps 146:1-6

**R.** Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

or

**R.** Alleluia!

Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. he fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured.

The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
He bore our sickness,  
and endured our suffering.  
Alleluia!



**FROM THE PARISH PRIEST  
FATHER DAVE HUME**

*There has been a request from annoyed parishioners for people coming late for mass not to double park a car and block its exit. This is more than annoying it lacks consideration. **Please do not park in other parishioners when coming late to mass.***

**NEXT WEEK! COME ONE COME ALL!**

**WORKING BEE!**

**When:** Saturday 11th February

**Where:** Church Gardens

**Time:** 10.00am—12.00pm (12.00pm BBQ)

**What to bring:** Garden Gloves, Trimmers.

**What is needed:** To weed our overgrown gardens!

**Please we need your help to get the outside of our church in good order! Then I would like volunteers to come forward and claim a patch of garden to tender with loving care.**

**PLEASE PHONE THE PARISH OFFICE WITH NUMBERS SO WE CAN CATER FOR THE BBQ THAT WILL FOLLOW THE WORKING BEE.**

**PARISH COUNCIL NEWS  
BART SARLABUS - CHAIRPERSON**

The BJ23 Prayer Group is inviting all parishioners to our monthly community Praise and Worship Service on Saturday, 18 February at 7:30 pm following the Vigil Mass. It will be a great lead-in to Ash Wednesday and the ushering of Lent.

The launch of the promotional campaign for the Cinque Cento Club 2012 has commenced. We hope that last year's members will continue to participate, and that more parishioners will join as new members to support this worthwhile initiative. For any queries, please see Anthony Zec and Tim Gilmour whose contact details are on the flyer.

I mentioned last week that Bishop Anthony has initiated a process of pastoral planning for our future as a Diocese, with the aim of working towards a shared vision, common priorities and an action plan for our Diocese in the future.

Our parish will host the consultation event on Thursday, March 8 at St. Mark's College. We hope that you will actively participate in this consultation event and share your thoughts, offer suggestions or simply listen to each other at this important time in our life as a Diocese. More details to come in the following weeks!

*Forthcoming Meetings and Events:*

PC Social Justice Group Meeting – 8 February  
Lenten Program - Week commencing 20 February  
IFM Introductory Courses - 27 February and 5 March  
Parish Council General Meeting – 29 February  
Lenten Retreat – Saturday, 24 March

**Have a great week! Bart**

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE & SACRAMENTAL  
CO-ORDINATOR—SUE ANDRUSKIN**

On today's readings, we hear of suffering and tragedies. The problem of suffering became an opportunity for Jesus—to show what God is like—how he shared his compassion with those in need.

The suffering and needs of others is an opportunity for us too. It is an opportunity to share our love and care with those in need. Not always are our needy wanting material things, sometimes it is just a friendly ear to listen to them, a selfless act like driving them to mass or preparing a meal for those experiencing stressful situations. These acts of compassion are part of our **Community Outreach Program**. We need volunteers to go onto our contact list for when we are contacted by those in need. Most volunteers will only be contacted occasionally. If you feel that you may be able to help please contact Jasone on 0450 744188 or Sue on 9852 0583 or email sacramental@john23rd.org.au

*The Sacramental Program for **First Eucharist** will be starting in March this year. This preparation program will be for children who have already received their First Reconciliation. The **Parents Meeting** to explain the program and to receive the children's enrolment forms will take place on **Wednesday March 14** or **Thursday March 15** at **7.30pm** in the **Parish Church**.*

*Peace and blessings, Sue*

**SUNDAY YOUTH PROGRAMME  
Meet at the Parish Church Kitchen.**

**5th February: YOUTH GROUP**

4.30pm – 7.30pm 12years to 18years.

**12th February: YAGS SOCIAL:**

BBQ and get together: 18yr olds to 35year olds. Church Kitchen. BYO Drinks. After the 6.00pm mass. All welcome!

**19th February: Youth For Christ**


2.00pm—5.00pm in the Church.

**26th February: YAGS MEETING**

**My Spiritual Journey:** A 15 day trek through Laos: Speaker: **Jessper Perez:**

Pizza and Discussion:

7.30pm in St Marks Staff Room

Parish Notices	Parish Notices	Parish Notices
<p><b>1st Collection: \$2,447.35</b> (Funds go to Diocese and helps support Priests)</p> <p><b>2nd Collection: (Pays Parish Debt and on going running costs. If you can, please put a little extra on the Second Collection.)</b></p> <p><b>Loose: \$1,683.95</b>  <b>PG Envelopes: \$1,673.00</b>  <b>PG by EFT \$1,831.88</b>  <b>Total Collections \$5,188.83</b></p>	<p><b>We pray and remember.....</b></p> <p><b>Born to Eternal Life:</b> Arturo Cobarrubias jnr</p> <p><b>Anniversary:</b> Samuel Quiwe, Emanuel Cremona, Antonia Cremona, Angelo Cremona, Victor Cremona, Victoria Cremona, Anetta Grima, Pauline Grima, Gregory Grima, Leopoldo Maaya Pelaez, Roberto Motoza.</p> <p><b>Sick:</b> Guy Falzon.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Blessed John XXIII Parish Over 55's Group Monday, 20 February 2012</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>12.00 pm at Quakers Hill Tavern</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Faith In Our Future: Our Diocesan Pastoral Planning Process Has Begun!</b></p> <p><b>Bishop Anthony Fisher OP</b> has initiated a process of pastoral planning for our future as a Diocese and invites you to share your faith and vision at an upcoming parish consultation session happening near you! Look out for more details about when and where this event is taking place. The February edition of the Catholic Outlook will feature a "Diocesan Information Guide" which provides an overview of our Diocese. Please read this, reflect on it, and pray about it. Then, bring your ideas and suggestions to the consultation session taking place near you in the coming weeks!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Have spare time? Want to make a difference?</b></p> <p>Volunteer for a job that will make that difference! Palms Australia is seeking volunteers to work in their national office at Glebe. Our most valued office volunteers have been those who are able to draw on their lifetime of experience. Administrative, technical or fix-it skills will all contribute to preparing, sending and supporting those taking up a mission overseas. Meet and work with some amazing people. Training and support will be provided, as you require it. Choose your hours. Contact: Roger O'Halloran (02) 9518 9551, <a href="mailto:roger@palms.org.au">roger@palms.org.au</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: BLACKTOWN</b></p> <p>This year the Solo Parent Ministry will continue to offer individual counseling and small group programs for men and women who are grieving the death of their spouse. In Feb we begin a series of eight "Bereavement Support Group" Sessions (fortnightly) . Our first series will begin on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb. from 10.00 – 11.30am at CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown. The first Session Topic is entitled "The Physical Effects of Grief." information and registration contact Sr. Eileen on 99330205 or <a href="mailto:eileen.quade@ccee.org.au">eileen.quade@ccee.org.au</a>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social Justice Calendar February</b></p> <p>Feb 1-6 Collection of Community Outreach leaflets</p> <p>Feb 8 Social Justice Committee meeting- all welcome 7.00pm</p> <p>Feb 11 Working Bee followed by BBQ</p> <p>Feb 22 Ash Wednesday / Project Compassion (humanitarian fund raising appeal is the largest in Australia supporting long term development and emergency relief programs working with the poor in over 200 countries to overcome poverty regardless of race, religion or political belief and educating people on issues of global social justice.</p> <p>For further information please contact Jasone Crossdale on 0450 744188.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lenten Programme</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>If you are wishing to join the the Lenten Programme please place your name on the folders on the church doors at the back of the church.</b></p>		

CHURCH ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY - 11/12 FEBRUARY							<b>COUNTERS: - GROUP D MONDAY 13TH FEBRUARY</b>  Leno & Rita Matteazi, Mary & Eddie Murphy, Inneke Halim.
Date	Time	Readers	Acolyte	Extrodinary Minister Of the Eucharist	Servers		
11/02/12	600pm	R C Janelle Jerusalem Rudi Yap	Bart Sarlabus	Kyle Baker Sabina John Maries Camaligan Meg Southwell Isabelita Engracia	Sophie Baker Annaliese Zec	Emily Rose Berry Johanna Cusack	<b>CLEANERS:- GROUP FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY</b>  Tony Medina, Eleanor Medina, Feli Mella, Lillian Gatchalian, Rorimer Gatchalian, Gerard Weber.
	830am	R C Dean Houghton Pricilla Hougton	John Farrugia	Nellie Tambolero Myrna Cala Shonee Atwood Bradley Houghton	Val Linsao Vishal Jolly	Vincent Linsao Vidya Jolly	
12/02/12	1030am	R C Darren Godwin Vincent Gracias Flor	Bob Agbulos Ramie Tirol	Grace Agbulos Mario Matias Floren Fernandez Bessie Mojica Caresse Mojica	Anthony Stagnitta Abbey Mercedo	Gabriella Stagnitta Francis Gracis Flor	
	600pm	R C Kristine Peralta Stefani Peralta	Chris Perrin Johannes Halim	Sue Perrin Inneke Halim Trudi-Ann Read Bernadette Virwani	Kristen Aaryana Soosaipillai Roshan George	Johnathan Soosaipillai Brendan Sayer	

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