

COMMUNAUTÉ
CATHOLIQUE
ANGLOPHONE

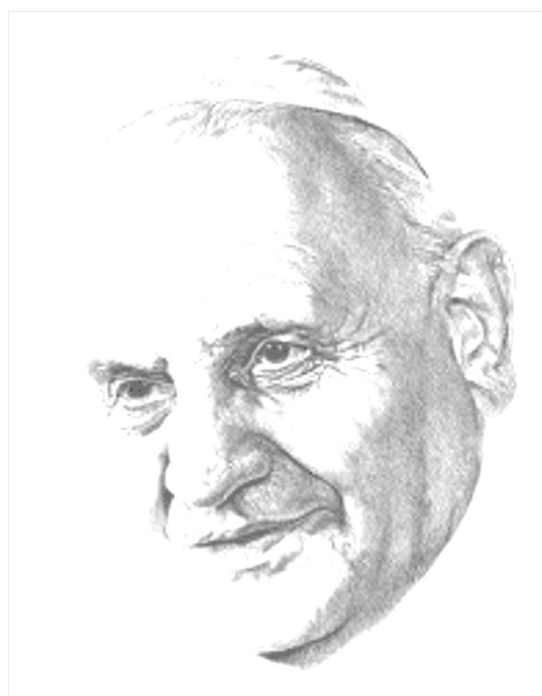
EGLISE
CATHOLIQUE
ROMAINE
GENÈVE



St John XXIII Parish
Rue de Montbrillant 57, 1202 Genève | 022 733 04 83 | office@johnxxiii.ch | www.johnxxiii.ch

" We must be convinced of the necessity of having a living, authentic, and active faith. That is all the more true today, when we face so many difficulties. It is not enough to have a vague, weak, or uncertain faith."

St. John XXIII



Parish Mission Statement

We, the English-speaking Roman Catholic parish of Saint John XXIII, coming together to share our gifts as a community of diverse nations and cultures:

- Celebrate and live our faith through prayer and the Sacraments and service to others;
- Teach and proclaim the good news of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ;
- Reach out in solidarity with all people of goodwill to promote Truth, Justice and Peace.

In line with our Mission, and in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the opening of the 2nd Vatican Council, we draw inspiration from the vision of our patron St. John XXIII for an openness of the Church to meet the challenges and needs of the modern world. We recommit our parish ministries to living out this vision, through our work in the parish, through our outreach within Geneva and Switzerland, and through our ministry to the wider world, to address in sincerity and love the issue of the times in which we live.

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Phone : +41 (0)22 733 0483

Email : office@johnxxiii.ch

Website: www.johnxxiii.ch

Office hours: Mondays to Fridays 08:30 – 12:30

(*Please note different Office hours during summer months)

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND SERVICES

Monday		
Tuesday	12:45	Mass
Wednesday	18:30	Mass
Thursday	12:45	Mass
Friday	12:45	Mass (Monthly First Friday Adoration 13:15)
Saturday	18:30	Vigil Mass
Sunday	08:30	Mass (No 08:30 Mass during summer months)
	10:00	Mass
	11:30	Mass
	19:00	Mass at Notre Dame Basilica

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NEW HERE?

Welcome to St. John XXIII Parish, the only English Speaking Roman Catholic Church in Geneva. We would like to make it as easy for you as possible. We have regular Masses and Other Services throughout the week that you can attend. Our Parish is led by Fr Paul C Friel and by competent and responsible church office staff that you contact via email at office@johnxxiii.ch or by phone at 022 733 04 83. The Parish Office is open Monday to Fridays from 8:30 to 12:30. Please feel free to visit us and know more about the parish.

Location

St John XXIII Parish is located in 57 Rue de Montbrillant 1202 Geneva, just few minutes walk from the train station and the UN. There is limited parking in front of the church but you can also park in Parking des Nations off Rue de Varembe, or La Poste Parking on Rue de Montbrillant. Alternatively, you can take the public transport which come regularly to the Church. The following can be taken:

- Bus 5 to the stop “BAUCLACRE”. From the stop, walk through the PARC DE VERMONT, which will take you behind the Church.
- BUS F, V, OR Z to the stop “VALAIS” or “VAREMBE”. The Church is between the two stops.

Take TRAM 15 from GARE CORNAVIN towards NATION. Stop at “SISMONDI” and walk towards UNHCR into RUE DE MONTBRILLANT. Our Church is a few metres down on the right opposite SWISSCOM.

Register and Subscribe

Please do not forget to [register](#) yourself and your family online in our St John XXIII Parish Registration system. You can register your children in Catechism and Confirmation Classes through the system and are welcome to add yourself in any ministry you want to be involved and be a part of. You can read our weekly bulletin [on the website](#) and [subscribe](#) to receive it weekly via email.

ABOUT US



Fr. Paul C Friel,
Parish Priest

Fr. Paul C Friel, is a priest of the diocese of Lausanne, Geneva and Fribourg. He was ordained in 1992 in Helensburgh, Argyll & Bute.

In 1998 he worked in São Paulo, Brasil with the St Patrick's Missionary Society. He was parish priest of Holy Cross, Croy for 12 years and prior to coming to Geneva in April 2014, Fr. Paul was parish priest of St Paul's Shettleston, Glasgow. He was also an assistant priest in 3 parishes in the city of Glasgow.

Parish Administrative Council (PAC)

The PAC is a body elected by the General Assembly of the Parish. It is responsible for the Parish's day-to-day Administration and Finances, the Parish Office Staff, Grounds and Maintenance, and Legal issues regarding the Canton and Diocese.

Paul C Friel, Parish Priest
Oscar Mbeche, President
Joselito Benitez
Celeste Sandoval, Child Protection
Augustine Agyeman-Duah, Treasurer
Camille Roney, Vicariate Liaison
Jorge Flores, Fundraising
Gerry Lynch, Human Resources
Yvonne Moussy, Property Management

paulcfriel@johnxxiii.ch
president@johnxxiii.ch
vp@johnxxiii.ch
childprotection@johnxxiii.ch
treasurer@johnxxiii.ch
vicarliaison@johnxxiii.ch
fundraising@johnxxiii.ch
hr@johnxxiii.ch
propmgmt@johnxxiii.ch

ABOUT US (con't)

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The PPC is responsible for organizing and implementing pastoral activities of specific ministries within the framework of the Parish Mission Statement. Members of the PPC also assist the priest by advising him on the various aspects of Parish Pastoral life. PPC Meetings are held quarterly. (ppc@johnxxiii.ch)

“A parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God’s word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration.”



(Evangelii Gaudium 28)

SACRAMENTS

The reception of a sacrament is a most important moment in the life of a member of the Church community, and careful preparation should be made. St John XXIII, offers a time of preparation to those who are to receive sacraments, to enable them to enter more fully into these great mysteries of our faith.

Baptism

The sacrament of baptism is usually celebrated after 11:30 Sunday Mass, following an initial meeting with Fr. Paul and our baptism preparation group.

To register your child for baptism, please do so using the [Online Baptismal Registration](#). Complete and return it to the Parish Office. Please see Fr. Paul after one of the Sunday or Vigil Masses for a date, or alternatively please contact the office at reception@johnxxiii.ch.

Reconciliation

Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday from 17:15 to 18:00 in the Chapel. Confession is also available upon request and by prior arrangement. There will be a 'Confessionathon', Day of Confession during Advent and Lent from 7:00 am to 19:00. Check the website for dates.

If your child is in **Level 2** and comes to Mass with you, he or she is eligible to be enrolled for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This is usually celebrated in May.

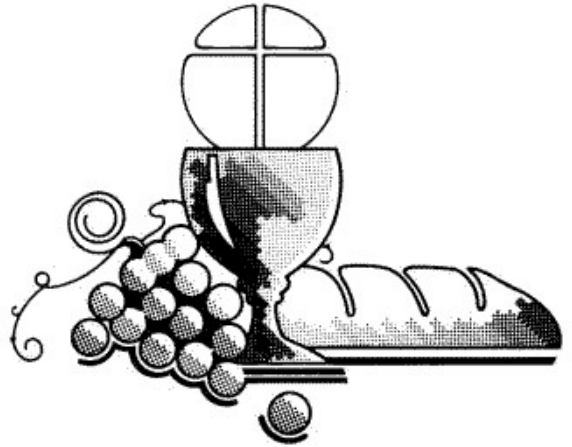
SACRAMENTS (cont'd)

Holy Communion

If your child is in **Level 3** and comes to Mass with you, he or she is eligible to be enrolled for the Sacrament of Eucharist. This is usually celebrated in the month of June.

There is also a **Special First Holy Communion class** held for children who have for one reason or another missed this sacrament.

For more information on preparation for the First Holy Communion and Reconciliation, please contact our Director of Religious Education Anna Berkeley at dre@johnxxiii.ch or use our [contact us form](#).



Confirmation

If your child is in either **Confirmation Year I or II** and comes to Mass with you, he or she is eligible to be enrolled for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is usually celebrated in Eastertide.

For more information concerning this Sacrament, please get in touch with our Director of Religious Education Anna Berkeley at dre@johnxxiii.ch.

SACRAMENTS (cont'd)

Marriage

The reception of a sacrament is a most important moment in the life of a member of the Church community, and careful preparation should be made. St John XXIII, offers a time of preparation to those who are to receive sacraments, to enable them to enter more fully into these great mysteries of our faith.

In accordance with the norms required by canon law, six month notice must be given whether the marriage is to take place here or abroad, in order to enable the required preparation to take place. Please make an appointment to see Fr. Paul at least six months prior to the proposed date.

Marriage Preparation Course

The Preparation Program includes 'Preparation for Marriage' or Pre-Cana weekend course. This provides engaged couples with the opportunity to seriously consider and talk about some of the important issues they will encounter in marriage and family life. The course is led by a team composed of married couples from the Parish and a priest. Marriage preparation is a requirement for couples wishing to marry in the Catholic Church. For the Marriage Preparation Course, please register and fill up the Marriage Preparation form and contact the parish office for the spring schedule.

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of Anointing the Sick or the distribution of the Holy Eucharist for those who are ill at home or in hospital may be requested by contacting the Parish Office.

SACRAMENTS (cont'd)

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

This is the normal form of preparation for those who are non-Christians to enter the Catholic Church. It may also be helpful for those who wish to enter into full Communion with the Catholic Church from other Christian traditions.

The time of meeting will be arranged to suit everyone concerned. If you think you may be interested, further details can be obtained from Fr Paul. (This would also be appropriate preparation for adults wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.) All are welcome!



CATECHISM



St John XXIII is blessed with an established and vibrant program offering religious education to over 300 young people a year in our community. They say faith is 'caught' and not 'taught', and parents you are without doubt the most influential model for your child.

The learning in the RE classes aims to supplement what children learn from their parents and from regularly attending Mass so they can approach adulthood with a sound spiritual framework.

The RE program is a completely volunteer led programme running on the collective efforts of parent and non-parent volunteers. Naturally classes can only be offered when we have volunteer Catechists and Assistants stepping forward to teach our children.

There are many ways parents who enrol their children are asked to participate. The Catechists and Year Level Co-ordinators are naturally the backbone of the program supported by the Assistants who give invaluable classroom help.

Parents can register their children online in the Catechism and Confirmation programmes. For further information, you can contact Anna Berkeley our Director of Religious Education at dre@johnxxiii.ch.

Youth

The Youth Ministry is in charge of the youth (ages 14 to 18) in our parish. Their activities include the Confirmation Programme (a 2 year programme), organising retreats such as Kairos and other youth related fundraising activities.

For further information, you can contact Anna Berkeley our Director of Religious Education at dre@johnxxiii.ch.



LITURGICAL GROUPS



St John XIII Parish is composed of different groups. The groups include liturgical ministries, adult formation, assistance abroad, care and concern and other parish affiliated groups.

Altar Servers

Our young parishioners who have already received their First Holy Communion are encouraged to participate in this ministry. Their duty involves assisting priests during the weekday and weekend Masses or other services.

Regular training and social opportunities are guaranteed throughout the year. So why not join this enthusiastic and friendly group? New servers are always welcome. Contact: Fr. Paul (paulcfriel@johnxxiii.ch)

Church Stewards

These are volunteers who help ensure safety and regulate proper parking within the parish parking premises at all every weekend Masses and during key parish events (e.g. Advent Dinner, Kermesse, etc). Contact: Leonard Greer (lsgreer@gmail.com)

Coffee Ministry

Teams of volunteers help at most of the Parish activities where food and friendship intertwine, such as periodic appreciation events, coffee after Masses and other gatherings. Contact: Cynthia Zijlstra (ccza@bluewin.ch)

LITURGICAL GROUPS (cont'd)

Choirs

Our Parish is blessed with 5-7 choirs who sing regularly at weekend masses at St. Nicolas de Flüe and in Notre-Dame Basilica. We also have congregational singing at our 18:30 Saturday Mass and an African Group Choir. Each choirs practices weekly or fortnightly. Contacts:

10:00 A Choir Sandra Bandaranayake
sandra.bandaranayake@gmail.com

11:30 Choir Larry Grummer-Strawn
lgstrawn@gmail.com

18:30 Sat. Choir PA Escalante
paescalante@gmail.com

18:30 Youth Choir Peter Navarrette
pgnavarrette@yahoo.com

African Choir Deus Mubangizi
deuskm@yahoo.co.uk

19:00 Choir (N. Dame) Elisa Andamo 0033 450 410 001
martellea@outlook.com



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Over sixty parishioners from the five continents are currently commissioned to assist our Priest with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ. Training for new and old Eucharistic Ministers is held regularly during the year. Contact: Fr. Paul (paulcfriel@johnxxiii.ch) Schedule Contact: Oktawian Kuc (oktawian.kuc@gmail.com)



John XXIII
Eucharistic Ministers

LITURGICAL GROUPS (cont'd)

Lectors/Readers

New lectors are always welcome to join our active team of lectors. Training courses are held twice per year in spring and autumn. All lectors are invited to the training course to meet the new update their own skills and renew their commitment.

Each lector is scheduled to read about eight times per year at one of our five weekend Masses. The sacristan or Mass coordinator invites active lectors who are present to read at weekday Masses. You can contact the Lector Coordinator via the Parish Office. Contact: Honora Daily (Honora.daily@itu.int)



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Sacristan

The Sacristan is responsible for preparation & coordination, Sacristy maintenance, security and supervision of Mass Coordinators and Liturgical Ministers during the various liturgical celebrations, religious devotions and sacramental rites.



LITURGICAL GROUPS (cont'd)

Flowers, Environment and Art

A tasteful liturgical setting enhances prayerful worship at Mass. If you would like to offer your inspiration and creativity, contact one of the coordinators of this ministry. Contact: Rebecca Agoncillo or Menchie Castillo (agoncillor@gmail.com or castilloc@who.int)

Welcome Ministry (Greeters & Ushers)

This group is vital in making visitors and parishioners welcome when attending our services. Volunteers facilitate the distribution of Mass leaflets and hymn books, seating and the collection. Contact: Inia Asuncion (mavarinia@yahoo.com)

“The Church is called to be the house of the Father, with doors always wide open.”

(Evangelii Gaudium, 47)



ADULT FORMATION



Walking With Purpose - St. John XXIII Women's Bible Study

Walking with Purpose is a Catholic women's Bible study that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ by offering personal study and small group discussion that link our everyday challenges and struggles with the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Roman Catholic Church.

There are three groups that meet on Thursdays at either 10:00, 12:15, or 18:30. For further information, e-mail: wwpj23@gmail.com.

Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation (JPIC)

JPIC was inspired by "Laudato Si" (On Care for Our Common Home), the appeal from Pope Francis addressed to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. Pope Francis calls the Church and the world to acknowledge the urgency of our environmental challenges and to join him in embarking on a new path. This encyclical is written with both hope and resolve, looking to our common future with candor and humility. Contact: Annie Yuson (annieyuson@icloud.com)



ADULT FORMATION

Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living (GPRL)

The Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living (GPRL), course, is a 1 year course, divided into 2 modules and is presented in partnership with the Ignatian Spirituality Center (ISC) based in Glasgow, Scotland. As the name already eludes to- this is based on St Ignatius spirituality. The course aims to provide participants with prayer resources and reflection skills that will help them to deepen their relationship with God, become more aware of the sense and direction of their lives, make choices that reflect their self-identity within an understanding of God's hopes for the world and develop a spirituality that shapes their response to life. The group meets on a Monday evening and also participates in 3-4 retreat Saturdays. If interested in deepening your prayer life or Ignatian Spirituality in general, feel free to contact Stephen Smith (Stephen.smith05@gmail.com) or Petra Lindner (petra.lindner@gmail.com) for more information.



Global Outreach

Global Outreach is a committee of parishioners tasked by our Parish Priest to administer a charity fund for the purpose of financially assisting committee approved projects across a broad geographical range of countries reflective of the current Parish demography.

Through the generosity of the parishioners, the GO Committee will provide financial support for small-scale, primarily education-based projects in developing and less economically developed countries on a one-time, medium or long-term basis as determined by the Committee.

The current GO Members are Fr Paul Friel, Frank Kofi, Jacquie Julen, Joselito Benitez, Oscar Fornoza, Oscar Mbeche, Patti McAnulty, Patricia Matthews and Vicky Brohier.

If you have a project please log onto the parish website for a [Grant Application form](#). When you have completed the form please hand it in the Parish Office or any member of the GO.

Diocese in Turkana, Kenya

Our commitment to Turkana dates back to 1976. Through our financial contributions, we have provided provide much needed support to the Holy Family Parish, of Kanamkamer, a town located in Lodwar which is a Municipality of Turkana, a District in the Kenyan Rift Valley Province.

Our annual contributions are used to help build and maintain outstation churches, libraries, nursery and primary schools as well as various health and youth centers. Each first Sunday of the month we have a special collection which goes towards meeting the CHF 40K per annum we currently provide to Turkana. Any surplus above the sum is placed into a special Tertiary Education Fund to support the university education of students from Turkana and other parts of the developing world.

Global Outreach(cont'd)

Turkana Education Fund

Each year through the Turkana Education Fund, our Parish seeks sponsors for around 25 students in Turkana, where secondary and post-secondary education is fee-paying. For less than One Swiss Franc a day over a period of four years, we are able to send a child to school.



To date over 480 young people have benefited from this programme. For more information, contact the Parish Office or visit the Turkana Education Website (www.turkanaeducationfund.org).

“Our faith in Christ,
who became poor
and was always close to the poor
and the outcast, is the basis of
our concern for the integral
development of society’s most neglected members.”

(*Evangelii Gaudium*, 186)

Care and Concern

Neighbourhood volunteers help identify needs, offer moral support and provide referrals to local social services of the Parish, before a crisis develops. The following are the various ministries under Care and Concern.

Confidential Consultation

If you need a confidential talk about family issues, divorce, separation, depression, unemployment or any of the many things that cause hurt, consider contacting the caring ministry to set an appointment. Email: CareConcern@johnxxiii.ch

Food Pantry

In order to ease the daily basic needs of the homeless in our community, the Parish provides a bag of provisions to those who ask. Contributions to the Food Pantry would be greatly appreciated, they may be dropped off at the Parish Office during office hours. Keep in mind that the recipients of the pantry are homeless, so they have no means to cook food. Canned or packaged foods that do not need to be cooked are ideal.

Care and Concern (cont'd)

Soup Kitchen

The outreach program to the local community began in 1998. We support the efforts of the Geneva-based charity 'Carrefour-rue' by bringing parishioner volunteers to help 4 times a year at a 'Soup Kitchen' that provides warm lunch to needy persons. New volunteers are always welcome. For more information, please contact the Parish Office. Contact: Desiree Narvaez (drdesireenarvaez@gmail.com)



Stephen Ministry



Stephen Ministers engage in twice-monthly supervision to ensure that they are providing the best-quality Christian care; the names of care receivers and specific details are never discussed. The caregiving is provided to everybody irrespective of their creed (or none) with some notable exceptions (i.e., Minors, couples, families, groups; and those with serious mental illness, suicidal or violent behaviors, substance abuse, severally manipulative persons, etc.)

Stephen Ministers are an extension of the pastoral care of the Church, not a casual visitor or a professional counselor. They are trained Christian caregivers. Their role is to listen and care—not counsel or advise. At St John XXIII today we have 16 Stephen Ministers trained to assist our community.

If you require further information please visit the Stephen Ministry website or for assistance, email us at stephen.leaders@stephenministry.ch.

Parking

Over 1,000 spaces are available every Sunday at Rue de Varembe 3 (see map), a 5 minute walk from the Church. The cost is CHF1 / hour.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS SURROUNDING THE CHURCH.

