



Dear Parish Family,

We have been slowly, very slowly emerging from the Covid-19 lockdown. Already our church has been open for prayer and holy Mass. We are able to go to Mass again and receive Holy Communion. It is not be the same as before. Many are tentative and hesitant and, probably for some time, we will not be able to gather in the same numbers and celebrate liturgy as before. But, after three months in a non-sacramental exile, we are able to gather for Mass and that is a source of great joy.

I hope with all my heart that our sacramental fast will make those who can, those for whom it is safe, more faithful to Sunday Mass and more anxious to receive Christ in Holy Communion.

I would like to thank our team of volunteers who have helped to make the process of 'unlocking' as seamless as possible, we are very grateful to; the stewards outside the church at the hand sanitising station and keeping a wee eye on the queue. To those inside, directing our parishioners and visitors to their pews and for assisting at Holy Communion. I'm so grateful to everyone who has volunteered to clean up after every Mass, you are amazing, a million thanks.

**The obligation not to attend Sunday Mass remains in place until further notice, especially if you are part of a vulnerable population and/or have an underlying health condition**

- +Stay home if you are sick or not feeling well.
- +Wear a mask if you can at Mass.
- +Sanitise your hands upon entry.
- +Sit in designated pews and respect social distance between others of 1.5M or more unless you are one family unit.
- +Refrain from congregating in tight areas or entering cordoned off areas.
- +Follow the protocols to receive Holy Communion as directed at Mass.
- +No congregational singing (even if tempted, please don't join in with the cantor at 11h Mass)

**While these protocols are intrusive, they are necessary as they allow us to celebrate the Sacraments in person while doing our part to help stop the spread of coronavirus.**

**Prayers when not able to attend Holy Mass**



### Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Examen

Before listening to the Word of God take a moment to reflect.

For what am I grateful to God for today?

Where did I stray from God: through words, actions or things I did not do?

How might I do better tomorrow?

What grace do I ask from God in order to live more closely in his love?

You may wish to conclude by saying:

Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth:

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Psalm 85 (1-6, 11, 15-16)

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give answer  
for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my life, for I am faithful:  
save the servant who trusts in you.

You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord,  
for I cry to you all the day long.  
Give joy to your servant, O Lord,  
for to you I lift up my soul.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer  
and attend to the sound of my voice.

Show me, Lord, your way,  
so that I may walk in your truth.  
Guide my heart to fear your name.

You, God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger, O Lord,  
abounding in love and truth,  
turn and take pity on me.



## Gospel

Matthew 13:24-43

### Let them both grow till the harvest

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables

and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Silent reflection

Pause for a moment of silent reflection.



## Prayers

### Intercessions

Pray for family and loved ones so that they may be held in God's compassionate care.

Pray for other countries who are struggling with the effects of the COVID 19 virus.

Pray for the protection of medical professionals who care for the sick and for their families. Pray for the sick, departed and bereaved.

If the following intentions are said in a family or other group you may wish to conclude each one with the response:

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

For those in authority: may they offer advice with care and integrity, may they seek to protect the poor and vulnerable.

For all who work in healthcare: give strength to all who look after sick so that they may bring comfort and relief to the suffering.

For the Church: may she offer prayers and consolation for all those affected.

For our local community and all for those in need: may those who are isolated know the support and service of their neighbours.

Lord's Prayer  
Our Father...

### Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,  
I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar.  
I love you above all things  
and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
come spiritually into my heart  
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.  
Amen.



### Conclusion

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

### Summer Mass Times

**Saturday** 5pm

**Sunday** 9, 10, 11 am and 19:00 Notre Dame

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday** 12:15 pm



### Annual general assembly

This year, our Annual General Assembly (AGA) will take place on July 26 (Sunday) from 12 noon in the Church.

Find below the Draft Agenda. Please contact the Parish Office ([office@johnxxiii.ch](mailto:office@johnxxiii.ch)) for any proposed amendments no later than July 20 (Mon). The 2019 accounts & budgets are available in the Parish Office and [online](#) on the Website (Statutes Art 8. Sec 5).

On item 10 of the draft agenda, we have 1 open position. Interested parishioners must declare their candidacy to the Parish Office no later than July 21 (Tues). The declaration must be accompanied by: (1) a written endorsement by at least 2 members of the parish; (2) a short statement indicating experience and/or qualifications as well as motivations. (By-laws Art III Sec 10).

Persons eligible to vote at the General Assembly must be:

(a) Registered in the Parish; (b) Catholic, and (c) Above 16 years of age. To verify whether you are registered or not, check the Parish Directory, which is kept electronically in the Parish Office. The Minutes of last year's GA & 2019 accounts are on the Parish Website under General Assembly, or obtained from the Parish Office.

### **AGA DRAFT AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome & Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of 19 June 2019 GA minutes
4. PAC 2019 Report
5. PPC 2019 Report
  - Religious Education
6. Report 2019 from the Representative of the PPC
7. Vicariate Liaison 2019 Report
  - ECR Contribution/Quêtes
8. Report on Parish Finances, followed by Q&A
  - Review & Approval of Parish Accounts
  - Auditor's report
  - Approval of budgets
  - Stewardship Campaign Update
9. SNDF Project Update
  - Pledges & Loan Repayments
  - Future Projects
10. PAC Elections
  - Safeguarding/Child Protection
11. Any Other Business



I am absolutely delighted to recommend the following material to you and I invite you to give it due consideration and reflection.

It is a wonderful programme that will be most helpful and useful on our journey of faith during these days of uncertainty, as we tread cautiously.

St Ignatius of Loyola knew that we have to build ourselves on a firm foundation and he does this by making it crystal clear for us that the focus is always on God! He invites you, to try and see and live this reality. Please have a wee look at what's on offer, sign up!

You will have no regrets.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our team **from Ignatian Spirituality Centre (ISC) Geneva** for making this possible, and I would like to end by recalling Saint Paul's words in the Letter to the Ephesians that we are called to a spirit of solidarity, that is;

"with all humility and gentleness, with patience, to bear with one another in love"  
(Eph 4:1-2)."

---



### Ignatian Spirituality Message

Dear Fellow Pilgrims,

We trust and pray that you are all keeping well and healthy. As we all start trying to find our feet in the "new" normal following the pandemic, we wanted to share with you our planned 2020/2021 Ignatian Spirituality courses, events and tools for our Geneva community. At this stage most are planned to take place virtually and/or with some face to face meetings.

On the backdrop of the Lenten retreat feedback and for the many retreatants who have asked "What's next", we are offering the following retreats and courses starting from July 2020:

1. [Summer online retreat at home](#): this is a 3 consecutive day private retreat that can be done at home with your own personal Spiritual Director either in the month of July 2020 or towards the end of August 2020.
2. [Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living course](#): this course will start on 7 September 2020 and include both face to face and online meetings. If interested, we recommend you register early as spaces are limited.
3. [Spiritual Accompaniment and /or doing of the Spiritual Exercises](#) : for fellow pilgrims interested in doing the Spiritual Exercises (19<sup>th</sup> Annotation) or having personal Spiritual accompaniment, this is also available.
4. [First Saturday of the month meetings](#): these 3 hour Saturday morning sessions are aimed to explore together our faith. The first one will be on 8 August (exception 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday only for August) with the topic of "Getting to know St Ignatius". The first meeting will take place virtually after which we hope to be able to meet face to face.
5. [Some resources for those of us in mourning](#) : thanks to an initiative between our friends in Glasgow and our Parishioners, a resource with various ideas is available for those of us mourning loved ones - especially during these difficult times.

If you are interested in any of the retreats or courses, please go to the appropriate webpage on the [ISC Geneva](#) website and complete the appropriate application form. Alternatively, should you have a question, please send us an email to: [swiss.isc@gmail.com](mailto:swiss.isc@gmail.com).

Also, to see some more offerings, attached is an overview of all our current Geneva planned courses trainings and events planned for 2020/2021.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your very constructive feedback of the Lenten (and Pentecost) retreats our community participated in from February to May either as a group, family or privately. For the fellow pilgrims who completed our questionnaire - 100% found the retreat very meaningful and a wonderful way to connect and stay in touch with you - our community. You have also provided us with additional ideas and thoughts, some of which we are currently discerning, and others are already reflected in the above additional offerings.

---



### **Message for WWP**

Walking with Purpose (**WWP**) is a Catholic women's Scripture study group 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.

I invite the ladies of the parish to consider joining our new session after the summer.

### **Walking with Purpose and Spiritual retreats or courses to consider .....**

#### **St. John XXIII Women's Scripture Study**

Our **Walking with Purpose** groups will start a new Bible study in September. The weekly meetings will take place at the Parish (grande salle) whenever possible or on Zoom if everything shuts down again. We offer three sessions on **Thursdays** 10-11.30am; 12.15-13.45 and 6.30-8.00pm. The book we will be studying together is "**Keeping in Balance**". All ladies are very welcome to join us. If you want to reserve a copy of the book or if you have any questions please contact Giovanna or Luna at [wwpj23@gmail.com](mailto:wwpj23@gmail.com) or check the Parish website.



*Do you feel pulled in many directions? Do you find it hard to balance the demands placed on your time? Is it difficult to manage stress and your professional and family life? God wants to support and help us so that we can be our best in every season of our lives.*

*Come along on a journey throughout Scripture as we discover the relevance of Old and New Testament wisdom to our daily challenges. In this study, we will explore Biblical ideas for managing life's pace and pressure while living with calm and steadiness. Your lifestyle of health and holiness awaits.*

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Travel in safety,



**Fr Paul C Friel**

Curé

St John XXIII Parish  
Rue de Montbrillant, 57  
1202 Genève  
Tel No: 0227330483  
[www.johnxxiii.ch](http://www.johnxxiii.ch)

Read the parish latest news on our [website](#) or [weekly bulletin](#).

St John XXIII Parish

Rue de Montbrillant 57, 1202 Genève | 022 733 04 83 | [office@johnxxiii.ch](mailto:office@johnxxiii.ch) | [www.johnxxiii.ch](http://www.johnxxiii.ch)

Copyright © 2020 St John XXIII Parish, All rights reserved.