

### First reading

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 21(22):26-28,30-32

***I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.***

My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever!

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him; They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:  
‘These things the Lord has done.’

### Second reading

1 John 3:18-24

My children,  
our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active;

only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

### Gospel

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.’



### Why ‘Name Tag’ Sunday

You may be wondering why we would have something called ‘Name Tag Sunday’? Well, knowing someone's name is the way we start a relationship with them.

It is by our name that God knows us: “To him the gatekeeper opens; the sheep hear his voice, and **he calls his own sheep by name** and leads them out” (John 3:10). Building a sense of community is something we aim to do well at St Luke's. And it begins with knowing the names of the people you worship with.

At our former parish, we ran a program called Alpha, which is a great way to understand the essential messages of Christianity. It involves supper together, a video and then small group discussions. It is something we'd like to offer the St Luke's community at some stage.

However, when we asked the people afterwards about the benefits of the program, one of the key things they said was that it allowed them to get to know more people in the parish community. They'd seen faces for years in the pew near them but didn't know their names. Now they had a real connection which they valued.

Well, you may not get to know everyone on ‘Name Tag Sunday’ but you might, over time, get to know more and more members of the Body of Christ.

It is just one way to help build community at St Luke's and help connect us, as members of the branches of the Church, to each other and to the vine of Christ.

- Deacon Tony Hoban,  
Pastoral Director

## Our Celebrant this week is:

Fr. Domingo Barawid, MI (better known as Fr Meng).  
Camillian Religious Priest of the Philippine Province, Australia Delegation, of a Filipino background.  
Chaplain at Westmead hospital.  
Has been in ministry in the Diocese of Parramatta since September, 2013.

### OUR COMMUNITY PRAYER

O God

You show us in St Luke, our patron,  
a person of faith  
who desired all people to come to know and  
love you  
in the community of your Church.

Teach us to embrace what St Luke  
pioneered:  
discipleship of Jesus Christ.

Trusting in your love and grace  
and nourished by Word and Sacrament  
may we grow in our relationship with you  
and together make our Catholic Faith  
Community  
a community of communities,  
a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink  
in the midst of their journey,  
and a center of constant missionary  
outreach.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Luke, pray for us.  
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,  
pray for us.  
Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.

**Catholic Outlook Survey.** Tell Bishop Vincent and the Diocese of Parramatta what you think about *CatholicOutlook*. All responses are anonymous and confidential. Take the survey here:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/catholicoutlook](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/catholicoutlook)

#### Nigerian Mass in Igbo: 13 May

Rev Fr Chukwunonyerem Akamadu, Chaplain to the Nigerian Catholic community, will celebrate Mass at 11.30am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. Contact Fr Akamadu tel 0451 174 438, Stella Nwosu 0405 478 472.

#### Mass For Neophytes: 18 May

The annual Mass for Neophytes (newly Baptised Catholics and those who have been received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church) will be celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and held on Friday 18 May, 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. For further information contact the Office For Worship on 02 8838 3456 or [ingridvergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingridvergano@parracatholic.org).

## Volunteers Required

Blacktown Neighbour Aid, a program with CatholicCare, are looking for volunteers to support our clients in the Blacktown area who are over 65 and living in their own home. You may be able to spare a couple of hours once a week or fortnight to take a client out shopping or to a medical appointment or just stop by for a cuppa and a chat. We also require drivers who are able to drive a 12 seater Hiace bus. If this interests you, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolcott on 8843 2541, 0418 114 055 or via email on [deb.woolcott@ccss.org.au](mailto:deb.woolcott@ccss.org.au).

#### NSW Pastoral Conference: 1 May

NSW Pastoral Conference: Forming Missionary Disciples - Join with pastoral council members, parish clergy, staff and volunteers across NSW to explore strategies for forming missionary disciples. How do we renew our baptismal call and enable our gifts in parish and school life? Tuesday 1 May, Lidcombe, cost \$65. Find out more: [www.tinyurl.com/disciples2018](http://www.tinyurl.com/disciples2018) or contact Tanya Quinn: 02 8838 3441 or [tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org](mailto:tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org)

### Meet some of our St Luke's Advisory Group members:

#### Tessie James



Tessie Ida James was born, baptised and brought up in India. She studied and worked in Catholic institutions. Many members of her family responded to the call of religious vocation and they have been a great source of inspiration in Tessie's spiritual journey. She migrated to Australia in 2003. During her initial days in Australia, Tessie was blessed to have received the guidance of Fr Rod Bray, her Parish Priest in Merrylands. She then moved to Good Shepherd Parish, Plumpton along with her husband and two sons in 2005. The family members have been active parishioners for the past 13 years. Tessie has now moved to Marsden Park with her family and she feels that it is a divine gift to be involved in the evolution of the newly formed St Luke's Catholic Faith Community

under the leadership of Deacon Tony Hoban and his wife Annette. Tessie is a Science teacher by profession and she is leading the Secondary section of an Independent school in Western Sydney.

#### John Missio



Our family moved to Marsden Park from Oakhurst in February 2016. Prior to moving, we were parishioners of Good Shepherd Plumpton for 31 years. At Good Shepherd, I was involved with the parish ministries of Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Acolyte, RCIA and recently as the Australian representative for the parish Ethnic Communities group. I've also helped out with the Antioch Outreach weekends as a cook which has always been a weekend experience I've looked forward to each year. I was Baptised in the church where my parents were married, The Holy Family East Granville.

### SUNDAY MASS

Every Sunday 10.00am in The Hub

St Luke's College (Enter via Frontier Ave Marsden Park)

### CONTACT US

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