

**OUR PROPOSED WELCOME NIGHT ON 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE – MORE DETAILS AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK.**

### First Reading

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

### Responsorial Psalm

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

***The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.***

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord, all the earth, ring out your joy.

### Second reading

1 John 4:7-10

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone

who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

### Gospel

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

### Reflection: How well do we love?

I wish I had a few dollars for every wedding I've been celebrant for where the couple has chosen the text from St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians: "Love is patient, love is kind ..."

When it comes to marital love, people get this concept of love.

I think we struggle to apply it when it comes to some other types of relationships. Like the person at work who I just don't get on with. The person in my family who just annoys me. The loud-mouthed person supporting the other team at the footie! Loving them doesn't mean we need to hold hands and say nice things to them.



It does mean that we aim to see them as God sees them – as a beloved child – warts and all.

God loves us as we are, despite our failures. He certainly encourages us to move away from ways that are out of accord with his ways but he never stops loving us.

St John in today's second reading has a comment which jolted me when I read it: "Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love."

Perhaps God will judge me not by those I love the most but those I love the least. Can I pray for those who annoy me? Even those who have hurt me?

Even if I can't, can I pray for God to help me to love them?

Perhaps those people we know who are hardest to love are in our lives for a reason – they are the ones to help us best live out our calling as a follower of Christ.

They call all to love – no matter what the cost.

I know I still have much to learn in this area but I am willing to ask God to help me to love those in my life who are hardest to love. To help me see with his eyes.

I pray you are able to do the same.

- Deacon Tony Hoban,  
Pastoral Director

### WELCOME FR RUBEN!

Our Celebrant this week is:

Fr. Ruben Elago MSP  
Parish Priest from Mary Immaculate  
Catholic Church Quakers Hill/Schofields.

## 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)

## Bishop Vincent Long

You are invited to hear Bishop Vincent  
Long, an ardent supporter of Pope Francis,  
speaking about “the New Dawn of the  
Church” at ‘Winbourne’, the Edmund Rice  
Retreat and Conference Centre, 1315  
Mulgoa Road, Mulgoa 11.00 am to 1.00 pm  
on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Entry by  
donation. Registration 10.00 am. For  
further information contact Dennis Farrar  
0425209840. Organised by the Passionist  
Family Group Movement

## Breakfast with the Bishop: 12 May

Each year Bishop Vincent hosts a breakfast  
with youth and young adults from across  
the Diocese of Parramatta. Attendees have  
an incredible opportunity to listen to the  
yearly vision of our Bishop and ask him  
questions about the challenges they are  
facing and the priorities they have  
identified for the year ahead, in their local  
context. The event is also a chance for the  
team at Catholic Youth Parramatta to  
motivate and encourage a successful year  
of ministry with young people. Further  
details at [www.parracatholic.org/cyp-lifted-breakfast/](http://www.parracatholic.org/cyp-lifted-breakfast/)

## St Patrick's Mother's Day Concert & Afternoon Tea: 13 May From 3pm

Members of St Patrick's Cathedral Choir are  
once again going to delight us with the gift  
of their voices. This will be followed by a  
complimentary 'Afternoon Tea' in the  
Cathedral Hall. Please contact Pat/Donna  
on 8839400/8412 or email  
[enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au)

Tickets: \$15 Adult, \$10 Concession, \$25  
Family

## Volunteers Required

Blacktown Neighbour Aid are looking for  
volunteers to support clients in the  
Blacktown area who are over 65 and living  
in their own home – to take them 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 Woolacott on  
8843 2541, 0418 114 055 or via email on  
[deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au](mailto:deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au).

## 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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Hoban

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**SCHOOL ENQUIRIES : 9854 3100**  
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