

First Reading

Ezekiel 17:22-24

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird
will live beneath it, every winged creature
rest in the shade of its branches. And every
tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am
the one who stunts tall trees and makes the
low ones grow, who withers green trees and
makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have
spoken, and I will do it.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 91(92):2-3,13-16

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second reading

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

We are always full of confidence when we
remember that to live in the body means to
be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by
faith and not by sight – we are full of
confidence, I say, and actually want to be
exiled from the body and make our home
with the Lord. Whether we are living in the
body or exiled from it, we are intent on
pleasing him. For all the truth about us will
be brought out in the law court of Christ, and
each of us will get what he deserves for the
things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds: 'This is what the
kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed
on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps,
when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and
growing; how, he does not know. Of its own
accord the land produces first the shoot,
then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.
And when the crop is ready, he loses no
time: he starts to reap because the harvest
has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the
kingdom of God is like? What parable can we
find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at
the time of its sowing in the soil is the
smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once

it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub
of them all and puts out big branches so
that the birds of the air can shelter in its
shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke
the word to them, so far as they were
capable of understanding it. He would not
speak to them except in parables, but he
explained everything to his disciples when
they were alone.

Reflection:

Permission note

Please accept this as my permission note
for being absent next Sunday!

As Pastoral Director, I propose to be at St
Luke's every Sunday, barring holiday time.
Next Sunday is a rare occasion when I will
be absent.

Let me explain why.

One of the other hats I wear is as Director
of Formation for the Diaconate in our
Diocese.

That is, forming other married men to be
permanent deacons.

It is a role that I really enjoy as I have a
passion for doing my bit to help this
vocation flourish.

At present we have 14 men in formation to
be deacons in the Diocese of Parramatta –
far more than any other Diocese in
Australia, including the capital city
Archdioceses.

A key part of our program in this diocese is
to strongly encourage the wives of the men
in formation to be involved, and to offer
them support on the journey.

Next Sunday, four of the men in formation
will be called to Candidacy at St Patrick's
Cathedral. Candidacy is the final stage
before Ordination.

I feel it is important for me to be there to
support the men and their wives after
journeying with them for many years.
So, during the week please pray for the four
couples leading up to this significant
occasion in their lives:

Thong and Chi Nguyen, John and Margaret
Cinya, Roque and Gemma Dias, and
Roderick and Kathryn Pirota. Like the
community at St Luke's our Diaconate
community is culturally diverse. These
couples are from Vietnamese, Sudanese,
Indian and Maltese backgrounds
respectively.

Please feel free to contact me if you feel a
call to this vocation. At present it is open to



men, though Pope Francis currently has a
commission underway to investigate the
potential for women to be Ordained as
deacons.

Deacon Tony Hoban,
Pastoral Director

We welcome our Celebrant this week:
Fr. Marcelo (Bong) of the Camillians.

24 June – 12th Sunday in Ord Time

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers: Shalini, Gina Magaling

Acolyte: John Missio

Servers: Jessica Thompson, Yanisha
Rodrigo

Readers: Aileen Sebastian, Maree
Raymundo, Lu Naidoo, Tessie James

AV operator: Volunteer needed

Eucharistic Min: Donna Missio

Hospitality: Volunteer needed

**If you are not able to fulfil your
ministry role, or if you would like
to volunteer for a vacant role,
please email**
marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

**LOW GLUTEN HOSTS ON REQUEST –
PLEASE SEE ACOLYTE BEFORE MASS**

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.

Plenary Council 2020

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It is a significant moment for the Church in Australia to make decisions about the future. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God's people are invited to reflect on the question: *"What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"* Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at the new website, now online:
www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Pentecost Pastoral Letter

A Pentecost Pastoral Letter from Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and the Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council can be found here:

www.catholicoutlook.org/pentecost

Relic of St Anthony of Padua

Parishioners and friends of St Anthony of Padua are invited to join the celebrations commencing with Mass and 9 days of Novena on St Anthony's Feast day, Wednesday 13 June 2018, culminating in the reception of the Holy Relic on Thursday 21 June and Masses and public veneration of the Relics on Friday 22 June. See St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie website www.stanthonyschurch.org.au or phone 02 9631 3316 for full details.

Peter's Pence Collection

The Peter's Pence Collection is traditionally taken up throughout Catholic parishes around the world either on 29 June, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, or on the Sunday closest to this Solemnity. This collection helps provide the Holy Father with funds for emergency assistance to those in need. The proceeds enable Pope Francis to assist the most disadvantaged in emergency situations including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Thank you for your generosity.

We need your support

St Luke's Catholic Faith Community will be launching its appeal for funds throughout June. The community faithful will have the opportunity over the coming weeks to commit to a regular donation to support the weekly worship at St Luke's Catholic Community, and to commence contributing to our future Church building. Envelopes are available from the Welcome Table in the foyer. Please take one home, discuss it with your family and consider it in your prayer. Thank you in advance for considering this appeal. God bless,
Deacon Tony Hoban

ACYMC 2018

Early-bird registration for the Australian Catholic Youth Ministry Convention hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops is now open at www.acymc.org.au. The event will host up to 500 adult delegates who are engaged in ministry with young people in parishes, schools, agencies and ministries of the Catholic Church. Rooty Hill RSL, September 21-23.

Contact James Camden, Director, Catholic Youth Parramatta for more information (02)

SUNDAY MASS

Every Sunday 10.00am in The Hub

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

CONTACT US

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Postal Address: PO Box 85,
Plumpton NSW 2761

SCHOOL ENQUIRIES : 9854 3100

www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au

8838 3428 or

james.camden@parracatholic.org

Pilgrimage from Prague to Dubrovnik in September-October School Holidays

A three-week pilgrimage - The Shrines and Cathedrals of Central Europe - from Prague to Dubrovnik in the September-October School Holidays will be led by Fr John McSweeney from St John 23rd Parish, Stanhope Gardens. For more information contact Harvest Journeys on 1800 819 156 or info@harvestjourneys.com for more information.

Refugee Week: 17-23 June

Jesuit Refugee Services are requesting parishes, community groups and individuals to join in a unique fundraising event - Cook2Connect - during the upcoming Refugee Week, to support asylum seekers and refugees living in the community. The fundraising event will enable JRS to continue and extend the help they now offer to our suffering brothers and sisters. To register, call JRS on (02) 9356 3888 or email Joanna.brooke@jrs.org.au or visit www.jrs.org.au.

Candidacy for Holy Orders: 24 June

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will be accepting into Candidacy for Holy Orders of Mr Roderick Pirotta, Mr John Cinya, Mr Roque Dias and Mr Thong Nguyen at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 24 June at 11am.

CatholicCare Sydney



Sunday, June 17, 2018

11th Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Do you know any seniors in your community who could use a little help at home? Our home care services help seniors to enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence. Call CatholicCare Careline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

At The Well: 29 June

Young women are invited to an informal and intimate gathering to encourage dialogue on topics such as faith, love, career and life. Guests include Sr Rosie Drum, Malia Lolesio and Joy Adan. Friday 29 June from 7pm at 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. \$5 entry. Tickets are limited and registrations required at parracatholic.org/the-well. Contact Qwayne, Local Engagement Leader, Catholic Youth Parramatta for more information on 02 8838 3481 or qwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org

An actual item seen in a US bulletin:

"Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands..."