

First Reading

1 Kings 19:4-8

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'O Lord,' he said 'I have had enough. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So, he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33(34):2-9

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second reading

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ. Try, then, to imitate God as children of his that he loves and follow Christ loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

Gospel

John 6:41-51

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other. 'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets:

They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. 'I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Reflection: Holy Days of Obligation?

Here's a trick question for you: how many 'Holy Days of Obligation' are there in the Catholic Church in Australia now?

- a. 2
- b. 3
- c. 54

If you answered a) you may believe that Christmas Day and the Assumption are Holy Days.

If you answered b) you may believe that Easter Sunday is added to the above two. If you answered c) you are correct.

We count Christmas Day, the Assumption and every Sunday as Holy days of Obligation. (Easter falls on a Sunday, so it is already included). So, why does the Church retain the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary as one of only two non-Sunday obligation days? Well, think about what happened. In 1950, Pope Pius XII made an infallible statement that: "... the Immaculate Mother of God, the Ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

This was a significant action of God – a clear sign of the vital role played by Mary in salvation history - by taking her body and soul straight to heaven soon after her death.

A sign that Mary was not only the honoured Mother of the Saviour of the world but also the first and most significant disciple of Jesus. She led the way of discipleship of her Son for all of us to follow.

We celebrate the Solemnity this coming Wednesday, August 15.

- **Deacon Tony Hoban**
Pastoral Director



Feast of the Assumption: 15 August

Local Mass times:

- St Luke's – 1.30pm
- Plumpton - 9am & 7.30pm
- Riverstone – 8.30am & 7.30pm
- Quakers Hill – 9.15am & 7pm

19 August – St Luke's Learning Community Mass

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers: Aileen Sebastian, Elvie Rogers, Genesis Raymundo

Acolyte: Volunteer needed

Servers: Feba Abby, Tissa Thomas

Readers: Parents of St Luke's Stage 2 students

Eucharistic Min: Maria Raymundo

Hospitality: Volunteers 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



Deacon Tony and Annette have signed up to do the Vinnies Community Sleep Out next month. The event raises funds to help prevent homelessness in western Sydney. They will be given just a bowl of soup, a beanie and a piece of cardboard. Each participant is asked to raise \$700 so please support them by going to these pages online:

nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/TonyHoban and nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/AnnetteHoban

We welcome this week as our Celebrant: Fr Meng

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.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS ON REQUEST – PLEASE SEE ACOLYTE BEFORE MASS

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

We're hiring!

If you're studying or recently graduated from accounting and looking to get your foot in the door in finance, the Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Development Fund is looking for a casual Trainee Assistant Accountant with an immediate start. For more information contact dffinance@parraddf.org.au

We're hiring!

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is seeking a Nurse to attend World Youth Day 2019 in Panama. The role will be responsible for encouraging and coordinating healthy practices and the preliminary identification and assessment of medical, health and wellbeing needs of pilgrims. More information at: <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/positions-vacant>

Feast of the Assumption Walk: 15 August

THE ANNUAL WALK ON THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION will take place on Wednesday 15 August, beginning at Noon with Mass at the Shrine of the Holy Innocents (8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville). The walk starts after Mass at 1pm, continues along Windsor Road to St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta (14km). Refreshment stops occur along the way. All are welcome. Join us at any point of the walk. Contact the parish office to register on 9629-2595.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend: 17 - 19 August

Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover your relationship! 17 - 19 August at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Book online at www.wvme.org.au or contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com

IFM Reflective Ministry Program

This enjoyable program aims to enrich those involved in service/ministry of Catholic communities – excellent chance for learning and further shaping of faith and purpose. Ten Tuesday evenings and two Saturday mornings are spread out across August 18 to Dec 1 – presenters' inputs, journaling and application to ministry – group size about 35. See ifm.org.au or call the IFM team 9296 6369

Holy Spirit Seminary Open Day: 19 August

"Come and See Day" at Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park on 19 August 2018 is a whole-day event, inspired by Our Lord's invitation to the two disciples of John the

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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www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au

Baptist to "Come and see", found in the Gospel of John. Open Day provides single men open to a priestly vocation with the opportunity to experience seminary life, beginning with Holy Mass at St Oliver's Parish Church at 10 am, followed by talks, a tour, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and dinner with Bishop Vincent. RSVP essential. Please contact Fr John Paul Escarlan via johnpaul.escarlan@parracatholic.org or 0420 310 771

Migrant and Refugee Week: 20 - 26 August

Pope Francis has chosen as the theme for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 'Welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and refugees'. We are challenged by the message of the Holy Father to consider how we can welcome, protect, promote and integrate migrants and refugees in our own Australian context. For more information please visit: parracatholic.org/socialjustice

Creating a Safe Church: 31 August - 1 September

The Diocese of Parramatta is co-hosting two days of presentations by Fr Hans Zollner SJ addressing the most significant issues facing the Catholic Church today with respect to harmful behaviour arising from the abuse crisis and the impact on victims and survivors, and members of the Church. For



Sunday, August 12, 2018

19th Sunday in Ordinary
time

more information go to:

parracatholic.org/safechurch

Save the Date - Liturgy Conference 2018

Date: 10 November 2018. Keynote Speaker: Fr Peter Williams Vicar General from the Diocese of Parramatta. Workshops: Singing the Psalms, RCIA ritual & symbols, Training Junior Altar Servers and Music and Prayer in the Classroom. Register your interest at: parracatholic.org/liturgyconference2018/

Can you support St Luke's to grow?

St Luke's Catholic Faith Community is Australia's newest Catholic worshipping community. We need you to contribute your time, treasure and talents to help our community be all that it can be. Please consider helping us with your time and talents by volunteering for one of our many ministries. And please support us by sharing some of your treasure through our giving program to help facilitate our weekly worship and form part of the foundation of a future church building. You can find the donation envelopes on the Welcome Table in the foyer each Sunday. Please pass these to Deacon Tony or include them on one of the collections during Mass.