

**First Reading**

2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear.' 'Give it to the people to eat', Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some left over, as the Lord had said.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 144(145):10-11,15-18

*The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.*

**Second reading**

Ephesians 4:1-6

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

**Gospel**

John 6:1-15

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them,

'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

**Reflection:** by Fr Michael Tate

The disciples fell into the verbal trap which Jesus set. They believed that market forces should dictate how the hunger of the crowd could be satisfied. It was a young lad who put the disciples to shame, simply handing over five barley loaves and two fish to Jesus. It was because of his generosity that Divine generosity was able to feed the crowd.

Divine desire to satisfy the hungers of humanity for the various necessities of life (food, shelter, companionship, education, medicines) require human generosity. Otherwise, Divine Compassion cannot be effective in the world.

Voluntary renunciation of property and sharing of wealth still occurs in the little oases of monasteries and convents, echoes of the radical redistribution of wealth recorded in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 4:32-35). St Luke makes it clear that this was essentially linked to the Apostles' testifying to the Resurrection 'with great power'.

Francis of Assisi and now Francis of Buenos Aires remind us that the Church itself needs to engage in the redistribution of its wealth to enable the hungers of humanity to be satisfied. This will give authenticity to its preaching of the Gospel and enable its evangelising to be undertaken 'with great power'.

We could take a moment to pray that we become more like the little boy in the Gospel, more like Francis of Assisi, more like Francis of Buenos Aires, voluntarily sharing our wealth to satisfy the hungers of humanity.

**5 August – 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord Time**

**MINISTRY ROSTER**

Welcomers: Shalini Fonseka, Sohan Rodrigo

Acolyte: Volunteer needed

Servers: Jessica Thompson, Feba Abby, Tissa Thomas

Readers: Chris Laroche, Kath Bullas, Elvie & Bobs Reyes

Eucharistic Min: Volunteer needed

Hospitality: Ruparatue family



**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](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)**



Deacon Tony and Annette Hoban 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 as they sleep out at Western Sydney Uni's Parramatta Campus. Each participant is asked to raise \$500 so please support them by going to these pages online: [nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/TonyHoban](http://nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/TonyHoban) and [nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/AnnetteHoban](http://nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/AnnetteHoban)

**We welcome our Celebrant this week:**  
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](http://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 [ddf@parradfd.org.au](mailto:ddf@parradfd.org.au)

**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](http://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) 8838 3428 or [james.camden@parracatholic.org](mailto:james.camden@parracatholic.org)

**Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses**

The Office for Worship is taking enrolments for its Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses for those who are interested in being Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Bringing Communion to the Sick and Dying. To be held at the Institute for Mission at 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. Enrolments close 9 August. NOTE: Introduction Session on 16 August is compulsory. Please see your Parish office for a form or for more information contact [ivergano@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:ivergano@parra.catholic.org.au) or 02 8838 3456 or [parracatholic.org/office-for-worship/](http://parracatholic.org/office-for-worship/)

**IFM Themes of Faith Program**

Exploring Catholic life, faith and action themes – for people keen on very manageable home readings/reflection ready to attend great group conversations. Ten Monday evenings and one Saturday morning, spread out across July 30 to Oct 29. Gatherings break into mentored groups of 10 - excellent for age 18 to seniors - builds confidence to grow and share faith. See [ifm.org.au](http://ifm.org.au) or call the IFM team 9296 6369

**Faith in Marriage Seminar: 3 August**

All are welcome to attend the 2018 'Faith in Marriage' Seminar. Key address will be given by Robert Falzon (menALIVE). All welcome to attend this free event on Friday 3 August at 7.30pm at the IFM, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. Please RSVP to [lmf@parracatholic.org](mailto:lmf@parracatholic.org) or phone 88383460

**The Catenian Charity Inc. Scholarship**

The Catenians are offering a \$5,000

**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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**SCHOOL ENQUIRIES: 9854 3100**  
[www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au)

scholarship to advance the interests of Australian Catholic students, aged between 15-25, who are in necessitous circumstances, enrolled at an Australian tertiary institution or tertiary residential college. For more details contact [info@bryantchurch.com.au](mailto:info@bryantchurch.com.au) or [john\\_monkhouse@iprimus.com.au](mailto:john_monkhouse@iprimus.com.au). Applications close 4 August 2018.

**Office for Worship Formation Day: 11 August**

The Office for Worship is offering a Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying Ongoing Formation Day on Saturday 11 August, 9.30am – 2.00pm (Morning Tea and lunch provided) at the Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. RSVP by 6 of August, 2018. For more information or to register contact Ingrid on 88383456 or at [ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org)

**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. Fr Hans is regarded as one of the leading ecclesiastical experts in the field of safeguarding of minors and on areas concerning sexual abuse both in the Roman Catholic Church and beyond. For more information, [parracatholic.org/safechurch](http://parracatholic.org/safechurch)

**Save the Date - Liturgy Conference 2018**



Sunday, July 29, 2018

17th Sunday in Ordinary  
time

Date: 10 November 2018. Keynote Speaker:  
Fr Peter Williams Vicar General from the  
Diocese of Parramatta. Workshops (still to  
be finalised): Singing the Psalms, RCIA  
ritual & symbols, Training Junior Altar  
Servers and Music and Prayer in the  
Classroom. To register your interest go to:  
[parracatholic.org/liturgyconference2018/](http://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.