

**First Reading**

Joshua 24:1-2,15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people, 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? What is more, the Lord drove all those peoples out before us, as well as the Amorites who used to live in this country. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 33(34):2-3,10-15

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

**Second reading**

Ephesians 5:21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body –

and we are its living parts. *For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body.* This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

**Gospel**

John 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

**Reflection: WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY?**

We all struggle to be happy. Some of us seek happiness through our interests. Some seek it through power. Some through wealth or honour or addictions. But, none of these make us truly happy. Power can slip away – as Malcolm Turnbull discovered this week. Wealth, honour and addictions deliver happiness which is shallow and temporary at their best and life destroying at their worst. Our interests can deliver a short-term spike in happiness but can never be fully satisfying. Our relationships are perhaps the closest way we come to complete happiness. The bonds of family and love are ways we can give and receive deep happiness. Yet, sadly, these also can be broken, even if only by death. We have in Jesus someone who wants us to be fully happy. Not happy in a fleeting way, but in a deep and ever-lasting way. Jesus even died for our happiness. Yet, as we see in today's Gospel, he never imposed his gift of life and true happiness on anyone. We



are all free to accept or reject what He offers. I pray that we can all address Jesus and render our own version of St Peter's words: "Lord to who else shall we turn for true happiness. You are the way to eternal life and happiness. We believe in you."

- **Deacon Tony Hoban**  
Pastoral Director

2 September – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ord Time

**MINISTRY ROSTER**

Welcomers: Conol family

Acolyte: Volunteer needed

Servers: Jessica Thompson, Yanisha Rodrigo, Nysha Anilash

Readers: Lavanya Ambrose, Luanshya Naidoo

Eucharistic Min: Volunteer needed

Hospitality: Volunteer needed

Children's Liturgy: Sindhu Tholath

**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)**

**Vinnies Community Sleepout**

Deacon Tony and Annette have signed up to do the Vinnies Community Sleep Out on 30<sup>th</sup> August. 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](http://nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/TonyHoban) and  
[nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/AnnetteHoban](http://nswvinniescommunitysleepout.gofundraise.com.au/page/AnnetteHoban)

**We welcome this week as our  
Celebrant: Fr Chris from Harris Park**

### 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. 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!

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>

#### St Vincent de Paul DROUGHT APPEAL

Help support struggling rural communities facing tough drought conditions. Help individuals and communities across NSW. *Donations can be made by calling 13 18 12, [www.vinnies.org.au/drought](http://www.vinnies.org.au/drought) or at any local Vinnies Shop.*

#### 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 more information go to:

[parracatholic.org/safechurch](http://parracatholic.org/safechurch)

#### BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR RETIRED AND SICK CLERGY

The Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta assists in meeting the needs of the retired and sick priests of the Diocese, and an annual appeal, The Bishop's Collection for Retired and Sick Clergy, is held on Father's Day each year to support the Foundation. There will be a third collection this weekend at Mass. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. You can make online contributions at [csfparra.org.au](http://csfparra.org.au) using your credit card or direct transfer via eft to BSB 067 950 and Account No 001691 in the name of the CSF with reference your name, and send e-mail to [csf@parracatholic.org](mailto:csf@parracatholic.org) with your details so a receipt can be sent.

#### Catholic Men's Conference: 1 September

Join with other men to explore strategies for: What is Courage? How do we build authentic relationships? What is commitment? Saturday, 1 September at Dooleys Catholic Club, Lidcombe  
Registration: \$60 Early Bird \$48 (11 August). Find out more:  
[www.sydneycatholicmen.com/conference](http://www.sydneycatholicmen.com/conference) or contact Norm Reavell on 0438 5515 441. A collaborative of men from Brothersoul (Schoenstatt Men), menALIVE, The Catenian Association, Knights of the Southern Cross, The Men of St Joseph and Catholic Men's Fellowship.

#### Walking with Refugees: 8 September

Walking with refugees and people seeking protection: The Diocesan journey continues with a celebration lunch on 8 September from 11:45-2:30pm to be held at Patrician Brothers, Blacktown. Come together to hear and share stories and successes, learn about what's happening right now for refugees and explore what we can do over the next 12 months. For more information call the Social Justice Office on 02 8838 3458 or visit: <https://bit.ly/2nCTrWA>. The House of Welcome Asylum Seeker Social Enterprise are catering for this event Payment \$25 Cash on the day as a donation and to cover cost to House of Welcome.

#### 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/](http://parracatholic.org/liturgyconference2018/)

#### Save the Date – Seminar for Couples Hoping to Conceive

Date: 11 November 2018. *Waiting for Gabriel* is an information afternoon. You'll hear testimonies and learn about natural options which assist fertility. For more info contact Natural Fertility Services, Diocese of Parramatta 0400 427 605  
[catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org)

#### Natural Fertility Services

To learn more about Natural Family Planning in the Diocese of Parramatta contact 02 8838 3460 or [nfs@parracatholic.org](mailto:nfs@parracatholic.org) or [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org) and [www.parralmf.org.au/nfs](http://www.parralmf.org.au/nfs)

#### Can you support St Luke's to grow?

St Luke's Catholic Faith Community is Australia's newest Catholic worshipping community. 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.

#### To Whom Shall We Go?



#### 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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