

**First Reading**

Is 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck  
me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my  
beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.  
The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.  
My vindicator is here at hand.  
Does anyone start proceedings against  
me?  
Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who dare condemn me?

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 114:1-6, 8-9

*I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.*

**Second reading**

Jas 2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone  
who has never done a single good act  
but claims that he has faith. Will that  
faith save him? If one of the brothers or  
one of the sisters is in need of clothes  
and has not enough food to live on, and  
one of you says to them, 'I wish you  
well; keep yourself warm and eat  
plenty,' without giving them these bare  
necessities of life, then what good is  
that? Faith is like that: if good works do  
not go with it, it is quite dead.  
This is the way to talk to people of that  
kind: 'You say you have faith and I have  
good deeds; I will prove to you that I  
have faith by showing you my good  
deeds – now you prove to me that you

have faith without any good deeds to  
show.'

**Gospel**

Mk 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the  
villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the  
way he put this question to his  
disciples, 'Who do people say I am?'  
And they told him. 'John the Baptist,'  
they said, 'others Elijah; others again,  
one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he  
asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter  
spoke up and said to him, 'You are the  
Christ.' And he gave them strict orders  
not to tell anyone about him.  
And he began to teach them that the  
Son of Man was destined to suffer  
grievously, to be rejected by the elders  
and the chief priests and the scribes,  
and to be put to death, and after three  
days to rise again; and he said all this  
quite openly. Then, taking him aside,  
Peter started to remonstrate with him.  
But, turning and seeing his disciples, he  
rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get  
behind me, Satan! Because the way you  
think is not God's way but man's.'  
He called the people and his disciples to  
him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a  
follower of mine, let him renounce  
himself and take up his cross and follow  
me. For anyone who wants to save his  
life will lose it; but anyone who loses his  
life for my sake, and for the sake of the  
gospel, will save it.'

**Reflection: Who do you say I am?**

One of the most confronting questions  
God asks in the whole Bible is contained  
in today's Gospel.  
Jesus asks: "Who do you say I am?"  
Peter is the only one to speak up and is  
able to give the correct answer: "You  
are the Christ".  
Yet, while Peter answers correctly, he is  
not able to fully grasp what the answer  
means.  
The image Jesus had of the Christ (the  
Messiah) did not fit with the image  
Peter had of the Messiah.



And, perhaps we, too, have to wrestle  
with this question today as well.  
The question itself presupposes that  
Jesus is not a figure from a story from  
2000 years ago, but a real, live divine-  
person who is just as present now as he  
was in the lives of Peter and the other  
disciples.

Jesus is just as real in Marsden Park in  
the year 2018 as he was back then in  
the Middle East.

And today he has turned not to Peter  
but, rather, to you and he now asks this  
question of you: "Who do you say I  
am?" and asks you to seriously ponder  
this and then answer Him.

And, then, as we continue with the  
Gospel story, we can find another  
question to further ponder:  
What does it mean to 'lose' your life for  
Jesus' sake in order to save your life?

- Deacon Tony

23 September – 25th Sunday in Ord Time

**MINISTRY ROSTER**

Welcomers: Volunteers needed

Acolyte: Volunteer needed

Servers: Rohit Joseph, Tissa Thomas,  
Jessica Thompson

Readers: Chris Laroche, Kath Bullas,  
Luanshya Naidoo

Eucharistic Min: Aileen Sebastian

Hospitality: Volunteer needed

Children's Liturgy: Lavanya Ambrose

**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)**

**We welcome this week as our  
Celebrant: Fr Vinci from Plumpton**

### 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)

### Plenary 2020 Information and Training

Learn about the Australian Catholic Bishops Plenary Council's impact on you. Receive support to share the Plenary invitation with parish, friends and family.

20 September, 7pm-9.30pm, Parramatta Cathedral Hall

29 September, 10am-12.30pm, St Thomas Aquinas Springwood School Hall (168 Hawkesbury Rd)

29 September, 2pm-4.30pm, Emu Plains School Hall (17 Troy Street)

RSVP: 8838 3460

[marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org](mailto:marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org)

### Position Vacant

Aid to the Church in Need is hiring! Are you a confident public speaker? Are you looking for flexible ongoing part time work? Will you share the stories of suffering Christians? Aid to the Church in Need is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Sydney. For all details visit,  
[www.catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.com.au).

### Volunteer Overseas - The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Dob Bosco

We are seeking volunteers for January 2019 departure, working with disadvantaged young people in Salesian communities throughout Cambodia, Samoa, Zambia & Solomon Island. Applications close October 15th. Send us an inquiry  
- [www.cagliero.org.au](http://www.cagliero.org.au)

### St Padre Pio Feast Day: 23 September

St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina: Reception of his holy Relic and Special Anniversary Feast Day. Everyone is invited to the Feast Day of St. Padre Pio at St. Padre Pio Parish, Glenmore Park, on Sunday 23 September, as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Stigmata and 50th Anniversary of St Padre Pio's death. The Procession will start at 9.30am, followed by the Feast Day Mass, veneration & blessing by St. Padre Pio's holy relic and other festivities. A Triduum will precede the Feast Day: Thursday & Friday, 20 & 21 September: Novena to St. Padre Pio & Mass at 7pm. Saturday 22 September: Novena to St. Padre Pio & Mass at 5.30pm. Further details on 4737 9735.

### Social Justice Sunday: 30 September

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 September. This year, the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land'. The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website  
[www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.

### Adult Confirmation for 2018

Adult Confirmation for 2018 will be held on Friday 12 October, 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Any adult over 16 years of age wanting to be confirmed please see your Parish Office for information. Alternatively, you can contact The Office for Worship on 02 8838 3456 or [ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org)

### OZ Rosary and The Global Rosary: 7 October

Australia will 'Light the Match' to the Global rosary! The World Rosary takes place on Sunday 7th October, when a global rosary will be said. To register your location on the world map. Go to <http://holyleagueofnations.com>, or for info phone 0467 535 595  
Oz Rosary will also take place on May 12 next year!

### Holy Family Fair: 13 October

Holy Family Fair on Saturday 13 October, from 10am – 3pm. The event will be held at the Holy Family Carpark via 254 Luxford Rd, Emerton NSW 2770. Calling for stall-holders! Applications close on Monday 8 October. Please contact Malia for more info: (02) 9628 7272;  
[enquiry@holymfamily.org.au](mailto:enquiry@holymfamily.org.au)

### 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. Tickets are now on sale. For tickets and a full list of workshops go to [parracatholic.org/liturgyconference2018](http://parracatholic.org/liturgyconference2018). Cost \$30 - includes lunch.

### 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 donation envelopes on the Welcome Table in the foyer Sunday. Please pass these to Dcn Tony or include them on one of the collections during Mass.

Who do You  
Say that I am?

### 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)