

**OUR VISION:**

**"WE ARE CONTINUALLY ATTRACTING PEOPLE TO ST LUKE'S AND EVERYONE WHO COMMITS TO BEING A MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY IS TRANSFORMED IN EVERY AREA OF THEIR LIFE BY HAVING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS."**

**First Reading**

Ex 3:1-8. 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11

*The Lord is kind and merciful.*

**Second reading**

1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that

followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

**Gospel**

Lk 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

**Lent Reflection:**

Lent is a time to be proactive, both within ourselves and in the world around us. At the half way point in our Lenten journey, it is good to reflect upon why we choose to live differently at this time of year. We give alms, we go without things.

- What prompts us to do this? Why does it matter?
- What difference does 'going without' make? Do I use the space this makes to focus my attention upon my relationship with God?



- What would it be like to carry some of this intention into the rest of the year? Why would or wouldn't I be willing to do it? God's constant offering to us is unfathomable mercy and compassion. It is transformative when we allow it in, and when we offer it to others.
- Take a risk - is there something or someone that is really challenging your ability to respond with care and compassion? Look for creative options to give some time and attention to it/them.
- Take a risk - invite others to share times of transformation in their own lives. Listen with the intention of affirming them and encouraging them on their journey.
- Take a risk - thank anyone who provides a service for what they do - shopkeepers; teachers; children; parents; doctors. Either do it at the time, or write them a note of thanks.
- Take a risk - do something a little bit outside your comfort zone for someone else.
- Take a risk - introduce yourself to someone you don't know with the intention of getting to know them and making them feel welcome.
- Take a risk - forgive someone who has hurt you.
- Take a risk - ask someone you have hurt to forgive you and make amends. (From the Archdiocese of Brisbane - Lentprogram.com)

**Fridays during Lent**

Stations of the Cross will be held this Friday night, starting at 7.00pm, at 2 Springdale St, Marsden Park. All are welcome!

**We welcome this week as our Celebrant: Fr Jack Green**

31<sup>st</sup> March – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers: Volunteers needed

Hospitality: Volunteer needed

Acolyte: James Irudayaraj

Servers: Ryan

Readers: Maria Raymundo (F), Rufino Reyes (S), Quintina Reyes (I)

Eucharistic Min: Varuni Emerson

Children's Liturgy: Sintia, Julie, Sindhu, Annette

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)

### Bishop Vincent's Pastoral Letter

Bishop Vincent's pastoral letter to the people and clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta can be found at: [catholicoutlook.org/bishop-vincent-pastoral-letter](http://catholicoutlook.org/bishop-vincent-pastoral-letter)

### Bishop Vincent's Statement on the Christchurch Attack

Bishop Vincent has issued a statement on the Christchurch attack. The statement can be found here: [catholicoutlook.org/christchurchattack](http://catholicoutlook.org/christchurchattack)

### Join St Patrick's Cathedral Choir

St Patrick's Cathedral Choir, Parramatta is recruiting singers! This is an exciting opportunity to join a group of highly talented musicians. For further information visit [stpatscathedral.com.au/music](http://stpatscathedral.com.au/music) or contact the Music Director, Bernard Kirkpatrick on 0430 431 884

**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.

### Mt Schoenstatt: 29 - 30 March

24 hours of Adoration for the Lord, 2019 at Mt Schoenstatt. Where: Shrine, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. Time: Begins with Holy Mass at 6pm on Friday 29 March, finishing with Holy Mass at 5pm on Saturday 30 March. Each hour will have reflection and music presented by different groups and individuals. Every half hour the Shrine will be silent for prayer and reflection. Come for 1 hour or 24, no obligation for a particular time period. Enquires for groups or individuals: [manager@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:manager@schoenstatt.org.au) or phone Ann-Maree: 02 4773 8338.

### St Luke's Lenten Retreat: 6 April

Come and join us for a special Lenten Retreat morning on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April. The morning will include prayer and reflection, discussion and community. We will start at 9.30am and conclude with lunch at 12.30pm. It will be held at our new office at 2 Springdale St, Marsden Park (off Frontier Avenue and opposite St Luke's Catholic College). Expressions of interest to: [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

### First Communion: 19 May

We will celebrate First Holy Communion at St Luke's on Sunday, May 19 at our usual 10am Mass. Preparation classes for children and their parents will be held on Wednesdays April 3 and 10 and then May 8 and 15 at 6pm at St Luke's Catholic College (Hub). This is available for children who have made the First Reconciliation and are aged 9/in Year 4. Please take a Sacraments of Initiation enrolment form from the Welcome Table and return it asap.

### Volunteers Urgently Needed for Visiting Residents of Aged Care Facility

Are you interested in visiting an elderly person in a nursing home who has no or very few visitors? For more information, contact Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or [deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au](mailto:deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au).

### Communion to the Sick at Blacktown Hospital

We urgently require people to take Holy Communion to patients in Blacktown Hospital on Sundays. Please contact Deacon George Bryan at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown either via the parish office or via at [George.Bryan@parracatholic.org](mailto:George.Bryan@parracatholic.org)

**IF YOU DO NOT WANT PHOTOS OF YOURSELF OR YOUR CHILDREN TAKEN OR PUBLISHED PLEASE FORWARD AN EMAIL TO [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org) ADVISING US OF THIS!**

**LENT 2019** | Prayer. Fasting. Almsgiving.

### SUNDAY MARCH 24

### MONDAY MARCH 25

The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord - today we celebrate the incarnation of Christ in Mary's womb. Consider adding the Angelus to your daily prayer for the rest of the Lenten season.

### TUESDAY MARCH 26

"You are a vessel; but as yet you are full. Pour out what you have, that you may receive what you have not." St. Augustine

### WEDNESDAY MARCH 27

"Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbour as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone." Pope Francis

### THURSDAY MARCH 28

Almsgiving is about more than throwing a few extra dollars in the collection plate; it's about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God's unconditional love.

### FRIDAY MARCH 29

"Forgiveness first sets free the person who had the courage to grant it." Pope Benedict XVI

### SATURDAY MARCH 30

"For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Luke 18:14

### SUNDAY MASS

Every Sunday 10.00am in The Hub

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

### CONTACT US

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

Phone:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

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

Website:

[stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au](http://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark](http://www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark)

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 85, Plumpton NSW 2761

**SCHOOL ENQUIRIES:** 9854 3100

[www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au)