

**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**

Gen 18:20-32

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.' Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

**Second reading**

Col 2:12-14

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins. He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he

has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

**Gospel**

Lk 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.

And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants. 'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

**Reflection: Alpha is coming!**

A key event in the life of our parish will commence on the first Saturday evening of September. Alpha is a program that is rapidly spreading throughout the world. It helps people to better understand what the Christian faith is all about – whether they have been in the church all their life or have no faith at all. It allows people to come together in a safe environment to talk about things that really matter – life, faith,



meaning. Annette and I were involved in Alpha at our former parish of North Rocks and we found that it enlivened the faith of people. It allowed people to get to know each other better – people made some great friendships through Alpha. And it left them hungry to do more – whether it was Bible study, ministry roles or outreach works. It left a positive impact on just about everyone who got involved. So, our invitation to you, the people of St Luke's, is to not only come along yourself but to invite one or a few people who you think it could benefit. The program will run during September and October on Saturday evenings (from 7pm to 9pm), but you – and those you invite – only need to commit to attending the first session, at 7pm on Saturday, September 7. After that, we're confident you'll want to come back. But, try it and see for yourself. We will offer free childminding during the program, thanks to the generous support of Couples for Christ. So, join us for food, a video and a chat on September 7 at 7pm

- Deacon Tony Hoban  
Pastoral Director

**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.

**We welcome this week as our Celebrant:**  
**Fr Chris de Souza**

3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Aug – 18<sup>th</sup> Sund in Ord Time

### **MINISTRY ROSTER**

#### Welcomers:

Sat – Kelly Bauer

Sun – Juanita Cruikshank

#### Acolyte:

Sat – Volunteer req'd

Sun – Arvin Joya

#### Servers:

Sat – Denver, Rohit

Sun – Denver, Andrei, Tissa

#### Readers:

Sat - Lavanya (1) Ofelia Lumba(2)

Julie Preston(I)

Sun – Geraldine Santos (1)

Volunteers req'd (2) & (I)

#### Eucharistic Min:

Sat – Gari de Guzman

Sun – Ruwan

Hospitality: Volunteers req'd

### **Positions Vacant**

\*Casual Workers/Volunteers

Catholic Care Mamre Creche

\*Cleaner

James Dixon House, Harris Park

For more details visit:

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

### **Plenary Council Discernment and Working Groups – Applications Open**

The Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council is seeking people, for volunteer positions, who are willing to be key partners and leaders in the process of discernment as the Church in Australia continues preparing for the Plenary Council in October 2020. For role descriptions and application information visit [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au) or contact Richard McMahon at the Pastoral Planning Office on 02 8838 3497.

### **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

#### **EXTRA MASS**

We will be trialling an extra Mass here at St Luke's during August - a Vigil Mass on Saturday nights at 6pm. This extra Mass means that we will need extra people to fill rostered positions as welcomers, readers, Acolytes, Ministers of Communion and wardens (taking around the plate). Please consider if you can assist. Rosters for August (for both the 10am Sunday Mass and the new 6pm Vigil Mas) are now available at the Welcome Table in the foyer.

### **Music Ministry Masterclass: 3 August**

CYP are hosting a Music Ministry Masterclass at Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill from 9.50am to 5pm. This is an

invitation for musicians, worship leaders, youth and aspiring composers to gather and be formed in music ministry especially for the involvement and evangelisation of young people. Register now at <https://parracatholic.org/masterclass/>

### **Serving at the Altar: 3 August**

The Office for Worship is organising a formation day for Adult Servers and Acolytes. The formation day will be held on Saturday 3 August at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown, from 9.30am until 2.30pm. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. To RSVP, please contact the Office for Worship team on 02 8838 3456 or [ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org)

### **Exploring the Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3 August**

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth are inviting all parishioners to join them for a day of reflection and prayer, including a lecture by Dr Mariusz Biliniewicz (from Uni of Notre Dame). The day will begin with morning tea at 10am and conclude with Mass and lunch at 12.30pm. Venue: Queen of Poland Convent, 116-132 Quakers Rd Marayong. All welcome. For more information call Sr Alicja on 9626 7847 or 0410 638 804 or email [salicjad@msn.com](mailto:salicjad@msn.com)

### **Natural Fertility Services: 4 August**

Are you looking for a healthy, natural and effective method to manage your fertility? No drugs, devices or side effects. All are welcome to attend a talk presented by Natural Fertility Services, Diocese of Parramatta, at St Monica's Parish Hall, North Parramatta. Sunday 4 August from 2pm to 3.30pm. For more information, please contact Catherine on 02 8838 3460 or 0400 427 605, [nfpstmonica@gmail.com](mailto:nfpstmonica@gmail.com) or [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org)

### **National Vocations Awareness: 4 August**

National Vocations Awareness Week runs nationally from 4 to 11 August. The concept of 'vocation' applies to every person's life, for if we listen well, we discover that God calls each of us to play a part in his mission here on the earth. For more information about Vocations in the Diocese of Parramatta, please visit [www.parracatholic.org/vocations/](http://www.parracatholic.org/vocations/)

### **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 or Bringing Communion to the Sick and Dying. The course will be at the IFM (Downstairs Hall). **Note: Enrolments close on 5 August 2019.** 8838 3456 or [ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org)

for more information.

### **CatholicCare Bereavement Support**

#### **Program: 8 August**

CatholicCare Solo Parent Services is starting a bereavement support program for those whose spouse has died. The programme will be held weekly on Thursdays from 10am to 12midday from 8 August to 19 September at Mackillop Hall, Granville. An Information session will be held on Thursday 1 August at 10am. For more information, call Rita at Solo Parent Services on 02 8843 2575.

### **IFM Reflective Ministry Program: 20 August**

The IFM Reflective Ministry Program Component 2 starts on Tuesday 20 August. This is a great opportunity to enrich and enthuse those involved in the ministries of Catholic communities. Go to [ifm.org.au](http://ifm.org.au) for more information and registration, or contact the IFM team on 02 9296 6369.

### **'Faith in Marriage' Seminar: 30 August**

Guest Speaker is Catholic American Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers. He will speak on the topic of 'Building Strong Marriages'. All are welcome. Venue: St Paul's Catholic College Hall – 198 Old Prospect Rd Greystanes 7.30pm. Free entry, light supper served. For more information call 8838 3460 or RSVP to [lmf@parracatholic.org](mailto:lmf@parracatholic.org)

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

### **WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturday 6pm Vigil

Sunday 10.00am

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

Baptisms available most Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

### **CONTACT US**

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**SCHOOL ENQUIRIES:** 9854 3100

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