

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 14:18-20

Melchizedek king of Salem brought bread and wine; he was a priest of God Most High. He pronounced this blessing: 'Blessed be Abraham by God Most High, creator of heaven and earth, and blessed be God Most High for handing over your enemies to you.' And Abraham gave him a tithe of everything.

Second reading

1 Cor 11:23-26

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming to his death.

Gospel

Lk 9:11-17

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing. It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

Reflection: Christian de Cherge, the Trappist Abbott who was martyred in

Algeria in 1996, tells this story of his first communion. He grew up in a Roman Catholic family in France and on the day of his first communion he said to his mother: "I don't understand what I'm doing." She answered simply: "It's okay, you don't have to understand it now, later you will understand." Jesus, no doubt, must have given his disciples the exact same advice at the Last Supper, at their first communion. When he offered them bread and said, "This is my body", and then offered them wine and said, "This is my blood", they would not have understood. There would have been considerable confusion and bewilderment: How are we supposed to understand this? What does it mean to eat someone's body and drink someone's blood? I suspect that in the face of their non-understanding, like Christian de Cherge's mother, Jesus would have also said: You don't have to understand it now, later you will understand. Indeed, in instituting the Eucharist at the Last Supper, Jesus didn't ask his disciples to understand what they were doing, he only asked them to faithfully celebrate it until he returned. Their understanding of what they were doing in celebrating the Eucharist only developed as they grew in their faith. But initially, Jesus didn't ask for understanding, nor did he give them much of an explanation for what he was celebrating with them. He simply asked them to eat his body and drink his blood. Jesus didn't give a theological discourse on the Eucharist at the Last Supper. He simply gave us a ritual and asked us to celebrate it regularly, irrespective of our intellectual understanding of it. One of his more-explicit explanations of the meaning of the Eucharist was his symbolic action of washing his disciples' feet. Little has changed. We too aren't asked to fully or even adequately understand the Eucharist. Our faith only asks that we are faithful in participating in it. In fact, as is the case for all deep mysteries, there is no satisfactory, rational explanation of the Eucharist. Nobody, not a single theologian in the world, can to anyone's intellectual satisfaction, adequately lay out the phenomenology, psychology, or even spirituality of eating someone else's body and drinking his blood. How is this to be understood? The mind comes up short. The



British theologian, Ronald Knox, speaking about the Eucharist, submits this: We have never, he claims, as Christians, been truly faithful to Jesus, no matter our denomination. In the end, none of us have truly followed those teachings which most characterize Jesus: We haven't turned the other cheek. We haven't forgiven our enemies. We haven't purified our thoughts. We haven't seen God in the poor. We haven't kept our hearts pure and free from the things of this world. But we have, he submits, been faithful in one very important way; we have kept the Eucharist going. The last thing Jesus asked us to do before he died was to keep celebrating the Eucharist. And that we've done, despite the fact that we have never really grasped rationally what in fact we are doing. But we've been faithful in doing it because we grasped the wisdom in what Christian de Cherge's mother said to her son: You don't have to understand this; you just have to do it.
- Fr Ron Rolheiser.

30th June – 13th Sunday in Ord Time

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers: Juanita Cruikshank

Hospitality: Volunteers needed

Acolyte: Arvin

Servers: Feba, Denver, Tissa

Readers: Meli Savea (1) Ofelia Lumba (2) Volunteer needed (1)

Eucharistic Min: Varuni Emerson

Children's Liturgy: Sinta, Cristina, Annette

**We welcome this week as our
Celebrant: Fr Joseph Lam**

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.

Positions Vacant

Casual Workers/Volunteers

Catholic Care Mamre Creche

For more details visit

parracatholic.org/employment

Plenary Council 2020:

After 10 months of Listening and Dialogue and a period of analysis and prayerful discernment, the **National Themes for Discernment** for the Plenary Council 2020 were announced at Pentecost. More information on each of the National Themes for Discernment will be available in the coming weeks. Find out more at: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

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.

Depending on the response to this trial, it may be continued. 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) will be available to be filled in from next Sunday.

Bishop's Good Shepherds Appeal

When God calls, will you help them answer? The Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park is training 15 young men to be true shepherds of Christ's flock and future priests for the Diocese of Parramatta. Your gift to Parramatta Catholic Foundation will support our seminarians to prepare for the

priesthood and a life of community service.

Please give generously online at
yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Women in Leadership: 4-7 July

The Benedictine Abbey, Jamberoo invites women of any age and any experience in formal leadership positions, and for those who exercise leadership without a formal title in business, schools, homes, offices, parishes to the Women in Leadership workshop. The aim is to support women to explore their unique gifts 02 4236 0533 or cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au

CYP LIFTED Retreat 2019: 5 – 7 July

CYP invites young adults aged 18 – 35 to attend the annual LIFTED Retreat from 5-7 July at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale. You can expect great guest speakers, stimulating discussions, adoration, daily Mass, Reconciliation, soul-stirring music and delicious food. The theme is inspired by Pope Francis – 'Dare to be Different' Register now @ <https://parracatholic.org/cyp-lifted-retreat/>

Campion College Winter Program: 7 – 10 July

Campion College's Winter Program will be held at its Old Toongabbie campus from 7 to 10 July. Open to all high school students over 16, the three-day program provides an opportunity to experience college life with sample lectures, sport, movies and a bonfire night. Campion will waive the \$220 registration fee for a limited number of participants. For more information and to register, visit www.campion.edu.au/winter

Light Up St Pat's 2019: 6 – 21 July

In conjunction with Parramatta Council's *Winterlight Festival*. St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta are once again hosting the Light Up St Pat's projections! This year's theme: Hope. The opening night will be after the 6pm Mass July 6 at 7.15pm. If you would like to volunteer as part of the Evangelization Team please contact Mindy at credo@stpatscathedral.com.au or call the parish office 8839 8411. A mandatory induction night will be held in the St Patrick's Cathedral Hall on June 25th 7pm.

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 Institute for Mission (Downstairs Hall). **NOTE: Introduction Session on 12 August is compulsory. Enrolments close on 5 August 2019.** Please contact 02 8838 3456 or ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org

IFM Reflective Ministry Program: 20 August

The Institute for Mission's 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 the Catholic communities. Go to ifm.org.au for more information and registration, or contact the IFM team on 02 9296 6369.

First Reconciliation program for 2019

St Luke's will offer a First Reconciliation program soon for children who have been Baptised and are in Year 2/aged 7 or older. Please note the following dates:
Preparation session 1 – Wed 3 July 6-7pm
Preparation session 2 – Wed 24 July 6-7pm
Preparation session 3 – Wed 31 July 6-7pm
Preparation session 4 – Wed 7 Aug 6-7pm
The children and at least one parent are required to attend all preparation sessions. Sacrament evening – **Wed 14 Aug 6 - 8pm** (4 children for every 15-minute time slot) Please complete a 'Sacraments of Initiation' form (available on the Welcome Table) and return ASAP to Deacon Tony or via marsdenpark@parracatholic.org.

IF YOU DO NOT WANT PHOTOS OF YOURSELF OR YOUR CHILDREN TAKEN OR PUBLISHED PLEASE FORWARD AN EMAIL TO marsdenpark@parracatholic.org ADVISING US OF THIS!



SUNDAY MASS

Every Sunday 10.00am in The Hub

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

www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au