

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

Wis 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Second reading

Heb 11:1-2, 8-12

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more

descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

Gospel

Lk 12:35-40

Jesus said to his disciples: 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Reflection: The value of each human life

This week we will celebrate the Assumption of Mary into heaven. A day to honour the role of the most important and prominent mother to ever walk the earth. We honour Mary's vital role in the story of salvation. We honour her loving protection, education and support of her Son, Jesus. Her Son elevated the dignity of humanity even further than it had already been when he, as God, became human. So, it is very sad that as we honour this Mother and her Child, we in NSW are currently debating publicly the 'right' to kill human babies in the womb. For all the advances we have had as a society, it seems in some ways we have gone backwards instead of forwards – particularly when it comes to protecting human life from its most early stages. So, the current debate within the New South Wales Parliament is one that we should all be concerned about. If you haven't had a chance to



sign a petition, please take the opportunity to call or email your local member of Parliament to voice your opposition to the proposed abortion legislation. And please also pray for those young lives at risk. Also, please pray for mothers experiencing hardship during pregnancy, that they will turn their minds to other options and seek support from agencies such as CatholicCare in our diocese. May the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was Assumed into heaven, intercede to her Son to protect all lives in the world today, especially those who are most vulnerable.

- Deacon Tony Hoban
Pastoral Director

17th/18th Aug – 20th Sund Ord Time

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers:

Sat – Monique de Guzman

Sun – Juanita Cruikshank

Acolyte:

Sat – Volunteer req'd

Sun – Arvin

Servers:

Sat – Denver, Rohit

Sun – Denver, Andrei, Ava

Readers:

Sat - Lavanya (1) Ofelia (2) Gabrielle

Sun – Meli S. (1) Vol req'd (2) Vol req'd (1)

Eucharistic Min:

Sat – Varuni

Sun – Ana

Hospitality: International Food Day

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

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:
Fr Meng/Fr Jack Green

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.

Plenary Council 2020

The National Centre for Pastoral Research has just published *Listen to what the Spirit is saying*, the final report of the Listening and Dialogue stage of the Plenary Council. The report captures the voices of the more than 222,000 people who shared their submissions, questions and stories of faith during the 10-month process. To access the report: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports

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. Rosters for August (for both the 10am Sunday Mass and the new 6pm Vigil Mass) are now available at the Welcome Table in the foyer.

Feast of the Assumption Pilgrim Walk: 15 August

The Annual Pilgrim Walk from the Shrine of the Holy *Innocents*, Kellyville to St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta will be held on the Feast of the Assumption Thursday 15 August. Bishop Vincent Long will celebrate Mass at 12Noon before the pilgrimage begins. Anyone is welcome to begin walking from any point of the 14km walk. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9629 2595.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 15 August

For this Holy Day of Obligation there will be a school mass at St Luke's College at 12pm - all are welcome!
There will also be a Catholic Faith Community Vigil Mass at 7pm on 14 Aug in the Hub.

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 for more information and registration, or contact the IFM team on 02 9296 6369.

2019 Vinnies Community Sleepout Western Sydney: 30 August

Join us on Friday 30 August at Western Sydney University's Parramatta South Campus for a night of information, discussion and experiential activities, all before bedding down on the University's campus to experience just a taste of what it's like to sleep rough for a night. By making the commitment to spend a night without the creature comforts of home, you'll be helping to raise both awareness of the issue and much-needed funds to help those at risk. For further information contact Janice Stokes on 0484 100 208 or email fundraising.westsyd@vinnies.org.au Bring: Warm clothing, sleeping bag, pillow and a water bottle!

Bishop's Annual Appeal for Retired and Sick Priests: 1 September

There will be a special collection for the Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese - on Father's Day. Your donation helps them cover healthcare costs and expenses associated with everyday living, supplementing the pension that some receive. Please **give generously** this Father's Day Appeal. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Donations can be made here: parracatholic.org/csf

Alpha at St Luke's: 7 September

Alpha begins on Saturday 7 September at 7pm in the Hub at St Luke's. It is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha has three elements: food (a great way to build community and get to know each other), a video presentation, (about 30 min and designed to engage and inspire conversation), and small group discussions (the chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic). For more information or to register call 8840 8521 or email marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Sacrament of Confirmation at St Luke's: 20 October

We will soon start preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Luke's. This is for children who are aged 10 or older and who have already been Baptised, made their First Reconciliation and First

Communion. Preparation sessions will be held at St Luke's Catholic College in the Hub on Wednesday evenings in September at 6pm: September 4, 11, 18 and 26, with Confirmations during Sunday morning Mass on October 20 at 10am. If you would like your child to be involved, please complete one of the 'Sacraments of Initiation' forms on the Welcome Table and bring it back with a copy of your child's Baptism certificate next week - or email it to marsdenpark@parracatholic.org.

Youth Corner



Are you a high school student? Come and join our youth group twice a month on a Friday night at 2 Springdale St, from 7pm-8:50pm. Prepare for Fun, Faith, Food and Fellowship! Our mission - to become saints... will you accept?

*Are your gifts & talents in the kitchen? We need you! We require more volunteers to assist with providing a meal for the youth group. We would love it if you are able to commit to a regular roster or even just as a one off. Any help would be greatly appreciated!

*ST Luke's first ever Youth-led Mass is Coming - Saturday 14th September at the 6pm Vigil. Now we just need the Youth! If you are aged between 12-35 and would like to be involved in any ministry for this Mass please contact us!
For any further enquiries you can contact us on 88408521 or at our new youth email saintlukesyg@gmail.com

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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