

**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**

Is 66:18-21

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.*

**Second reading**

Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

**Gospel**

Lk 13:22-30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed. 'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying,

"Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

**Reflection: A LIGHT IN DARKNESS**

This week again saw the Church in the news for all the wrong reasons. The rejection of the appeal by the former Archbishop of Melbourne and Sydney was another opportunity for the failings of the church, in protecting young people, to be highlighted. It is a time for us all to mourn the impact of abuse on so many people and to do all we can to ensure the church is a safe place for all people, especially the most vulnerable. But in a week of darkness for our Church I was privileged to also see some signs of light and new life. I had a chance to see up close some of the work going on in preparation for the Plenary Council of the Church next year. I was asked to chair an interview panel for people who had expressed an interest in being on one of the six discernment and writing groups. Each of these groups are looking at one of the key themes that has emerged after the initial public discernment process last year and early this year. They will prepare a paper on a theme for the Council next year. The group we were interviewing for was on the theme: "How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Prayerful and Eucharistic." We conducted interviews over two days with many wonderful people of faith. Some priests, some religious sisters, and many lay women and men. We got to hear many perspectives on this theme, and the rich variety of ways of prayer we have in our Catholic heritage. Of the centrality of the Eucharist to the life of the Church – and of how the nourishment we receive in the Eucharist must be taken out into the world, especially to people in need.



So, while there are many well documented cases of failure by Church leadership, I have confidence that the people I spoke to this week can be part of the new life and light that shine out of the darkness of our present situation.

To help put the focus back on the centrality of Jesus Christ to our faith. To help us rejoice in the rich heritage of prayer in our Catholic tradition. To guide us into a new appreciation of the Sacraments and especially the Eucharist.

- Deacon Tony Hoban  
Pastoral Director

**We welcome this week as our Celebrants:  
Fr Vinci/Fr Ed Kenny**

31<sup>st</sup> Aug/1<sup>st</sup> Sept

**MINISTRY ROSTER**

Welcomers:

Sat – Volunteer req'd

Sun – Juanita Cruickshank

Acolyte:

Sat – Volunteer req'd

Sun – Arvin

Servers:

Sat – Denver

Sun – Denver, Ava

Readers:

Sat - Ofelia (1) Gari (2) Julie Preston

Sun – Volunteers req'd

Eucharistic Min:

Sat – Aileen

Sun – Ana

Hospitality: Volunteers req'd

Children's Liturgy: Sinta, Sindhu, Annette

## 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: Discernment Phase 2

### - Information and Training Sessions

Aug 28 – IFM Blacktown 10.30am-1.30

Aug 31 – Emu Plains Parish 2.30-5.30pm

Sept 7 – Springwood School Hall 9am-12

Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP: [tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org](mailto:tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org)

## 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.

## 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](mailto:fundraising.westsyd@vinnies.org.au) Bring: Warm clothing, sleeping bag, pillow and a water bottle!

## Sacrament of Reconciliation: 31 Aug

On Saturday 31 August St Luke's will offer the community the opportunity for reconciliation before the 6pm Vigil Mass. If you would like to take advantage of this it will be available from 5.15pm-5.45pm.

## 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](http://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](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

## CYP Convent Crawl: 7 September

Catholic Youth Parramatta are organising a 'Convent Crawl' – an opportunity for young women to experience a day-long journey glimpsing the life of consecrated women. Join CYP as they visit four Religious communities across the Diocese of Parramatta. 7 September from 6am to 8.30pm. To register, please visit [parracatholic.org/conventcrawl](http://parracatholic.org/conventcrawl). For inquiries, please contact [gwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org](mailto:gwayne.guevara@parracatholic.org)

## Sacrament of Confirmation at St Luke's: 20 October

Preparation sessions for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held at St Luke's Catholic College in the Hub on Wednesday evenings in September at 6pm: September 4, 11, 18 and 25, with Confirmations taking place 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](mailto:marsdenpark@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)**

## Youth Corner

 Important dates to put in your calendar:

\*1st September ~ Rehearsal for all singers and musicians for the Youth Mass (11am at the Church office)

\*13th September ~ Youth Group for high school saints in training (7pm- 8:50pm in the Church office)

\*14th September ~ Youth Mass (Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass)

For any further enquiries send us an email [saintlukesyg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesyg@gmail.com) and to keep up with everything follow us on Instagram: [saintlukesyg](https://www.instagram.com/saintlukesyg)

## Go out into the Deep

*"Do not be afraid to convey the Gospel in new ways and launch into the deep."*

That was one of the messages Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, shared at the inaugural Diocesan Forum on Saturday 13 July. The forum called diocesan representatives to respond to the signs of the times as we listen to what the Spirit is saying through our own communities and through the Plenary Council process.

View the address from Bishop Vincent Long, materials prepared for the forum, reports from the forum data and images from the day here:

[www.parracatholic.org/forum2019](http://www.parracatholic.org/forum2019).

Further opportunities will invite us all to engage in deanery and diocesan initiatives coming out of the forum as we continue to go out into the deep to become the community Christ calls us to be.

## 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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