

**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**

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity! For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

*In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.*

**Second reading**

Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him. That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

**Gospel**

Lk 12:13-21

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.’ ‘My friend,’ he replied, ‘who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?’ Then he said to them, ‘Watch, and be on your guard against

avarice of any kind, for a man’s life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.’ Then he told them a parable: ‘There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, “What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops.” Then he said, “This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time.” But God said to him, “Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?” So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.’

**Reflection: Why Alpha?**

We announced last week our upcoming Alpha program commencing on September 7. Some of you may be wondering: why is a program like this necessary. Well, here’s one strong reason. The latest Australian National Census revealed that for the first time in history, the proportion of Australians who say they have ‘no religion’ (30 per cent) overtook those of any religion. Between 2011 and 2016, Australia saw a decline of nearly 600,000 people who identify as Anglican and 147,500 who identify as Catholic. But Alpha tells a different story. Bucking the trend of religious decline, Alpha Australia this year celebrated the 500,000th Australian to have explored questions of life, meaning and faith in Jesus. Alpha is a Christian program that invites people into a personal relationship with Jesus. It has many fans in Catholic leadership, including Pope Francis, numerous cardinals and archbishops, including Australian Archbishops Peter Comensoli and Mark Coleridge. They know that it has the power to not only win new followers of Christ but also to rekindle more deeply the faith of Catholics.



Alpha consists of a number of sessions where people eat, watch a talk, and discuss their views. It all sounds quite simple. Yet Alpha has come to be one of the few major success stories in both Catholic and Protestant traditions of Christianity in the west over the last few decades. I believe Alpha has the power to do wonderful things in the lives of people who attend. Next week we will ask you to commit to attending our first Alpha course. Please give it your prayerful consideration this week.

- Deacon Tony Hoban  
Pastoral Director

10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> Aug – 19<sup>th</sup> Sund Ord Time

**MINISTRY ROSTER**

Welcomers:

Sat – Kelly Bauer

Sun – CFC

Acolyte:

Sat – Volunteer req’d

Sun – Volunteer req’d

Servers:

Sat – Denver, Rohit

Sun – Denver, Andrei

Readers:

Sat - Lavanya (1) Luanshya (2)

Ofelia (1)

Sun – CFC (1) CFC (2) & CFC (1)

Eucharistic Min:

Sat – Monique de Guzman

Sun – CFC

Hospitality: CFC

Children’s Liturgy: Sinta, CFC, Annette

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

**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 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 Mass) are now available at the Welcome Table in the foyer.

**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. NOTE: Introduction Session on 12 August is compulsory. Enrolments close on 5 August 2019. For more information, contact 02 8838 3456 or [ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org](mailto:ingrid.vergano@parracatholic.org)

**National Vocations Awareness Week:**

**4 – 11 August**

Today is the feast of St John Vianney, the patron of parish clergy. Pray for your priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in your community. Next

Thursday is the feast of St Mary of the Cross McKillop, our first Australia saint. Pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that these saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from your community. **For more information about Vocations in the Diocese of Parramatta, visit [www.parracatholic.org/vocations/](http://www.parracatholic.org/vocations/)**

**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.

**CatholicCare Seminar – Understanding Family Law: 10 August**

CatholicCare Solo Parent Services is hosting a two session Seminar on “Understanding Family Law,” for anyone experiencing a divorce or separation. These sessions are presented by an Accredited Family Law Specialist and will be held on Saturday 10 August at St Patrick’s Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. \$10 per session. Registration is essential. Contact Rita on 02 8843 2575 or email [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

**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)

**Discovering Global Mission: 1 September**

How can our skills create better opportunities for disadvantaged people? Communities in Timor Leste, PNG, Samoa, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to build local capacity. Find out how Blue Mountains couple Lukas and Kristina increased and expanded services for people with disabilities in Dili, Timor Leste, and how

sharing your skills can immerse you in a world of deep cultural discovery. Qualified medics, teachers, tradies, business and admins are always required. Palms Meet and Greet: Sunday September 1st @ 10:30am The Heritage Terrace Café Westfield 585 High St, PENRITH

**Weekly Donations to our Faith Community: How Much?**

No one can say how much a person or family should pledge. It’s your choice entirely and is between you and God. We can, however, hope that after you have prayed about it, you would wish to make a realistic financial commitment that is proportionate to your earnings and to your Faith. If your income is small then your pledge will be small, but if you have a higher income then we hope your pledge will be higher – and if you have a love of your faith we hope that your pledge will reflect that love. We are hoping that, if possible, our members would consider giving an equivalent of **ONE HOUR** of their families or individuals income per week.

One hour = about 2.5% of your income!

\$2000 p/w	=	\$50 p/w
\$1600 p/w	=	\$40 p/w
\$1200 p/w	=	\$30 p/w
\$1000 p/w	=	\$25 p/w
\$800 p/w	=	\$20 p/w
\$600 p/w	=	\$15 p/w
\$500 p/w	=	\$12 p/w
\$400 p/w	=	\$10 p/w

**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

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