

**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**

2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14

There were seven brothers who were arrested with their mother. The king tried to force them to taste pig's flesh, which the Law forbids, by torturing them with whips and scourges. One of them, acting as spokesman for the others, said, 'What are you trying to find out from us? We are prepared to die rather than break the Law of our ancestors.' With his last breath the second brother exclaimed, 'Inhuman fiend, you may discharge us from this present life, but the King of the world will raise us up, since it is for his laws that we die, to live again for ever.' After him, they amused themselves with the third, who on being asked for his tongue promptly thrust it out and held out his hands, with these honourable words, 'It was heaven that gave me these limbs; for the sake of his laws I disdain them; from him I hope to receive them again.' The king and his attendants were astounded at the young man's courage and his utter indifference to suffering. When this one was dead they subjected the fourth to the same savage torture. When he neared his end he cried, 'Ours is the better choice, to meet death at men's hands, yet relying on God's promise that we shall be raised up by him; whereas for you there can be no resurrection, no new life.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 16:1. 5-6. 8. 15. R. v.15

*Lord, when your glory appears,  
my joy will be full.*

**Second reading**

2 Thes 2:16 – 3:5

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father who has given us his love and, through his grace, such inexhaustible comfort and such sure hope, comfort you and strengthen you in everything good that you do or say. Finally, brothers, pray for us; pray that the Lord's message may spread quickly, and be received with honour as it was among you; and pray that we may be preserved from the interference of bigoted and evil people, for faith is not given to everyone. But the Lord is faithful, and he will give you strength and guard you from the evil one, and we, in the Lord, have every confidence that you are doing and

will go on doing all that we tell you. May the Lord turn your hearts towards the love of God and the fortitude of Christ.

**Gospel**

Lk 20:27-38

Some Sadducees – those who say that there is no resurrection – approached Jesus and they put this question to him, 'Master, we have it from Moses in writing, that if a man's married brother dies childless, the man must marry the widow to raise up children for his brother. Well, then, there were seven brothers. The first, having married a wife, died childless. The second and then the third married the widow. And the same with all seven, they died leaving no children. Finally the woman herself died. Now, at the resurrection, to which of them will she be wife since she had been married to all seven?' Jesus replied, 'The children of this world take wives and husbands, but those who are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead do not marry because they can no longer die, for they are the same as the angels, and being children of the resurrection they are sons of God. And Moses himself implies that the dead rise again, in the passage about the bush where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all men are in fact alive.'

**Reflection:**

Life after death, in one form or another, is a common belief of most of the major faiths of the world. It is certainly a basic tenet of Christian faith. Because the gospels record Jesus as speaking about an afterlife, we tend to assume that this was a common belief of his time. However, within the different groups of Judaism, there was significant diversity of belief about this point. While the Pharisees believed in resurrection, the Sadducees did not. The Sadducees, whose name means 'righteous ones' were an elite group within the Jewish faith. They were purists in their adherence to the Torah and their rejection of any later teachings or writings – this actually put them in conflict with the Pharisees, although the two groups are often portrayed in the gospels as being united against Jesus. Today's gospel passage



depicts an attempt by the Sadducees to ridicule belief in an afterlife by questioning Jesus about an extremely exaggerated scenario.

The reply Jesus gives largely ignores the farcical nature of the question. Rather, Jesus makes clear that the resurrected life is not merely an extension of the earthly life. The things that are of concern in this world are not an issue in the next. Through death and resurrection, life is changed; not ended. This idea can be challenging at a time when we are mourning the loss of a loved one, yet we are called to respond to that challenge with a genuine hope and trust in the life that goes on in a different way. Jesus, in fact, dismisses the whole idea of death as an ending by saying that to God all people are alive, whether on earth or in the resurrection.

- Greg Sunter

**We welcome this week as our Celebrant:  
Bishop Vincent Long**

17<sup>th</sup> November

**MINISTRY ROSTER**

Welcomers:

Juanita

Acolyte:

Dom Gleeson

Servers:

Ava, Denver, Andrei

Readers:

G (1), Vol Req'd (2), Luanshya (1)

Eucharistic Min:

Ana

Hospitality:

International Food Day

Children's Liturgy

Sinta, Diana, Cristina, 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.

### Positions Vacant

\*CatholicCare Mamre Creche volunteers

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

\*Parish Renewal Team Leader (Full-time) Archdiocese of Sydney

\*Student Life and Alumni Relations Officer, Campion College Australia  
For more details, please visit [catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://catholicjobsonline.com.au)

### Gifts of Faith

This Christmas give a gift with faith at the centre. The Catholic charity *Aid to the Church in Need* has produced a Gift of Faith catalogue in support of suffering and persecuted Christians. Copies can be found on the Welcome Table in the foyer. Or visit [www.aidtochurch.org/GiftsofFaith](http://www.aidtochurch.org/GiftsofFaith) or phone 1800 101 201. Order by 9 December to receive your Gift of Faith cards and envelopes in time for Christmas.

### Parramatta Catholic Foundation Gifts in Wills Campaign

What will be your legacy of Faith, Hope and Charity? During 'Include a Charity Week', we invite you – after providing for your loved ones – to consider leaving a Gift in your Will to our Parish, or a ministry in Parramatta Diocese. Legacy gifts advance Christian works of faith, hope and charity for future generations. For information on remembering the Church in your Will: [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/giftsinwills](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/giftsinwills)

### ACBC National Prayer Campaign for Drought

The Catholic Bishops of Australia have announced a National Prayer Campaign for Drought to take place during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The Bishops note that large parts of the country are directly affected by the drought, but the

impact is national – and so should the response be national. Access resources at: [www.catholic.org.au/drought](http://www.catholic.org.au/drought)

### Catholic Outlook is back!

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back from Sunday 1 December 2019. The revised Catholic Outlook will be published quarterly as an A4 magazine with a focus on Catholic faith formation, spirituality and a look at what is happening across the agencies and ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your local Catholic Church, Catholic school or Catholic office from Sunday 1 December.

### Plenary Council 2020 Diocesan Session 5: 14 November

You are invited to the fifth of the six sessions in the Diocese of Parramatta to gather and discern the Plenary Council 2020 National Themes for Discernment. This session on 'Joy, Hope-filled and Servant Community' will be held on 14 November from 6.30pm to 9pm at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown. To RSVP, please contact [tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org](mailto:tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org) or contact the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838 3441.

### Listening and Discernment Plenary 2020: 16 November

As a part of the ongoing ACBC Plenary 2020 Council, you are invited to be a part of the Listening and Discernment program being conducted at The Good Shepherd Parish (Parish Hall), 130-136 Hyatts Rd, Plumpton, 16th Nov, 7.30-9.30pm. To register contact Bill Ryan 96363120/0408613281 or Danielle Gardner 0414607180

### Listening and Discernment Plenary 2020 Opportunities provided by the Central Deanery Pastoral Council

The Central Deanery Pastoral Council has offered three opportunities for members of our Parishes to be involved in this very important activity of our Australian Church. The following opportunity is still available: Plumpton The Good Shepherd Parish 16th November commencing at 7:00pm for 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend this session. Contact Bill Ryan 96363120, 0408613281 or Danielle Gardner 0414607180 for more details.

### Greystanes Parish Craft Market: 16 November

OLQP Parish is holding its popular Craft Market event on Saturday 16 November 8am-2pm at Camilleri Hall 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes. Featuring 40 stalls selling handmade goods. A great day out for the whole family with a raffle, Devonshire tea,

face painting and a BBQ. Proceeds go to Diabetes NSW & ACT.

### St Luke's Local News

We are in the early planning stages for our annual Carols evening on Saturday 7 December from 6-8pm at St Luke's Catholic College. Please talk to us after Mass or via email if you would like to be involved in any way.

### Youth Corner



The next 'Saints in Training' Youth Group gathering will be on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 7pm at 2 Springdale St. For any enquiries email [saintlukesyg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesyg@gmail.com) and to keep up with everything follow us on Instagram: saintlukesyg

### St Luke's Youth Mass: 17 November

Are you aged 12-35? Come and join us for our youth-led Mass on Sunday November 17 at 10am. We need musicians, readers, servers, welcomers and more! Contact [saintlukesyg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesyg@gmail.com) for more information.

### Central Deanery Youth Mass: 17 November

Everyone is invited to celebrate Mass with the youth and young people from across the diocese at St Patrick's Church, Mary Queen of the Family Parish at 5.30pm 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown! Food and Fellowship will be provided after the Mass.

### WEEKEND MASS

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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