

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

Mal 3:19-20

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:5-9. R. see v.9

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Second reading

2 Thes 3:7-12

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

Gospel

Lk 21:5-19

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join

them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

Reflection:

This week marks the final week of Ordinary Time in the Church's liturgical calendar and draws us almost to the end of our journey through the gospel of Luke. Next week's reading of the crucifixion concludes the Year of Luke. It is in this context that we need to read today's gospel passage. Jesus and his disciples are gathered around the Temple in Jerusalem in the final days before he is to be put to death. The end is imminent and Jesus takes the opportunity to reassure the disciples that, although they are about to experience a period of distress, betrayal and persecution that will stretch well into the future, ultimately, God's love and mercy will triumph – not only in their own lives but also in the world.

The language of passages like today's gospel can be off-putting at times and can also be seized upon by those who would interpret scripture literally. The graphic descriptions certainly lend themselves to



predictions of gloom and doom. However, we must also remember that the gospel was written some 50 or more years after the death of Jesus. At the time of writing, many of these things had already come to pass. The message for the community who were suffering through these very experiences is that they should not despair because all of this was anticipated by Jesus and that ultimately the reign of God will come about and the effort and distress that they have endured will be vindicated. Unfortunately, the lectionary has the passage concluding at verse 19; the complete passage continues on for another 17 verses and so we don't get the full effect of Jesus' speech. In the latter portion, Jesus assures the disciples that the kingdom will surely come to pass. It is a promise that we affirm every time we say the Creed.

- Greg Sunter

**We welcome this week as our
Celebrant: Fr Chris de Souza**

24th November

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers:

Jerick/Dess

Acolyte:

Arvin

Servers:

Ava, Denver, Feba

Readers:

Maree (1), Genesis (2), Corrie (1)

Eucharistic Min:

Ana

Hospitality:

International Food Day

Children's Liturgy

Sinta, Nina, 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.

Positions Vacant

*CatholicCare Mamre Creche volunteers

*Executive Director Catholic Care

More details parracatholic.org/employment

*Student Life and Alumni Relations Officer, Campion College Australia

For more details, please visit

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 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

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

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.

Memorial Mass for those bereaved by suicide: 19 November

CatholicCare Western Sydney and Blue Mountains together with the Diocese of Parramatta invite those bereaved by suicide to a Mass to honour loved ones who have taken their lives. Mass will be celebrated at St Oliver Plunkett Church, 35 Wigram Street, Harris Park. 6:45pm for 7pm start. RSVP 14 November Ph: 02 8843 2575 or rita.chater@ccss.org.au <<mailto:rita.chater@ccss.org.au>>

LA Religious Education Congress Information Night: 19 November

Find out why everyone is talking about the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 2020! This Congress, which will be held on 21-23 February 2020, offers great formation, liturgy, resources and spiritual nourishment. Come to the information night to hear more. Tuesday 19th November, 7.30pm at the Diocesan Ministry Centre, 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. Queries and RSVP to Lisa Bright on 8838 3497 or lisa.bright@parracatholic.org <<mailto:lisa.bright@parracatholic.org>>.

Plenary Council 2020 Diocesan Session 6: 20 November

You are invited to the sixth session in the Diocese of Parramatta to gather and discern the Plenary Council 2020 National Themes for Discernment. This session on 'Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform' will be held on 20 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.

Reflection Day for Women: 23 November Preparing our hearts for Advent –

Reflection Day for Women. Saturday 23 November 9.30am – 3.00 pm. Mt Schoenstatt, Fairlight Rd Mulgoa. Facilitator: Sr Mary Louise. Cost \$25 BYO own lunch. Tea & coffee provided. Take

some time out for prayer and reflection! To register or for more information info@schoenstatt.org.au <<mailto:info@schoenstatt.org.au>> or phone: (02) 4773 8338.

Walk with Christ: 24 November

Please join your fellow Sydneysiders in the Walk with Christ annual Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Sydney on the Feast of Christ The King on Sunday 24 November at 2.30pm. Thousands of people took part in last year's joyful public proclamation and act of worship to invoke Christ's blessing upon our beautiful city. Meet at the corner of Martin Place & Pitt Street at 2.30pm on November 24. More details through the Archdiocese of Sydney.

St Luke's Local News

Volunteers are needed 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 can help with Music, logistics, cooking the BBQ, selling food/drinks, preparing lolly bags.

Youth Corner



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

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

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

Phone:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Website:

stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 85, Plumpton NSW 2761

SCHOOL ENQUIRIES: 9854 3100

www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au