

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

Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, ‘Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?’ The woman answered the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, “You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death”.’ Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.’ The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Second reading

Rom 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man’s fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an

abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man’s sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man’s fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man’s fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel

Mt 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.’ But he replied, ‘Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. ‘If you are the Son of God,’ he said, ‘throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels’ charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.’ Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. ‘I will give you all these’, he said, ‘if you fall at my feet and worship me.’ Then Jesus replied, ‘Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.’ Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Reflection:

Today’s first reading and gospel give us two different takes on the notion of temptation. In the passage from Genesis, humanity is tempted to ignore the will of God and, when they succumb, they lose their



innocence and become embarrassed by their nakedness. The temptation they are offered is to believe themselves above and beyond the will of God; to believe that they can judge as well as God; and to rise to an equal level of power and authority with God. Their action breaks the trusting, loving relationship between themselves and God. In the Gospel, Jesus too is confronted with similar temptations. Ultimately, the temptation that faces Jesus relates to his purpose and ministry – will he trust to God’s vision of the suffering servant who will bring about a change of heart in the people, or will he be the sort of Messiah that the people hoped for: a triumphant, glorious victor over all who stood in his way. He is tempted to break his self-imposed fasting, to test God’s promise of nurture and security, and to seek glory and personal power. Whilst Adam and Eve surrender to temptation, Jesus holds fast to God’s vision.

– Greg Sunter

8th March
MINISTRY ROSTER
Welcomers:
 Juanita
Acolyte:
 James
Servers:
 Gab, Denver, Andrei
Readers:
 CFCA
Eucharistic Min:
 CFCA
Hospitality:
 CFCA
Children’s Liturgy
 Sinta, Cristina, Annette, CFCA

We welcome this week as our

Celebrant: Fr Luis Herrera

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

*Volunteers – Mamre Creche CatholicCare
More details parracatholic.org/employment

*Faith Formation Team Leader – St Agatha's Parish, Pennant Hills – **Applications close 4pm Monday 2 March**

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant>

Institute for Mission Themes of Faith: Starting March 2

The Themes of Faith program invites participants to share conversation and reflection in small groups. Each group is accompanied by a mentor with a focus on different key life/faith theme each time. To register, visit <https://www.ifm.org.au/tof> and for more information, contact Donnie or Fr Paul on (02) 9296 6369 or donnie.velasco@ifm.org.au or paul.roberts@ifm.org.au

ACU Themes of the Plenary Council Lecture Series: March 2020

Australian Catholic University are hosting a series of lectures on the key themes of the Plenary Council 2020 during March. Held in the Edmund Rice Building at its Strathfield Campus on each Wednesday through March. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and Fr Peter Williams will be guest lecturers. Cost for attendance is \$60, or \$100 with a certificate of accreditation. For more information and registration details, please visit www.acu.edu.au/short-courses-sydney

Gospel of Matthew: 6 March

Each year CCD offers a series of presentations on the Gospel of the Year as part of Level 3 training of catechists. Dr Laurie Woods will present on the Gospel of Matthew for 5 Fridays - March 6, 13th, 20th & 27th and April 3.

These sessions will be held from 10am to 2pm at the Institute for Mission, Marion Street Blacktown (down stairs). All parishioners are invited to attend one or more of Dr Laurie Wood's presentations. There is no cost but please contact Maree Collis on 8838 3486 to register.

St Patrick's Cathedral Relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux Visit: 4 March

As part of a four-month pilgrimage in Australia, the relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux and her parents, Saints Louis and Zélie Martin, will visit St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta for overnight veneration from 9.30pm on Wednesday March 4. The relics are expected to leave the Cathedral the following day for the Diocese of Broken Bay at 6.15am. Books and various items will be available for purchase.

St Luke's Local News

Fridays during Lent

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday night during Lent at the St Luke's office 2 Springdale St, starting at 7pm. Straight after that will be a Lenten Retreat 'No Greater Love' from 7.30-8.30pm, consisting of a video, reflection and discussion. All are welcome – come for one, or come for both!

Congratulations!

We congratulate Gari de Guzman from St Luke's who was recently been accepted by Bishop Vincent Long into formation to be a permanent deacon in our Diocese of Parramatta. Gari and his wife, Monique, are attending a formation weekend at Baulkham Hills this weekend as they commence their involvement with the diaconate formation community. Please pray for them as they walk this journey.

Mother of Perpetual Help Novena

Will be held every Wednesday from 7.30-8.00pm at 2 Springdale St (opposite St Luke's Catholic College)

Sacramental Program for 2020

This year St Luke's Catholic Faith Community, supported by St Luke's Catholic College, will again offer a Sacramental Program for children.

This year's schedule is:

First Holy Communion

Preparation sessions: Wednesdays May 13, May 20, May 27 and June 10
Sacrament received on Corpus Christ – Sunday June 14 at 10am Mass.

First Reconciliation

Preparation sessions: Wednesdays July 15, 22, 29 and August 5.
Sacrament received on Wednesday, August 12 from 6 – 8pm.

Confirmation – no class this year. It will be offered again in 2021.

All preparation sessions will take place at St Luke's Catholic College at 6pm. As in all Parishes, the Sacramental program is facilitated by the parish for student and parent involvement, therefore parents will need to attend formation sessions with their children to be able to continue the conversations at home.

'Sacraments of Initiation' registration forms are located on the Welcome Table.

Youth Corner (Saintlukesyg@gmail.com)



Our next 'Saints-in-Training' youth group gathering will be on Friday 13th March in 'The Hub' at St Luke's Catholic College from 7pm-8.45pm.

We need You!

Youth Leaders

We currently have a small team of leaders who plan, run and organise the youth group evenings twice a month. However, with the growth of the youth group, we need more volunteers to assist and become part of the team. If you have experience in youth ministry or would like to be involved in youth ministry please contact us! You must have a current working with children check but further training can be provided if needed. Please contact the youth team for further information.

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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