

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 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, your family and your father’s house for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

‘I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.’

So, Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second reading

2 Tm 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel

Mt 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. ‘Lord,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered

them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.’ When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. ‘Stand up,’ he said ‘do not be afraid.’ And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. ‘Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.’



COVID-19 Update from the Diocese

You will be aware through the media, and other sources, of emerging concerns over the spread of COVID-19 (corona virus.) Several weeks ago, I issued, on behalf of Bishop Vincent, some directions around certain liturgical practices which have been accepted by the clergy and people of the Diocese, and it has provided a measure of protection and comfort for many of our people who are rightly concerned about this health issue. A new set of directions has been sent to the clergy which adheres to advice that we have received from public health authorities about the risks of transmission associated with the virus. One of these risks concerns the administration of Holy Communion. In the Latin Church, Holy Communion can be received in two ways, either on the tongue or in the hand. From today, Holy Communion can only be received in the hand because of the high risk of transmission if people continue to receive on the tongue. I understand that for those of you who normally receive Holy Communion on the tongue that this is a matter of pious practice and reverence for the Blessed Sacrament and that you may have been doing so your entire life. In the current circumstances, I ask that you adjust to the practice of Holy Communion in the

hand for the sake of your fellow parishioners. I further ask that you respect those administering Holy Communion, both ordinary and extraordinary ministers, who have received a directive that they cannot administer Holy Communion on the tongue.

As soon as this health risk is mitigated, and advice comes from the public health officials we will revert to the usual liturgical practices that applied before the appearance of COVID-19.

Every blessing in this season of Lent,
Very Rev Peter G. Williams
Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia

We welcome this week as our Celebrant: Fr Florito Apalias

15th March

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers:

Vol Req’d

Acolyte:

Vol Req’d

Servers:

Gab, Ava, Andrei

Readers:

Chris Laroche (1), Felicita (2), Luanshya Naidoo (Int)

Eucharistic Min:

Varuni Emerson

Hospitality:

Vol Req’d

Children’s Liturgy

Sinta, Sindu, Cristina

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

Lalor Park Parish Wednesday Evening Devotions

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Mary Immaculate and St Bernadette and Adoration of the Blessed Sacraments every Wednesday evening at 7pm, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. All are welcome. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9672 4037 or admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au.

Volunteers needed for new Life, Marriage and Family Office program

The Life Marriage & Family Office is looking for married couples to volunteer to undertake a free training course for a new program to be launched in the Diocese in late 2020. The Retrouvaille program aims to assist couples struggling in their marriage. For more information or expressions of interest, please call Karin Abrams on (02) 8838 3460 or email lmf@parracatholic.org

Nigerian Mass in Igbo

The Nigerian Catholic community come together to celebrate Mass every second and fourth Sundays of the month at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. For more information, please contact Nigerian chaplain Fr Chinonye Akamadu via the parish office on (02) 9631 8135 or Stella Nwosu 0405 478 472.

Natural Fertility Services

Natural Fertility Services, Diocese of Parramatta offers couples a NATURAL option to plan their families. Natural Family Planning is for couples wanting to achieve & avoid pregnancy. It is suitable for couples at all stages of their life including those preparing for marriage, breastfeeding women, couples looking for an effective,

natural option and wanting to cease contraception and peri-menopausal women. For more info or to book an appointment, Catherine 0400 427 605, catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or visit www.parralmf.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: 13 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 - 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 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!

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

Pastoral Director:

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www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au