

**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**

Acts 2:14. 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: ‘The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.’ Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, ‘What must we do, brothers?’ ‘You must repent,’ Peter answered ‘and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.’ He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, ‘Save yourselves from this perverse generation.’ They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.*

**Second reading**

1 Pt 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

**Gospel**

Jn 10:1-10

Jesus said: ‘I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through

the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.’ Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: ‘I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.’

**Reflection**

The fourth Sunday of Easter is sometimes known as Good Shepherd Sunday. In the three different cycles of the liturgical year, the gospel on this Sunday comes from John, chapter 10 – an extended discourse by Jesus on the image of himself as the good shepherd. This year the reading is the beginning of the chapter and stops just immediately before the words, ‘I am the good shepherd’.

Our understanding of this whole image and the scene that is set in today’s passage is very dependent upon a contextual understanding of the times. Whilst shepherds were generally regarded as being little better than criminals, they often put their lives in danger to tend to their flocks. Of a night time, several flocks of sheep would be penned in a communal sheepfold, usually made of stone walls. There was only one entrance to the sheepfold and one of the shepherds would effectively become the gate by sleeping across the entranceway. This was to keep the sheep in but also to guard against thieves. Thieves might climb over the wall into the sheepfold but the sheep were trained to respond to their shepherd’s voice alone so thieves could only steal what



sheep they could carry off or those that were not sufficiently trained to their shepherd’s commands.

When Jesus described himself as the gate of the sheepfold, his audience would have immediately understood the analogy. For a shepherd to become the gate to the sheepfold of a night was to risk his life for not only his own sheep but all the sheep in the fold overnight. It took courage and demonstrated utter commitment.

- Greg Sunter

**We welcome this week as our  
Celebrant: Fr Luis Herrera**

**JOIN US FOR MASS AT 10AM  
EVERY SUNDAY DURING THE  
COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS  
via Zoom:**

<https://zoom.us/j/93918900500>

**ATTENTION READERS**

As we continue to gather for Liturgies online, and therefore don’t have our usual arrangements for rosters to be completed in the foyer after Mass, we have created an online form.

Therefore, we are asking readers to click on the link below and advise us of your availability to be part of our reading ministry in coming weeks:

<https://forms.gle/595584bbZGJsZ7zc6>

**MESSAGE FROM DEACON TONY**

We will continue to update our Facebook page as things develop.  
([www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark](http://www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark))  
‘Like’ us now so that you get our updates.

## 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.

### Weekly Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help:

Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/624180454>

### Saturday Sessions

Create community online as we gather to share and grow faith, every Saturday from 11am - 12pm with 'Saturday Sessions'.

Listen to the pre-recorded presentation about a topic of faith before Saturday 11am and then join an online group discussion via Zoom between 11am – 12pm.

Registration essential.

Register at

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJl5dOypqDgrHN2vSOOsoJinf7UG30zsSFCM>

For further information contact Lisa at [lisa.bright@parracatholic.org](mailto:lisa.bright@parracatholic.org)

### THE PRAYERS OFFERED BY OUR COMMUNITY LAST WEEK:

For the repose of the souls of Leonila Valderama and Victoria Eugenio.

Praying for the soul of Jose Olympia.

Praying for those who are alone at home.

Praying for the soul of Simeona Ilagan.

Dear Lord, please bless and protect our families in this trying and difficult time.

Pray for everyone to believe and trust God forever.

I pray that all people of the world will have hope in this situation.

We pray for those who are alone and lonely in their homes.

For all the people infected by the corona virus.

We pray for our Gracie Barra Blacktown City students, friends and family.

Thanksgiving for the fast recovery of Genesis R from his recent operation.

We pray that we may too have our eyes and hearts open during this difficult time.

Praying for all students and educators.

Praying for the front liners.

For all the vulnerable in our nursing homes.

Pray for people who suffer from corona virus.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of my friend Amy Villanueva who passed away last Wednesday.

For those living in third world countries and places of violence and refugee camps.

We pray for the whole world...heal our land oh GOD!

For all our wonderful teachers.

Lord, continue to protect us and walk with us each day until this crisis is over.

We pray that soon we are able to find a cure to fight back COVID – 19.

For the people that have lost their jobs and financial stability.

Praying for health and safety of our families in the Philippines.

We pray for the scientist to find a cure/vaccine.

God, please continue protecting and blessing all of us gathered here in your name.

Praying for the repose of the soul of Violeta Camilon on her 8th year death anniversary.

For all those who have been affected by the coronavirus in some way we ask God to look after them and heal them.

We pray for all the elderly in the aged care homes.

Praying for climate change action; for the safety of all mankind.

We pray for more generous hearts especially during this period.

For all our families and friends.

May God guide the people developing the cure for the disease.

Praying that the pandemic ends soon.

For the safety of our families both here and overseas.

For the opportunity given to us to strengthen our family relationships.

Praying for our leaders to make wise decisions.

For my Nan, Irene, during this difficult time.

Praying for the soul of Thressiama.

Praying for the people who are trying to help us in the crisis.

We pray for peace, good health, and for the world to overcome this crisis.

For the souls of our departed.

Lord we thank you for the control of COVID 19 in Aust, and we pray for healing.

Praying for the health and safety of all families worldwide.

We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide principal leaders, teachers, and students as they return to school next week.

For us to be more patient, prayerful and hopeful with everything that we are currently experiencing.

I am praying for my Grandmother and Uncle for their birthdays; I wish them safety in this crisis.

For the upcoming birthday of Genesis R on 2 May.



### Youth Corner (Saintlukesyg@gmail.com)



The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be via zoom on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. For details please email [saintlukesyg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesyg@gmail.com)

See our 'Saints in Training' update on the St Luke's Facebook page and on Instagram.



### 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](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

Website:

[stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au](http://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au)

Facebook:

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