

OUR VISION:

“WE ARE CONTINUALLY ATTRACTING PEOPLE TO ST LUKE’S AND EVERYONE WHO ENGAGES AS A MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY IS TRANSFORMED IN EVERY AREA OF THEIR LIFE BY HAVING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.”



First Reading

Is 56:1.6-7

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v. 4

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second reading

Rom 11:13-15. 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel

Mt 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.

Reflection:

This week’s gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus’ response to those in need. Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He was physically removing himself from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is very abrupt with her. He tells her simply that his ministry is to the house of Israel – the Jews – and is not for her. But the woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. Jesus is even more abrupt and tells her that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs. Through this use of metaphor, Jesus refers to the children of Israel (the Jews) and to the gentiles and pagans – sometimes referred to as ‘dogs’ to reflect their lowly status in the eyes of the Jewish tradition. Still the woman persists and turns Jesus’ metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table. The woman’s persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and through that faith heals the woman’s daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to the woman’s request. It is as though she

needed to demonstrate that she was really serious and that she did in fact believe that Jesus could make a difference in her life and the life of her daughter. This is an important story in Matthew’s gospel. This gospel was written predominantly for Jewish Christians but this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God is open to anyone who believes.

WANT TO GIVE TO ST LUKE’S WITHOUT TOUCHING ANY CURRENCY?

We are aware that many people are not wanting to touch currency at present for hygiene reasons.

So, we are providing this information to our community members to support their giving via their bank accounts direct to the Church.

The details for giving to our regular collections, which were normally taken up during Mass (pre COVID times), are: 1st Collection (living costs of clergy in our Diocese):

BSB: 067 950

Account: 000 04265

Account Name: Diocese of Parramatta BOM (Board of Management)
Reference: ‘Marsden Park’ and your name (it’s important that you include this reference).

2nd Collection (cost of running St Luke’s Catholic Faith Community)

BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004026

Account Name: St Luke’s Marsden Park
Reference: Your name
St Luke’s Building fund (for a future Church building)

BSB: 067 950

Account: 000 04307

Account Name: St Luke’s Marsden Park
Reference: Your name

Please consider making these recurring payments (weekly).

We welcome this week as our Celebrants: Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil) Fr Gregory Jacobs (10am & 11.30am)

PLEASE NOTE: The dispensation from attending Mass for all Catholics in our Diocese remains in place. So, no one is obligated to attend Mass until further notice. If you have cold or flu symptoms or an allergy, please stay at home.

IMPORTANT ST LUKE'S ANNOUNCEMENT

"On consideration of the most recent NSW Health advice, the Diocese of Parramatta highly recommends all worshippers at Masses in the Diocese to wear a mask to, during, and from Mass and other services. We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern. We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe."

Reconciliation will now be offered on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, after the 5.30pm Vigil Mass.

With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions from July 1, we are able to have 100 people at each Mass. Bookings are required. We have set up online ticketing with Eventbrite.



The 'ticket' booking links are:

Saturday Vigil (5.30pm) Mass
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/110582713874>

Sunday morning (10am) Mass
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/110583072948>



Sunday 10am Mass via zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/93918900500>

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 the Mother of Perpetual Help:

Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/624180454>

BAPTISMS

The Sacrament of Initiation (Baptism) may be celebrated in the Diocese of Parramatta, with a '100-person-limit' applying. Contact Deacon Tony for further information at marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation preparation sessions will be on: Wednesday, Sept 2, 9, and 16. Children will receive the Sacrament on Wednesday, September 23rd (6pm – 8pm). Preparation sessions will be from 6pm to 7pm in the Hub at St Luke's Catholic College. Attendance is mandatory for all children and at least one parent/guardian. Enquiries: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR RETIRED PREISTS - FATHER'S DAY APPEAL 2020

Owing to COVID19 the Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta will not be holding its Annual Bishop's Collection for Retired Priests, i.e. the Father's Day appeal, this September. The CSF will use its own resources to support the retired priests in this financial year. Donations will always be accepted, however, via our BPOINT portal at www.parracatholic.org/csf or EFT to BSB 067950 Account No 00001691 Account Name CSF No 1 with Reference your name. IF you would like a tax deductible receipt for your donation, please send email to csf@parracatholic.org with your name and address details.

54-Day Rosary Novena for the Coronavirus

The National Rosary Crusade 54-Day Novena invites you to join them in prayer for a nation-wide 54-day rosary novena to Mary Help of Christians, the national patroness. The novenas will be run between 15 August, the Feast of the Assumption through to 7 October, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. For more information, visit the group's Facebook page.

Institute for Mission Scripture Reflection Night: 18 August

The Institute for Mission is hosting a free online scripture reflection night with Dr Laurie Woods on Tuesday 18 August at 7pm. The livestream will be hosted on the Institute for Mission's Facebook page www.facebook.com/ifmconnect. Registration is not required.

Bishop Vincent Edmund Rice Centre Webinar: 19 August

Join Bishop Vincent Long as he addresses the climate emergency in the Pacific and how Australia should respond during an online webinar on Wednesday 19 August from 6.30pm to 8pm. The webinar, hosted by the Edmund Rice Centre, will also feature the former President of Kiribati. Registrations are essential, so please visit <https://www.erc.org.au/events> to receive the link to the webinar.

CEDP Safeguarding eSafety Commissioner Webinar: 20 August

Catholic Education and the Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards are partnering with the eSafety Commissioner for a series of free webinars for parents and carers. The first session, 'Helping Kids Thrive Online' (for children aged 5-12 years) will be held on Thursday 20 August from 12pm to 1pm. To register, please visit bit.ly/30fPU4F. For more information, please contact safeguarding@parra.catholic.edu.au or visit <https://safeguarding.org.au/prevention-education-and-training/>

Youth Corner (Saintlukesyg@gmail.com)

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be via zoom on Friday 28 August at 7pm. For details please email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month after the Vigil Mass

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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