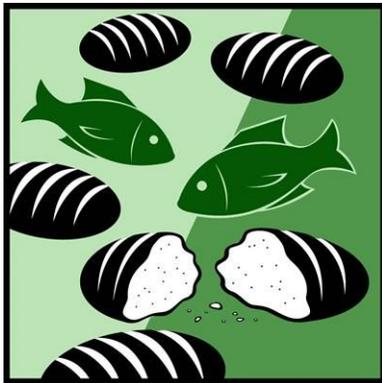


OUR VISION:

“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 55:1-3

Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

Second reading

Rom 8:35. 37-39

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel

Mt 14:13-21

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this

and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So, as he stepped ashore, he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

Reflection:

The response of today's psalm is an excellent summary of the theme that runs throughout today's readings: *The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs*. The compassion of God is foremost in these readings – recognising need within the people and responding with an overflowing abundance. In the gospel, the abundant response of God is the miraculous feeding of more than five thousand people with twelve baskets full of leftovers.

As it became late in the day, the disciples wanted Jesus to send the people away to the nearby villages so that they could buy food for themselves. But Jesus is moved with compassion for the people. He knows that as it is now evening they probably won't be allowed to enter any of the local villages and, even if they were, they probably didn't have money with which to buy food. So it is compassionate care that moves Jesus to act. Remember, he had tried to get away from the crowds to spend some private time mourning the death of John the Baptist. He was entitled to be frustrated and angry with them for intruding on his grief. Instead, when they tracked him down, he went ashore and healed them and taught them. When it

came to the evening he went one step further in his compassion and made sure that all were fed.

At the time of writing, the gospel writer knew that his audience would be familiar with the Eucharistic meal. The words and actions of Jesus in this miraculous feeding event foreshadow the events of the Last Supper: he *took* the bread and fish, *gave thanks, broke* the bread, and *gave* it to the disciples to distribute. This event is a Eucharistic one just as much as the Last Supper.

- Greg Sunter

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) and Fr Luis Herera (Sunday 10am)

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

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

On Saturday 15 August we are offering a morning Mass at 9am for the Feast of the Assumption. To make a booking go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/assumption-mass-tickets-114387205210>

With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions from July 1, we are able to have 100 people at each Mass:

- Vigil 5.30 pm Saturday
- Sunday morning 10 am.

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 the '4m2' rule applying. Please contact Deacon Tony for further information at marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND FIRST RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Saturday 15 August & Sunday 16 August.

First Reconciliation preparation sessions will be: 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

Plenary Council Discernment Papers released

You are encouraged to take the discernment papers from the six national Plenary Council writing groups for your own discernment about how to bring to life a Christ-centred community in your area. These papers can be found at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>.

Palms Australia

Here's a great opportunity to assist in the following part-time volunteer roles.

The Connector- help promote Palms placements and programs, **Events Support-** collate stories and images from Palms' history, **Donor Support-** work with our Fundraising Co-ordinator to organise support for overseas placements.

To find out more call Palms on 9560 5333.

Annulment Information Online Webinar: 4 August

Each year, the Tribunal Office in the Diocese of Parramatta and CatholicCare's Solo Parent Service present an information session to help people understand the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church. This year, the event will be held as an online webinar via Zoom on Tuesday 4 August from 6pm to 8pm. Registration is essential, so to register, please call the Tribunal Office on 8838 3480 or email Rita at soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

ACBC Catholic Men's Gathering: 15 August

The ACBC National Catholic Men's Gathering for 2020 is now being offered as an online event for registered participants. This modified program will be made available from 15 August and will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions. The gathering is free and registration is available from 29 June.

Visit www.catholicmensgathering.com.au for more information and registration.

Youth Corner (Saintlukesyg@gmail.com)

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be via zoom on Friday 14 August at 7pm.

For details please email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com

The Feast of Mary Mackillop

On the Feast Day of Mary MacKillop, Saturday August 8th 2020, Mary MacKillop Place will be CLOSED.

Mass in the Mary Mackillop Memorial Chapel will be livestreamed at 10.00am followed by a time of prayer at the tomb. The details will be posted at

marymackillopplace@mmp.org.au.



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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