

**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**

Sir 27:30 – 28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

**Second reading**

Rom 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

**Gospel**

Mt 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, ‘Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. ‘And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master’s feet. “Give me time,” he said “and I will pay the whole sum.” And the servant’s master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat

and began to throttle him. “Pay what you owe me”, he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, “Give me time and I will pay you.” But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. “You wicked servant,” he said. “I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?” And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.’

**Reflection: SEASON OF CREATION**

Twice in today’s gospel we hear indebted servants cry “Give me time”. Through this parable Jesus shows us that patience and forgiveness are high virtues. These inform the Church’s teaching on what Pope Francis calls an ‘integral ecology’, which basically insists that human progress should be sustainable and compassionate. All human beings exist as part of nature and in relation with each other. God too is part of this dynamic by virtue of the mystery of Creation, but also in a special way through Jesus in the Incarnation and through the Spirit in the Church. We Christians are called, therefore, to be patient and forgiving with nature and with each other as part of God’s transcendent plan. Our opportunities to do this come in many forms. We can reconsider whether our consumer habits are too burdensome on our planet, extracting resources more quickly than they can be replenished. We can choose to buy foods that are sustainably produced, and which justly supports small farmers. And we can encourage our political leaders to be like the good master, supporting debt relief for impoverished countries, abiding by international climate agreements, and taking other such actions that might give our world and its people time to heal.

- Nick Brodie

**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:

1<sup>st</sup> 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).

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

(cost of running St Luke’s Faith Community)

BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004026

Account Name: St Luke’s Marsden Park

Reference: Your name

OR:



Scan the QR Code using your phone camera and click the link

Choose **‘MARSDEN PARK – St Luke’s Catholic Faith Community’**

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 Florito Apalias (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

"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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

#### Position Vacant:

Sacramental Coordinator – Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes – Applications close Wednesday 16 September. More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

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

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks **Child Protection Sunday**. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

Find out more at:

[www.catholic.org.au/childprotectionsunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/childprotectionsunday) and [www.catholicreligious.org.au/safeguarding](http://www.catholicreligious.org.au/safeguarding)

#### What Will Be Your Legacy of Faith, Hope and Charity?

During 'Include A Charity' Week (7 – 13 September), we invite you – after providing for your loved ones – to consider leaving a Gift in your Will to our Parish, or a ministry in our Diocese. Legacy gifts advance Christian works of faith, hope and charity for future generations. For information on remembering the Church in your Will, go to [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/giftsinwills](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/giftsinwills)

#### Welcome to The Well

The Diocese of Parramatta proudly announces its latest initiative – *The Well*. In what can be described as 'Netflix for Catholics', *The Well* is a new online platform that provides free, 'on-demand' inspiration for families, children, young people and faith communities. Explore fresh offerings every week. Check it out at [www.thewell.org.au](http://www.thewell.org.au)

#### Blessing of the Bells of St Patrick's Cathedral

The 167-year dream of a peal of bells in St Patrick's Cathedral has been realised. On 8 September, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv blessed the bells in a pontifical ritual from the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. You are invited to re-watch the momentous occasion via [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bellsappeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bellsappeal)

#### Plenary Council Engagement Sessions: 12 – 24 September

You are invited to join with others online to be informed about the next steps for the Plenary Council 2020. You will experience how to use a simple guide to animate your local community and to develop Good News Stories in the spirit of Plenary. Please register for one of the following sessions: Monday 14 September at 7pm: <https://tinyurl.com/plenary14september> Saturday 19 September at 2.30pm <https://tinyurl.com/plenary19september> Monday 21 September at 7pm: <https://tinyurl.com/plenary21september> Thursday 24 September at 7pm: <https://tinyurl.com/plenary24september>

#### ACBC Social Justice Statement 2020-21

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-21, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement <http://bit.ly/SocialJustice2020>

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

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be via zoom on Friday 25 September at 7pm. For details please email: [saintlukesyg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesyg@gmail.com)

#### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am

#### RECONCILIATION

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

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](http://www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark)

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 85, Plumpton NSW 2761