

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is near to all who call him.

Second reading

Phil 1:20-24. 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.



Gospel

Mt 20:1-16 Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire

workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they

answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Reflection: SEASON OF CREATION

The complaining workers in today's Gospel assumed they were near the top of some unspoken hierarchy. They thought they deserved more than some of their coworkers. If we think of the earth as God's great vineyard, we can see obvious parallels today. Nations can think they deserve more than their less developed neighbours; perhaps because their economies have been industrialised longer. People can assume they are right to own multiple properties while others remain homeless; perhaps because they inherited or worked hard for them.

But we Christians are called to work in the vineyard for its good, and for the good of all, not merely ourselves. "The way humanity treats the environment influences the way it treats itself, and vice versa", declared Pope Benedict XVI in the encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, reminding us that justice for others and good stewardship of our world are intimately connected. During this Season of Creation, we might ask ourselves: How can we tend the vineyard into which God has sent us? Do we attend to the needs of our fellow workers, especially refugees and immigrants who have only recently arrived?

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.

The details for giving electronically 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 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 Pat Mullins (10am)

PLEASE NOTE: The dispensation from attending Mass for all Catholics in our Diocese remains in place. 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.

eventbrite

The 'ticket' booking links are:

Saturday Vigil (5.30pm) Mass https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1105827 13874

Sunday morning (10am) Mass https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1105830 72948



Sunday 10am Mass via zoom: https://zoom.us/i/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

Diocese of Parramatta celebrates the Season of Creation

The Diocese of Parramatta is celebrating the Season of Creation (1 September – 4 October) by creating a video to be released on 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. We invite all parishioners to be involved. Send your photograph, video, art or poetry of your favourite nature spot in the Diocese to:

comms@parracatholic.org by 25 Sept.
Details can be found at:
https://www.parracatholic.org/socialjustice/

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

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 16th Century. You are invited to re-watch the momentous occasion via 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 21 September at7pm: https://tinyurl.com/plenary21september

Thursday 24 September at7pm:

https://tinyurl.com/plenary24september

ACU Online Public Lecture with Sr Prof Julia Upton: 12 October

The ACU Centre for Liturgy is hosting Sr Prof Julia Upton rsm from St John's University in New York in a free online public lecture. Titled "Liturgy, Prayer, Pastoral Care and Pandemics," it will be broadcast live from New York on Monday 12 October from 10am AEST via Zoom. Registration is

essential by 7 October 2020. Register by visiting www.acu.edu.au/LectureUpton

Catholic Theological College Engaging Your Catholic Faith Sessions: 14 September – 31 October

The Catholic Theological College in Melbourne is presenting a series of sessions on Engaging Your Catholic Faith from 14 September to 31 October. The lectures, exploring topics such as meditation and prayer, women in the early church and interfaith relations, will be delivered online via Zoom and are \$20 per session. Enrol now by visiting www.ctc.edu.au/

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/SocialJustice 2020

Youth Corner (Saintlukesyg@gmail.com)
The pout 'Saints in Training' gathering wi

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be via zoom on Friday 25 September 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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