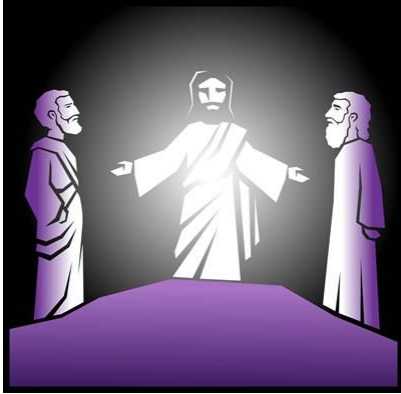


OUR VISION:

"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

Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am,' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Second reading

Rom 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel

Mk 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

Reflection: Mountaintop Moments

Throughout the Bible there are instances of important encounters with God on mountaintops. Even this week's first reading, the sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham, occurs on a mountaintop. It is not the potential sacrifice, but the new relationship between God and Abraham that is a mountaintop moment. In modern language, we often speak about 'peak experiences' – moments of exceptional clarity, intense emotion or extraordinary accomplishment. Sometimes, like Peter, we are tempted to try to remain 'in the moment' rather than

using the peak experience as a motivator for when we go back down the mountain to our normal (if perhaps changed) existence.

- Greg Sunter



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

The details for giving electronically to our regular collections 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 to include this reference).

2nd Collection

(costs of running St Luke's 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 John Hogan (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.

Wearing a mask

Wearing a mask, especially in indoor venues like churches and religious services, is strongly recommended.

BAPTISMS

For inquiries about the Sacrament of Initiation (Baptism) contact Deacon Tony at marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

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

As from 12 February we are able to have 200 people at each Mass. Bookings are still 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/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.

St Joseph, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us

Positions Vacant:

Natural Family Planning Educator (Casual) – Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close 1 March 2021

Details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Project Compassion 2021: "Be More"

Support Caritas Australia this Lenten season by taking home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes.

Through your generosity, you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people

build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

ST LUKE'S 2021 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

St Luke's Catholic Faith Community, supported by St Luke's Catholic College, will again offer a Sacramental Program for children this year.

First Reconciliation is for children who have been Baptised and are 8 years of age or older.

First Holy Communion is for children who are Baptised, have made their First Reconciliation and are 9 years of age or older.

Confirmation will be offered to students in Year 6 and who are 11 years of age or older, and who have received the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

This year's schedule is:

First Holy Communion

Preparation sessions on Wednesdays at 6pm: May 5, 12, 19, 26.

Sacrament received on Corpus Christi – Saturday, June 4 at 5.30pm Mass and Sunday June 6 at 10am Mass.

First Reconciliation

Preparation sessions: Wednesdays at 6pm: July 7, 21, 28

Sacrament received on Wednesday, August 11 from 6 – 7.30pm.

Confirmation

Preparation sessions: Wednesdays at 6pm: October 6, 13, 20, 27.

Sacrament on Sunday, Oct 31 with Bishop Vincent.

All preparation sessions will take place at St Luke's Catholic College at 6pm. Parents will need to attend formation sessions with their children. 'Sacraments of Initiation – Enrolment Form', available at our Welcome Table. Return to Deacon Tony or email to marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

ST LUKE'S LENT REFLECTIONS

"Lent is meant to be a time of repentance and renewal. These 40 days are set aside to reflect on the life of Jesus and to pray more often. In order to support our Faith Community members in their faith journey, we will be offering Stations of the Cross and Lent reflections on Friday evenings. This will be done via Zoom at 7pm. May we prepare for Easter by travelling together in this special season." Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88178228487>



Weekly Novena to the Mother of Perpetual Help: Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Zoom:

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

Youth Corner

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be held in the Hub at St Luke's College on Friday 5 March at 7pm. All high school aged children are welcome.

For details please email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com



28th February

Prayer for those who have died in the past year

1st March

Think about how the Holy Spirit manifests in your life

2nd March

Pray for clean water

3rd March

Pray for someone close to you that needs healing

4th March

Pray for those struggling with addiction

5th March

Fast from political debate

6th March

Fast from screens (No TV, no phone etc)

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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stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

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Instagram:

[stlukes_marsdenpark](https://www.instagram.com/stlukes_marsdenpark)

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 85, Plumpton NSW 2761

SCHOOL ENQUIRIES: 9854 3100

www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au