

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

2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy. Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.' And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

Second reading

Eph 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus. This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel

Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

Reflection: Not to condemn ...

The gospel passage tells us that God's Son was not sent into the world to condemn it, but rather, 'so that through him the world might be saved'. It also tells us that whoever refuses to believe 'is already condemned'. God does not condemn the world, nor individuals within it. Indeed, God

is absolutely determined to save the world. However, we do sometimes condemn ourselves. When we turn our back on love; when we hide from relationships; when we wallow in selfishness – we shut ourselves off from relationship with God and condemn ourselves. We only have to open our eyes to see the alternative!

- 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 Chadi Ibrahim (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

Position Vacant:

Diocese of Parramatta Receptionist –
Bethany Centre, Parramatta

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.

ACBC Consultation for Women session: 27 March

Catholic women are being invited to participate in a national consultation via Zoom on March 27. The event invites women to articulate and celebrate their contribution to and vision for the mission of the Catholic Church in Australia. The event is being organised by the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry. Find more information at www.nce.catholic.org.au/catholicwomen

ST LUKE'S 2021 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

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 5 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 19 March at 7pm. All high school aged children are welcome. For details please email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com



14th March

Think about a part of today's service that made your heart swell

15th March

Pray for soup kitchens and those that serve the poor

16th March

Pray for the youth of our congregation

17th March

Pray for the young adults of our congregation

18th March

Pray for the ministers of our congregation

19th March

Fast from gossip

20th March

Pray for your ancestors

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

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

Baptisms available most Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

CONTACT US

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

Phone:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Website:

stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 85, Plumpton NSW 2761

SCHOOL ENQUIRIES: 9854 3100

www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au