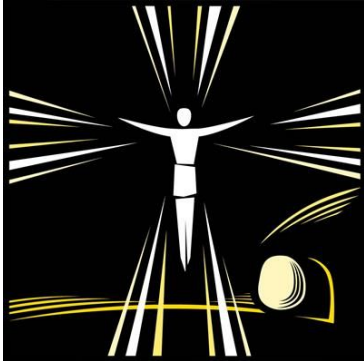


**OUR VISION:**

**“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.”**



**Gospel – Vigil Mass**

Mk 16:1-7

When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising. They had been saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’ But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, ‘There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, “He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you.”’

**Reflection:**

On Holy Thursday we saw that God is the one who passes over; on Good Friday we recognised that Jesus is our real Passover. Today we contemplate our own passing over. Holy Saturday is a time of liminality; an in-between time. We are no longer in one place, but we have not yet arrived at the other. We are in the crossing. We are moving from darkness into light, from death to life, and we do this by passing through the waters of baptism. In the dark of the night, we are called to follow God into the unknown. If we can do this, if we can risk all and leave behind the life to which we have grown accustomed, we will be able to survive in this period of liminality. The vigil readings end with a

promise of regeneration. The waters that at first threatened us, can rejuvenate us. We now stand at the threshold of a new creation. The period of liminality is over. Our next step is into the waters of baptism, there to be recreated, to be born anew, to die and to rise in Christ. Through baptism we enter into the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Like those who heard the proclamation of the women, we are called to faith through the words of others. When we respond, our passing over will be complete and we will be embraced by Christ our True Passover.

- Dianne Bergant

**Gospel – Easter Sunday**

Jn 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb’ she said ‘and we don’t know where they have put him.’ So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

**Reflection: Dawn has Broken – The Son is Risen**

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire

(good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exsultet is sung: ‘Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.’ The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was ‘Apostle to the Apostles’ because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen.

Christ’s body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ’s victory over death. Alleluia!

- Fr Michael Tate



**WANT TO GIVE TO ST LUKE’S WITHOUT TOUCHING ANY CURRENCY?**

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

2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Chadi Ibrahim (Vigil)

Fr Bill Goldman (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**

The wearing of a mask is strongly recommended in indoor venues where adequate distancing cannot be maintained, including at church and religious services.

### BAPTISMS

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

### 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 5.30m 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.

Preparation sessions at the College at 6pm. Parents will need to attend formation sessions with their children. Enrolment Forms available at our Welcome Table. Return to Deacon Tony or email to [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

**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.

Bookings are still required for Mass. Please use the Eventbrite ticketing system as follows:

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>

### ONE COLLECTION AT ST LUKE'S

We will now have just one collection at St Luke's. The previous **First Collection** was for the living costs of the Clergy; these funds being pooled from across the Diocese so they can be equitably distributed. This fund provides for clergy's:

- monthly stipend
- private health insurance
- superannuation contribution

This fund also helps to provide for retired and sick priests.

The **Second Collection** was for our St Luke's community. The many costs of running a parish/faith community are deducted from this account. Some of the expenses covered include:

- Parish operating costs such as insurance, utilities, telecommunications, general maintenance and upkeep of church property
- Parish pastoral programs
- Car expenses for the clergy
- Items used for Mass/liturgies, including Communion hosts, altar wine, sanitising products, music licencing fees.

Several societal changes are converging to change the way collections are conducted:

- with greater reliance on credit cards and smart-phone-based payments systems, fewer people carry cash on them today
- the arrival of the COVID pandemic has had a further dramatic effect on the reticence of people to handle cash for hygiene reasons. As a result, electronic giving via tap devices or via direct debit are increasingly popular in churches.

This also makes it easier to combine the two collections. There is an established average percentage split between the first and second collections (30% and 70% respectively) across many parishes, applying to funds collected.

Already several parishes across Australia and in our own Diocese (including the Cathedral Parish) have moved to one collection, with a 30/70 split.

So, as of this weekend, our Pastoral Council has decided that St Luke's will move to have

just one collection, with funds split 30/70 to the previous first and second collections respectively. So, all contributions made at Mass, via either cash or tap device, will be split in this way.



### 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 the Bowling and Laser Tag night on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY: 11 April



St Luke's 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday!

Join in the celebration, beginning with Mass at 10am. Followed by music, cultural performances, face painting, jumping castles, sausage sizzle and more.

### SUPPORT OUR BUNNINGS FUNDRAISER!

On 17 April, from 9am-4pm, St Luke's volunteers will be manning the BBQ at Bunnings Marsden Park for a fundraising sausage sizzle. Come for breakfast, come for morning tea, come for lunch – or come for all three 😊 See you there!

### 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

Baptisms available most Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

### CONTACT US

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

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(02) 8840 8521

Email:

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Website:

[stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au](http://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark](https://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](http://www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au)