

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 35:4-7

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

Second Reading

Jas 2:1-5

My brothers and sisters, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel

Mk 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region.

And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Reflection: Open to compassion

When Isaiah described the signs by which the Messiah would be recognised, he identified those people who were isolated from society by their physical afflictions. He portrayed a Messiah who released them from those afflictions and allowed them to re-enter society. That is what Jesus did time and time again. In the healing of the deaf and dumb man, Jesus called on all those around him to also be opened – that their hearts may be opened to compassion. Jesus calls to us through today's gospel to also be open to compassion and open to the needs of those around us.

- Greg Sunter



Bishop's Father's Day Appeal

This Father's Day, please spare a thought for our humble priests who have cared for our faith community's spiritual nourishment and wellbeing for all their lives. With your generosity, the Clergy Support Foundation helps our priests with the personal, professional, and practical care and guidance needed to transition to a dignified and well-deserved retirement. Please give generously via the Father's Day Appeal at: parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call (02) 8838 3482.

WANT TO GIVE TO ST LUKE'S?

The details for giving electronically to our regular collections are:

1st Collection

(the living costs of clergy in our Diocese):
BSB: 067 950

Account: 000 04265

Account Name: Diocese of Parramatta BOM

Reference: 'Marsden Park' and your name
2nd Collection

(the costs of running St Luke's Community)
BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004026

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park

Reference: Your name

OR:



Choose '**MARSDEN PARK – St Luke's Catholic Faith Community'**

St Luke's Building fund

(for a future Church building)

BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004307

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park

Reference: Your name

Please consider making these recurring payments (weekly).

We welcome this week as our Celebrant:

Fr Joseph Nguyen (10am)

If you have prayer needs, please visit our website

<https://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au/>

and scroll down to the heading; 'Submit your own prayer intention or prayer of thanks.' We have a team of prayer warriors ready to pray for your requests.

If you would like to speak personally, please call me on 8840 8521 or email tony.hoban@parracatholic.org

Blessings to you and your family at this difficult time.

- Deacon Tony



Use this link for Zoom Mass:

<https://zoom.us/j/93918900500>

Season of Creation



"This year, amid crises that have shaken our world, we're awakened to the urgent need to heal our relationships with creation and each other. During the season this year, we enter a time of restoration and hope, a jubilee for our Earth, that requires radically new ways of living with creation." (Pope Francis)

Fan the Flame – Towards Plenary Assembly One (October 2021)

'He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.' *Mark 7:31-37*

The Church hears the cries of the poor and the groans of the earth. It seeks to stand in solidarity with the poor and the marginalised, and to exercise good stewardship of the fragile ecosystems that support life on earth. (*Australian Catholic Social Justice Council, "A New Earth: The Environmental Challenge. Social Justice Statement 2002"*, accessed 23 April 2021, <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Social-Justice-Statement-2002.pdf>, 10.)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/



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

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

Caritas Australia responds to humanitarian crises in Afghanistan and Lebanon

In Afghanistan, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection. In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Please donate to Caritas Australia respond to crises like these by visiting caritas.org.au/lebanon or [www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan](http://caritas.org.au/afghanistan) or call 1800 024 413 toll-free to provide much needed support.

Catholic Outlook book giveaway

To celebrate Father's Day 2021, and with thanks to Coventry Press, *Catholic Outlook* is giving away three copies of "Matters of Life and Faith" by Paul Mitchell – a beautiful book about faith and fatherhood. Entries are open until Thursday 9 September. Enter today via catholicoutlook.org and fill out the form under 'Book Giveaway'.

Diocese of Parramatta launches Plenary Council resource website

A new website provides resources for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta to stay involved in the Plenary Council, which is exploring what the future of our Church should look like. The first assembly starts in October, so visit parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/ to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more.

Sign the petition to welcome 20,000 refugees fleeing Afghanistan

In a sign of unity, major Australian church denominations and Christian organisations have come together to urge the Prime Minister to provide a special intake of an additional 20,000 refugees fleeing Afghanistan and support the ongoing wellbeing of all Afghan refugees and their families. For more information and to sign the petition go to:

www.unitedforafghanistan.com/?partner=dioce separramatta

Divine Retreat Centre Daily Silent Adoration Livestream

From 1 August, the Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW, is livestreaming daily silent adoration from 8.45am to 8.45pm on their 'Divine Healing & Retreat Centre Sydney Australia' YouTube Channel. You are free to send prayer requests at any time during the adoration. To tune in, visit

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuFd wfRHPRD95UYnOIFa-IQ>

Vinnies Support Centres are still available to those in need

St Vincent de Paul Support Centres across Greater Sydney are still available and taking calls to arrange for food vouchers or other items to be provided to those in need. If you need assistance, call the Support Centres in Blacktown on (02) 8861 9777, Harris Park on (02) 8861 9757 and Penrith on (02) 8861 9770. To find out more about what support is available, visit

<http://vinnies.org.au/covidsupportnsw>

Safeguarding Sunday: 12 September

On 12 September the Catholic Church in Australia marks as Safeguarding Sunday, a day on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. 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. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:

www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday

Join us for Bible Study via Zoom



See how God's plan in the Bible is part of the plan for your life. Join us Monday nights (starting July 26) at 7pm. The course is called 'From Genesis to Jesus'. Watch a video and then engage in discussion with other

St Luke's community members.

Click on this Zoom link to join in:

<https://zoom.us/j/93918900500>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY RETURNS VIA ZOOM!



For access to our weekly Children's Liturgy class via zoom (9.30-9.50am) please email us at

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

All primary school aged children are welcome to join us.

YOUTH CORNER



The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be on Friday 17th September via [Zoom](#). All high school aged students are welcome! 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

Baptisms available most Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

CONTACT US

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www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au