

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

Jer 33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to

fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

Responsorial Psalm

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Second Reading

1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel

Lk 21:25-28. 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads

high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

Have you thought? – Waiting, waiting, waiting ...

I’m not a big fan of waiting! Anticipation is pretty good; getting prepared and getting ready are OK, too. But when it comes down to being all dressed up and ready to go, I’m just hopeless at waiting. If Advent is a time of pointless waiting for Christmas then we’ve somehow missed the message.

Rather than just waiting, Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation. But it’s not just about anticipating Christmas. That’s part of it, sure. However, Advent is about reminding ourselves that we have a job to do: preparing for the reign of God – in our lives and in our world.

- Greg Sunter



Use this link for Zoom Mass:

<https://zoom.us/j/9391890050>

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil)

Fr Chris de Souza (10am)

Confirmation at St Luke’s

The Sacrament of Confirmation at St Luke’s will be deferred until 2022 due to Covid and lockdown restrictions. Email us at marsdenpark@parracatholic.org for further information.

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).

ARE YOU IN NEED OF PRAYER...

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

Christmas Mass times at St Luke’s:

Christmas Eve: 7pm & 11pm

Christmas Day: 10am

(NB: there will be no Vigil Mass on 25/12)

Positions Vacant:

Digital Content Creator – Diocese of Parramatta

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Synod of Bishops

Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report. Find out more at: <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>



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

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

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

No mother or child should be homeless and without support at Christmas. CatholicCare's Houses to Homes provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing abuse and hardship. Your kind donation today will help change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child. Please give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal giving envelopes or online yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Intercultural Christmas album to raise funds for House of Welcome

A new CD featuring classic Christmas songs in eight languages from the Asia Pacific – Samoan, Filipino, Fijian, Tamil, Tongan, Mandarin, Indonesian and Japanese is raising money for the House of Welcome in the Diocese of Parramatta. Find how to order at linktr.ee/SoundsChristmasAsiaPacific

Madonna magazine – a gift of spiritual sustenance that lasts a whole year

Madonna magazine, published by Jesuit Communications, is an ideal spiritual companion – containing daily prayers, deep reflections and faith-focused articles. We invite you to subscribe or consider taking out a gift subscription for a loved one for only \$53 a year. Find out more at: www.madonnamagazine.com.au/article/subscriptions

Help our inmates feel the Christmas spirit

With the beginning of the Season of Advent upon us, the Diocese of Parramatta, through CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, are collecting blank

Christmas cards that will be distributed by our prison chaplains to inmates to send to their families this Christmas. You can leave unused Christmas cards at any CatholicCare office across the Diocese, which can be at <https://catholicoutlook.info/inmatecards>

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2022

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will begin early next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on 8838 3456 or anne.stanton@parracatholic.org or download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

Holy Hour for Vocations: 2 December

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth invite you to participate in their monthly Holy Hour for Vocations, held on Thursday 2 December at 6pm at the Polish War Memorial Chapel, 116-132 Quakers Rd, Marayong. The prayer will also be livestreamed to the Sisters' Facebook page (facebook.com/csfnaustralia) for those who would like to join online.

Glenbrook Parish Advent Reflection Day: 4 December 2021

You are invited to join the parish of St Finbar's Glenbrook, for their Advent Retreat on Saturday 4 December from 10.30am to 4pm, followed by Vigil Mass at 5.30pm. The Retreat will reflect on the birth of Jesus, but also on being in touch with God through reflection on creation. Morning tea and lunch will be provided. Cost \$5 per person. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 29 November to secretary@stfinbars.org.au.

Office for Safeguarding offering online training to keep our parishes safe

The Office for Safeguarding is providing an opportunity for all of us to develop our awareness and skills in ensuring our parishes are safe and welcoming places for all. For further inquiries please email our Safeguarding office on safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org or maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.



The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be on Friday 10th December. All high school aged students are welcome!

For details please email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com



**St Luke's
Community
Carols – 11
December**

On Saturday 11 December at 6.30pm, St Luke's will celebrate the coming of Christmas with a night of Carols. Enjoy a sausage sizzle or Pork BBQ, soft drinks, ice blocks and cakes, games for the kids and a special appearance by the 'man in red'! It will be held in the Marketplace at St Luke's Catholic College.



The major sponsor of the St Luke's Christmas Carols in 2021 is Strive Fitness.

Strive Fitness is a new fitness concept which utilises smart equipment to get a fully guided workout experience and assistance in the gym whenever you need it. It's the only gym using smart technology to enhance the workout experience for both the novice and experienced gym goer. We also offer a range of classes including Yoga, Zumba, Bootcamp/ High intensity training classes and boxing. Strive Fitness is offering the St Lukes community members exclusive membership pricing. (Strive Fitness: 861 Richmond Rd, Marsden Park)

St Luke's also thanks our other Carols sponsors:

Amber Beverages
Choice Pharmacy Colebee
Gracie Barra Blacktown City

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

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stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

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2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

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PO Box 85, Plumpton NSW 2761