

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 62:1-5

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like

the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch. The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:4-11

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

Gospel

Jn 2:1-11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and

his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.' This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

Reflection:

Today's first reading from Isaiah is one of several references in the Old Testament that use wedding imagery – bride and groom – to describe the relationship between God and the people of Israel. The imagery is never that of an 'old married couple' but rather young lovers entering into a new life together full of hope; full of romance; and full of passion. This image of God and the people as bride and groom would not have been lost on the first audiences of today's gospel passage. Immediately, they would have recognised the significance of Jesus' first outing in public ministry being at a wedding feast – at the coming together of God and God's people, Jesus is present! It is a very neat and quite deliberate follow on from the prologue of the Gospel of John where the gospel writer uses the image of 'the Word made flesh who lives among us' to describe Jesus. The Word has come into the world and the first public appearance is at an event that symbolises the relationship between God and God's people.

- Greg Sunter

WANT TO GIVE TO ST LUKE'S?



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).

TIME FOR EVERYONE TO RETURN TO MASS

The Diocese of Parramatta has advised the following:

"On 20 March 2020 Catholics from the Diocese of Parramatta were dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation until further notice (Canon 1248/2 and Catechism 2181) by virtue of a Decree issued by Bishop Vincent Long Nguyen OFM Conv. As from 15 December 2021 this Decree will be revoked and the Sunday obligation will be imposed once again, given that public health orders no longer require adherence to density limits in our Church buildings."

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil)

Fr Bill Goldman (10am)

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



Diocese of Parramatta COVID-19 update

Livestreamed Masses from across the Diocese of Parramatta are still available on the Diocesan website <https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19/#online>. For more information, please visit the Diocesan website at www.parracatholic.org/covid19

Confirmation at St Luke's

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

Synod of Bishops – Have your say

What would you say to Pope Francis if you had 10 minutes? Catholics across the world are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops. Find out how to send your message at parracatholic.org/synod-of-bishops



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

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

Mass in Mandarin: 20 February 2022

(every third Sunday of the month)

At Our Lady of the Angels Church at 3pm, 1 Wellgate Ave Kellyville.

(Or live stream on Facebook at Our Lady of the Angels.) *Afternoon Tea after Mass

Mass available for the Nigerian Catholic Community

The Nigerian Catholic community come together to celebrate Mass every second and fourth Sundays of the month at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. For more information, please contact community chaplain Fr Chinonye Akamadu on 0451 174 438 or chuk.akamadu@parracatholic.org or Stella Nwosu on 0405 478 472.

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 (02) 8838 3456 or anne.stanton@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

Annual Legal Red Mass: 3 February 2022

The Annual Red Mass, which gives thanks for the work of those who serve the law, will be held on Thursday 3 February at St Patrick's Cathedral at 7pm, followed by a light supper. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm a commitment to justice and faith. For catering purposes, please confirm your attendance by emailing mili@stpatricscathedral.com.au or by phone to (02) 8839 8400.

World Day of the Sick Mass 2022: 11 February 2022

The Annual World Day of the Sick Mass will be celebrated by Vicar General Fr Peter Williams and clergy of the Diocese on 11 February 2022 at 11am at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. The Mass of Our Lady of Lourdes will be celebrated and will include the Rite of Anointing of the Sick and prayer of blessing for all carers. Refreshments will be available after Mass. For catering purposes, please RSVP to anne.stanton@parracatholic.org or (02) 8838 3456.



Our first 'Saints-in-Training' youth group meeting for 2022 will be on Friday 4th February from 7pm-8.45pm in the Marketplace at St Luke's. For more information email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com

We need You!

Youth Leaders

We currently have a small team of leaders who plan, run and organise the youth group evenings twice a month. However, with the growth of the youth group, we need more volunteers to assist and become part of the team. If you have experience in youth ministry or would like to be involved in youth ministry, please contact us! You must have a current working with children check but further training can be provided if needed. Please contact the youth team for further information.

Q & A

From <https://mycatholic.life/>

Q. Why do we have confession? If God knows everything, why can't we just tell him that we're sorry when we do something wrong?

A. First of all, it's very true that "God knows everything." We call that omniscience. So, yes, He knows everything you've done and He knows whether you are sorry for that or not. But there is a big difference between God "knowing" what you did and His act of forgiveness.

For example, if you sinned against a friend with whom you were very close and then you felt sorry for that it's possible that your friend would realize, just by knowing you, that you were truly sorry. But that doesn't mean that you can just presume on your friend's goodness and forgiveness. The best thing to do, in this situation, is to actually sit down and tell your friend you are sorry and to have your friend tell you that you are forgiven. This very human exchange brings about reconciliation.

So it is with God. God is all merciful and wants to forgive us all our sins. But for true reconciliation to take place God wants you to actually say those words and then to hear the words, spoken by the priest, that you are forgiven. So, Confession is not only about God forgiving us, it is also about reconciliation with God on a human level. Make sure you give it a try soon!

New Year's Resolutions:

THE POPE FRANCIS LIST

1. Don't Gossip
2. Finish your meals
3. Make time for others
4. Choose the 'more humble' purchase
5. Meet the poor 'in the flesh'
6. Stop judging others
7. Befriend those who disagree
8. Make commitments, such as marriage
9. Make it a habit to 'ask the Lord'
10. Be happy

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 4045, Elara Village, MARSDEN PARK NSW 2765