

**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**

Acts 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. ‘We all have to experience many hardships’ they said ‘before we enter the kingdom of God.’ In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

**Second Reading**

Rv 21:1-5

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, ‘You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.’ Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: ‘Now I am making the whole of creation new.’

**Gospel**

Jn 13:31-35

When Judas had gone Jesus said: ‘Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him,

God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon.

My little children, I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:

love one another;

just as I have loved you,

you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another,

everyone will know that you are my

disciples.’

**Gospel Reflection**

The word love has to be the most misused word in our language. We often say we love our house, our car, our holiday or even ice cream. Then we use exactly the same word to describe our feelings for our spouse, family, friends or children. If language is a window into meaning, then we are in strife at the loose way we transfer the same word for vastly different feelings and realities. At least I hope we feel differently about people over possessions. The way some people go on about their car, pets or money we begin to wonder.

The love Jesus encourages us to have in today’s Gospel is a very particular love. He tells us not just to love one another, but to ‘love as I have loved you’. The core of Jesus’ love for us is sacrificial love, where he laid down his life that we might live. While love is a popular word, and even more popular notion, in our music, film, art and literature, sacrificial love is not something we hear much about these days or that we embrace very easily. Loving someone in the popular imagination has come to mean hanging in there until someone better comes along, or we grow bored of each other sexually or personally. Often it entails keeping the exit door on commitment nice and handy for the quick get away. But this hardly describes a love that involves sacrifice.

Sacrificial love is demonstrated in deeds not words. It states that there is no point in saying we love anyone unless our actions follow the profession we make. Sacrificial love is not just about warm and fuzzy feelings; it is an intensely practical affair where our love is judged by our gentleness, kindness and patience with each other. While sacrificial love demands of us that we die unto self, Jesus never asked us to ‘kill’ ourselves. The Lord laid down his life for us

and in turn the Father raised him up to a glorified life. What’s true for him is true for us. We lay down our lives for each other so we can take up a new and richer life.

*May this Eucharist then grant us the wisdom to love people and not things. May it help us embrace sacrifice in a way that leads to life and may it give courage to sort out the relationships that affirm our dignity and help us grow in faith, hope and love.*

- Richard Leonard SJ

**EASTER OFFERING TO ST LUKE’S**



Scan the QR code and choose Option 2: ‘For your parish’s ministry and maintenance’ and select from parish list

‘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

**We welcome this week as our Celebrants:**

**Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil)**

**Fr Pat Mullins (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](mailto:tony.hoban@parracatholic.org) Deacon Tony

## Positions Vacant:

2 x Project Coordinators (part time) –

Catholic Youth Parramatta, Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10pm**

### Sunday 29 May.

More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)  
*Senior Administrative Support Co-ordinator* – The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking an experienced person for a full or part-time (4 days a week) role in our Governance, Risk, Compliance and Assurance team. For information call Nevine Piperides at REACH Human Resources, [nevine@reachhr.com.au](mailto:nevine@reachhr.com.au) or 0418 698 327.

*Fundraising Campaigns Manager* – Put Your Faith into Action for the Common Good! For information, please call Dianne Wigan, Head of Fundraising, on 0408 922 478.



### Novena to the Mother of Perpetual Help:

Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Zoom:

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

### Young Adult Faith Formation: 15 May

Young adults aged 18 to 35 are invited to a Young Adults faith formation session on Sunday 15 May at The Hustle, 4-6 Purdy St, Minchinbury, starting from 7pm. George and Anne Stanton will lead discussion on scripture and the theme of Covenant. A donation of \$5 is suggested. Come along for fun, faith and fellowship! Call Mark on 0477 004 678 for more information.

### Fertility Awareness - a Holistic Medical Approach live webinar: 19 May

Join us for an engaging live conversation with Lynne Anderson, CEO of Billings Life™ Australia, and Dr Mary Walsh, General Practitioner and Chair of AIRRM at **7:30pm (AEST) on Thursday, 19th May 2022.**

Places are limited for this free webinar, so please register early to secure your spot. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/fertility-awareness-a-holistic-medical-approach-live-webinar-tickets-336841932287>

### LIFTED Live featuring Gen Bryant: 20 May

WEST HQ, Rooty Hill, 7.30-10pm  
Youth, young adults and families are invited to join Catholic Youth Parramatta for a Holy Spirit inspired night of praise and worship. Register at <https://parracatholic.org/liftedlive/>

### Springwood East Timor Support Group Trivia Night Fundraiser: 21 May

The Springwood East Timor Support Group invite you to the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary Trivia Night to aid the Timorese people with medical and educational initiatives. Saturday 21 May 7pm at St Thomas Aquinas School Hall, Springwood. Tickets \$20. BYO nibbles and drinks. Pre-reservation of your attendance is essential to Dennis Farrar on 0425 209 840.

### Bishop Vincent Presents Sr Patricia Fox NDS: 27 May

Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown, 7-9pm  
Ministering to the poor and marginalised in the Philippines for close to 30 years, Sr Pat Fox was arrested at her convent in northeast Manila and accused by the Filipino president of taking part in illegal political activities and of speaking out against the government. Join us for her presentation, a response from Bishop Vincent Long, Q&A and light canapes and drinks. LIMITED SEATS - Bookings essential via email at [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

### Adult Confirmation: 1 September

Adult Confirmation 2022 will be held on 1 September 2022 at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day to be held on Saturday 20 August at 9:30am at the Bede Heather Centre (IFM). Adult Confirmation is a community celebration for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist but are yet to receive Confirmation. For more information contact the Office for Worship on 8838 3456 or [anne.stanton@parracatholic.org](mailto:anne.stanton@parracatholic.org).

### View the draft Diocesan synthesis for the Synod of Bishops

From April 19, all are invited to VIEW the online version of the draft synthesis from the Diocese of Parramatta Writing Committee for the Synod of Bishops 2023. Visit <https://parracatholic.org/synod-of-bishops/> and email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) your reflections. The Diocese of Parramatta is a 'listening Church' we invite continued dialogue through both the website and direct email address.

### In the Footsteps of Mary Mackillop

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage commencing in Melbourne on 18 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, ending at Mary Mackillop Place North Sydney, on 29 October 2022. COST Ex Sydney \$3870pp includes airfares, accommodation, coach travel, admission fees and all meals (but not drinks). For further information contact the Aust Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator on 8912 4818 or email [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au)

### Catholic schools across the Diocese are enrolling now!

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta are enrolling now for 2023. To learn more please contact your local Catholic school or visit our website [www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/find-a-school](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/find-a-school).

## 2022 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES AT ST LUKE'S

### First Holy Communion

Preparation dates (6pm – 7pm):  
Wednesday May 25,  
Wednesday, June 1  
Wednesday, June 15  
Sacrament received: Sunday, June 19

### First Reconciliation

Preparation Dates (6pm – 7pm):  
Wednesday, July 20  
Wednesday, July 27  
Wednesday, August 3  
Sacrament received: Wednesday, August 10 or 17 (TBC)

### Confirmation

Preparation Dates:  
Wednesday, October 12, 6-7pm  
Wednesday, October 19, 6-7pm  
Friday, October 21, 7-8.45pm\*  
Wednesday, October 26, 6-7pm  
Sacrament received: Sunday, October 30, 10am Mass  
\* As part of St Luke's Youth Group (Saints in Training).

'Saints-in-Training' youth group will meet



again on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May from 7.00pm-8.30pm in the Marketplace at St Luke's. For more information

email: [saintlukesyg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesyg@gmail.com)



### 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 every second Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

### CONTACT US

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