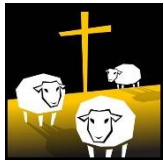




OUR VISION:

“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 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia.

Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats. When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them. The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, ‘We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said: I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.’ It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus, the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside. But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Second Reading

Rv 7:9, 14-17

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, ‘These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they

now stand in front of God’s throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.’

Gospel Acclamation

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Gospel

Jn 10:27-30

Jesus said:

‘The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.’

Gospel Reflection

The passages from the Gospels where Jesus likens us to being sheep leave me a bit cold. I think I must lose something in the translation from first century Palestine to today. Most of the sheep I have ever watched may well be cute, in a woolly sort of way, but they are anxious creatures often running in packs in every direction, are notoriously stupid and difficult to manage or direct. On second thoughts maybe the analogy is not so bad after all! We, the people of God, can certainly be an anxious lot, a bit slow on the uptake and difficult to lead. It also true, however, that sheep are incredibly useful and adaptable animals. Think about all the places they have been taken throughout the world. They thrive. With all due respect to the vegans, vegetarians and animal liberationists, think about the multiple ways they have served humanity. In today’s Gospel Jesus tells us that we follow him, not because we are too dumb to know otherwise, or because we are anxious or fearful of our alternatives, but because we know his voice, we know him, he knows our name. We follow Jesus’ lead for no other reason than throughout our

life we have come to trust him and to rely on the intimacy of our relationship with him. In return he protects us and makes sure no one can steal us from his flock. The possibility of being stolen away from the Christian family is a real one. We know many people who, for a variety of reasons, have left the fold and been seduced into pursuing other leads. Whereas every Sunday we affirm that we cannot find a better way to live than following the Way, the Truth and the Life which is Christ present here and now. No one can suggest it is always easy to follow the Gospel and hang in here with one another. Jesus was never under any illusions about what following his lead may cost, but he underlines how much we need each other to survive in this world. In this Eucharist, then, let’s steal a few moments to experience again the intimate love of the Risen Lord who knows, claims and loves us. May we respond by following his lead by enfolding all our world in our care and welcoming all his children into his flock.

- 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 Joseph Nguyen (10am)

EMERGENCY Ukraine Appeal

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to people in Ukraine.

DONATE TODAY
www.caritas.org.au/ukraine
1800 024 413 toll free

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
Deacon Tony

Positions Vacant:

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 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>

Peace Justice & Ecology Sharing on Zoom: 11 May

Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings are quarterly online gatherings for everyone who is interested in Social Justice, Care for Creation or Global Peace. They are an opportunity to connect, meet like-minded people, find out and discuss what is currently happening in the Peace, Justice & Ecology space. This time, the sharing is also a chance to meet the new Peace, Justice, Ecology Facilitator James. You are invited to join the conversation on Wednesday 11 May, 6:30-8:00pm. To receive a zoom link RSVP MET@parracatholic.org

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.

Springwood East Timor Support Group

Trivia Night Fundraiser: 21 May

The Springwood East Timor Support Group invite you to the 23rd anniversary Trivia Night to aid the Timorese people with

medical and educational initiatives. Join them for an evening of fun on Saturday 21 May 7pm at St Thomas Aquinas School Hall, Springwood. Tickets are \$20 each, payable on entry, for tables of eight to ten. BYO nibbles and drinks. Pre-reservation of your attendance is essential to Dennis Farrar on 0425 209 840.

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.

Good Friday Holy Land Appeal

The St Luke's Catholic Faith Community sent donations to the Good Friday appeal totalling \$2,500! Thank you for supporting the important work being done in the Holy Land.

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 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

Catholic schools across the Diocese are enrolling now!

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta are enrolling now for 2023. To learn more contact your local Catholic school or visit our website 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 13th May from 7.00pm-8.30pm in the Marketplace at St Luke's. For more information

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 every second Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

CONTACT US

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