



**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**

Sir 35:12-14, 16-18

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages. He shows no respect of

personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story. The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted, his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives he is inconsolable nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him, acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement. And the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*The Lord hears the cry of the poor.*

**Second Reading**

2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**Gospel**

Lk 18:9-14

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else, 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not

grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.'

**Reflection: Competitive prayer!**

For the Pharisee, his prayer is a competition. He prays aloud so that others can hear him and be impressed. Perhaps he thinks that God is as impressed as those who look up to him? His prayer is also an opportunity to make himself look good at the expense of another. Certainly, prayer is a time to celebrate with God our triumphs and successes, but above all it is an opportunity to be truly honest with God and with ourselves. The prayer of the tax collector is the most honest of prayers. This honesty is what is impressive; not the competitive showing off. We are told that the tax collector, after his simple prayer, went home 'at rights with God'. What does it mean to be at rights with God? It is nothing more and nothing less than the entire Judeo-Christian story. The story of the Old Testament is the story of God calling the people to live in right relationship with God and with one another. The Gospels are the story of Jesus calling all people to a richer understanding of his compassionate Father so that they may once again be at rights with God. The story continues and it is our constant challenge to be at rights with God also.

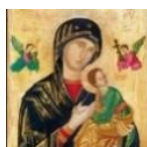
- Greg Sunter



If you have prayer needs, please visit our website:

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

We have a team of prayer warriors ready to pray for your requests.



**Novena to the Mother of Perpetual Help:**

Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Zoom:

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

**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 Celebrant:**

Fr Robert William (Vigil)

Bishop Vincent Long (10am)

**Office for Safeguarding Spring Training Opportunities**

The Office for Safeguarding is offering a range of opportunities to complete your Safeguarding training this spring.

\* Weekly training sessions on Monday 24 and 31 October and Monday 7 November from 10am to 11.30am at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong.

\* Full-day training session on Saturday 29 October from 10am to 3pm at St Matthew's Parish, Windsor. To register for one of these options, please

email [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

**OUR COMMUNITY PRAYER**

O God, you show us in St Luke, our patron, a person of faith who desired all people to come to know and love you in the community of your Church.

Teach us to embrace what St Luke pioneered: discipleship of Jesus Christ.

Trusting in your love and grace and nourished by Word and Sacrament may we grow in our relationship with you and together make our Catholic Faith Community a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Luke, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.

## Positions Vacant

**Project Coordinator (part-time)** – Catholic Youth Parramatta, Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close Monday 7 November.** More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

## Position Vacant – Richmond Parish

Parish Coordinator of Ministries, casual 14hrs/week. Responsible for providing support to the parish clergy, and for developing four key focus areas of ministry: coordination, promotion and recruitment, formation and communication. Please contact the parish office on 45781410 or at [admin@parishofrichmond.org.au](mailto:admin@parishofrichmond.org.au) Applications close Friday 25 Nov 2022.

## Masterclass for Sponsor Married

### Couples: 28 October

The Diocese is looking to more deeply accompany couples preparing to be married. Have you been married for more than 5 years? Committed to living the sacrament of Marriage? Willing to give time limited assistance to couples preparing for marriage? Join us for a Masterclass on Friday 28 October at 7.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Sponsoring engaged couples in your Parish using the SmartLoving Engaged Online program. To book your attendance or to ask further questions, please email [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org) or phone Marisa on (02) 8838 3460.

## Parramatta Marist Bicentennial

### Celebrations: 28 October

Parramatta Marist High School, Westmead, warmly invites all Old Boys and former staff to join them on Friday 28 October at the school from 6.30pm to 11pm to celebrate 200 years of continuous Catholic schooling. Tickets are \$40pp and are available at [www.parramarist.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parramarist.catholic.edu.au)

## MGL Sisters Open Wide – Spirit-Led Discipleship Retreat: 28 – 30 October

Join the MGL Sisters on retreat as we deepen in God's love, receive restoration and be empowered to live life wide open to the Holy Spirit! The retreat will include inputs, the sacraments, prayer times and times for spiritual conversation with others. It's for men and women aged 18+ and is a great chance to rest and restore before the final two months of the year are upon us. More info and register: [www.trybooking.com/BWMKC](http://www.trybooking.com/BWMKC)

## Diocese of Parramatta Wedding

### Anniversary Mass: 30 October

The annual Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 30 October at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral

Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending by 21 October at [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org). Family and friends are welcome.

## Fertility Awareness Online Evening: 3 November

Are you looking for answers to infertility? On Thursday 3 November at 7.30pm, couples are invited to an online Natural Fertility session hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta. Vinetta Lobo, a Certified FertilityCare Practitioner will explain how The Creighton Model FertilityCare System can assess and evaluate your current fertility status and treat infertility. Listen to real couples share their experience. To register, or for more information, please contact Catherine on 0400 427 605 or [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org)

## Marriage Preparation Courses in 2022

Getting married in 2022? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Karin on 0403 305 431 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.



## Join the Catholic Bushwalking Club

The Sydney-based Catholic Bushwalking Club seeking new members to join their club.

Membership is not restricted to Catholics, and is open to all who share an interest in bushwalking and the outdoors.

Membership offers a choice of graded walks for a variety of fitness levels on most weekends, and some on weekdays. To learn more about the Club and to become a member, visit <http://www.cbcnsw.org.au/> or call Adriana on 0478 919 427.



## The Diocese of Parramatta is heading to WYD23 in Lisbon

Bishop Vincent has announced a pilgrimage to the next World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal from July 21 – August 11, 2023. Young people 16-35 and their

families are encouraged to learn more at [www.parrawyd.org](http://www.parrawyd.org). Express your interest in coming to Lisbon today! For all enquiries, contact James Camden, Head of Mission Engagement [james.camden@parracatholic.org](mailto:james.camden@parracatholic.org)

## KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY LETTERS

It is not too late to write a letter or two to men who will hear the message of Jesus Christ during a course in one of our local prisons next month. This is a form of outreach – spreading the Good News of God's love for all and bringing hope to the hopeless.

Some important points to remember:

- \*Each letter must be hand-written
- \*No fancy paper is req, just use white A4.
- \*Do not use any identification other than your first name
- \*Don't mention where you live or where you go to Church
- \*The message must be positive
- \*Do not mention anything about why they are in prison

See a sample letter below. (Don't use these exact words, but similar types of expressions.) It doesn't need to be long; just a paragraph or two of support and encouragement. Place letters in the box on the Welcome table.

## Sample Letter

*Dear Friend,  
What a joy it is for me to write these few words to you. Since learning about God's grace and forgiveness and asking for some of that for myself, I have received so many blessings which have made my life much more worthwhile. I pray that the time you spend with Kairos will be a special time for reflection and that you will also come to know and experience the unending love that God is willing to shower on us. All you have to do is ask for it!  
Your Brother/Sister in Christ,  
(Your First Name)*

To read more about Kairos Prison Ministry, go to: [kairos.org.au](http://kairos.org.au)

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm  
Sunday 10.00am

Baptisms available every second Sunday after Mass. Apply via email.

## CONTACT US

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