



**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 49:3. 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified';

I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations, so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.*

**Second Reading**

1 Cor 1:1-3

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

**Gospel**

Jn 1:29-34

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

**Living the Gospel – Pointing the way**

John the Baptist fills the role of 'pointing the way' to Jesus. In our own lives we also

have the ability to 'point the way' towards Jesus. It doesn't need to be as blatant as John's 'Look, there he is!' However, the way we choose to live our life can point the way just as powerfully as John did. More often than not, our actions speak much more powerfully than any words we might utter. Consistently treating others with respect, maintaining prayer as a central part of life and working for justice in the world will make an impression on others and point the way to Jesus.

- Greg Sunter

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

Fr John Frauenfelder (Vigil)

Fr Joseph Nguyen (10am)



**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 Church Building fund**

BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004307

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park.

Reference: (Your name)



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.



**"Sometimes he says nothing for ten minutes"**

During private meetings, Pope Francis sometimes observes long moments of

silence in order to pray.

It's an observation from someone who is regularly present at Casa Santa Marta, the hotel-like priests' residence inside the Vatican where Pope Francis has been living ever since his election in 2013. Shunning

the Apostolic Palace where many of his predecessors lived, the 86-year-old pope also does most of his work at Santa Marta. He has an office where he writes and reads, and a small parlour where he meets with those he wishes to consult on a particular matter.

The encounters that take place here never appear on the pope's public schedule, unlike the official meetings with bishops, papal nuncios and heads of state that take place every morning in the Apostolic Palace. At Santa Marta, the pope does more listening than talking, and it's during these private conversations that he sometimes remains silent for long stretches at a time. "Sometimes he doesn't say anything for ten minutes," says one of the pope's closest confidants. "He pauses and prays, in front of you, in silence. And then he tells you what he senses from God," the aide continues. These moments of silence are actually part of Francis' decision-making process.

When asked the reason for his actions or words, he often responds in this disarming way: "It's what I sense."

As a Jesuit, the former cardinal-archbishop of Buenos Aires always follows the same method before making a decision: listen, pray and then decide. The moments of silence, even in the midst of meetings with those closest to him, testify to this.

(By Loup Besmond de Senneville, 9 January 2023; with thanks to Catholic Outlook)

**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.



## STATEMENT ON THE DEATH OF CARDINAL GEORGE PELL

From Archbishop

Timothy Costelloe SDB (Source: Catholic News Service/Robert Duncan)  
It was with great sadness that I learned of the unexpected death of Cardinal George Pell in Rome on Tuesday evening (Rome time). Cardinal Pell provided strong and clear leadership within the Catholic Church in Australia, as Archbishop of Melbourne and Archbishop of Sydney and as a member of the Bishops Conference for more than 25 years.

His many strengths were widely recognised, both in Australia and around the world, as his Vatican appointments as Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy and as a member of the Council of Cardinals, an advisory group to Pope Francis, testify. Cardinal Pell's impact on the life of the Church in Australia and around the world will continue to be felt for many years. As we remember him and reflect on his legacy, I invite all Catholics and other people of goodwill to join in praying for Cardinal Pell, a man of deep and abiding faith, and for the repose of his soul." Cardinal Pell passed away in Rome, aged 81.

### Parish of Richmond St Paul's Feast: 21 January

Plans are underway for the Parish of Richmond's 2023 Annual St Paul's Feast. Please save the date and spread the word. More information to come soon. The Parish relies on the hands of many to continue the St Paul's Feast tradition. If you are able to assist in any way, please contact Vicki on 0410 545 783.

### Parramatta Pongal Tamil Harvest Festival: 21 January

The Community Migrant Resource Centre invites you to celebrate the annual Tamil Farmers' Festival (Thai Pongal), signifying the end of the traditional farming season on Saturday 21 January from 11am to 2pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Mass, followed by entertainment and lunch. Entry is free and all are welcome. For enquiries, please contact James Atanasious from the Mission Enhancement Team on 047 873 519.

### Sr Nathalie Becquart Sydney Public Forum and Lecture: 3 February

Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, the Vatican's most influential female, is coming to Australia for a whirlwind tour in February 2023. Sr Nathalie will be in Sydney on Friday 3 February, presenting at a public forum at 4pm and a public lecture at 7pm, both held at St Patrick's Cathedral,

Parramatta. Places are limited; register at via <https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie/>.

### Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass: 11 February 2023

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVP 6 February 2022 to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

### Faith and formation session for Catholic Healthcare professionals: 11 February

You are invited to a faith and formation session for those who work and volunteer in the health care ministries of the Church on Saturday 11 February, from 9am to 10.30am at the All Saints of Africa Centre, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown. Join us afterwards for the World Day of the Sick Mass at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. Please RSVP for catering purposes by 6 February to [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org). For enquiries, please contact [Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org](mailto:Michael.Tan@parracatholic.org)

### Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita: 19 February

You are invited to the Memorial Mass of St Josephine Bakhita, Patron Saint of South Sudan and Sudan, and victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking on Sunday 19 February at 2pm at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. We hope you will join us to commemorate the victims of modern slavery and human trafficking in Australia and worldwide and look forward to celebrating the legacy of St Josephine Bakhita with you.

### Toongabbie Parish Position Vacant

St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie, is advertising for a Sacramental/SRE Coordinator. The successful applicant will be in charge of the Sacramental Program, the Special Religious Education (SRE) Program and provide administrative assistance to the Parish Priest and Parish Secretary. Hours will be 18 hours per weeks worked over 3 days. Please forward applications and resumes to the parish Secretary by 1 February 2023 to [secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au](mailto:secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au)

### Patrician Brothers College Blacktown Enrolment Opportunities

Patrician Brothers College, Blacktown, has a small number of vacancies for Year 7 2023 and is accepting early applications for 2024. Contact the College Enrolment Department

for more information on (02) 8811 0300, email [patricianbros@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:patricianbros@parra.catholic.edu.au) or <https://forms.gle/ANccWVNQBZjQ4pSD6>

### Diocese of Parramatta WYD23 Pilgrimage Registrations Open!

Registration for WYD23 in Lisbon has now opened. Young people aged 16-35 can now view our itinerary, inclusions, indicative pricing, register and pay their \$800 deposit to secure their place. Limited spaces still available to join our team of 170 pilgrims with Bishop Vincent. Visit [www.parrawyd.org](http://www.parrawyd.org)

### Continuing to Build Safe Parishes Together in 2023: An Update from the Office for Safeguarding.

"New Year's Dash" Training Opportunities! Have you had a chance to complete your Safeguarding Training yet?

### Take advantage of these 'New Year' dates in readiness for ministry in 2023:

\*Mary Immaculate Parish – 125 Barnier Drive Quakers Hill (All modules)

Mon 13 Feb: 9.30am - 2.30pm

\*St Aidan's Rooty Hill – 9 Adelaide Street Rooty Hill

Module 1: Thurs 9 Feb (7.00pm-8.00pm)

Module 2: Thurs 16 Feb (7.00pm-8.30pm)

Module 3: Thurs 23 Feb (7.00pm-8.30pm)

Please register for one of these options by emailing:

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

If you would like to complete the training online 'Sign Up' by clicking on this link:

<https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

If you have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement and Education Officer at:

[maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org)

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am

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

### CONTACT US

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