

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

Lv 19:1-2. 17-18

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading

1 Cor 3:16-23

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel

Mt 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked person no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer them the other as well; if someone takes you to law and would have your tunic, let them have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be children of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad people as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest people alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers and sisters, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Living the Gospel – Love your enemy

Jesus tells us that it's easy to love those who love us – anyone can do that. The test of Christian love is to love those who seem unlovable or even seek to make themselves appear unlovable. It's easy to stop saying hello to the person who never returns your greeting. It's easy to avoid the person whose disability makes you uncomfortable. It's easy to hate the person who's nasty to you. But Jesus says that it's these people who we must love. If we are only polite, pleasant and hospitable to our friends then we are failing to follow the footsteps of Jesus.

- Greg Sunter



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)

2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES AT ST LUKE'S

First Holy Communion

Preparation dates (6pm – 7pm):

Wednesday May 10

Wednesday May 17

Wednesday May 24

Sacrament received: June 10 & 11

First Reconciliation

Preparation Dates (6pm – 7pm):

Wednesday August 16

Wednesday August 23

Wednesday August 30

Sacrament received: Wednesday

September 6 (6-8pm)

Confirmation

Preparation Dates:

Wednesday October 4 (6-7pm)

Wednesday October 11 (6-7pm)

Friday October 20 (7-8.45pm*)

Wednesday October 25 (6-7pm)

Sacrament received: Sunday October 29



St Luke's Morning Tea

Join us on 26 February after the 10am Mass for our monthly morning tea gathering. Please feel free to contribute a cake or slice or sandwiches to share with the community.

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr John Frauenfelder (Vigil)

Fr Pat Mullins (10am)

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.



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

Positions Vacant:

-Parish Office Administration Assistant – St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood.

-Policy Coordinator – Diocese of Parramatta

-People and Culture Adviser – Diocese of Parramatta

-Sacramental Coordinator – Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville

Applications close 10pm Monday 20 February.

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment



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Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking

Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Enquiries on 9560 533 or at www.palms.org.au

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.

Glenbrook Parish Shroud of Turin Presentation and Talk: 21 February

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a presentation by local parishioner and former journalist William West on the Shroud of Turin on Tuesday 21 February at 7.30pm. William will discuss the history of the Shroud, which he explores in his book *Riddles of the Shroud – Questions Science Can't Answer*. Entry is via gold coin donation. To RSVP, please contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au

MET Lenten Scripture Reflection Night: 21 February

Looking for a Scripture reflection session on the season of Lent? You and your key

contacts are most welcome to attend the 2023 Diocesan Lenten Scripture Reflection Night with Dr Laurie Woods. Tuesday 21 February – 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Downstairs at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/lent2023>

MET FaithLIFE Scripture Course: Starting 23 February

Want to learn more about the Bible? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on Scripture with Dr Michele Connolly rsj, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Thursdays: 23 February, 2 March and 9 March. Downstairs at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faithlife/>

Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace Indigenous Voice presentation: 23 February

Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace is organising a discussion on the process, significance and need for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the Constitution. The session will be held on Thursday 23 February from 4pm to 6pm at the Sisters of Mercy Congregation Centre, 6 Victoria Road, Parramatta. Entry is free, with parking available in the grounds or in the Cathedral carpark. For enquiries, please contact ccjp@bigpond.com or call (02) 9745 0820.

Glenbrook Parish Lenten Biblical Studies: Starts 28 February

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting Lenten Biblical Studies exploring the Gospel of Matthew and the Crucifixion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Presented by parish priest Fr Joseph Lam, these sessions will be held on 28 February, 7 March and 28 March from 7.30pm at the parish. To RSVP, please contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Clean up Diocese of Parramatta Day: 5 March

Catholic Youth Parramatta and MET – Peace, Justice and Ecology invite you to take action! On Clean Up Australia Day, Sunday 5 March, witness to the call to take care of God's creation. Join or organise a group to clean up a site in your local area. Express your interest today by visiting <https://parracatholic.org/cleanup/>

Evolutionary Spirituality Retreat: 3 – 5 March

The Social Justice group of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills, invite you to an evolutionary spirituality retreat from Friday 3 March at 7pm to Sunday 5 March at 2pm at the Guntawang Environmental Bushland

Retreat at Oakdale. During the weekend there will be times of reflection, dialogue and encounters within natural bushland. Registration is \$95 for the whole weekend. To RSVP, please contact antiphon1@outlook.com or socialjustice@olol7hills.com.au or phone 0429 595 231.

Ordination to the Presbyterate

The Diocese of Parramatta wishes to congratulate Fr Adam Carlow, Fr Matthew Dimian and Fr Jack Elkazzi following their ordination to the priesthood on Thursday 2 February. Visit catholicoutlook.org in the coming week for an article and photographs from the ordination as well as a video introducing the new priests to the Diocese.

Read up on Sr Nathalie Becquart's visit to Australia

The Diocese of Parramatta has created a number of resources, including video, on the Australian visit of Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCI, the most senior woman in the Vatican. Read about her public events across the country, including an interview with veteran journalist Geraldine Doogue, on the 'St Nathalie Becquart' hub on the *Catholic Outlook* website - catholicoutlook.org

Building Safe Parishes Together in 2023:

Have you had a chance to complete your Safeguarding Training yet? 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 at: 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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