

Sunday, 26 February 2023 First Sunday of Lent Year A

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

Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his

nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading

Rom 5:12, 17-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel

Mt 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Have you thought? - An invitation

Lent is a season of invitation. It is an invitation to step into the desert with Jesus; to confront our own purpose and ministry and to renew our trust in God's vision for the world and for us individually. Seen in this light, Lent is so much more than fasting from meat and giving up ice cream for a few weeks. The whole idea of fasting and sacrifice is an attempt to simplify our lives. Through simplifying our life and removing some of the daily distractions, we can share in the desert experience of Jesus and then truly celebrate the hope reborn in the Easter season.

- Greg Sunter

We welcome this week as our Celebrant: Fr Kevin Redmond (Vigil & 10am)

OFFERING TO ST LUKE'S



Scan the QR code and chooseOption 2:

'For your parish's ministry and maintenance'

and select from parish list 'MARSDEN PARK – St Luke's Catholic Faith Community'



<u>St Luke's Church Building fund</u> BSB: 067 950 Account: 0004307

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park. Reference: (Your name)



Novena to the Mother of Perpetual Help: Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Zoom:

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



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



11 March 2023

Our next Bunnings Sausage Sizzle 'Church Building' fundraiser will be on 11th

March 8am-4pm at Bunnings Marsden Park. If you would like to assist, please email us at: <u>marsdenpark@parracatholic.org</u> for a link to the roster.

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.

🖉 Palms Australia



Mission: Change their lives ... and yours 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 5333 or at <u>www.palms.org.au</u>

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 <u>secretary@stfinbars.org.au</u>

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.

Young Adult Faith Formation: 5 March

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 5 March at The Hustle, 4-6 Purdy Rd, Minchinbury, at 7pm. Deacon Tom Green will speak and lead discussion on whether faith contradicts rationality. We encourage all adults 18-35 to come along and enjoy some faith formation and fellowship! Call Mark on 0477 004 678 for more information.

LENTEN CHALLENGE 2023 PRAYFASTSERVE

27 Feb: Pray for a random person; pray for his/her welfare

- 28 Feb: Spend a few minutes Bible reading; pray for enlightenment
- **1 Mar:** Invite a friend to attend Mass with you; pray for him/her
- **2 Mar:** Pray for the victims of calamities; pray for protection
- **3 Mar:** Abstain from gossiping; pray for peace
- 4 Mar: No swearing today; pray for Prudence
- **5 Mar:** Attend Mass and offer it for your Parents and siblings

Glenbrook Christians Ecumenical Meal Sharing: From 5 March

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, invite you to their ecumenical neighbours sharing soup and bread for Lent gatherings with their Baptist and Uniting Church neighbours. Join them for a meal and chat on Sunday 5 March at St Finbar's, Sunday 19 March at Glenbrook Baptist and 2 April at St Andrew's Uniting Church. Donations raised will go to the Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group.

MET Natural Fertility Session: 8 March

Are you looking for help to track your fertility cycle? Come and explore a Natural, Effective, Healthy and Scientific approach to achieve, space/avoid pregnancy or monitor women's health. Engaged and married couples, single women and those wanting to know more about their menstrual cycles are welcome to attend. This Introductory Session will be presented by Vinetta Lobo, accredited Fertility*Care* Practitioner Creighton Model. To register or for more information, contact

catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or 0400 427 605.

MGL Sisters Consecrated Life Discernment Weekend: 25 – 26 March

The Missionaries of God's Love Sisters are creating an opportunity for single women aged 16-35 to come and listen for the voice of Jesus; experience prayer, talks, sisterhood and times of sharing to help you discern your vocation. MGL Sisters' home in Varroville. For more information email mglsisters.sydney@gmail.com

Sr Nathalie Becquart's visit to Australia

The Diocese of Parramatta has created a number of resources, on the Australian visit of Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, the most senior woman in the Vatican. Read about her public events across the country, on the *Catholic Outlook* website - <u>catholicoutlook.org</u>

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

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: <u>https://learning.safeguarding.org.au</u> If you have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email Maria Kervin at: <u>maria.kervin@parracatholic.org</u>

Youth <mark>Group</mark>

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be on Friday 3rd March at 7pm, meeting in the Hub at St Luke's Catholic College. All high school aged students are welcome! For details please email: <u>saintlukesyg@gmail.com</u>

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm Sunday 10.00am

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

CONTACT US

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