



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

Ex 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. ‘Why did you bring us out of

Egypt?’ they said. ‘Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?’ Moses appealed to the Lord. ‘How am I to deal with this people?’ he said. ‘A little more and they will stone me!’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.’ This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, ‘Is the Lord with us, or not?’

Responsorial Psalm

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading

Rom 5:1-2. 5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God’s glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel

Jn 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When

a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink.’ His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?’ – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: ‘If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.’ ‘You have no bucket, sir,’ she answered ‘and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?’ Jesus replied: ‘Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.’ ‘Sir,’ said the woman, ‘give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.’ Jesus said: ‘Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.’ ‘I who am speaking to you,’ said Jesus ‘I am he.’ Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman’s testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, ‘Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.’

Living the Gospel – Personal encounter

The Samaritan woman’s personal encounter with Jesus compels her to start spreading the good news about the amazing man she has met. She meets Jesus face to face and feels compelled to act on what she has felt. Lent is a time for each of us to again – or for the first time – seek out a face to face encounter with Jesus. Through prayer, contemplation on scripture or reflection on encountering Jesus in the face of others, we build a one to one relationship with Jesus. When we acknowledge this relationship, like the Samaritan woman, we are compelled to act on it. - Greg Sunter

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)

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr John Frauenfelder (Vigil)

Fr Joseph Nguyen (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.



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

Palms Australia

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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. Enquiries on 95605333 or at www.palms.org.au

Caritas Australia Turkey and Syria Earthquake Emergency Appeal

Following devastating earthquakes in Türkiye (formerly Turkey) and Syria, Caritas Australia's partners are on the ground as they assess the scale of damage and critical needs. Your donation to Caritas Australia can have a profound and lasting impact on those affected by the Turkey, Syria earthquake. By donating, you will help to provide vital emergency aid and essential items needed during a time of crisis. Visit <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/turkey-and-syria-earthquake/> to show your support.

Greystanes Parish is hiring! Maintenance and Cleaning

Two employment positions at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, are available for 8-10 hours a week, or the possibility of combining both roles. Role 1: Maintenance and improvement works in the buildings and grounds. Role 2: Cleaning and hygiene care for offices, bathrooms and meeting. Role descriptions are available. Please contact Christine on 9631 8135 or parishoffice@olqp.org.au

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

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv formally announces the convocation of a Diocesan Synod

Dear friends in Christ, Not long after my Installation as your pastor, I desired to hold a Diocesan Synod in order to develop a pastoral plan which would follow my predecessor's "Faith in Our Future" and chart a new pathway for the Diocese. However, we had to wait for the long-delayed national Plenary Council to conclude.

Today, after much prayer and consultation, I formally announce the convocation of the Synod in the Diocese of Parramatta. This will be the first Synod in the history of our young Diocese. Like the national and universal synods, ours will be also held in two phases. The first assembly will be held from Thursday 12 to Sunday 15 October 2023 and the final assembly will be held near the middle of next year 2024.

Recognising the fruits of the Plenary Council and in the spirit of synodality, to which you have already contributed so deeply, I invite you to walk with me as we discern further a framework by which we can revitalise our Church in the Diocese and discover together a path of renewal for all of us. I have appointed a Preparatory Commission to lead this process, chaired by Sr Ailsa Mackinnon RSM, Chancellor of Ministries and Qwayne Guevara as the Lead Facilitator.

Pope Francis has called the entire People of God into a journey of listening and discernment, inviting the Holy Spirit to guide us towards personal conversion and renewal in the Church. Pope Francis explains that *'The journey of synodality is the journey that God wants from His church in the third millennium'*.

In preparation towards the Synod, I encourage you to participate in prayer, listening, discernment and local action, guided by the Holy Spirit, as we seek to witness to the Gospel and foster a more welcoming, compassionate, and humble Church. The Diocesan Synod will have a significant impact on the way in which we live out community and mission. The time is now, here in the Diocese of Parramatta, for us to 'go out into the deep' (Luke 5:4) and step into the future that awaits us - one that is inspired by the deep understanding that God's love is not reserved for a few, but for all. Let us accompany one another along this path with firm hope and abiding trust in our God who desires our good, and who dwells among us.

St Mary of the Cross McKillop, pray for us.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

(Most Rev Vincent Long Van Nguyen)

LENTEN CHALLENGE 2023

PRAYFASTSERVE

13 Mar: Give food to the homeless; pray for generosity

14 Mar: Pray for your pastor; pray for vocations

15 Mar: Forgive those who have wronged you; pray for mercy

16 Mar: Attend adoration of the Eucharist; pray for healing

17 Mar: Abstain from bullying; pray for kindness

18 Mar: Stay at home and help out with chores; pray for patience

19 Mar: Attend Mass and offer it for those who are troubled

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

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am

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

CONTACT US

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