

The Ascension of the Lord

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

Acts 1:1-11 In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus

had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Second Reading

Eph 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in

heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel

Mt 28:16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Living the Gospel – You will be my witnesses

A witness in a court of law is called to give evidence about a matter; to 'testify' to the truth of what they have seen or what they know to be true. Some people are very good at being a 'witness' to their faith by testifying to others about what they believe. Many others provide witness to their faith by simply living what they believe. Living a life based on Christian principles, including regular prayer and worship in your life, working for justice in the world and taking time to celebrate the beauty of everyday life is a powerful witness to others.

Greg Sunter



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.

OFFERING FOR ST LUKE'S

To help support the living costs of the clergy and contribute to the operating costs of St Luke's:

BSB: 067 950

Account No: 0004026 Account name: St Luke's Reference: Your name



St Luke's Church Building fund

BSB: 067 950 Account: 00004307

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park.

Reference: (Your name)

We welcome this week as our Celebrant:

Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil) Fr Paul Marshall (10am)

Diocesan Synod 2023 – The Time is Now!



Over the next six weeks, Bishop Vincent is travelling throughout the Diocese listening directly to

people about our Church. Join him to have your say on Saturday 17 June at St Andrew the Apostle Primary School, Marayong. Event starts at 6.30pm with light refreshments. To register for your attendance and to learn more about the Diocesan Synod, visit:

parracatholic.org/synod2023

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.

Community members, Althea Dela Cruz and Bryce Vinensig, will be attending WYD Lisbon this year and are looking for support to assist with their financial costs. You can support them at:

Althea https://gofund.me/06b538b0 Bryce https://gofund.me/2b263c7c

Positions Vacant:

Communications and Digital Manager -Diocese of Parramatta

Communications Assistant - Diocese of Parramatta

Lead Support - Diocesan Synod More details

at: parracatholic.org/employment

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for **Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton**



Will you be the face of Christ for our First Nations people in need? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will support a welcoming place

where Aboriginal people can express their identity, share their culture and knowledge within our community, access practical support and development opportunities, and make social connections.

Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal by scanning the code or at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal Thank you for being a Good Samaritan to our First Nations people.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PENTECOST CELEBRATIONS: 27 May

Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW & Parramatta in celebrating Pentecost 2023 with an uplifting, inspiring encouraging Holy Spirit afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies, Hearing the Word of God, and Prayer Ministry.

Date: Saturday 27th May 23 Venue: Servants of Jesus Centre 15 Park Road Seven Hills

Time: 2pm-5.30pm Enquiries: 9810 2499.

Quakers Hill Parish Bingo Fundraiser: 3 June

Mary Immaculate Parish, Quakers Hill, is hosting a Bingo night fundraiser for our Youth Groups on Saturday 3 June 2023 from 7pm. Bookings now open to secure a seat/table (6 people). We have limited seats so please get in early. Please email the parish office at

parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au

Invitation to Register for free CPR Training: 5 June

You are invited to register for an accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW. The course runs for 2.5 hours and will be presented at the Bishop Bede Heather

Centre Blacktown on Monday 5th June at 4pm. Please contact the Office on 8840 8521 for information on how to register.

Mission: Transform Lives



Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and

knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR

code. For further information: RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.

WEB: www.palms.org.au

Free English and Citizenship Classes

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at its All Saints of Africa Centre, 63 Allawah St, Blacktown. Courses are subsidized by the New South Wales Government. Please register to participate in the program by contacting 0477 952 024. You can also contact Nepean Community College on (02) 4724 9000.

Mary Mackillop Australian Pilgrimage



The Sisters of Saint Joseph offer an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through

Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. For a copy of the itinerary and an application form contact Sr Annie Bond at national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or on 89124818.

Building Safe Parishes Together in 2023 Safe Parishes Week – Safeguarding **Mandatory Training is Due Now!** Are you new to Parish Ministry this year and have not completed your Safeguarding Training? Are you an existing volunteer and have not yet completed your 6 points of mandatory Safeguarding Training?

Under the Children's Guardian Act 2019 and the NSW Child Safe Standards all volunteers in parish ministry are Mandatory Reporters and are required to have completed their Safeguarding Training. In the Diocese of Parramatta, we have zero tolerance of abuse. We therefore commit to keeping children safe as well as all adults at risk. You are now required to register for the Mandatory 6 points of Safeguarding Register for the Mandatory Training during Safe Parishes Week on Friday 9th June 9.30-2.30pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Marion Street, Blacktown.

Please register for this mandatory training at: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org If you would like to complete your 6 points online, 'sign up' NOW at: https://learning.safeguarding.org.au

For more information email: maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.



'Saints in Training' All high school aged students are welcome!

Snacks & drinks will be provided.

When: Friday 2nd June What time: 7pm-8.30pm Where: Marketplace St Luke's RSVP email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com

2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES AT ST LUKE'S

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

SOUL FOOD PODCAST

E52 'How welcome can reconnect people to Church'. Pastoral leaders, Tony & Annette, share stories about their faith life journey. Go to: https://pfparra.org.au/soulfood/

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm Sunday 10.00am

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

Communion to the sick: call the office to arrange a time.

CONTACT US

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

<u>Phone</u>:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Website:

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