

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 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and

do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Second Reading

Rom 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his children. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel

Mt 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!' Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?'

'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy people longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. 'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in their heart: this is the one who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the one who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But they have no root in them, they do not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and they fall away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the one who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so they produce nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it; they are the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

Living the Gospel – Scatter that seed!

The teaching of the parable of the sower is as true for us today as it was in its original context. The word of the kingdom continues to fall on people who are at various stages of readiness to receive it. What Jesus suggests to his disciples – and to us – is that the 'good soil' can't always be predicted. Jesus doesn't tell his disciples to only sow the word in people who are

receptive. Rather, he wants them – and us – to scatter the word everywhere and to rejoice when it does find good soil and yields a rich harvest.

- Greg Sunter

DINNER DANCE FUNDRAISER



Join us for a night of dancing, 3 course Spanish menu with Sangria, Auctions & Prizes!
Theme: Christmas in July
Attire: Semi-formal

When: Saturday 22 July 2023, 7pm-11pm

Where: The Hub St Luke's College

Cost: \$100pp

Contact: 0425 082 607

RSA VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Do you hold a current RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol) Certificate? Are you available to volunteer at the Dinner/Dance? We need you! Please call 0425 082 607



St Luke's Church Building fund

BSB: 067 950

Account: 00004307

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park.

Reference: (Your name)

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

**What's happening at St Luke's
'Calendar of Events'**

22 JUL – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15

22 JUL – Dinner/Dance 7-11pm

28 JUL - Saints in Training Youth Group in the Hub 7-8.30pm

30 JUL – Final date for SYNOD submissions

11 AUG – Saints in Training Youth Group in the Hub 7-8.30pm

16 AUG – First preparation session for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

20 AUG – Community morning tea; enjoy a cuppa and fellowship (bring a plate of food to share)

26 AUG – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil)

Fr Chris de Souza (10am)



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.



'Saints in Training'

All high school aged students are welcome!

Snacks & drinks will be provided.

When: Friday 28th July

What time: 7pm-8.30pm

Where: Marketplace St Luke's

RSVP email: saintlukesyg@gmail.com

Prayer for our Diocesan Synod

O God, who always walks with us on the journey of life, we call upon you to lead us forth united.

Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.

Keep us anchored in your love.

Open our hearts as we listen and discern.

Reveal to us the way we are called to go out into the deep.

Give us the courage to pursue the mission with bold humility.

May we experience renewal in our local Church today,

and for generations to come.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church,

to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and forever. Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Positions Vacant:

Assets and Leasing Manager, Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close 10pm

Wednesday 19 July

Communications and Digital Manager,

Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close 10pm on Thursday 20 July

Details at: parracatholic.org/employment

CRA National Justice Seminar: 26 July

Be inspired, challenged, and uplifted as we approach the referendum on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament.

Hear from Rachel Perkins, Dr Shireen Morris, Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO.

At L18 Tenison Woods House, 8–20 Napier St, North Sydney (9.30am-3.30pm)

CRA Member: \$160 per person

Non-member: \$180 per person

Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho 557 2695

ea@catholicreligious.org.au

Register online by 20 July 2023 at

<https://events.humanitix.com/cra-national-justice-seminar-lift-your-voice>

Catholic Social Services Australia webinar series on The Voice: 27 July

Catholic Social Services invites you to join them for a series of webinars to learn more about the upcoming referendum on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament. Learn from legal, historical and theological experts and hear from Indigenous people about their experiences, hopes and concerns for The Voice referendum. To book tickets, please visit www.trybooking.com/CHXXH

Special Needs Support Group: 30 July

Where: Good Shepherd Church

Address: 136 Hyatts Rd Plumpton

Where children with Special Needs and their families can come together in faith and have an opportunity to share their stories and experiences with each other.

It is also a time for your child to explore the church in a quiet environment and spend time with Jesus. For more information contact Maryrose 0433265579



Get #Active4Vocations in the City2Surf: 13 August

Join the Parramatta Catholic Foundation #Active4Vocations team. Walk, stroll, jog, or run with our Holy Spirit seminarians, deacons, priests, and



community. Scan this QR code or visit tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations to register or donate. Funds

raised support our Diocese's seminarians to become priests.

FaithLIFE – 3 Night Short Course on Synodal Spirituality: Beginning 22 August

Pope Francis has invited the Church to be more 'synodal'. Sign up for the 3-night short course on synodal spirituality with Sr Patty Andrew 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesdays: 22 Aug, 29 Aug + 5 Sep. @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparr.org.au/faithlife/>

Safeguarding Mandatory Modules Face-to-Face Training

The Diocesan Safeguarding team are holding a sessions for all volunteers to complete their Mandatory Safeguarding Modules at St Paul the Apostle Parish, Winston Hills on Sat 22 July (12-4.45pm) safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org or winstonhills@parracatholic.org to register.

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.

2023 SACRAMENTS AT ST LUKE'S

First Reconciliation

Preparation Dates (6pm – 7pm):

Wednesday August 16

Wednesday August 23

Wednesday August 30

Sacrament received: Wednesdays

September 6 & 13(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.

Reconciliation on the fourth Saturday of the month 4.30-5.15pm

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

CONTACT US

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

Phone:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Website:

stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark

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