

**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**

1 Kings 19:9.11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into

the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.*

**Second Reading**

Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers and sisters of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons and daughters, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

**Gospel**

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they

were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

**Living the Gospel – Christian**

What does it mean to describe oneself as a Christian today? A common understanding might be 'one who follows the teachings of Jesus Christ'. Perhaps, based on the understanding of what it meant to be a disciple, we might better describe a Christian as one who learns from the teachings of Jesus and seeks to emulate the work of Jesus. That is, a Christian is someone who models their life on the example of Jesus and is the face of Jesus to others. That's a tougher job description than just turning up to church once a week or putting a bumper sticker on your car.

**Gospel Focus – 'Lord! Save me!'**

The cry of Peter is one that each of us feels the need to cry out at some stage in our life. Jesus trusted Peter's ability to walk to him on the water; otherwise he would not have called Peter to do so. It is Peter who doubts himself. In this moment of realising that he can't do it alone, he calls out to Jesus. One of the enduring images of Jesus is as the one who saves – the Saviour. When the realisation eventually comes to each of us that we can't do it all alone, we need only call on the one who saves.

- Greg Sunter

**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)



**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 25<sup>th</sup> August

**What time:** 7pm-8.30pm

**Where:** Marketplace St Luke's

RSVP email: [saintlukesyg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesyg@gmail.com)

**Become a Liturgical Minister at St Luke's**

If you would like to serve the St Luke's community as a Reader or Eucharistic Minister, the next Liturgical Formation Course in the Diocese begins on 4 September. Enrolment forms are available on the Welcome table. RSVP ASAP!

**We welcome this week as our Celebrant:**

**Fr Joseph Nguyen (Vigil & 10am)**

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

**15 AUG** – Assumption Mass 7pm

**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)

**20 AUG** – Stage 2 School Mass

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

**26 AUG** - Reconciliation 4.30-5.15

### 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.*

### Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod

All are invited to pray a Nine-Week Novena for the Diocesan Synod. The Novena will begin the week of Sunday 13 August and conclude the week of Sunday 8 October in the lead-up to the Synod Assembly: Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October. You are invited to pray once a week as a parish community, with your family, ministry groups or during personal prayer. More information: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

### Join our 11th Annual Assumption Walk from Kellyville to Parramatta Cathedral

On Tuesday 15 August there will be Mass at 11.30am at the Shrine of the Holy Innocents followed at 1pm sharp with a 14km walk to Parramatta Cathedral. There will be two stops along the way for refreshments: 2.30pm at St. Michael's, Baulkham Hills; and 4.30pm at St. Monica's, North Parramatta. Arrival at the Cathedral for prayer and readings will be at approximately 6pm. Banners and statues are welcome. You may join the Walk at any point or time of the day. Please register your interest with the parish office for catering purposes (9629-2595).

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

Pope Francis has invited the Church to be more 'synodal'. But what does that mean as an expression of Christian spirituality? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on synodal spirituality with Sr Patty Andrew, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 22 Aug + 29 Aug + 5 Sep. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faithlife/>

### MET Marriage Retrouvaille Program

#### Information Session: 25 August

The Diocese of Parramatta aims to offer the Retrouvaille program for couples who are having difficulties in their marriage. We are looking for married couples who are committed to helping others heal their marriage relationships. You will be trained to facilitate this program. An information evening will be held on 25 August at 7.30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Contact Karin on (02) 8838 3460 or register at [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org)

#### Castle Hill Parish 'An Evening of Sacred Music': 25 August

St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill, will be hosting an evening of Sacred Music on Friday 25 August at 7:30pm. The event will be a night of performances by choirs, music groups and soloists from around the Diocese, performing a selection of hymns and choral music. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at <https://www.trybooking.com/CJJSJSM>. Entry includes light refreshments during intermission. For more information, please contact the parish office on (02) 9634 2622 or email [admin@stbernadette.org.au](mailto:admin@stbernadette.org.au)

#### St Marys Parish Don Bosco Relic Visit: 23 – 27 August

The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as Don Bosco, will be visiting Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians on Australian soil. There will be opportunities to venerate the relic and celebrate Mass, Adoration and Confessions throughout the week. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9623 1962 or email [secretaryolrchurch@inet.net.au](mailto:secretaryolrchurch@inet.net.au)

#### Nominations open for Papal, Civil and Diocesan Awards

From today until Thursday 7 September 2023, you can nominate an outstanding individual who has contributed to the Catholic Church and society for a Papal Honours Award, Civil Award or Diocesan Award. Visit [parracatholic.org/awards](http://parracatholic.org/awards). The Awards Ceremony will be held in November. More details to come.

#### Are you interested in bringing the Gospel message to prisoners and their families?

Kairos Prison Ministry is hosting an information session on Saturday 16th September at 2.30pm–4.30pm at Blacktown Uniting Church, 59 Bungarribee Road, Blacktown. Come and hear how you can join other Christians in dramatically changing lives. RSVP to [kidillwyniasec@kairos.org.au](mailto:kidillwyniasec@kairos.org.au) or phone Yvonne on 0419 284 128

### 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

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Deacon Tony Hoban

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