

**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**

Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

**Second Reading**

Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

**Gospel**

Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict

orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

**Have you thought? What's in a name?**

On many occasions in the Bible a character is given, or takes on, a new name when they take on a new role or move to a new level in their faith and relationship with God. Abram became Abraham; Sarai became Sarah; Jacob became Israel; and Saul became Paul. In all of these circumstances the person took on a new name to reflect their new relationship with God. This tradition has continued right to this day. Men and women entering religious life have traditionally taken on a new name to indicate the new life they are entering. When Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger became pope he took on the name Benedict to indicate the new role and the new life he was beginning.

**Living the Gospel ... Who do YOU say I am?**

The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads to missing the point of all that Jesus is.

- 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)

**We welcome this week as our Celebrant:**  
**Fr Kevin Redmond (Vigil & 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 8<sup>th</sup> September

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

**Where:** Marketplace St Luke's

RSVP email: [saintlukesvg@gmail.com](mailto:saintlukesvg@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!



**Red Carpet Freedom**  
presents  
**Brian Loring**  
**The Best Of** concert  
With the **B.L. Big Band**

Sunday, October 29, 2023  
Door Opens 5:30 PM for 8 PM Show  
Blacktown Workers Club  
55 Campbell St. Blacktown

Ticket General Seating \$55  
(including GST)  
Show only

Contact:  
Weng 0415 151 359  
Brian 0411 083 325

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

**4 SEP** – Liturgical Ministry formation course

**8 SEP** – Saints in Training Youth Group in the Hub 7-8.30pm

**17 SEP** – Community morning tea, stay after Mass for a cuppa; bring a plate of food to share

## 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.

## 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.

## Bishop's Father's Day Appeal: Caring for those who have cared for us



Our priests never stop giving their lives in service to our community. They dedicate themselves to carrying out

God's ministry for as long as they are able. This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. Your compassionate donation will help our Clergy Support Foundation to care for our priests, and provide them with personalised health and wellbeing support. Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal at [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) or scan this QR code. Thank you.

## World Day of Migrant and Refugees celebration

You're warmly invited to a family-friendly event with Bishop Vincent and our migrant communities for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees on Saturday 16 September, 2pm – 5.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills. Come hear stories, enjoy free entertainment and activities. RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-world-day-of-refugees-and-migrants-tickets-675662363317?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

## Parish of Richmond St Monica's Spring Fair: 16 September

All are invited to celebrate the St Monica's Spring Fair on Saturday 16 September at 32

Francis Street, Richmond. Enjoy a delightful day with kids and family, featuring an array of entertaining activities. Indulge in exciting games, delicious treats, captivating performances, and more! Mark your calendars for this joyous community event that promises laughter and memories for all. See you there!

## Arise Women's Retreat: 16 September

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting a day of reflection, inspiration and encounter with Christ at this year's Arise Women's Retreat: 'Arise – Talitha Koum – Little girl, I say ARISE' on Saturday 16 September from 8.30am to 8.30pm. The retreat will include Mass, meditation, talks, praise and worship, creative expression, spiritual direction and healing Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. All meals are included. For bookings and more information, visit <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1078404>

## 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

## MET Natural Fertility: Instruction for Couples

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is for couples wanting to achieve and avoid pregnancy. It is suitable for couples at all stages of life, enhances communication and involves shared responsibility.

If you are: preparing for marriage, expecting a baby soon or breastfeeding, looking for an effective, natural option and wanting to cease contraception, or peri menopausal then NFP is for you! For more information or to book an appointment, contact Catherine on 0400 427 605 or [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org)

## Free English and Citizenship Classes

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 2pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

## 2023 SACRAMENTS AT ST LUKE'S

**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



## Newly baptised

Please pray for Liora Fernando, Leah Froio and Sienna Borden who were newly baptised in our faith community, that they will carry on the mission of Jesus throughout their lives. We also pray for their families and Godparents who will support them on their journey.

## Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

Renewal Mandatory Safeguarding Training (Module 5: Legal Compliance – Risk of Significant Harm & Mandatory Reporting): **Tuesday 29 August** at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes from 10am to 11.30am  
Mandatory Modules 1-3: **Saturday 28 October** at St Canice's Church, Katoomba from 10am-3pm.  
(Renewal Modules will soon be available on our online training platform.)  
Please register for these face-to-face renewal modules at: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org).  
For further information please contact Maria Kervin at: [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org)

## 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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