



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 45:1.4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that all people may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

Responsorial Psalm

Give the Lord glory and honour.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika, which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers and sisters, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, ‘Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man’s rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?’ But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, ‘You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you

pay the tax with.’ They handed him a denarius, and he said, ‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they replied. He then said to them, ‘Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.’

Gospel Reflection

The gospel writer presents this episode as a deliberate attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus and turn the people against him. Their plan was a good one, with no apparent ‘safe’ answer: is it permissible (within Jewish tradition) to pay taxes to Caesar or not? If Jesus were to answer that it is not permissible to pay taxes then he would be identified as a rebel and a threat to Roman authority – leaving himself open to severe punishment. If he were to answer that it was permissible to pay the taxes he would have alienated a lot of his audience who resented the taxes imposed by Rome. Instead of falling into the trap set by the Pharisees, Jesus approaches the question in a completely different way. He asks them to show him the money with which they pay the tax. Immediately, he has turned the tables on them. He doesn’t appear to carry any of the coin in question and yet the Pharisees’ disciples carry them as a matter of habit. They are asking if it is permissible to pay the tax and yet freely carry the coin with which the tax is paid. Jesus shows up the hypocrisy of their question by forcing them to reveal their own position in the simple action of producing one of the Roman coins. Jesus then closes the dispute by instructing them to render (give) to Caesar what belongs to Caesar but, more importantly, render to God what belongs to God. In a very simple way Jesus has shown up the Pharisees’ disciples as being collaborators with the Roman authority and placing that authority above the authority of God. He reminds the listeners that regardless of earthly authority, the first duty is owed to God.

- Greg Sunter



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 the operating costs of St Luke’s:
BSB: 067 950
Account No: 0004026
Account name: St Luke’s
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.

We welcome this week as our celebrant:

Fr Kevin Medilo (Vigil & 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.

What’s happening at St Luke’s ‘Calendar of Events’

21 OCT – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm

2 NOV – All Souls Mass 7pm

3 NOV – Saints in Training Youth Group in the Hub 7-8.30pm

12 NOV – Stage 3 School Mass

25 NOV – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm

26 NOV – Community morning tea

Positions Vacant:

Communications Manager – Diocese of Parramatta – **Applications close 10pm on Wednesday 1 November 2023.**

Details at: parracatholic.org/employment

Glenbrook Parish Biblical and Theological Lecture Series: 24 October

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, invite you to the next session of their Biblical and Theological Lecture Series on Tuesday 24 October from 7.30pm at the parish hall, 52 Levy Street, Glenbrook. Dr Debra Snoddy, lecturer in Biblical Studies at the Catholic Institute of Sydney, will be presenting on women in the bible. Cost of entry is a donation. To RSVP, please contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Pastoral Ministry Network Alive in the Spirit Conference: 25 October

The Pastoral Ministry Network (PMN) invites you to the Alive in the Spirit Conference on Wednesday 25 October from 10am to 4pm at Hornsby RSL. Discover and celebrate how our Australian faith communities creatively live out God's mission, to inspire and grow participation and community through 2 keynote addresses and 10 interactive workshops. Tickets are \$99 for PMN members and \$149 for non-members. Book now via <https://www.trybooking.com/CLCTP>. For enquiries email info@aliveinthepirit.com.au

Donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal

Following a series of surprise attacks against Israel by Hamas in early October, Caritas Australia is supporting partner agencies on the ground to provide emergency cash, shelter, and psychosocial support to those affected by the violence. The efforts of these partner agencies are expected to support 17,000 displaced families, representing around 100,000 of the 1 million people displaced. To support Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/ or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

Risen Lord Community Healing Service: 27 October

The Risen Lord Community is holding a healing service on Friday 27 October from 7.30pm at St John XXIII Catholic College, Stanhope Gardens. The service will be led by Br Lalith Perera. For more information, please contact the community on 0425 840 362 visit www.risenlordcommunity.com.au

Risen Lord Community Transform in Christ Retreat: 28 October

The Risen Lord Community Sydney presents the 'Transform in Christ' Spiritual Retreat



on Saturday 28 October from 9.30-4.30pm at the Servants of Jesus Community, 15 Park Road, Seven Hills. Food trucks will be available to buy your lunch, with free tea and coffee during breaks. To register visit <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1124910>. For more information, please contact the community on 0425 840 362 visit www.risenlordcommunity.com.au

Diocese of Parramatta Wedding

Anniversary Mass: 29 October

The annual Diocese of Parramatta Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday 29 October at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Solemn Mass, followed by a light lunch at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register at marriage@parracatholic.org or phone 8838 3460 by 20 October. Family and friends are welcome.

Table Talk with People Seeking Asylum: 8 November

St Patrick Cathedral Parish, Parramatta, Jesuit Refugees Service and the Diocese of Parramatta are organising a Table Talk event with people seeking asylum on Wednesday 8 November from 7pm to 9pm at the Cathedral Hall. We will hear from people with lived experience, reflect on our own values and see how we can be part of a positive change. To register, visit <https://events.humanitix.com/talk-talk-with-people-seeking-asylum>

Bishop Vincent presents Christopher White: 9 November

Vatican correspondent and Pope Francis expert, Christopher White, is coming to the Diocese of Parramatta as part of the 'Bishop Vincent Presents' series. His public lecture "Will our faith have children? Reflections on the health and dynamism of global Catholicism after the October 2023 Synod on Synodality" will be held in Parramatta on Thursday 9 November at Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta from 6pm. Register at <https://parracatholic.org/christopherwhite/>

Kairos Prison Ministry for Women

Weekend: 10 – 12 November

This support group is for women who have family members serving a prison sentence. This is a safe space where women can meet and share with others their challenges. The next weekend is on 10-12 November. If you would like more information, please contact your parish team.

Parramatta Street Feast: 11 November

You are invited to the Parramatta Street Feast, Saturday 11 November 2023. Come and share a meal, company and entertainment with members of our community who are on the margins of society. This free event will be held in a spirit of solidarity and friendship at the Cloister Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, 10:30AM to 1:30PM. The Street Feast is a collaboration between the Diocese of Parramatta, PAYCE Foundation, Paynter Dixon and St. Merkorious Charity.

125th Anniversary Cathedral Organ

Concert: 12 November

St Patrick's Cathedral Organists, Choir and Guest Performers will present an array of performances at a Gala Concert to celebrate the 125th anniversary of St Patrick's Cathedral Organ. The Concert will be held on Sunday 12 November from 3pm at St Patrick's Cathedral. Tickets can be purchased via this link <https://www.trybooking.com/CLUFN> or at the door. For more information, contact hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org

Carols: 8 December 5.30-7.30pm



Our St Luke's 2023 Christmas Carols will be held on 8 December. It will be a joint event with St Luke's Catholic

College. Sing along to your favourite Carols, grab a sausage sandwich, and say hello to Santa. Once again we will be offering a raffle with \$1,000 cash as the first prize. Further details to follow.

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

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 4045, Elara Village, MARSDEN PARK NSW 2765