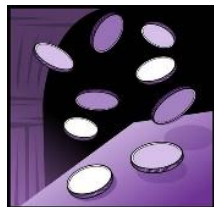


OUR VISION:

"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

Exodus 20:1-3. 7-8. 12-17
God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of

the house of slavery.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the one who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's

house. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel

John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers,

'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about anyone; he could tell what a person had in them.

Gospel Reflection

This episode of outrage in the Temple is recorded in all four of the Gospels. Interestingly, the three synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke place the event in the final days leading to Passion events while the Gospel of John places the event in the very early days of Jesus' public ministry. While the three synoptics are likely to be more chronologically correct, the Gospel of John uses the event very deliberately to make the point that Jesus is the new Temple – the new focus of God's presence in the world; the Word made flesh.

This gospel passage must be one of the most commonly misused passages in the Bible. So often it is used as justification for someone losing their temper, or worse, an outrageous temper tantrum, or 'dummy spit'. People will declare in their defence, 'Well, Jesus lost his temper and got angry in the Temple!' They fail to appreciate the difference between their own hot-headedness and the outrage against injustice that was being expressed by Jesus. They also seem to miss the significance of the fact that this was a 'one off' for Jesus!

- Greg Sunter

OFFERING TO ST LUKE'S



Scan the QR code and choose Option 2:

'For your parish's ministry and maintenance'

and select from parish list **'MARSDEN PARK – St Luke's Catholic Faith Community'**



St Luke's Church Building fund

BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004307

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park.

Reference: (Your name)



If you have prayer needs, please visit our website:

<https://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au/>

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil)

Fr Joseph Nguyen (10am)

Youth Group

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be on Friday 8th March at 7pm, meeting at St Luke's Catholic College. All high school aged students are welcome!

For details please email:

saintlukesyg@gmail.com

LENTEN CHALLENGE 2024

REFLECT REPENT RESTORE

2 Mar: Fast from screens

3 Mar: Get up 15 min early and pray in silence

4 Mar: Pray for those in prison

5 Mar: Pray for help and the willingness to receive it

6 Mar: Pray for the children of St Luke's

7 Mar: Pray for peace in the world

8 Mar: Fast from breakfast and lunch

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

8 MAR – Saints in Training youth group 7-8.30pm

8 MAR – Stations of the Cross 7pm

24 MAR – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm

28 MAR – Holy Thursday Mass 7.00pm

29 MAR – Stations of the Cross 10am

29 MAR – Good Friday 3pm

30 MAR – Easter Vigil 7.00pm

31 MAR – Easter Sunday 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.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.

Positions Vacant:

Parish Cook (part-time) - St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta – **Applications close 4 March**

Administration Assistant (part-time) - Sacred Heart Parish, Mt Druitt South and Permanent Diaconate community – **Applications close 10pm Monday 11 March**

More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/



St Luke's NRL Tipping Competition

We are excited to announce our very first St Luke's

sporting activity, our NRL Footy tipping competition. No matter whether you support a team or not, try your luck at picking the winners each week. Entry is \$50 and \$10 of each fee will go towards our future permanent church building fund. The remainder of the fees will be split 50% to the winner, 30% to 2nd place and 20% to 3rd place. The comp will run for 6 months - from March 3 to Sept 8 (the end of round 27). If you would like to sign up, please fill in your details at the tipping table after Mass or text/call Joe from our fundraising team on 0405 125 095 before the 1st round on the 3rd March to enter. Joe will advise further details to those who sign up.

Glenbrook Parish Lenten Biblical Studies: 12 and 19 March

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, is hosting two Biblical Studies sessions on the Passion of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark on Tuesday 12 and 19 March at the parish hall from 7.30pm. Parish Priest Fr Joseph Lam OSA will lead the sessions. To RSVP and for more information, please contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au

Filipino Chaplaincy Feast of St Joseph

Celebrations: 16 March

The Filipino Chaplaincy of the Diocese of Parramatta invites you to join Holy Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph, the Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on Saturday 16 March at 10:30AM at St Patrick's Church, Blacktown. There will be Novena Masses in preparation for the Feast from March 6 to 14 at 7:30PM (except Mar 6 and 13 at 8:00PM) at St Michael's Church, Blacktown South.



Diocesan Lent & Holy Week Scripture Reflection Evening: 20 March

Looking for a way to reflect on your experience of Lent as we enter Holy Week? Interested in praying with the Scripture readings for Holy Week? Register for the Diocesan Lent & Holy Week Scripture Reflection Evening Wednesday 20 March 2024 – 6:30PM to 8:30pm. RSVP via QR or at met@parracatholic.org



Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**. You can also donate by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Hands & Feet is a Christian organisation that runs Christian Disability Camps, with the intention of giving our campers an amazing week away while also showing them Christ's love in a very real way. We run our camps with teams of volunteers from churches around Sydney and NSW. No experience required, just a servant heart. These camps are an amazing opportunity to show love to a group of people that are often ignored and overlooked in society. We run 4 camps each year in NSW. If you have a passion for this ministry and would like to get involved in any of these camps, you can contact our NDIS Coordinator at Reuben@handsandfeet.com.au or check out the Hands & Feet website.



Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia is supporting 150 families a week, and the demand for help keeps growing. To help keep everyone fed, we are asking the St Luke's community to donate one item a week during Lent:

Give to the Diocesan Food Drive

6 weeks of Lent – give 6 things to JRS

1st Sun of Lent 18 Feb: Basmati rice

2nd Sun of Lent 25 Feb: Cooking oil

3rd Sun of Lent 3 Mar: Dried red lentils

4th Sun of Lent 10 Mar: Dishwashing liquid

5th Sun of Lent 17 Mar: Laundry detergent

Palm Sunday 24 Mar: Long life milk

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2024

First Holy Communion

(For children who have already been Baptised and made their First Reconciliation in 2023 or earlier). Parents to attend each session. Preparation dates (6pm – 7pm): Prep 1 - Wednesday, May 15
Prep 2 - Wednesday, May 22
Prep 3 - Wednesday, May 29
Sacrament received: Saturday, June 1 (5.30pm) and Sunday, June 2 (10am)

First Reconciliation

(For children who are already Baptised and aged 7 or above). Parents to attend each session. Preparation Dates (6pm – 7pm): Prep 1 - Wednesday, August 7
Prep 2 - Wednesday, August 21
Prep 3 - Wednesday, August 28
Sacrament received: TBC but most likely Wednesday, September 4 (6pm to 8pm)

Confirmation

(For children who are Baptised, have made their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and are in Year 6 or above.) Parents to attend each session except Fri October 20. Preparation Dates: Prep 1 - Wed, Sept 18, 6pm – 7pm
Prep 2 - Wed, October 16, 6pm – 7pm
Prep 3 - Fri, October 18, 7pm to 8.45pm (*as part of St Luke's Youth Group)
Prep 4 - Wed, October 23, 6pm – 7pm.
Sacrament received: Sunday October 27, 11.15am Mass.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am

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

CONTACT US

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