

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

Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43
Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have

heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Gospel

John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So, Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Gospel Reflection

Reflecting on Easter, Pope Francis highlights the importance of 'walking away from the tomb.' Once found, faith must be lived. As Saint Peter said, 'we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people.' Easter is, in a sense, the starting point of our Christian responsibilities.

Living the Easter mystery means becoming a joyful Easter people.

We must, therefore, be open to action and change. We cannot become stuck in our ways, crippled by doubt, despair or habit. As Pope Francis says, Easter shows us that 'it is always possible to begin anew, because there is always a new life that God can awaken in us in spite of all our failures.' The annual celebration of Easter reminds us that what we celebrate is present here and now. Ours is a living faith. As the Pope adds, 'faith is not an album of past memories; Jesus is not outdated. He is alive here and now.' Easter is a celebration of the mystery that Jesus is present. He is here, in both the needy of the world and through the actions of His followers.

So, having celebrated the mystery, we are sent forth to live it. 'Having made himself present in the heart of our world,' the Pope points out, Jesus 'invites us to overcome barriers, banish prejudices and draw near to those around us every day in order to rediscover the grace of everyday life.'

- Nick Brodie

Get updates on St Luke's news and events



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OFFERING TO ST LUKE'S



Scan the QR code and choose Option 2:

'For your parish's ministry and maintenance'

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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 Joseph Nguyen (Easter Vigil)

Fr Kevin Redmond (Easter Sunday)

Youth Group

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be on Friday 5th April at 7pm, meeting at St Luke's Catholic College. All high school aged students are welcome!

For details please email:

saintlukesyg@gmail.com

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

7 APR – 6th Birthday celebration;

Community morning tea

27 APR - Reconciliation

Easter | Autumn 2024 Catholic Outlook Magazine out now!

The Easter | Autumn 2024 edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is out now! This edition invites us to practice silence, deepen our interior lives and pray for a Gospel change of heart, plus so much more. Pick up your free copy from the Welcome Table after Mass today or read it online via catholicoutlook.org/magazine

Glenbrook Parish Roof Restoration

Fundraising Concert: 14 April

St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook, invite you to a fundraising concert with the Sydney Male Choir on Sunday 14 April at 2pm in the parish church. Come and enjoy the music and at the same time, support the restoration of the Church roof, with \$5 going to St Finbar's Roof Restoration Fund for every ticket sold. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at the door or online at www.sydneymalechoir.com



MET FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: from 16 April

Considering learning about theology? Wanting to expand your language for expressing your faith? Seeking ways to deepen the way you put your faith into practice? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Dr John Collins on Tuesdays 16 + 23 + 30 April! Registration and more dates and details via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

Youth Mass 'Round the Diocese: 21 April

Looking for some young adults to worship with? Wondering what goes on around our Diocese? Mass 'Round the Diocese' is just that! Our young people are visiting different churches around for Mass and fellowship. The next Mass will be at The Good Shepherd Parish, Plumpton, on Sunday 21 April for 6pm Mass. For more information, please contact Sr Christine Ramada CSFN on csfn.cristina@gmail.com

Deacon Tony's Easter message:

Dear sisters and brothers in faith. For me, it is hard to believe that next weekend will mark 6 years since we started worshipping as a faith community here in Marsden Park.

Some of you have been part of the St Luke's family since the beginning, others are much more recent arrivals.

But whether you are new or one of our early pioneers, it is wonderful that you are part of this vibrant, growing and faith-filled Catholic community.

I have had the privilege of seeing us grow from a community with about 150 people attending one Sunday Mass, to a community of more than 600 people attending two Masses each weekend. So, next weekend we will honour who we are as a faith community: an authentic Catholic community but one which has adapted some of our practices to suit the youthful, culturally diverse community that we are.

We will hear next weekend from Gari, the Chair of our Pastoral Council, about the pastoral plan that the Council has been developing for the future of St Luke's.

Like all good plans, this one has been informed by the perspectives of the people. You may recall several surveys we did in recent years – the Church Life Survey and then a follow-up survey to get more specific ideas and suggestions.

We also got input from you as part of the lead up to our Diocesan Synod last year. So, we have a lot of compiled data about your thoughts.

The plan is the first stage of synthesizing these numerous perspectives into key themes that should guide us as we move into the next stage of our development as a faith community.

As we grow and mature as a worshipping community, we will need more people to step up if we are to take on more activities to allow us to fully express the potential we have as a community of Christ's disciples. Please pray about what role you might play. Around the middle of this year, we will seek some new people to come onto our pastoral council. Please talk to me or an existing council member if you would like to explore this further.

We also have a need for people to bring the message of Jesus to children in our public primary school – and soon we will also need people to go to the new local public high school.

And, as our community continues to grow, we are in need of more people to volunteer for children's liturgy on Sunday mornings during school terms.

In the meantime, we bask in the grace and gifts of Easter. The event that changed the world.

The event that shocked the world. The event whose shock waves still reverberate around the world, almost 2000 years later.

May the fullness of Easter blessings - the blessings of new life through the Resurrection of Jesus, be realized in your life, in your family, in your school or workplace and in our world in 2024 and beyond.

- Deacon Tony
Pastoral Director

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 27 April at Our Lady of the Way Parish, Emu Plains, for Modules 4 and 5. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

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

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.



You are invited!

Sydney Catholic Singles meetup group. **ALL AGES WELCOME!**

To join the group, search 'Sydney Catholic Singles' on Meetup.com

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am

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

CONTACT US

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