

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 3:13-15. 17-19

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses. 'Now I know, brothers and sisters, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, let your face shine on us.

Second Reading

1 John 2:1-5

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

Gospel

Luke 24:35-48

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones

as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes. Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

Gospel Reflection

Reflecting on this Gospel passage, Pope Francis draws our attention to the three key verbs: look, touch, and eat.

'To look is not only to see,' the Pope points out, adding that 'it is more; it also involves intention, will.' When Jesus asks the disciples to look at his hands and feet, therefore, he is not only offering visual proof of identity. Rather, Jesus is inviting his disciples to look at his wounded limbs as 'a first step against indifference, against the temptation to look the other way before the difficulties and sufferings of others.' Jesus' wounds are still present for those with the courage to look at them. Similarly, Jesus' invitation to the disciples to confirm his presence by touch has a teaching element too. 'By inviting the disciples to touch him,' the Pope suggests, 'Jesus indicates to them and to us that the relationship with him and with our brothers and sisters cannot remain "at a distance".' Having seen the wounds, we must be close to the wounded.

Finally, by eating with his disciples Jesus again did more than prove he was physically present at that specific moment. As the Pope points out, 'eating, when we do so together, among family or friends ... becomes an expression of love, and expression of communion.' Once again, the Gospel suggests Jesus' action had a deeper meaning about Jesus'

continuing presence among his followers. As St Augustine said of the Eucharist, we become what we consume, which means something truly amazing: The Risen Jesus still eats with us!

- Nick Brodie

Get updates on St Luke's news and events



If you are currently not receiving our weekly email update, please scan this QR code and fill in your details.

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)



Newly baptised

Please pray for Scarlet Fisher who was newly baptised this week in our faith community, that she will carry on the mission of Jesus throughout her life. We also pray for her family and Godparents who will support her on the journey.

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

27 APR – Reconciliation

5 MAY – New community member event

12 MAY – Mother's Day

19 MAY – Pentecost morning tea

25 MAY - Reconciliation

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.

Glenbrook Parish Roof Restoration Fundraising Concert: 14 April

St Finbar's Parish invite you to a fundraising concert of 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 \$35 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

Girls Day Out at the Shrine: 17 & 18 April

Option 1: Wed 17th April (14-17 years)
Option 2: Thurs 18th April (11-13 years)
Mount Schoenstatt Shrine
230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa
Cost: \$22 (includes lunch) 9.30am-4pm
Contact Sr M Rita Baysari for further details on 0493026628

Schoenstatt Men Reflection Day: 20 April

Men of all ages are invited to a reflection day hosted by the Schoenstatt Men at the Mt Schoenstatt Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, on Saturday 20 April from 9am to 4pm. The day includes Mass and Reconciliation and a talk from Fr Pawel OP from St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood. Registration is \$25 with BYO lunch. For more information or to register, scan the QR code or contact Jim on 0432 487 927 or email mensbranch@schoenstatt.org.au

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

Voluntary Assisted Dying healthcare workshop: 4 May

The Diocese of Parramatta is organising a free healthcare workshop to explore the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Voluntary Assisted Dying statement: "To Witness and to Accompany with Christian Hope" on Saturday 4 May at the St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta, from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Lunch will be provided. To register at met@parracatholic.org. For enquires, please contact Deacon Michael Tan on michael.tan@parracatholic.org

Pentecost Eve Anointing: 18 May

Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW in celebrating Pentecost Eve "Anointing" on Saturday 18th May at Servants of Jesus Centre 15 Park Road Seven Hills for an afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies and Prayer Ministry from 4-7pm hosted by youth from different streams. Booking is essential, register at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CPMXQ?qr=true>

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. Register at:

<https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>

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

Adult Faith Formation opportunities 2024

Looking to learn more about the Bible, spirituality, theology, or practical skills for ministry? View a copy of the 2024 adult faith formation calendar (link: <https://shorturl.at/grLV3>) OR get in touch with the team to learn about more formation opportunities via met@parracatholic.org

You are invited!

Sydney Catholic Singles meetup group. **ALL AGES WELCOME!**
To join the group, search 'Sydney Catholic Singles' on Meetup.com



BLOCK ROSARY

Welcome the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to your home and pray the Holy Rosary every day for your intentions and the intentions of our community and the Holy Father. Bring home the statue after the Sunday 10am mass and return 10 minutes before the Saturday 5:30pm mass. Register your interest on the roster next to the tap device.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2024

First Holy Communion

(For children who have 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 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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