



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

Ezekiel 17:22-24

The Lord says this:

‘From the top of the cedar,

from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.’

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.’

He also said, ‘What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.’ Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not

speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

Gospel Reflection

In today’s Gospel, Pope Francis reminds us, Jesus ‘teaches us that even everyday things ... are inhabited by God’s hidden presence.’ This should encourage us. As the Pope suggests, ‘with this parable Jesus wants to instil us with confidence.’ We can trust that God is still mysteriously at work building His Kingdom. After all, the Kingdom of God is already growing – even if we do not readily see it. ‘At times,’ the Pope says, ‘the din of the world, along with the many activities that fill our days, prevent us from stopping and seeing how the Lord is conducting history.’

‘The Gospel asks us to take a fresh look at ourselves and at reality,’ the Pope says. He adds that ‘it asks us to have bigger eyes, that are able to see further, especially beyond appearances, in order to discover the presence of God who as humble love is always at work in the soil of our life and that of history.’

We should, therefore, be open to seeing God at work in the smallest of places. But we are also called to be more than passive spectators. Jesus wants us to become cultivators of the Kingdom. While the mysterious growth of the Kingdom is the work of God, we all have a part to play in God’s plan. ‘It is up to us to sow,’ the Pope points out, ‘and to sow with love, with dedication and with patience.’

- 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.



AN ALTERNATIVE TO OUR TAP DEVICES

You can now avoid the queues at our tap devices and contribute to our St Luke’s collections by scanning this QR code. 30% of funds support the living costs of our clergy and 70% goes to the operating costs of St Luke’s.



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://stlukemarsdenpark.org.au/>

We welcome this week as our Celebrant:
Fr Jonas Donasco (Vigil & 10am)



St Luke’s Dinner Dance:
27 July 2024 (7-11pm)

****Tickets now available****

(Free onsite professional childminding available - must be booked prior to 30 June)



Newly baptised

Please pray for Elijah Alluba and Justine Mamaril who were newly baptised this week in our faith community, that they will carry on the mission of Jesus throughout their lives. We also pray for their family and Godparents who will support them on their journey.

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

- 22 JUN** – Reconciliation
- 23 JUN** – Kindy school Mass
- 7 JUL** – Community morning tea & volunteer drive
- 27 JUL** - Reconciliation
- 27 JUL** – Dinner dance 7-11pm

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 centre of constant missionary outreach. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Catholic Care's Project Elizabeth

Will you strengthen the dignity of struggling mums? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will provide struggling mums with the practical and emotional support they need to overcome adversity and build a better future for themselves and their families. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code.

Caritas Australia's Papua New Guinea Landslide Disaster



Hundreds of people are displaced and many more affected by a devastating landslide that struck a remote village in Papua New

Guinea. Your urgent support is needed now. You can donate online at www.caritas.org.au/png or 1800 024 413

Cardinal Marengo Meet and Greet: 22 June

As part of his Australian visit through Catholic Mission, the Diocese of Parramatta is hosting Cardinal Giorgio Marengo IMC, Apostolic Prefect of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on Saturday 22 June. Cardinal Marengo will celebrate the Vigil Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta followed by a conversation about his mission and service. The event is free, but registration via <https://parracatholic.org/cardinalmarengo>

Winbourne 'Kinds of Prayer: Finding Ways to Pray' Reflection Day: 22 June

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day 'Kinds of Prayer: Finding Ways to Pray' on Saturday 22 June from 9.30am to 3pm. Prayer is communication, relationship addressed, respected and taken further. It is letting God get at you, requiring an open heart and mind. Cost is \$30 per person, BYO Lunch. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email info@winbourne.org

Youth Mass-Round the Diocese: 30 June

Looking for some young adults to worship with? Our young people visit different churches around the Diocese for Mass and fellowship afterwards with new and known friends. The next Mass will be at St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood, on Sunday 30 June for 9:30am Mass. Please join us after Mass for a picnic at Buttenshaw Park. For more information, please contact Laura Burton on laura@stbernadette.org.au

CYP LIFTED Retreats:

Catholic Youth Parramatta's annual LIFTED Retreat is back, with three separate retreats catering to different age groups!

5-7 July – Ages 18-24 at Carmel House, Varroville. Cost \$150.00.

12 July – Ages 16-18 at The Shrine of the Holy Innocents in Kellyville, free of charge.

19-21 July – Ages 25-35 at Mt Schoenstatt, cost \$150.00.

Registration is essential! Please head to parracatholic.org/events for more details.

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust Applications open

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and application forms are available on their website pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship. Applications close 31 July 2024.

Great Saints of Italy Pilgrimage with Fr Chris del Rosario: October 2024



Join Fr Chris on a breathtaking pilgrimage in the footsteps of some of Italy's most well-known saints. Pilgrimage commences 21 October 2024. For more details scan the code or visit www.harvestjourneys.com/tour/great-saints-of-italy/.

Expression of Interest: Ministry to the Sick in Hospitals

Are you interested in bringing Communion to the Sick in the Hospitals of the Diocese? You will receive formation and information necessary for this ministry. Note you will not be required to do this every week but will be placed on a roster. For more information, please contact bernard.ellis@catholiccarewsbm.org.au by 15 June 2024.

"The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace." - Pope Francis

Mount Schoenstatt Shrine Time Holy Hour for Youth and Young Adults

The Mount Schoenstatt community invite youth and young adults for Holy Hour every fourth Sunday of the month from 7pm to 8pm at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, followed by a social gathering afterwards. There will be opportunities for praise and worship, prayer, reflection, confession and benediction. For more information, please contact Sr M Rita on 0493 026 628 or srrita@schoenstatt.org.au

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS



Standard 3: Families and communities are informed and involved

The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to keeping children, young people, and vulnerable adults safe. The Diocese Safeguarding website has links to Government and non-Government safeguarding websites with useful information for parents in relation to keeping their children safe (<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding>).



BLOCK ROSARY

Welcome the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to your home. Take the statue home after the Sunday 10am Mass and return before the Saturday 5:30pm Mass. Register your interest on the roster next to the tap device.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2024

First Reconciliation

Parents to attend each session 6-7pm:
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 18. 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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