

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**

2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.*

**Second Reading**

Ephesians 4:1-6

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

**Gospel**

John 6:1-15

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave

thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

**Gospel Reflection**

Pope Francis draws our attention to the boy's role in today's Gospel passage. He 'makes us think', the Pope says. 'His compassion moved him to offer what he had.'

There is no suggestion in the Gospel that the loaves and fish were forcibly taken from the boy. Rather, it is implied that they were his gift. An act of human charity is, therefore, a key element in Jesus' miracle. Another noteworthy factor is Jesus' sense of priority. This episode, the Pope points out, 'shows us again that Jesus is attentive to people's primary needs'. This has implications for we who seek to follow him. After all, the boy was discovered because Jesus prompted his disciples to think about how they could feed the crowd. As the Pope says, 'the people were hungry and Jesus engaged his disciples so that this hunger could be satisfied.'

While Jesus offered the crowd much more than food – 'his Word, his solace, his salvation, ultimately his life' – he did not neglect their physical needs. 'And we, his disciples, cannot ignore this', the Pope affirms. We are called to follow the example of Jesus, his apostles, and the boy with a few loaves and fish. We must not turn our backs on the people or retreat from the world. We must face up to the reality we find – and do what we can.

- Nick Brodie



St Luke's Church Building fund

BSB: 067 950

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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 Celebrant:  
Fr Jonas Donasco (Vigil & 10am)**



**Newly baptised**

Please pray for William Boquiron who was newly baptised this week in our faith community, that he will carry on the mission of Jesus throughout his life. We also pray for his family and Godparents who will support him on the journey.

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

**7 AUG** – Sacrament of Reconciliation prep sessions begin in the Hub 6-7pm

**11 AUG** – Stage 1 Mass

**15 AUG** – **Assumption** Mass 7pm

**18 AUG** – Community morning tea and commissioning of the new Pastoral Council members

**24 AUG** - 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 centre of constant missionary outreach.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

**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.

### Vale Bishop Kevin Manning (2 November 1933 – 15 July 2024)

The Diocese of Parramatta mourns the death of Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, the second Bishop of Parramatta, who died peacefully on Monday 15 July in Bathurst, NSW, at the age of 90. The Diocese of Parramatta owes much to his leadership and vision, and we pray for the repose of his soul and give thanks to God for his earthly life. The funeral Mass for Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning DD will be held on **Friday 2 August 2024 11am** at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta.

### Peace, Justice and Ecology Table Talk – Housing for Everyone: 3 August

Many people in our communities' struggle to find a home. At this Diocesan Table Talk, you are invited to hear and discuss inspiring stories from people affected and insightful information from an expert: 3 August 2024 from 7pm – 9:30pm (after Mass) at The Good Shepherd Parish, 130-136 Hyatts Rd, Plumpton. Light dinner will be included. Please register at [tinyurl.com/housing-table-talk24](http://tinyurl.com/housing-table-talk24)

### Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church: 10 August

The Diocese of Parramatta is excited to announce that the launch and release of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church is only 2 weeks away Saturday 10 August. The pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synodal journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese. For more information, visit [parracatholic.org/synodality](http://parracatholic.org/synodality).



Are you up for fun, fitness, and fellowship? Get



### #Active4Vocations in the City2Surf on Sunday 11 August

Join the Parramatta Catholic Foundation #Active4Vocations team. Walk, stroll, jog, or run with our Holy Spirit seminarians, deacons, priests, and community. Scan this QR code to register or donate or visit [tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations](http://tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations) to register or donate. Funds raised support our Diocese's seminarians to become priests. **Thank you for getting #Active4Vocations.**

### Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 17 August at St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, Kenthurst, for Modules 4-5. Please register directly for this training by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more info go to: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

### ACBC Absent from the Table Survey

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is undertaking a research project aimed at investigating why some Catholics do not participate in regular weekly Sunday Mass. The survey, for those who self-identify as Catholics and are 18 years and over and who do not regularly attend weekly Mass on Sunday, is anonymous and will close on 20 August. The survey and information about the project can be found at <https://bit.ly/AbsentFromTheTableSurvey>

### Liturgical Formation Course: 9 September

The next Liturgical Formation course for those interested in serving in the parish as a Liturgical Minister (Reader, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Minister to the Sick and Dying or a Minister at the Altar) will start on 9 September. Application forms available at the Welcome Table or contact [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org) or 0460 037 795 to enrol. For more information: <https://parracatholic.org/contribute/volunteer/liturgical-ministry/>



### CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

Standard 4: *Equity is upheld, and diverse needs are taken into account*

The Diocese of Parramatta upholds equity and takes into account diverse needs by:

- \*Its Commitment to an encounter of radical love, inclusiveness, and solidarity for all people
- \*Supporting refugees and asylum seekers
- \*The Safeguarding Council – Members are from diverse circumstances and backgrounds
- \*Training for staff and volunteers on Elder Abuse Awareness, vulnerable adults and children, and domestic and family violence
- \*Advocating for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, refugees, and asylum seekers
- \*Recruitment practices which include principles of equity and diversity
- \*Equal opportunities for staff, volunteers, gender equality, race, age, religion, marital/family status, sexual orientation, or disability

For more information 8838 3429 or go to <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding>



### BLOCK ROSARY

Take the statue home after the Sunday 10am Mass and return before the Saturday 5:30pm Mass. Register your interest on the roster at the welcome table.



### The Holy Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet: Wednesdays 7pm

Join Katherina in prayer via Zoom each Wednesday evening 7pm, The Holy Rosary, Litany to St Joseph, and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Meeting ID: 872 9929 7896 Passcode: 908680  
Join Katherina in praying the Holy Rosary on the 13<sup>th</sup> of each month via Zoom Meeting ID: 861 8463 9187 Passcode: 459184

### 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

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.30-5.15pm once a month

### CONTACT US

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

Phone:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

[marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

Website:

[stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au](http://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark](https://www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark)

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 4045, Elara Village, MARSDEN PARK NSW 2765