

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 2:2-5

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you up to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

Responsorial Psalm

Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

Gospel Acclamation

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Gospel

Mark 6:1-6

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A

prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Gospel Reflection

The lack of acceptance that Jesus encountered in 'his hometown,' Pope Francis suggests, was the product of habit and prejudice. As the Pope points out, 'it is difficult to open ourselves to what is new and allow ourselves to be amazed.' Jesus has something of an image problem, in the sense that his fellow countryfolk had a certain image of him they could not shake off. They saw a tradesman, whose family they knew, yet Jesus confounded their preconceptions.

Today's Gospel remains especially relevant for those who cling to certain images of Jesus. There is a risk, the Pope says, that we 'think we know Jesus, that we already know so much about Him and that it is enough to repeat the same things as always.' We can easily slip into comforting habits of religion and a prejudicial type of belief.

The Pope encourages us to embrace 'openness to what is new' and 'openness to God's surprises.' He wants us to be amazed again!

As the Pope puts it, we should be amazed because 'God incarnated Himself: God is humble, God is tender, God is hidden, he draws near to us, living the normality of our daily life.' And what is more amazing than the idea of God being among us?

- Nick Brodie

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil)

Fr Joseph Nguyen (10am)



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/>

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



Tickets now available



Use this QR code to purchase tickets or see the fundraising team after Mass.

What's happening at St Luke's

'Calendar of Events'

27 JUL – Christian Life Program

27 JUL – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm

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

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.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday: 7 July

On this first weekend in July, the Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples. The 2024 theme is "Keep the Fire Burning: Strong in Faith". A booklet with resources is available at <https://www.natsicc.org.au/2024-atsi-sunday.html>.

Emerton Parish NAIDOC Week Celebration: 11 July

To commemorate NAIDOC Week, which is celebrated from 7-14 July, you are warmly invited to a family-friendly NAIDOC celebration hosted by Holy Family Parish, Mt Druitt, Catholic Care, Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation and other partners on Thursday 11 July from 10am to 3pm at the Holy Family site, 252 Luxford Rd, Emerton. All are welcome to attend.

CYP LIFTED Retreats:

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

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.

Winbourne Learning How to See Reflection Day: 13 July

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day 'Kinds of Prayer: Finding Ways to Pray' on Saturday 13 July from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Cost is \$15 per person. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email info@winbourne.org

Jesuit Refugee Services Refugee Showcase Evening: 19 July

In the spirit of Refugee Week, please join us for a special event featuring a showcase by leaders with lived experience from the JRS Australia Refugee Leadership Program. The event will be held on Friday 19 July in the St Patrick's Cathedral Hall from 6pm. Attendance is free and all are welcome. An optional \$30 donation is available for those able to contribute. RSVP at <https://events.humanitix.com/refugee-week>

Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Evening: 25 July

You are invited to a Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Evening with keynote speaker John Lochowiak, Chair of NATSICC. The event will reflect on the 2023-24 Social Justice Statement "Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander People" on 25 July 2024, 6pm, The Epping Club (45-47 Rawson St, Epping). Please register by 17 July at trybooking.com/ctcfo

Winbourne Key Learnings from Mark's Gospel Reflection Day: 27 July

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day on key learnings from the Gospel of Mark on Saturday 27 July from 9.30am to 12.30pm. The cost is \$15 per person. For more information or to book, contact (02) 4773 5555 or email info@winbourne.org

Safeguarding Kids Art Competition

As part of our commitment to zero tolerance for any form of abuse or harm to children or any person, the Diocese of Parramatta is running our first Art competition for children and young people! Children and young people aged between 5 and 19 are invited to produce an artwork around the theme "My Church community is a safe place for me". Entries close on Friday 26 July. For more information and to enter visit parracatholic.org/artcompetition

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 27 July

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 27 July at St John XXIII Parish, Glenwood-Stanhope Gardens for Modules 1-3. Register directly for this training at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>
For more information email: 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>

Adult Confirmation 2024 Formation Day: 24 August

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 24 August from 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$25 is suggested. Contact Lucy Woodbury on 0460037795 or at lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org



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.

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 safeguarding websites with useful information for parents in relation to keeping their children safe. (<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding>).

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

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