

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**

1 Kings 19:4-8

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze

bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

**Second Reading**

Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

**Gospel**

John 6:41-51

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other. 'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has

eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

**Gospel Reflection**

Pope Francis suggests that 'the bread of life' – Jesus – should never be treated as 'a side dish'. True faith in Jesus means recognising that he is the nourisher of our very being.

'We need bread to live', the Pope says. In identifying himself as 'the bread of life', therefore, Jesus wants us to see that he is essential. Through him we find meaning for our lives and nourishment for our souls. We see in today's Gospel passage that Jesus wants his followers to understand that he is not merely a provider of bread.

The Pope encourages us to embrace our sense of amazement at this mystery. 'No one in this world', the Pope points out, 'as much as they might love another person, can make themselves become food for them.' Jesus is telling us something truly amazing: The bread he gives is his very self! Interestingly, Jesus chooses to affirm this in response to squabbling within the crowd. They were arguing about Jesus, focused on where he came from. 'Perhaps we too might be scandalised', the Pope suggests, 'it might make us more comfortable to have a God who stays in heaven without getting involved in our life'.

But Jesus' followers are called to help, not hinder his eternal self-giving. As the Pope says, 'God became man to enter into the concrete reality of this world.' We pray that through the Church, in the Eucharist, and in the life of every Christian, Jesus continues to feed the world.

- Nick Brodie



St Luke's Church Building fund

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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)

**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*

**FOOD STALL AFTER MASS!**

Sample our featured menu at the Weekend Food Stall after Mass!

This week, enjoy Chicken Tandoori, Chicken Biryani, Chiffon Cakes, and Assorted Brownies.

A special thank you to our sponsors, Deanne DeSouza and the Wingco family.

\*Please note: We are accepting card payments only. All proceeds support our future Church building.



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

**15 AUG** – Assumption Mass 7pm in the Hub

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

**24 AUG** - Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm

## 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.

## 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 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement Launch: 20 August

All are warmly invited to attend the official launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, 'Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World' on Tuesday 20 August from 10am to 12pm in St Paul's Catholic College Sports Hall, Greystanes. RSVP via: <https://forms.office.com/r/1Wd96tbps0>

## 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>

## Diocesan Season of Creation Mass: 1 September

The Diocese of Parramatta's Laudato Si' Action Team and Sacred Heart Parish Blackheath invite you to Mass with Bishop Vincent Long to launch the Season of Creation 2024 (1 September – 4 October) on Sunday 1 September at Sacred Heart Church, Blackheath, at 9.30am. Morning tea will be served after Mass. Let us join in praise and celebrate the gifts and wonders that God bestows on us.

## St Phoebe Webinar 2024: 3 September

Australian Catholics Exploring the Diaconate, supported by Catholic Religious Australia invite you to the 2024 St Phoebe webinar "Where are St Phoebe's successors today?" on Tuesday 3 September at 7.30pm AEST. Join Geraldine Doogue AO, Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO and Dr Sandie Cornish to reflect on synodality and access for women to the diaconate. To register, please visit [www.liturgyonthemargins.org/events](http://www.liturgyonthemargins.org/events)

## The FaithFeed: 6 September



Looking for great conversations + live atmosphere + storytelling from those in their 20s, 30s 40s?

Sign up for The FaithFeed 6 Sep 2024. Doors open 7PM w/ live music for 7:30PM start. Downstairs @ Bishop Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown NSW 2148. RSVP via QR or get in touch with the team via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

## 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.



## Instagrace Teens Retreat: 28 Sep-1 Oct

Jesus Youth Ministry NSW

presents this three day retreat for teenagers. It will be held at The Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, 347 Grose Wold Rd, Grose Vale. It will be led by Fr Bony Abraham and Mr Cyril Abraham. Cost is \$350pp. For further information call Dilson on 0470398578 or scan the QR code.



## 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.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2024

### 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.

Thank you to our **Dinner Dance 2024 Major Sponsors:**



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## 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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