



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

Isaiah 35:4-7
Say to all faint hearts,
‘Courage! Do not be afraid.

‘Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.’
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm

Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading

James 2:1-5
My brothers and sisters, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, ‘Come this way to the best seats’; then you tell the poor man, ‘Stand over there’ or ‘You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.’ Can’t you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel

Mark 7:31-37
Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man’s ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said

to him, ‘Ephphatha,’ that is, ‘Be opened.’ And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. ‘He has done all things well,’ they said ‘he makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.’

Gospel Reflection

Pope Francis draws our attention to an interesting aspect of today’s Gospel passage. ‘The first thing Jesus does,’ the Pope notes, ‘is take the man far from the crowd.’

The Pope suggests that in doing so Jesus ‘doesn’t want to publicise this deed he intends to carry out.’ Jesus avoids turning the incident into a self-promotion exercise. His focus remains on the man concerned. On another occasion, the Pope says that this incident shows that Jesus ‘does not want to impress people; He is not seeking popularity or success but wishes only to do good to people. With this attitude, He teaches us that good is to be done without clamour, without ostentation.’

‘The lesson we can take from this episode,’ the Pope affirms, ‘is that God is not closed in on himself, but instead he opens himself and places himself in communication with humanity.’
With that in mind, we can reflect on what it means for us. ‘Jesus revealed to us the secret of a miracle that we too can imitate,’ the Pope suggests. By ‘becoming protagonists of “Ephphatha”’ we can be the ones who open the world to Jesus. We should always be conscious of the needs of others. In doing so, we might just open their hearts and minds to Jesus.

- Nick Brodie



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/>

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.

We welcome this week as our Celebrant:

Fr Joseph Nguyen (Vigil & 10am)



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.

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

- 18 SEP** – Confirmation prep session 1, 6pm in the Hub
- 21 SEP** – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm
- 22 SEP** – Yr 6/HSC Mass
- 29 SEP** – Community morning tea
- 29 SEP** – Recognition of current Pledge donors
- 20 OCT** – St Luke’s Feast Day celebrations

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

Positions Vacant:

Development Manager – Property Services,
Diocese of Parramatta.

Parish Secretary – Holy Name of Mary
Parish, Rydalmere.

Lead Facilitator of Diocesan Plan
Implementation – Diocese of Parramatta
– **Applications close 25 September**

More details

at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Will Wonders Never Cease. What Will Be Your Legacy?



A gift in your Will is an
enduring way to give thanks
to God and share your
blessings beyond your

lifetime. During Include A Charity Week, we
invite you – after providing for your loved
ones – to consider a gift in your Will to our
parish or a Catholic ministry in our Diocese.
Legacy gifts advance Christian works of
faith, hope, and charity for future
generations. For information on
remembering our Church in your
Will: parracatholic.org/giftsinWills

Catholic Schools Bishop Manning Support Fund



Would you like your child to
receive a Catholic education
but are worried that your
family cannot afford it? Please

consider applying for a bursary that will
cover the school fees, the cost of uniforms
and equipment for primary or secondary
school students for up to four years of
enrolment. The fund, named in honour of
the recently deceased Bishop Kevin
Manning, is a Diocesan charity that seeks to
ensure all families who want a Catholic
education for their child can receive one.
Please scan this code or visit
<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/affordable-education/bishop-manning-support-fund>. Applications close
18 October

2024 Safeguarding Sunday: 8 September

This weekend, the Catholic Church in
Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on
which we pray for those who have been
abused, their families and supporters. We
recognise and apologise for the harm done
by priests, religious and lay people in
Church settings. Rebuilding trust and
confidence in the Church requires constant
work and vigilance. We recommit to
cultural change that will help the Church be
a place that respects the dignity of all
children and adults at risk, and empowers
and listens to all people, especially those
who are vulnerable. You can find out more
about the Church's work in this area
at: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>

Diocesan Season of Creation Gathering: 14 September

You are invited to a Diocesan Season of
Creation gathering on Saturday 14
September from 10am to 4pm at
Winbourne Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. This
event is part of Catholic Earthcare's
national Season of Creation Convocation
from 12-14 September. Cost is \$50 for the
Diocesan gathering only, or \$100 for the full
Convocation (with days 1 and 2 online). For
program details, please
visit tinyurl.com/soc-gathering24. Register
for the Convocation by 10 September
at caritas.org.au/soc-convocation.

Mount Druitt South Parish Fete: 15 September

The Sacred Heart Parish South Mount Druitt
fete will be held on Sunday 15 September
at Sacred Heart Primary School, Mt Druitt,
from 10am to 3pm. Activities include a
While Elephant stall, jumping castle,
chocolate wheel and showbags. For more
information call 9832 3896.

MET FaithLIFE Spirituality Short Course:



Starting 17 September
Searching for a deeper
understanding of spirituality?
Hoping to find renewed ways
of expressing your faith?

Wanting to further discern God's call in
your life? Sign up now for the 3-session
FaithLIFE Spirituality short course with
spiritual director Jeff Hood on Tuesdays 17
SEP + 24 SEP + 1 OCT! Registration and
more dates and details via QR or get in
touch with the team
via met@parracatholic.org

MET Worship Children's Liturgy Workshop: 19 September

Children's liturgy team members are invited
to attend a workshop with an outline of the
Diocesan Guidelines and a Children's Liturgy
Q&A session with the Diocesan Liturgy
Educator, Sr Mary-Louise Walsh. This will be
held on Thursday 19 September from 7pm
– 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather
Centre in Blacktown. To email Lucy
on lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or use
link: <https://parracatholic.org/events/met-childrens-liturgy-workshop-19-sept/>

Holy Hour for Vocations: 20 September

Join us to pray for more vocations to the
priesthood at Mary Immaculate Parish,
Quakers Hill-Schofields on Friday 20
September 7pm to 8pm. Deacon Menard
Gaspi will be leading adoration and giving a
short talk about vocations to the
priesthood. Confessions will be heard
during Adoration. Join us afterwards for
refreshments. For more info call 9626 3326
or email parishoffice@maryimmac.org.au

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.



Winbourne The Aramaic Lord's Prayer Reflection Day: 28 September

The Winbourne Edmund Rice Retreat
Centre, Mulgoa, is holding a reflection day
on 'The Aramaic Lord's Prayer' on Saturday
28 September from 9.30am to 12.30pm.
Returning to what Jesus actually said is a
truly enlightening and prayerful experience.
Cost is \$15 per person. For more info call
4773 55551 or email info@winbourne.org

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.

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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