



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**

Jeremiah 31:7-9

The Lord says this:  
Shout with joy for Jacob!  
Hail the chief of nations!  
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:

The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel! See, I will bring them back from the land of the North and gather them from the far ends of earth; all of them: the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour: a great company returning here. They had left in tears, I will comfort them as I lead them back; I will guide them to streams of water, by a smooth path where they will not stumble. For I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

**Second Reading**

Hebrews 5:1-6

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

**Gospel**

Mark 10:46-52

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, ‘Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.’ And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, ‘Son of David, have pity on me.’ Jesus stopped and said, ‘Call him here.’ So they called the blind man. ‘Courage,’ they said ‘get up; he is calling you.’ So

throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ ‘Rabbuni,’ the blind man said to him ‘Master, let me see again.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go; your faith has saved you.’ And immediately his sight returned, and he followed him along the road.

**Francis Focus**

‘Jesus hears,’ Pope Francis says, ‘and immediately stops. God always listens to the cry of the poor.’

The story of Jesus’ encounter with blind Bartimaeus shows this to be true. Shouting for aid, Bartimaeus evidently irritates many of those following Jesus. To an extent, this is understandable. They wanted to see and hear from Jesus, after all, and Bartimaeus was disrupting the procession.

But Jesus hears the cry of one who, as the Pope puts it, is ‘full of faith, a faith that is not afraid to insist.’

As the Pope points out, Bartimaeus keeps his prayer simple. He honours the Lord and then asks first for mercy and only secondly for sight. In light of this, the Pope suggests that we take Bartimaeus’ prayer as our own and use it to reflect on the authenticity of our prayer life.

Are we ‘content with making a formal greeting every now and then,’ or is our prayer regular and heartfelt? Are our prayers ‘anaemic, superficial, made up of rituals, without feeling and without heart,’ or do we honestly share our experiences and worries with God? Do we try to silence others, or do we try to listen to them in the spirit of the One who hears us all?

- 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/>

**We welcome this week as our Celebrant:**

Fr Bong (Vigil)

Mons Ron McFarlane (10am & 11.15am)

**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**

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’**

- 1&2 NOV** – Risen Lord Retreat
- 3 NOV** – Car Boot sale fundraiser  
11am-3pm
- 3 NOV** – Stage 3 Mass
- 10 NOV** – Community morning tea
- 17 NOV** – Weekend Food Stall
- 17 NOV** – Stage 5 Mass
- 24 NOV** – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm
- 6 DEC** - Carols

**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:**

Administration Assistant – Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair – **Applications close 31 October.**

Accountant – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

For more details go to [parracatholic.org/about/jobs/](http://parracatholic.org/about/jobs/)

## From the Pastoral Plan 2024-2028: Behold, I Am With You Always

"Our journey has only just begun. As we move forward, we endeavour to institutionalise best practice in communal discernment, decision making and governance, which would enhance the authority of the ordained and the rightful participation of the faithful..." – Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv. Read more at [parracatholic.org/synodality](http://parracatholic.org/synodality).

## 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 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](http://parracatholic.org/giftsinWills)

## ACBC: Synod on Synodality Prayer Resources

A range of liturgical resources have been prepared for parishes as we enter the second session of the Synod on Synodality in Rome. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website has a range of related resources here: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/XVI-Ordinary-General-Assembly-of-the-Synod-of-Bishops>

## St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith Rosary Triduum

Join us on Tuesday 29 October, Wednesday 30 October, and Thursday 31 October commencing at 7.00pm with the Rosary followed by Holy Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Grotto at the side of the Church. Please bring a chair.

## Free Theology books: Clearing of Bishop Bede Heather Centre library

As the Bishop Bede Heather Centre will be undergoing renovations soon, the library books are available for collection, free of charge. There are many books in all categories – biblical studies, philosophy, ethics, spirituality, ministry, homiletics, parish renewal, liturgy, sacraments and MORE.

You are welcome to visit on the following days, from 10 AM to 4 PM:

Wednesday 30 October

Wednesday 6 November

Tuesday 12 November

Friday 22 November

Address: Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown, 2148

## Mt Schoenstatt Sisters: Daily rosary prayer

October is the month of the rosary! The Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary invite you to join in with them in praying the rosary daily in the Shrine at 5.25 pm (with some exceptions). We will pray together particularly for world peace but also in all your personal intentions. Address: 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa 2745.

Visit [www.schoenstatt.org.au](http://www.schoenstatt.org.au)

## Victory in Christ Retreat: 1&2 November



This is a retreat organized by St Luke's Catholic faith community together with the Risen Lord prayer community. Jesus wants us to live a life of freedom which includes every part of our being - spiritual, physical, emotional and mental health.

Event Schedule:

- Friday, 1st November:

Healing Service 7:00-9:30pm starting with the Holy Mass.

- Saturday, 2nd November:

Victory in Christ Day Program 10:00-4:00pm There will be a children's program for kids aged 5-12 and childminding services for preschool-aged children.

Complimentary refreshments and a light lunch will be provided during Saturday's program.

This is a free event, but we kindly ask that you register in advance to assist us in our preparations by using the QR code.

## MET Worship Serving at the Altar Workshop: 2 November

Back by popular demand! We have decided to repeat the 'Back to Basics' Seminar for Acolytes and Ministers of the Altar (Senior Servers) who missed the last session and those who would like to attend again. This seminar will occur on Saturday 2 November from 9:30am to 3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. RSVP by 26 October

to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org) or 0488 000 211.



## St Luke's Car Boot Sale: 3 November 11am-3pm

Join us for our Spring Carboot Sale Sunday, November 3 from 11-3pm at

St Luke's Catholic College (Gates 6 & 7), Northbourne Drive.

Enjoy live music, delicious food, and browse stalls filled with amazing deals on new and pre-loved items.

A reminder that due to the limited car parking at Northbourne Drive on that day, mass goers can park at the Frontier Avenue carpark and make their way to the Performance Hall via the school grounds.

Elderly and people with disabilities or small children can continue to park at the Northbourne Drive carpark. Elara oval and street parking are also available.

## Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend: 9-10 November

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. The next Engaged Encounter Weekend will be held on 9-11 November, with future dates in February and May 2025. For further information and to register, visit [www.engagedencounter.org.au/](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au/)

## Parramatta Street Feast: 13 November

On behalf of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, you are warmly invited to the Parramatta Street Feast 2024. Come and share a free meal, entertainment and company in a spirit of friendship and solidarity: 13 November 2024, 10:30am – 1:00pm, St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. If you would like to volunteer on the day (e.g., set-up, ushering, serving food), please fill out the registration form at: [parracatholic.org/streetfeast](http://parracatholic.org/streetfeast)



## Carols Raffle Tickets

Buy your St Luke's Carols Raffle Tickets now for just \$5 each, for a chance to win \$2,000 in cash! All proceeds go towards our future Church building.

## 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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