

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 33:14-16 See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-of-integrity.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14.
R. v.1 *To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.*

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2 May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers and sisters, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation - Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel

Gospel - Luke 21:25-28. 34-36 ‘Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. ‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the

cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living person on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

Family Connection...

In today’s Gospel, Jesus warns his disciples against the fatigue that can emerge if one becomes consumed by the anxieties of daily life. Many families are too familiar with the kind of fatigue Jesus refers to here. We may be concerned about a family member’s health, our job security, our children’s education, or any number of other concerns. All these are important matters. Jesus does not promise an end to daily worries and fears, but he does teach his disciples that they will have the strength to withstand anxiety if they stay focused on him, remaining vigilant for his return and praying for strength to endure all tribulations. Through prayer, God helps us stay focused on that which is most important in our lives.

As you gather as a family, recall the tradition of making New Year’s resolutions in preparation for the new calendar year. Observe that today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is the beginning of the new Church year. During the season of Advent, our Gospel readings ask us to consider what is most important to us as we prepare for Jesus’ coming, at his birth and at the end of time. Read today’s Gospel, Luke 21:25-28,34-36. Jesus describes signs that may disturb many people, but he says that these should not to disturb his disciples. Why? (because these signs indicate that redemption is near) What does Jesus say that his disciples should do? (Be vigilant and pray for strength.)

At this start of the new Church year, consider as a family what “Advent resolutions” your family might make to help you stay focused so that you will be prepared to receive the salvation we celebrate at Jesus’ birth and anticipate at Jesus’ second coming. Pray together for God’s help in following through on these resolutions. © 2024 Loyola Press. All rights reserved.



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://stlukemarsdenpark.org.au/>

We welcome this week as our Celebrant:

Fr Andrew Hennes (Vigil)
Fr Joseph Nguyen (10am)

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’

6 DEC - Carols - 5.30pm

21 DEC – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm

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.

Carols 2024 - Raffle Tickets & Food



Less than a week to go for this year's Carols, co-organised by St Luke's Catholic College and St Luke's Catholic Faith

Community All invited are welcome to attend! Friday 6th December from 5.30pm at the college. Buy your \$5 raffle tickets now for a chance to win the Grand Prize of \$2,000, plus more prizes to be won! Scan the QR code or log onto this payment link to order your tickets.



<https://square.link/u/Ov8eSX90>

Ordering Food - Skip the queue—order now! We're now accepting pre-orders for Carols 2024! Simply scan the QR code or log onto the link below to explore our wide range of international food options.



Online Food Menu Pre-Order Link:

<https://stlukesmp.square.site/shop/carols-food-2024/YWP5EFCO4NHSH5WJPMZOM4OP>

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

Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Houses to Homes

This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home and rebuild their lives? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provide homeless mothers and their children with practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code to give your gift of a new beginning today. Thank you.



Faith Enrichment Role Vacancy – Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced person for a Faith Enrichment role, working 16 hours per week onsite. Key responsibilities include:

- Facilitating and resourcing parents as they guide their children in sacraments and faith.
- Liaising with key faith enrichment ministries.
- Assisting in opportunities for faith inquiry and parishioners' spiritual enrichment.
- Sharing relevant administrative and technical tasks with the parish team.

For more information and details on how to apply, please contact:

parishoffice@olqp.org.au.

Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Mr Charles Hyson: 7 December

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta invites you to the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Mr Charles Philip Hyson on Saturday 7 December at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral on the Memorial of Saint Ambrose.

Please RSVP to Hannah Portelli at Hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org if you wish to attend.



Christmas Gifts from Palms!

Are you looking to give something really special this year? Something that makes a tangible difference? Palms has the shop for you! Whether it be a GIFT directly supporting our overseas development program, or some unique Timorese GIFTS for your loved one's home, you'll find that perfect GIFT here!

Just scan the QR or go

to palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop



Free English and Citizenship Classes

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering English and Citizenship classes at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills, on a Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 2pm during school terms. Free childcare is available. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Crèche on (02) 8843 2506 or Nepean Community College (02) 4724 9000.

Epiphany Pilgrimage and Fiesta: 2-9 January 2025

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrimage. Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as we journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbars, Glenbrook. For more information and to

register for all or part of the journey, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org



Vinnies Hampers

St Luke's Catholic Faith Community will join with St Luke's Catholic College to collect items for Christmas hampers for those supported by the St Vincent DePaul Society in local areas. Please bring your items to Mass **by 8 December!**

Christmas Pudding/Fruit cake

Tea/Coffee/Milo

Sweet Biscuits/Long life milk

Pancake Mix/Mince pies/tin fruit

Jam/Vegemite

Christmas Cake/savoury biscuits

Custard/Pancake Mix

Breakfast Cereal/ Christmas Decorations

Candy Canes/Lollies/ Xmas Bon Bons

Pancake Mix/ Dried Fruit

Pasta and Pasta Sauce

Couscous and Rice

Fruit Mince Pies/ Muesli Bars



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

Administration Assistant: (Thurs & Fri)

Gerald "Ged" Oblea

Phone:

0422 724 160

Email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Website:

stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 4045, Elara Village, MARSDEN
PARK NSW 2765

Christmas & New Year's Mass Times

DEC 24th – 7.00pm (Family Mass) &
11.00pm (International Mass).

DEC 25th – 10.00am

JAN 1st '25 – 9.00am