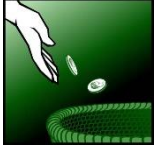




OUR VISION:

**"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 17:10-16

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied,

before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth.'" The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

**Second Reading**

Hebrews 9:24-28

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since people only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

**Gospel**

Mark 12:38-44

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.' He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

**Living the Gospel - Hypocrisy**

Throughout the gospels, what Jesus appears to abhor more than anything else is hypocrisy. His harshest condemnation of the scribes and the Pharisees is that they are hypocrites. In this passage, whilst Jesus hates the scribes' parading around and claiming honour that is not their due, what really sees him condemn them is their mistreatment of widows 'while making a show of lengthy prayers'. We cannot praise God in prayer while at the same time mistreating our neighbour. That is hypocrisy! Our actions are an extension of our prayer. We cannot celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays and fail to live it the rest of the week!

It's interesting that we have traditionally read Jesus' comments about the widow's offering as praise and perhaps even some pride in her actions. Nothing in the words themselves give away Jesus' emotion. Try reading Jesus' words with a variety of different emotions: anger; sadness; joy; triumph; dismay. How does the emotion with which we read these words change our understanding of them? Can you think of other passages that could be read in a whole new light if we changed our preconceived ideas about the emotion with which Jesus spoke? – Greg Sunter



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 Joseph Nguyen (Vigil & 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'*

- 17 NOV** – Weekend Food Stall
- 17 NOV** – Stage 5 Mass
- 23 NOV** – Reconciliation 4.30-5.15pm
- 30 NOV** – Volunteers 'thank you' dinner 6.45pm
- 6 DEC** - Carols
- 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*

### Positions Vacant:

Facilitator, Catholic Youth Parramatta (CYP)  
– **Applications close 11 November**  
Management and Systems Accountant  
– **Applications close 17 November**  
Accountant – Catholic Care Western Sydney  
and the Blue Mountains.  
For more details go to  
[parracatholic.org/about/jobs/](http://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 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>

### 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:

Tuesday 12 November

Friday 22 November

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

### Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 9 November at St Margaret Mary's Parish, Merrylands for Modules 4-5. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/event/s/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information email: [safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org)

### 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)

### Riverstone Parish 120 Year Anniversary Mass: 17 November

Fr Zakaria Gayed and the Riverstone Parish cordially invites you to celebrate their 120-year anniversary of the opening of St John's Church on Sunday 17 November at 10:30 am Mass officiated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv. Activities and a sausage sizzle (\$5 pp– cash only) will follow in the parish centre.

### Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy: 19 November

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to the annual Mass for our Deceased Clergy on Tuesday 19 November at 9.00am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, St Marys, followed by prayers at the gravesites of clergy buried in St Marys Cemetery. All are welcome to attend and give your gift of prayer to those whose lives were dedicated to bringing us all closer to Christ. We encourage **each parish to offer a Mass for the deceased priests who have served in your own parish**, to unite in prayer for this special intention.

### St Nicholas of Myra Penrith Pavilion of Fellowship Raffle

St Nicholas of Myra Parish is holding a fundraising raffle to help construct our Pavilion of Fellowship. The prize is a 7-day holiday in a Bali Villa for 6 people (flights not included). For more information and to purchase tickets visit <https://www.raffletix.com.au/pavilionof fellowship>

### Diocesan Advent Week Scripture Reflection Evening: 26 November

In what way would you say I'm 'awaiting' God's presence this Advent? How do I see myself in Advent Scripture stories this year? Register for the Diocesan Advent Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Michele Connolly RSJ on Tuesday 26 November 2024 – 6:30PM to 8:30pm. RSVP via [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

### 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! Or to order your raffle

tickets, simply click on this payment link <https://square.link/u/Ov8eSX90>

Tickets will be immediately entered into the barrel and proof of purchase sent to your email/mobile number.

Don't miss out!

All proceeds go towards our future Church building.

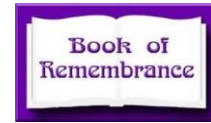


### Calling St Luke's volunteers!

You are invited to a 'Volunteer thank you' Christmas dinner to be held

on 30<sup>th</sup> November after the Vigil Mass. We will gather in the Hub at 6.45pm to share a meal and some Christmas cheer. Please RSVP by 23<sup>rd</sup> November at this link <https://forms.gle/62vknLuzCURHp9FJA> We would love to say 'thank you' for your commitment and hard work, so hopefully you can make it.

NB: This is a free event 😊



Throughout the month of November, we will have the Books of Remembrance on display. Please include the names of all your family members and friends who have died, especially those who have died in the last year. Let's pray for those who have gone to the heavenly home before us.

### 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

Phone:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

[marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

Website:

[stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au](http://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark](https://www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark)

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 4045, Elara Village, MARSDEN PARK NSW 2765