

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

Daniel 12:1-3

‘At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince

who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.’

Responsorial Psalm

Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified. All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

Gospel

Mark 13:24-32

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven. ‘Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves

come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ‘But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.’

Reflection – Francis Focus

As Pope Francis points out, the story Jesus tells in this week’s Gospel passage is ‘not a discourse on the end of the world, but rather an invitation to live the present well.’ We are told ‘to be vigilant and ever ready for when we will be called to account for our life.’

The Pope reminds us that Jesus is speaking about more than specifics. The dimming sun, darkening moon or falling stars need not be taken as literal descriptions of the future. Rather, Jesus is giving us a true prophetic insight: all created things will pass and Christ will gather his people in glory.

The key to this passage, as the Pope explains, is that human history has meaning through Christ. ‘Human history, like the personal history of each of us,’ he says, ‘cannot be understood as a simple succession of meaningless words and facts.’ What Jesus wants us to know, the Pope suggests, is ‘that the history of peoples and that of individuals have a purpose and an aim to fulfil: the definitive encounter with the Lord.’

Therefore, as the Pope puts it, we should reflect on ‘whether the Word of the Son of God has illuminated our personal existence, or whether we turned our back to it.’ After all, it is when things seem gloomiest that we should turn towards the light.

– 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 Celebrants:

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’**

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



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.

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

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 from 10am-4pm on Friday 22 November at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown, 2148

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.

MET Annual Bishop Vincent Vatican II Lecture: 20 November

You are invited to Bishop Vincent's annual lecture on Vatican II on Wednesday 20 November, 6:30–8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown, cnr Flushcombe Road. Register via <https://parracatholic.org/events/vatican-ii-lecture/> for more information contact met@parracatholic.org

St Nicholas of Myra Parith 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 info and to purchase tickets (until 24 November) visit <https://www.raffletix.com.au/pavilionoffellowship>

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

FREE Men's Retreat "A Path to Sexual Freedom": 30 November

Simon Carrington will facilitate a FREE Men's retreat, "A Path To Sexual Freedom" at St Patrick's Blacktown on November 30th from 9am to 4pm. This retreat is for men aged 16 years old and above. There will be two talks and an opportunity for adoration and confession. Free lunch will be provided. To register and for more information email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

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

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 30th 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 23rd 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 😊

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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