



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 - Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah out of you will be born for me

the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R. v.4 (R.) Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading - Hebrews 10:5-10 This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, ‘God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.’ Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation - Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel - Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah’s house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, ‘Of all women you are the most blessed, and

blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.’

Family Connection...

In the encounter between Mary and Elizabeth described in today’s Gospel, we learn that other people can help us recognize God’s presence and action in our lives. Mary traveled to see Elizabeth because Elizabeth’s pregnancy was a sign that everything the angel told Mary would truly happen. Elizabeth recognized Mary as the mother of her Lord because her unborn child, John the Baptist, leapt at the sound of Mary’s greeting. Elizabeth and Mary rejoiced together at the wonderful things God was doing in their lives. We too are blessed when we have people who help us recognize God’s action in our lives. We pray that our family can be this for one another.

As you gather as a family, work together on a word search or hidden-picture puzzle. Help one another until everyone has found each of the words or pictures in the puzzle. Talk about this experience, noticing how some people found words or pictures more easily than others and how easy it was to see the word or picture once someone else pointed it out. Observe that sometimes we need the help of others to recognize God’s presence and action in our lives. Read together today’s Gospel, Luke 1:39-45. Ask: What did Elizabeth recognize about Mary? (that she was to be the mother of Jesus, the Lord) How did Elizabeth know this? (Her baby, John the Baptist, leapt with joy at Mary’s greeting) Pray together that as we share our faith together as a family, we may help one another recognize God’s presence and action in our lives. Pray together the Hail Mary. © 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://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au/

We welcome this week as our Celebrant: Fr Jonas Donasco (Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm & Sunday Mass 10.00am)

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.

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.



Thanksgiving Mass for Deacon Tony and Annette.

Next Sunday, 29th December, at 10.00 am, Bishop Vincent will celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass for Deacon Tony and Annette, honouring their tremendous contribution and dedication as the founding pastoral leaders of our faith community. We invite everyone to stay after Mass that day to celebrate and offer our well wishes and appreciation before they leave our faith community.

Thank You for Supporting our Catholic Care's Houses to Homes.

Fr Fernando Montano, Parramatta Catholic Foundation, and Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your generous support of homeless mothers and children. Our Bishop's Christmas Appeal has raised over \$X (parish administrator to provide), ensuring Catholic Care can continue to provide homeless mothers and children safety, support, and a place to call home. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



Christmas Mass Times around the Diocese

There are many ways to celebrate the Christmas Season across the Diocese. At parracatholic.org you can find Christmas and New Year Mass times, Reconciliation and Adoration Near Me, and Christmas Carols and Nativity plays. Go to: parracatholic.org/connect/find-a-mass

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

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.

Parish Secretary needed Part-time.

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown is seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic Parish Secretary to join the parish team on a part time basis, working from the Parish Offices at St Patrick's Church, 51-19 Allawah Street, Blacktown. This position is for 4 days per week, Tuesday to Friday, with working hours from 9am to 4pm. This role offers a unique opportunity to support the mission of the Church in Western Sydney.

For job description and details, please email admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Liturgical Ministry Course returns in 2025

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in 2025 in Blacktown and Penrith. This free formation is open to anyone in the diocese interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. To enrol and for more information contact Ged at the parish office. Registrations close 28th January, 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.

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



When Mary heard that her much older cousin Elizabeth was with child, she hurried to Elizabeth and Zechariah's house in the hills of Judea. Can you help Mary find the correct path to her cousin Elizabeth?



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