



We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.

Sunday Reflection



Dear One and All,

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, when Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus to the Temple to dedicate Him to God. That's where they met Simeon, a man who had been waiting his whole life to see the Savior. The moment he saw Jesus, he was overjoyed and said, "My eyes have seen your saving power" (Luke 2:30). Simeon recognized that God's promise had come true—Jesus was the light the world had been waiting for.

But here's the thing: God's saving power isn't just something that happened back then. It's still happening today, in our lives, in ways we may not always notice. The challenge for us is to open our eyes, like Simeon did, and see God at work around us.

For teens, this might look like standing by a friend who's being left out instead of just going with the crowd. It could be choosing to forgive when someone spreads a rumor about you instead of holding a grudge. It might mean putting your phone down for a few minutes to pray, reflect, or just be present with your family. These may seem like small things, but they are ways we live out God's love and become part of His saving work.

Sometimes we think of God's power as something big and dramatic, but often, it's found in the quiet, everyday moments. When we pray and feel peace in the middle of stress, when a friend checks in on us when we're feeling down, or when we find the courage to do what's right even when it's hard—these are ways we experience God's saving power.

Simeon waited his whole life for this moment, but we don't have to wait to see God at work. He is present in our relationships, our struggles, and our small choices to love others.

So, like Simeon, let's open our eyes and hearts to Jesus. Let's look for ways to bring His light into our daily lives—through kindness, patience, and love. And let's trust that, just like He fulfilled His promise to Simeon, God is guiding us too.

God Bless ~ Fr Gayan.

CONTACT US

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Address: 55 Frontier Ave, Marsden Park

Postal Address: PO Box 4045, Elara Village, MARSDEN PARK NSW 2765.

Parish Office: Currently open on Thursdays & Friday from 9.30am to 2.30pm - Temporary Office in demountable building at western end of carpark within St Luke's Catholic College, Frontier Avenue entrance.



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."

Parish School: St. Luke's Catholic College, Marsden Park.

College Principal: Kelly Bauer

Address: Cnr Frontier Avenue & Northbourne Drive Marsden Park 2765 NSW

Open Weekdays: 8:30am - 2:40pm

Phone: (02) 9854 3100

Email: stlukesmarsdenpark@parra.catholic.edu.au

School Motto: "Live the Good News".

In a place where 'Learning = Infinite Possibilities', staff and parents work in partnership to nurture faith-filled, curious children to become creative contributors and innovative problem solvers for our changing world.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Presentation of the Lord

Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Second Reading - Hebrews 2:14-18

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel Acclamation - Luke 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia! This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel. Alleluia!

Gospel - Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the

Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord.

Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.' There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

PARISH MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am at St Luke's Catholic College - Performance Hub (On Saturdays enter via Northbourne Drive only and on Sundays Frontier Avenue and Northbourne Drive carpark).

RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Saturdays: 4.45pm to 5.25pm or by appointment.

BAPTISMS:

Every 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. Booking & Preparation are essential. Contact Parish office to register.

MARRIAGES:

Strictly by appointment. A minimum of 6 months notice is required. All enquiries please

email: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS:

First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation, and RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. All enquiries please email: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

During School Term at Saturday Vigil & Sunday Mass. Commencing 15th/16th February

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Every 2nd Friday of the month. Commencing 14th February. All enquiries please email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

SRE-SCRIPTURE PROGRAM:

Every Tuesday at Public schools during school term. Volunteers required. All enquiries please

email: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

MORNING TEA:

Every 2nd Sunday after 10.00am Mass,

MARSDEN PARK CARE COMMUNITY MASS

2nd Friday of each month at 11am. If you would like to join Fr Gayan, please contact the Parish Office in advance, as spaces are limited.

ROSARY BLOCK:

Welcome the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to your home. Take the statue home after the Sunday 10am Mass and return before Saturday 5.30pm Mass. Register your interest on the roster on the information tables outside the performance hub.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FR GAYAN'S INSTALLATION MASS

You are warmly invited to join us for the installation of Fr Gayan Thamel as parish priest of St Luke's Catholic Parish. This special celebration will be officiated by Bishop Vincent Long during the 10am Mass on Sunday, 9 February 2025. Following the Mass, a Morning Tea will be held to mark the occasion. We kindly ask you to bring a plate of food to share as we come together in fellowship and gratitude for this new chapter in our Parish community.

A NOTE OF THANKS!

We would to acknowledge and give our gratitude to the family who donated the Laptop to be used for our Children's Ministry.

DAILY MASS TIMES & SURVEY

We are excited to announce that Daily Mass will now be celebrated in our parish on: Wednesdays & Fridays (time to be confirmed). To help us determine the best time for weekday Masses—morning or evening—we invite you to share your preference by completing a short survey. A Google Form has been sent via email to those who are on our mailing list, or you can use the QR code provided to access it quickly. The venue for our daily Mass is still being decided and will be announced shortly.



ADOPT A GARDEN – YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

We're looking for parishioners to help care for the presbytery garden by adopting one of its four sections. Each section is a small, manageable area. This is a great way to contribute to our Parish and enjoy some time outdoors. We're also hoping to add some pot plants to brighten up the parish office area. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office.

2025: A JUBILEE YEAR



Themed "Pilgrims of Hope", this Jubilee Year brings hope to a world facing war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19, and the climate crisis. It begins on 24 December 2024 with the Opening of the Holy Door at Saint Peter's Basilica and ends on 6 January 2026, the

Feast of the Epiphany, with its closing. Celebrated every 25 years, a Jubilee is a sacred time of grace, mercy, and renewal, marked by prayer, pilgrimage, and reconciliation. In our Diocese, we are invited to visit one or more Jubilee pilgrimage sites:
 St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta
 Mount Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa
 The Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville
 Pilgrims may receive a Jubilee Indulgence. Those unable to travel due to illness or other circumstances can join spiritually by offering daily struggles, participating in reconciliation, prayer, and the Eucharist.

STEWARDSHIP: PARISH DONATIONS

Donations can be made using the bank details below, or via the Tap-and-go machine and online donations which are accepted through our parish website at <https://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au/donate/>

Your donations are greatly appreciated.



SUPPORT DONATIONS

BSB: 067 950 Account: 100005720
 Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park.
 Reference: (Your name)



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.

COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

If you would like to include the name of a loved one who is sick or recently deceased in the bulletin, please contact the Parish Office.

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased:
Wellington Lim Yu; Gabriela Llarenas.

... and those we remember at this time:
Jude Ranasinghe (2nd Death Anniversary)
Justina Perera (4th Death Anniversary)

LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUP

Lent commences on Wednesday 5th March 2025. Would you like to host, facilitate or participate in a parish Lenten Discussion group. Discussions focus on the Sunday Gospels. Material made available through the Parish Office.

Please complete the below to register your interest or scan QR Code. Return to the Parish office or place on the collection plate during Mass. Please reply by the 2nd February as materials are required to be ordered.

Name/s: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Yes I / We would like to host a group.

Or

Yes I/We would like to participate in a group

Preferred Day: _____

Preferred Time: Morning: Evening:



DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA

Notices from our Diocese...

Solemn High Mass for the Feast of the Presentation of The Lord and World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life: 2 February Join us for Mass at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and a special celebration of Consecrated Life. Jubilee candles for each Order or Congregation will be blessed during a short ceremony in the Cathedral courtyard then carried in procession into the Cathedral.

Red Mass for judiciary and legal community: 3 February - The Very Reverend Robert Riedling, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta cordially invites members of the judiciary and legal community, public service officials, law students and their families to the annual Red Mass on Monday 3 February at 7:00pm, (refreshments following Mass). Please RSVP by Friday, 31 January to enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au or call 02 8839 8400.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 8 February - The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 8 February at St Thomas Aquinas, Springwood for Cycle 2 (Renewal Modules 4-5). More training opportunities will be available throughout February and May. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: paracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@paracatholic.org

Diocesan World Day of Prayer for the Sick: 11 February - A World Day of Prayer for the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2025 via paracatholic.org/world-day-prayer-feb11

Mary and Joseph had to travel from Nazareth to Jerusalem to take baby Jesus to the temple. Help them find their way.

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

First things first
 The initial part of the Mass (the Introductory Rites) is an important time of gathering and preparation. The entrance song helps to open the celebration, unite us as a body and lead our thoughts towards the mystery of God's love which we have come to celebrate. The priest's greeting ('The Lord be with you') and the congregation's response ('And also with you') affirms that Christ is present in our midst. This is a time for focusing on the importance of the opportunity for worship that lies before us.

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