



*St Luke's*  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
MARSDEN PARK

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

2ND MARCH 2025

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ YEAR C



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

## Sunday Reflection

In this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 6:39-45), Jesus asks, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit?" He challenges us to examine our own hearts before pointing out the faults of others. The famous image of removing a speck from someone's eye while ignoring the plank in our own is not just about hypocrisy—it's about spiritual blindness.

We often think we see clearly, but Jesus warns that we can be blind to our own faults. A well-known insight from this passage is that we judge others by their actions but judge ourselves by our intentions. If someone is rude, we assume they have a bad heart. But if we act the same way, we excuse it—"I was just tired" or "I didn't mean it like that." This is the blindness Jesus wants to heal.



Jesus also speaks about good trees bearing good fruit. The truth is, our words and actions don't just happen randomly—they flow from what is inside us. If our hearts are filled with pride, anger, or insecurity, it will show. But if we are deeply rooted in God's love, our lives will produce patience, kindness, and wisdom.

So, how do we apply this? One way is to focus on heart transformation, not just behavior change. Many people think, I need to try harder to be kind, patient, or forgiving. But Jesus teaches that real change happens when we experience God's grace. When we see how much we have been forgiven, it becomes easier to forgive others. When we recognize our own weaknesses, we grow in humility.

This week, when we're tempted to criticize someone, let's pause and ask: Am I seeing clearly? Let's ask God to open our eyes—to our own faults, to His mercy, and to the grace that can change us from the inside out. When we focus on inner renewal, we don't just become better people—we become the kind of guides who can truly help others find their way.

*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.



*St Luke's*  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
MARSDEN PARK

### 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](mailto: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.*



**St Luke's**  
Catholic College

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

#### First Reading - Sirach 27:4-7

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

#### Responsorial Psalm - Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

#### Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

#### Gospel Acclamation - Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

#### Gospel - Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye. 'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

#### **PARISH MASS TIMES:**

##### ***Weekday Mass Times:***

Wednesday 7.30am

Friday 6.30pm

- Weekday Mass at temporary Parish Chapel access through parish office.

##### ***Sunday 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).

##### ***Healing Mass*** – Anointing of the Sick

Starting from Friday, 7 March, the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated every First Friday of the month during the 6.30pm Mass.

#### **RECONCILIATION TIMES:**

Saturdays: 4.30pm 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 this weekend.

#### **YOUTH MINISTRY:**

Every 2nd Friday.

Next Meeting: 28th 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.

#### **PARISH TEAM MEETINGS:**

##### **Next Parish Council Meeting:**

15th March 2025

##### **Next Finance Committee Meeting:**

18th March 2025

#### **Our Parish 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.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING OF THE SITE

With the Stage 1 church building project progressing, the builder is hoping to fence the site on Monday, 10 March. To mark this important step, we will have a Blessing of the Site on Sunday, 9 March, after the 10am Mass. All parishioners are invited to join in prayer as we begin this new phase of our church building project.

### CHURCH BUILDING PLEDGE & PROJECT UPDATE

Arvin Joya, the chairperson of the Parish Finance Committee, will provide an update on the church building project and pledge campaign during all Masses on the weekend of 15/16 March. This is a great opportunity to learn about the progress and how you can support the parish's vision.

If you are new to the parish or haven't yet made a pledge for the building fund, we invite you to consider how you can be part of this important milestone in our community.

### MINISTRY RECRUITMENT DRIVE & MORNING TEA

The Ministry Recruitment Drive has been rescheduled to Sunday, 23 March, offering a chance for parishioners to get involved in various ministries. Following this, we invite everyone to stay for morning tea and fellowship. Come along to discover how you can serve and connect with our parish community!

## OUR PARISH PREPARATIONS FOR EASTER

### ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated this Wednesday, 5th March, at 7pm in the Performance Hall at St Luke's Catholic College. *Please note that there will be NO 7.30am Mass on that day. Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.*

### PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM

We appreciate all those who registered their interest for participating, in our Lenten program. Fr Gayan will be leading a Lenten discussion groups on Thursday evenings at 7pm for five weeks commencing on 6th March in the Parish Office. If you wish to take part please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross will take place in the chapel every Friday during Lent following the 6.30pm Mass, starting on Friday, March 7th. All are invited to join in this special time of reflection and prayer as we journey through the passion of Christ.

## HOLY WEEK MINISTRY ROSTERS

We invite our ministry volunteers to indicate their availability to assist in our holy week liturgies.

This weekend there will be sign up sheets outside of the performance hub to register your name for each of the liturgies.

Online registrations will also be available by the following links: <https://shorturl.at/K33ah> Or QR Code



## 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: Marsden Park St Luke's Parish  
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. We pray for those in our Community who are sick:

Daisy Pangilinan

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased:

*Gabriela Llarenas.*

... and those we remember at this time:

*Jasmin Fernando (1st Year Death Anniversary)*

*Anthony Xuereb*

*Victor & Margaret Muscat*

*Special Intentions:*

*17th Wedding Anniversary of Mark & Joceny Guillermo.*

## OUR PARISH ALMSGIVING OPPORTUNITIES

### JRS AUSTRALIA FOOD BANK

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia supports 150 families every week through our Foodbank. Over the next 6 weeks of Lent, you can support refugees and people seeking asylum by donating these essential items to our parish JRS Lenten Drive!

**Week 1:** Basmati Rice.      **Week 2:** Cooking Oil

**Week 3:** Dried Red Lentils      **Week 4:** Dishwashing Detergent

**Week 5:** Laundry Detergent      **Week 6:** Long Life Milk

Donation buckets will be available from next weekend in the performance hall. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

### PROJECT COMPASSION ~ CARITAS AUSTRALIA

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

Or by calling: 1800 024 413.. Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.





# Sacramental Process 2025



Available for	Enrolment closing Date	Enrolment Mass Dates	Weekly Groups Begin	Ceremonies
For Children who are already Baptised (Catholic) and aged 7 or above Link to Registration Form: <a href="https://forms.gle/qGEWgqRto3bvaz9H9">https://forms.gle/qGEWgqRto3bvaz9H9</a>	<b>Reconciliation /Penance</b> closes 29 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Saturday August 2nd 5.30pm or Sunday August 3rd 10am or Saturday August 9th 5.30pm or Sunday August 10th 10am.</b>	<b>Classes Commence 30th July</b>	<b>St Luke's Catholic College 20<sup>th</sup> August (6pm &amp; 8pm)</b>
For children 8 or 9 years old who have already been Baptised and made their First Reconciliation Link to Registration Form: <a href="https://forms.gle/Riz7ygv1yWTgjd118">https://forms.gle/Riz7ygv1yWTgjd118</a>	<b>First Holy Communion</b> Closes 20 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Saturday May 24th 5.30pm or Sunday May 25th 10am or Saturday May 31st 5.30pm or Sunday June 1st 10am</b>	<b>Classes Commence from 28th May</b>	<b>St. Luke's Catholic College Saturday, June 21 (5.30pm) and Sunday, June 22 (10am – and possibly 11.30am extra Mass, depending on numbers) – Feast of Corpus Christi.</b>
For children 10 years old who have already been Baptised and made their First Reconciliation & First Eucharist. Link to Registration Form: <a href="https://forms.gle/fhs4T4DSDemZhwnJ7">https://forms.gle/fhs4T4DSDemZhwnJ7</a>	<b>Confirmation</b> Closes 20 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>(Saturday August 23rd 5.30pm or Sunday August 24th 10am or Saturday August 30th 5.30pm or Sunday August 31st 10am</b>	<b>Classes Commence from 27<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>St. Luke's Catholic College Friday 24th October, 7pm Mass.</b>

## WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?



### The Sunday Readings

Does your family enjoy looking back over treasured photo albums and re-telling the stories behind the pictures? While every historic detail of your ancestry may not be recorded, the photos do capture the highlights and carry a 'sense' of your family's history, identity and values. The scriptures are a bit like that. They are our faith family's 'photo album', the inspired recordings of our ancestors, re-telling the stories of God's revelation in their midst. As you listen to the readings each Sunday at Mass, allow God to speak to you through the stories of your faith heritage.



Fill in the missing words from the list below to see what Jesus said about judging other people.

\_\_\_ do you see the  
 \_\_\_\_\_ in your  
 \_\_\_\_\_, eye,  
 but do not \_\_\_\_\_ the  
 \_\_\_ in your own \_\_\_?

## FRIEND'S SPECK LOG EYE NOTICE WHY

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 A law firm based in Sydney practising exclusively in criminal defence + traffic law.

**Dominic Gleeson, Principal**  
 Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law)  
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At Gold Disability Services, we are dedicated to empowering individuals with diverse needs. Our passion is to provide personalized support that helps you achieve your unique NDIS goals, whether that's increasing independence, engaging with your community, or pursuing other aspirations. By partnering with us, you can trust that you'll receive customized support that honors your individuality and fosters meaningful progress toward your goals.

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**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/golddisability>**  
**Ph: 1300 010 166**

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 THE SAVVY PEOPLE IN TAX

**Registered Tax Agent and CPA**  
**Call for appointment**  
**0406 989 615 or 0432 610 180**

**Advertise in Our Parish Bulletin**

Do you own a business or know someone who does? We are offering the opportunity to advertise in our parish bulletin. This is a wonderful way to support our parish and connect with the local community. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the parish office.