



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

Sunday Reflection

The story of the resurrection in Luke 24 begins quietly—with grief. The women go to the tomb early in the morning, expecting to care for a dead body. They come with love and loyalty, but also with sorrow. What they find instead is an empty tomb, and a message that changes everything: “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.”

The resurrection comes as a complete surprise. No one is waiting outside the tomb counting down to a miracle. The women are startled. The disciples don't believe them. Peter runs to see, but even he walks away puzzled. This is not a group of people spinning a tale of triumph. They're trying to make sense of something that's beyond their understanding.

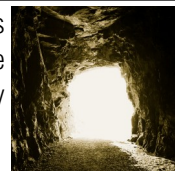
And that's the point: the resurrection doesn't come to people who are confident and ready—it comes to those who are confused and broken. It's not something they expected, but something that broke into their sorrow and reshaped their world.

This moment isn't just about Jesus coming back to life. It's about God doing something completely new—defeating death, forgiving sin, and opening the door to eternal life. It means Jesus wasn't just a teacher or prophet; He is Lord. His rising proves that His promises can be trusted. It means our deepest fears—of death, failure, loss—don't have the final say.

For us today, the empty tomb still speaks. Like those first disciples, we may wrestle with doubt or disappointment. We may carry unan-

swered questions. But the resurrection invites us not to have perfect understanding, but to come and see. To run, like Peter, toward the possibility that God is at work even in what looks like loss.

It reminds us that God often meets us where we are, not where we think we should be. And that even when we feel like everything is finished, God may just be beginning something new. Resurrection is not just what happened to Jesus—it's what He wants to do in us.



God Bless ~ Fr Gayan.

STAGE 1 CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE



Placing of the roof framing

CONTACT US

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark

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

Easter Sunday ~ Year C

First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43

The Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

(R) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading - Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation - 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel - Luke 24:1-12

The On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, but on entering discovered that the body of the Lord Jesus was not there. As they stood there not knowing what to think, two men in brilliant clothes suddenly appeared at their side. Terrified, the women lowered their eyes. But the two men said to them, 'Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here; he has risen. Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee: that the Son of Man had to be handed over into the power of sinful men and be crucified, and rise again on the third day?' And they remembered his words. When the women returned from the tomb they told all this to the Eleven and to all the others. The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. The other women with them also told the apostles, but this story of theirs seemed pure nonsense, and they did not believe them. Peter, however, went running to the tomb. He bent down and saw the binding cloths, but nothing else; he then went back home, amazed at what had happened.

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 – 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. As the school term is ending, children's liturgy will return 3rd & 4th May after this weekend.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Every 2nd Friday.

Next Meetings: 2nd, 16th & 30th May.

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

HAPPY EASTER! ~ This joyful season reminds us that love is stronger than death and that hope always has the final word. The Resurrection of Jesus brings light to our darkness, peace to our hearts, and new life to our souls. As we celebrate Easter, may you and your families be filled with the joy and peace of the Risen Lord. Let us live as Easter people—sharing faith, love, and hope in all we do.

Wishing you a blessed and joyful Easter!

BISHOP VINCENT'S EASTER MESSAGE 2025 ~ We are pleased to be able to share Bishop Vincent's Easter message for 2025.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CGeihQQ3-E>

PROJECT COMPASSION~ Please return your Project Compassion boxes or envelopes to a Minister at the Altar after Mass. Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY ~ Join us on Sunday, 27 April, at 3pm in the Parish Chapel to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited, followed by the Rosary and Benediction. Fr Gayan will also be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this time.

ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE~ ANZAC Remembrance will be commemorated at the end of all Masses on the weekend of 26/27 April. We will pause to honour the service and sacrifice of all who have served our country in times of war and peace.

WALKING WITH CHRIST ~ During Lent, a group from our community began meeting on Thursday nights to reflect on Scripture together. These gatherings, now called "Walking with Christ," became powerful moments of shared faith, dialogue, and spiritual growth. We're excited to announce that Walking with Christ will continue fortnightly from Thursday, 8th May, guided by Fr Gayan. If you're seeking a space to grow in faith, engage in Scripture, and walk alongside others in our parish community — this is your invitation. Please express your interest by filling out the Google Form or scanning the QR code before 1st May. Everyone is welcome — especially our enthusiastic youth! <https://forms.gle/4MDsUvtZ2k5jeCx68>



INTERNATIONAL FOOD DAY~ Celebrate St Luke's 7th Founding Anniversary. We warmly invite all parishioners to join us in celebrating St Luke's 7th Founding Anniversary with a joyful International Food Day!

Day/Date: Sunday, 27 April 2025

Time: After 10 AM mass

Location: Outside the Performance Hall

Please bring a plate to share — a dish from your culture or country of origin — as we come together to enjoy the wonderful diversity of our parish family.

Let's celebrate with food, fellowship, and thanksgiving!

All are welcome. Feel free to wear cultural attire and invite friends and family to join in the celebration.

MOTHER'S DAY VIDEO~ As a tribute to the mother's of our community, a pictorial tribute will be created to be shown during our Mother's Day Masses.

We invite parishioners to submit photos of St Luke's parish mum's no later than 4th May. This can be sent via email to marsdenpark@parracatholic.org or by scanning the below 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 & Dahlia Wingco Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased: Mary Louise Braun Jimenez. ... and those we remember at this time:

Rafael Tiotuico (1st death anniversary) & Arsenio Jamir (20th yr Death Anniversary). Francisco Angeles.

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

Thank You for Supporting our Catholic Care's chaplaincy services ~ Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned. Our Bishop's Good Samaritan appeal will provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to people in times of darkness. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage ~ Young people (18-35 years) from Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to join an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from July 19 – August 5, 2025, including a visit to Greece to trace the footsteps of Saint Paul and a celebration of the canonisation of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati in Rome. With only 45 spots available, secure your place by booking before May 10, 2025, with a deposit of \$800, and find out more or book at parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/

3 Diocesan Retreat Opportunities ~ The diocese is hosting three retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope.

Take the time to step away from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat – a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. For timeframes and details, see the three options of retreats below:

May 24: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-24-may/>

August 16: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>

November 15: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>



**DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA**



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: https://forms.gle/qGEWgqRto3bvaz9H9	Reconciliation / Penance closes 29 th June	Saturday August 2nd 5.30pm or Sunday August 3rd 10am or Saturday August 9th 5.30pm or Sunday August 10th 10am.	Classes Commence 30th July	St Luke's Catholic College 20th August (6pm & 8pm)
For children 8 or 9 years old who have already been Baptised and made their First Reconciliation Link to Registration Form: https://forms.gle/Riz7ygy1yWTgjd118	First Holy Communion Closes 20 th April	Saturday May 24th 5.30pm or Sunday May 25th 10am or Saturday May 31st 5.30pm or Sunday June 1st 10am	Classes Commence from 28th May	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.
For children 10 years old who have already been Baptised and made their First Reconciliation & First Eucharist. Link to Registration Form: https://forms.gle/fhs4T4DSDemZhnJ7	Confirmation Closes 20 th July	(Saturday August 23rd 5.30pm or Sunday August 24th 10am or Saturday August 30th 5.30pm or Sunday August 31st 10am	Classes Commence from 27th August	St. Luke's Catholic College Friday 24th October, 7pm Mass.

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

Why do we say 'amen' when we receive communion?

'Amen' is a prayerful way of affirming our religious convictions. When we say 'Amen' as we receive communion we affirm our belief in the great mystery of the Eucharist. St Augustine had a great way of looking at it. He suggested that when we receive the host we should say a double amen. 'Amen' (Yes!) I believe this to be not just a piece of bread but the body of Christ. And 'Amen' (Yes!) I believe this to be not just a bunch of people but the body of Christ, a faith family called to a life of loving unity (a communion).

Thank You for a Blessed Holy Week and Easter.

A heartfelt thank you to all who made our Holy Week and Easter liturgies so meaningful.

We are especially grateful to those who helped with seating and logistics, social media, palms and flowers, Altar of repose, our choirs, readers, Ministers at the Altar, welcomers, ushers, collectors, and the many others who worked behind the scenes.

Your time, effort, and faith helped create a truly prayerful and joyful celebration of the Resurrection.

Together, we brought a very busy week to life in a spirit of praise and thanksgiving to our loving God. ~ Fr Gayan.

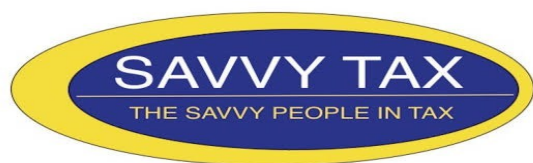
COMMUNITY SPONSORED DIRECTORY

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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.



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Website: www.golddisabilityservices.com.au

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