

# WEEKLYBULLETIN

11TH MAY 2025

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY YEAR ~ C & MOTHER'S DAY



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

# Sunday Reflection

In this short but powerful passage, Jesus says something very comforting and important: "My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never die. No one can take them out of my hand."

Here, Jesus calls his followers "sheep." This isn't meant to insult us. It's a picture of a close relationship. Sheep know their shepherd's voice and trust him. In the same way, Jesus says that those who belong to him can hear his voice and follow him. This voice comes through the Bible, through prayer, and through the gentle guidance of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

Jesus also makes a big promise: he gives eternal life to his people, and they will never be lost. This life is not just something we get after we die—it starts now, as we walk with God every day. And it is a life that cannot be taken away. The safety of our souls doesn't depend on how strong we are, but on how strong Jesus is.

He adds, "No one can snatch them out of my hand." In other words, nothing and no one can separate us from Jesus—not trouble, sin, fear, or even death. He holds us tightly. We are safe in him. And to make it even clearer, he says that he and the Father are one—God the Father and Jesus work together in perfect unity to keep us safe.

Sometimes we worry about messing up or not being good enough. But Jesus reminds us that our security doesn't come from being perfect. It comes from being his. He knows us. He never lets go.

So how do we live this out? We listen to his voice by reading Scripture, spending time in prayer, and being part of a community of faith. We follow him, not to earn his love, but because we already have it.

No matter what happens in life, remember this: Jesus knows you, loves you, and will never let you go.

God Bless ~ Fr Gayan.



# **STAGE 1 CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**



Installation of the roof and placing of frame sheeting in preparation for cladding.

# **CONTACT US**

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark St Luke's

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

 $\textbf{Email:} \ stlukes mars den park @parra.catholic.edu.au$ 

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

St Luke's Catholic College

contributors and innovative problem solvers for our changing world.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Fourth Sunday of Easter Year C

First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27~ Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

### Responsorial Psalm - Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1

(R) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading - Revelation 21:1-5 ~ I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.' Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

Gospel Acclamation - John 13:34 ~ Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a

new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia! Gospel - John 13:31-35

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.' and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.' In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.' name.

# Blessing Prayer for Mothers

Lord God, through your creative power you give birth to all and love all as a mother loves her child.

Bless these women who are mothers. When they worry for their child, hold them in your care.

When they work to provide a home for their child, stand beside them. If they mourn for their child, hold them in your love. When the joy of their child overtakes them, laugh with them.

Bless them, and may they each be a living symbol of your love; a symbol to their children and all who they encounter. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

# **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.



MARSDEN PARK

#### **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.

# YOUTH MINISTRY:

Every 2nd Friday. 7pm in the St Luke's Hub. Next Meetings: 6th & 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.

#### WALKING WITH CHRIST:

Fortnightly on Thursdays at 7.00pm in the Parish Office. Next session: 22 May. Looking for a space to grow in faith, explore Scripture, and walk with others in our parish community? Come and join us! For more information, email: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

WELCOME POPE LEO XIV ~ We joyfully welcome the election of Pope Leo XIV as the new Shepherd of our Church. Let us keep him in our prayers as he begins his ministry, guiding the People of God through these challenging times with faith, wisdom, and love.

<u>MINISTRY FORMATION SESSIONS~</u> We will be holding sessions for the following ministries:

Ministers at the Alter: Wednesday 28 May at 7.30pm in the Hub at the school

Readers and Commentators: Wednesday, 4 June at 7.30pm in the Hub at the school.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMOHC): Wednesday, 11 June at 7pm in the Hub at the school.

Altar Servers: Wednesday, 18 June at 7.30pm in the Hub at the school.

These sessions are for all current members, those who expressed interest during our recent ministry recruitment drive, and anyone else who would like to get involved. We look forward to seeing you there!

RESIDENTIAL CLERGY CONFERENCE ~ Fr Gayan will be attending the Parramatta Diocese Residential Clergy Conference from 20 to 23 May. Please note that there will be no Mass on Wednesday 21 May and Friday 23 May.

<u>CATECHESIS ON MASS</u> ~ Continuing this weekend, we will present short 2-3 minute video clips by Archbishop Mark Coleridge during weekend Masses. This series will focus on various parts of the Mass, to deepen our appreciation of the Eucharist. and fully participate in this great gift of the Church.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE ~ We sincerely thank Joe Son Kee for his five years of faithful service on the Parish Pastoral Council. His presence and contributions have been a blessing to our parish community. We now warmly welcome Christine Pressello as the newest member of the Council. May her time in this role be fruitful and enriching for our parish.

PARISH FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CANDIDATES~ Children from our parish will be receiving their First Holy Communion during all Masses on the weekend of 21/22 June. Please remember them and their families in your prayers as they take this important step in their faith journey. Enrolment Masses for all children and parents preparing for First Holy Communion this year will take place on the weekends of 24/25 May and 31 May/1 June at all parish Masses. Attendance at one of these Masses is an important step in your child's preparation journey.

PENTECOST WEEKEND (7 & 8 JUNE)—A TIME FOR PRAYER~ This Pentecost, we open our hearts to the Holy Spirit. After each Mass, parishioners are invited to come forward for personal prayer. Members of our prayer team will be available to pray with you—for healing, guidance, peace, or any intention on your heart. All are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE ~ PARISH DINNER DANCE (26TH JULY 2025) ~ Join us for an unforgettable evening of delicious food, lively music, and joyful dancing — all in support of building our future permanent Church building. Perfect date night idea! - We're also offering onsite childminding — expressions of interest will be available soon, so you can enjoy the night worry-free. This is our major fundraising event of the year. Let's come together as a community and make it count! Interested in becoming an event sponsor?

Contact Aleta at: stlukesfundraisingteam@gmail.com

SUPPORT TOONGABBIE LEGAL CENTRE~ Toongabbie Legal Centre (TLC) volunteers will be selling raffle tickets this weekend, along with some merchandise. All proceeds will directly support their free legal clinic provided for over 17 years to disadvantaged, marginalised and vulnerable people of Western Sydney. Tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20.00 for a book of 10 tickets with ten prizes.

# 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 <a href="https://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au/donate/">https://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au/donate/</a> Your donations are greatly appreciated.

#### SUPPORT DONATIONS

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

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BUILDING

FUND...

#### 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 & Bernardo Quintana

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased: Michael Leahay Mary Louise Braun Jimenez.

## NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Positions Vacant ~ Facilities Coordinator:



Property Lawyer: Diocese of Parramatta

Communications Lead – Diocesan Pastoral Plan: Diocese of Parramatta More details at: https://parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Adult 35 years+ Jubilee

<u>Pilgrimage</u> ~ Join a life-changing 19-day pilgrimage from 7 to 25 September 2025, exploring sacred sites in Greece, Turkey, and Rome. Open to adults aged 35 and over, this journey follows St. Paul's path and the early Church, culminating in the Jubilee Year of Hope in Rome. Bookings close on 2 May 2025, with a deposit of \$800 required at the time of booking. The final payment is due by 7 July 2025. Don't miss this incredible faith experience. For more information and to register, visit parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/

FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: Wednesdays in May Considering learning about theology? Interested in faith seek understanding? Looking to learn more about the Jubilee Year of Hope? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Alison Ryan from MET on Wednesdays 7 + 14 + 21 May: parracatholic.org/faithlife

# NOTICES FROM ST LUKE'S COLLEGE

St Luke's Catholic College, Marsden Park School Tour - Wednesday, 14 May 4pm-5pm Please register via:

https://www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au



Enrolling now for Kindergarten to Year 12 for 2026.

Please visit our website for enrolment information.

https://www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au/enrolment



# St Luke's 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 20 <sup>th</sup> 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/Riz7ygv1yWTgjd118	First Holy Communion Closes 20 <sup>th</sup> 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/fhs4T4DSDemZhwnJ7	Confirmation Closes 20 <sup>th</sup> 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 27 <sup>th</sup> August	St. Luke's Catholic College Friday 24th October, 7pm Mass.

#### WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

# Why do we take up two collections each Sunday?

The simplest answer is that, as with any organization, it costs money to run the Church: schools, hospitals, maintenance, wages, projects for the spread of the Gospel and caring for those in need, crisis appeals in the wider com-But the Church is more than an organization. It is a community with a familial character and operates as such. There are no membership fees. No one is excluded from church services because they cannot pay. Rather, Catholics are asked to 'pitch in' according to their means. Normally the first Sunday collection is devoted to the living costs of the priest and the presbytery. The second goes to various Church ministries and building projects. A third collection is sometimes included for a special appeal.



ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS OUR CHURCH BUILDING FUND

# **COMMUNITY SPONSORED DIRECTORY**

# **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. VOLID EDIENDLY DADTNED



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- M: 0423 110 580
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