



**St Luke's**  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
MARSDEN PARK



**DIOCESE of**  
**PARRAMATTA**

# WEEKLY BULLETIN



13TH JULY 2025

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

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

## Sunday Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus responds to a lawyer's question: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" The answer begins simply: love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind—and love your neighbour as yourself. But then comes the follow-up question, "And who is my neighbour?" That's when Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan.

A man is left half-dead on the side of the road. A priest and a Levite—religious leaders who should have been the most compassionate—walk by, perhaps too busy, perhaps afraid, perhaps rationalising that it wasn't their responsibility. Then comes the Samaritan, someone considered an outsider, even an enemy, by the Jewish people. But he's the one who stops, tends the wounds, pays the cost, and promises to return.

This parable is more than a lesson in kindness; it's a challenge to our instincts about who "deserves" our compassion. True love for neighbour means moving toward need, not away from it—even when it's costly, inconvenient, or crosses boundaries we've built.

Notice also the shift in Jesus' question at the end. He doesn't ask, "Who is your neighbour?" but "Which of these was a neighbour?" The point is not about identifying who qualifies as a neighbour; the real question is: Are you becoming a neighbour to others?

The parable disrupts the neat categories we often use to define morality. It's not about religious performance, but radical mercy. It invites us to imagine what our communities, churches, and streets

might look like if we became people who constantly crossed barriers with compassion.

In a way, the Samaritan reflects what God has done for us: seeing our brokenness, He moved toward us, healed us at great cost to Himself, and promised never to leave us. When we truly grasp that, we'll stop asking, "What must I do?" and start asking, "How can I become this kind of person?"

This week, let's not pass by. Let's see, stop, and serve. That's what it means to love our neighbour—and to live.

*God Bless ~ Fr. Gayan*



Bring a plate and your biggest smile this Sunday after the 10 AM Mass! Join us for a warm cuppa, tasty bites, and friendly chats with fellow parishioners. It's a great chance to meet your Parish Pastoral Council Members and connect with other parish families. Don't forget your name tag – we'd love to get to know you better! See you there!

### CONTACT US

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**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark](https://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](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.*



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

**First Reading - Deuteronomy 30:10-14** ~ Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. 'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

**Responsorial Psalm - Ps 68:14. 17. 30-31. 33-34. 36-37. R. see v.33**

(R) Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

**Second Reading - Colossians 1:15-20** ~ Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

**Gospel Acclamation (See John 6:63. 68)** ~ Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

**Gospel - Luke 10:25-37** ~ There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours.' But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him,' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go and do the same yourself.'

**Mass Location & Parking Notice – 26 & 27 July 2025** - Please be advised that on the weekend of Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 July, both the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses will be celebrated at The Marketplace. Kindly use the Frontier Avenue Carpark when attending Mass on this weekend. If you are joining us for the Dinner Dance following the Saturday Vigil Mass, please note that the Frontier Carpark will close after the Mass. You are encouraged to move your vehicle to the Northbourne Carpark, which will open from 6:30 PM.



## 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. (Kindy to Year 4)

### YOUTH MINISTRY:

Every 2nd Friday. 7pm in the St Luke's Hub. Next Meeting: 18th July.

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. THIS WEEKEND : July 13th

### WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

Proceeds of this fundraising activity goes towards the parish building fund. NEXT FOODSTALL: August 15th & 16th

### 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: 17th July. Looking for space to grow in faith, explore Scripture, and walk with others in our parish community?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PARISH CENSUS ~** Thank you to everyone who took part in the parish census. If you haven't had a chance to complete it yet, paper copies are available at the welcome table, or log onto the web link or QR code provided.

Link: <https://forms.gle/KcBqTq7qz2i4ts6>



**PARISH BUILDING SIGNAGE – HELP NEEDED ~** We are looking for someone to design the artwork for the signage on our new parish building. If you have experience or interest in design, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact the parish office or speak to Fr Gayan after Mass.

**FIRST SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION ~** The preparation program for the First Sacrament of Reconciliation will commence on Wednesday, 30 July at 6pm in The Hub at the school. It is essential that all children enrolled for the sacrament attend with a parent or guardian.

Enrolment Masses for the children and their families will take place on the weekends of 2/3 August and 9/10 August. These Masses mark the formal beginning of their journey towards the Sacrament, and we warmly invite the parish community to support them with your prayers.

**INTRODUCING A SUNDAY 8AM MASS ~** Some parishioners have mentioned that winter mornings outside the Performance Hall can be quite chilly. Also, with the growing number of people at the 10am Mass, some end up standing outside. To help ease this, we're introducing an 8am Mass on Sundays, starting from the weekend of 2/3 August. This will allow us to keep the glass doors closed and provide a warmer, more comfortable space during Mass. To make this possible, we'll need volunteers to serve as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and Ministers of the Altar. If you plan to attend the 8am Mass and are happy to assist, please write your name on the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Table.

### ST LUKE'S CATHOLIC PARISH DINNER DANCE 2025

#### 2 WEEKS TO GO!

**Date:** Saturday, 26 July 2025

**Time:** 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM

**Where:** Performance Hall, St Luke's Catholic College Northbourne Drive, Marsden Park, NSW

Get ready for an Italian-themed evening of fun, food, and festivities! Join us for a night of delicious dining, great music, and dancing — all in support of our future permanent Church.

#### On the Menu:

Antipasto • Pastas • Salads • Assorted Desserts • Wood-Fired Pizza (cooked onsite!)

Onsite Childminding Available (Ages 3+)

So parents can enjoy the night stress-free!

Register by 13 July 2025 via QR code on the flyer or this link:

<https://shorturl.at/nK3PV>

**Tickets:** \$100 per adult (All proceeds go towards building our permanent Church) To purchase tickets or volunteer:

**Email:** [stlukesfundraisingteam@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesfundraisingteam@gmail.com)

With heartfelt thanks to our sponsors:

Kav Prasad - LJ Hooker Schofields • Red & Blue Home Loans • Jim's Laundry - Colebee • Cocoa Vanilla Cakes • Calli's Grill.



## NEWS FROM THE ST LUKE'S LEADERSHIP TEAM

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE~** We warmly welcome our new Parish Pastoral Council members: Christine Duggan, Ndulue Perpetua Onyinye, Mandy Goswami, Geraldine Santos, and Althea Dela Cruz. We also sincerely thank our outgoing members Joe Son Kee, Michael Froio, and Juanita Cruickshank for their dedicated service and commitment to our parish community. May God bless them all as they continue to serve in different ways.

## COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

We pray for those in our Community who are sick: Daisy Pangilinan; Tony Yu; Rena Cremutus Dahlia Wingco & Bernardo Quintana.

Recently Deceased: Randolph Gunasekara, Anula Rupasingh and Fr. Tim Hogan.

We Remember: Oliver Soares and Joseph Menezes.

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.

## CONDOLENCES



The funeral of the late Randolph Gunasekara will be held on Monday 14 July 2025 at 10.30am at Guardian Funerals Minchinbury Chapel, Kington Street Minchinbury. We offer our prayers and heartfelt condolences to Ramon and the family during this time of loss.

We also extend our sincere condolences to Varuni Emerson on the passing of her beloved mother, the late Anula Rupasingha. May her soul rest in peace.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rev Tim Hogan, one of the retired priests in our Diocese, who died last Sunday 6 July 2025. He was 81 years old. Fr Tim



Celebrating the life and priestly ministry of

*Fr Tim Hogan*

16 May 1944 - 6 July 2025

**FUNERAL MASS**  
Monday 14 July at 10.30am  
St Anthony of Padua Church,  
27-33 Aurelia St, Toongabbie

**BURIAL**  
Castle Hill Cemetery,  
10 Gilbert Road, Castle Hill

lived a life dedicated to Our Lord. He was born with cerebral palsy, yet he did not let this define him. He served in many capacities - as Assistant Parish Priest at St Anthony of Padua, Toongabbie from 1999 - 2007 as well as at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood and Blacktown Parish and Tribunal Office.

## 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 donation portal through the CBA at <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICPARISH1> 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.







# 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 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? ~ PART III. SAINTS & DEVOTIONS

### Why do we have statues of saints?

Does your home display photos of deceased family members? Do you sometimes visit the grave of a loved one on special occasions of remembrance? Sometimes painful, sometimes comforting, gestures like these allow families to continue to include their ancestors in the fabric of daily life. The Catholic community, too, has ways of acknowledging its ancestors, the communion of saints, with whom we are bonded through faith even beyond the grave. Statues, art and various devotional practices that abound in Catholic churches are concrete expressions of our enduring relationship with those who have gone before us in faith.



## 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.



**Advertise Here!!**



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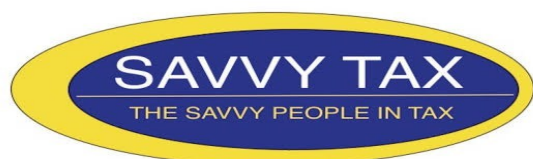
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#### Get in touch.

- E: [randy@hipolito.com.au](mailto:randy@hipolito.com.au)
- M: 0423 110 580
- [www.hipolito.com.au](http://www.hipolito.com.au)



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