



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

## Sunday Reflection

In Luke 14:1, 7–14, Jesus is invited to a meal at the home of a Pharisee. While there, He notices how people are quick to choose the best seats for themselves. He takes this moment to teach about humility, saying that when you are invited, don't rush to the places of honor. Instead, sit in the lowest place. If the host then calls you forward, you will be honored. He ends with the principle: "For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Jesus then turns to the host and challenges him as well. Don't just invite friends, family, or wealthy neighbors who can repay you. Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind—those who cannot pay you back. In doing so, your reward will come from God.

The heart of this passage is not just about table manners, but about the posture of our hearts. We often live by a system of self-promotion and reciprocity—seeking recognition, climbing social ladders, and expecting returns for our generosity. Jesus confronts this way of living. True greatness in God's kingdom is not about status but about humility and selfless love.

Humility here is not about putting ourselves down, but about lifting others up. It's about recognizing that our worth doesn't come from where we sit at the table, but from the One who invited us. When we know we are secure in God's love, we don't need to compete for honor. We are freed to serve and to give without calculating what we'll get in return.



Jesus Himself lived this teaching. He took the lowest place, washing His disciples' feet, giving His life on the cross for people who could never repay Him. In Him, we see that the way down is the way up.

This passage invites us to reflect: How do I approach others? Do I give and love only when there's something in it for me? Or am I learning to love freely, trusting that God Himself will honor and reward me? The kingdom belongs to those who choose humility, generosity, and the joy of serving others.

*God Bless ~ Fr. Gayan Thamel.*

### 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:** Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm - 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

### Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf Psalm 85:3,5 ~ Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

**First Reading - Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29** ~ My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.

The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

**Responsorial Psalm - Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11**

R) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

**Second Reading - Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24** ~ What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

**Gospel Acclamation (Matthew 11:29)** ~ Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

**Gospel - Luke 14:1. 7-14** ~ and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

**Communion Antiphon: Psalm 30:20** ~ How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

## 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: 8.00am & 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 leaders only meeting: 12th September. Next Youth Program: 26th September. For students in Year 4 to Year 12. 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. 14th September

### WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

Proceeds of this fundraising activity goes towards the parish building fund. THIS WEEKEND: August 30th & 31st

### 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: 11th September. Looking for 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

### **BLESSING AND OPENING OF OUR CHURCH BUILDING** ~ The

Blessing and Opening of our Church Building will take place on Sunday, 19 October, following the 10 am Mass. As this day celebrates the Feast of St Luke, our patron, Mass will begin with a procession.

Bishop Vincent will be the main celebrant of both the Mass and the blessing, with other invited guests taking part in the ceremony. The congregation will witness the blessing and opening from the school's undercover area outside, surrounding the church building site.

All are warmly invited to morning tea, and parishioners will have an opportunity to visit and pray in the church building after the blessing.

Our first weekend Masses in the new church will be celebrated on the weekend of 25/26 October.

**CALLING ALL CREATIVE KIDS** ~ We invite all children to join the art competition for the opening of St Luke's Church Building. This is a special chance to share your creativity and be part of a historic day for our parish. The winning artwork will be printed on a bookmark to keep as a memory for everyone. **Theme:** St Luke **Sheets available:** 30/31 August **Closing date:** 19th September (entries to be placed in the drop box) Your artwork will help make this day one to remember for years to come.

**MARSDEN PARK CARE COMMUNITY MASS** ~ Please be advised that the Mass at Marsden Park Care Community on 12 September will not be celebrated. The next Mass will take place on 26 September at 11am.

**BOOK FOR SALE NEXT WEEKEND** ~ Fr Zvonimir has written a book on the history of Croatia in English, which will be available for sale next weekend.

**GOD'S WORD 2026** ~ Available from the Piety store for \$20.00ea. Contains the Bible readings set down for each day of the liturgical year with reflections by eminent spiritual writers.

**CONFIRMATION 2025** ~ The Sacrament of Confirmation lessons will begin on Wednesday, 27 August at 6pm at The Hub, St Luke's Catholic College. The Enrolment Masses for children and parents will take place during all Masses on the weekends of 23/24 August and 30/31 August. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

**REQUEST FOR TV MONITORS** ~ As we continue to equip our new church building, we are looking to purchase two new 80-inch TV monitors. These monitors will be an important part of enhancing our liturgies,

presentations, and community events. If anyone is able to assist with sourcing, donating, or contributing towards these monitors, your support would be greatly appreciated. Any assistance, big or small, will make a difference. Please contact the parish office for more information.

**FATHER'S DAY VIDEO** ~ The parish is putting together a Father's Day Video. We kindly invite families to email a photo of their Father's to feature in this video by this weekend. [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org) Please ensure the name of the Dad pictured is also included.

**SEMINARIAN PASTORAL PLACEMENT** ~ We are pleased to welcome Macky Amores, a seminarian, who will be serving in our parish for his pastoral placement. He will begin his ministry on the weekend of 4/5 October 2025 and will be present from Friday to Sunday each week, returning to the seminary during the weekdays. Macky will continue with us in this way until Christmas. Please keep him in your prayers.



**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR SACRAMENTAL TEAM** ~ The Parish is seeking for volunteers to be part of the sacramental team. This team will assist in delivering the sacramental process of Parish. If you are interested in joining or finding out more information please contact the parish office. **Email:** [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

### **OCIA: WELCOMING NEW FACES TO THE FAITH**

The OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) – formerly known as RCIA – will soon begin at St Luke's Parish. This is a time of grace and transformation for those who are seeking to become Catholic or wish to complete their sacraments of initiation. We encourage all parishioners to remain watchful and welcoming toward those who may be quietly searching for faith, unsure of how to begin, or hoping for support on their spiritual journey. A kind invitation, an offer to accompany them, or a simple conversation could be the encouragement they need.

To express interest or find out more, please contact our parish office: Email: [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org) Phone: (02) 8530 0173 or Mobile: 0422 724 160. Let's journey together in faith and love—and continue to be a community of compassion and welcome.

**FR GAYAN'S ANNUAL LEAVE** ~ Fr Gayan will be on annual leave from 1–23 September. During this time, Fr Zvonimir will celebrate Mass on the weekend of 6/7 September. On the following weekends, 13/14 September and 20/21 September, Mass will be celebrated by Fr John Boyle. Please note that there will be no Wednesday Mass while Fr Gayan is away, and the Friday 6.30pm Mass will be celebrated by Fr Treesen.

## COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

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

Recently Deceased: Leowell Gonzales; Mariel Abadejos; Dahlia Wingco.

We Remember: Luiza Machado; David Edmunds, Patty Mallari, Michael Machado, Teresita Mendoza; Belen Tiotuico and Joseph Stanislaus.

Death Anniversary: Belen Tiotuico, Amado P Jovellana 1st Death Anniversary); Jose Mayang (7th Year) & Teresa Daza

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.

## WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

**Penance ....** 'Penance' is not a terribly popular word these days. Yet the 'offering up' or denying ourselves of a simple desire (e.g. a favorite TV program, an extra dinner serving) is still a rich and fruitful practice embedded in our Catholic tradition. Far from being a negative thing, regular acts of penance strengthen our will-power, develop perseverance and free us from self-centredness. Just as an athlete prepares for a race with months of regular training, so does the practice of penance prepare a Christian for the 'tough' side of Gospel living; those days that require you to 'give your all' when you thought you had already.

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# Sacramental Process 2025



Available for	Enrolment closing Date	Enrolment Mass Dates	Weekly Groups Begin	Ceremonies
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/fhs4T4SDemZhnwJ7">https://forms.gle/fhs4T4SDemZhnwJ7</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>

## 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



## FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

LET US CARE FOR OUR SPIRITUAL FATHERS, JUST AS THEY CARE FOR US

Your kind gift this Father's Day will enable the Clergy Support Foundation to provide vital care and support including accommodation, medical assistance, and daily living needs for our ageing and unwell priests.

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL  
[parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](https://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal)



Click here to donate

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## 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.  
[marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

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

## WEEKEND FOOD STALL MENU

**SAVOURY** **NEW!** **SWEET**

**CHICKEN BIRYANI - \$20**

**BIKO NI LOLO - \$8**

**UBE CUPCAKE - \$4**

**CHOCOLATE CAKE SLICE - \$5**

**LIGHT**

**EMPANADAS - \$3**

**CHIFFON CAKES - \$3**

**ASSORTED BROWNIES - \$2**

**CASHEW BARS - \$3**

**CASH/CARD ACCEPTED**  
All proceeds go towards our Stage 2 Church Building & Operational Fund



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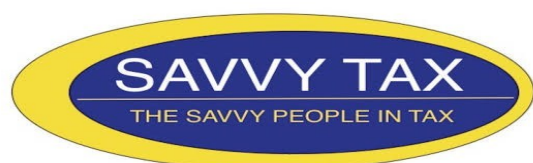
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