



St Luke's
CATHOLIC PARISH
MARSDEN PARK



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

22ND FEBRUARY 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ YEAR A



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

Sunday Connection . . .

Family Connection . . .



In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil. Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but

each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture. The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted. Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God. © 2026 Loyola Press. All rights reserved.

When Jesus resists the temptations presented to him by the devil, he draws on his religious upbringing and tradition. Jesus is able to quote from Scripture because he is the Son of God and because he was a human person who lived his Jewish beliefs fully. We who are responsible for raising children are also called upon to immerse them fully in our Catholic Christian tradition so that they too will be able to draw upon this tradition to resist the temptations they will face in their lives. Use this Sunday as an opportunity to call your family's attention to the importance of Scripture in our lives. Gather your family around the family Bible and read today's Gospel, Matthew 4:1-11. Recall that Jesus rebuked the devil's temptations by quoting Scripture. Take some time as a family to talk about the words that are found in the Bible and the importance of Scripture to our faith. Perhaps the older members of the family can share a favorite Scripture passage with everyone. Younger family members can tell their favorite story from the Bible and be shown where that story can be found. In each case, encourage a deeper sharing of faith by asking each person to tell why the Scripture passage shared is important to him or her. Conclude your time together by again reading Jesus' reply to the devil found in Matthew 4:4 ("One does not live by bread alone . . .") and praying the Lord's Prayer.

Sacramental Process Dates 2026

Dates and registrations for our sacramental processes for 2026 are now open. Please use QR code or log on to our parish website:

<https://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au/>



CONTACT US

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Website: stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark

Address: 55A 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 ~ Located adjacent to the school office 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



St Luke's
Catholic College



St Luke's
CATHOLIC PARISH
MARSDEN PARK

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ YEAR A

Entrance Antiphon: Cf Psalm 90:15-16 ~ When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

First Reading - Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 ~ The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm -Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading - Romans 5:12, 17-19 (Shorter Form) ~ Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more

certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation - Matthew 4:4

~ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel - Matthew 4:1-11 ~ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Jesus fasted for forty days and nights. Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Communion Antiphon - Matthew 4:4 ~ One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

We pray for those in our Community who are sick:

Maryse Ferdinands; Tony Duggan; Mila Makasini; Annabelle Edwards; Amor Matulac; Tony Yu; Rena Cremutus & Bernardo Quintana.

Recently Deceased: Derek Anselm Rego

Rodolfo Magaling; Paolo Carrer ; Josie Mateo;

Terezinha da Silva Rojanski; Carmello Pilato,

Death Anniversary: Madeline Ivy Ma-Ambong

May They Rest In Peace

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.

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

Part V. OCIA formally RCIA ~ 'Who's who' in the O.C.I.A.?

For parishioners who are little baffled by the multitude of titles (often derived from ancient Greek) relating to people in the O.C.I.A., here is a simple glossary of common terms:

- Enquirer: A person who approaches the Catholic Church with an initial expression of interest.
- Catechumen: (Greek: one who 'echoes the gospel.') An unbaptized person who is undertaking preparations for baptism in the Catholic Church.
- Candidate: A baptized Christian of another Christian denomination who seeks full communion with the Catholic Church.

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STEWARDSHIP: PARISH DONATIONS

PARISH STEWARDSHIP THROUGH PLANNED GIVING ~ Your thoughtful contributions through planned giving can make a significant difference, helping us move from financial strain to a sustainable surplus. This will allow us to continue our vital ministries, maintain our sacred spaces, and serve those in need. Please prayerfully consider setting up a recurring gift or increasing your weekly offering. Together, we can build a stronger financial foundation for our parish's future. For more information on how to start planned giving, please contact the parish office. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission.

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.



Please contact Ged at the parish office for further information or any inquiries about building fund donations.

accounts@stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au or (02) 7261 0246.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN PROGRAM 2026 ~ Come and join our Lenten program in the preparation for Holy week and Easter. Every Thursday during lent at 7.00pm in the old parish office, all welcome to attend.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ~ We invite parishioners to participate in the station of the cross after the 6.30pm Mass every Friday during Lent. (Commencing Friday ~ 20th February)

NEW PARISH COORDINATORS ~ We are pleased to announce that James (Joseph Irudayaraj) has been appointed as the Sacristan of our parish and will be commissioned during the Saturday Vigil Mass on 7 March. Charles Emerson has been appointed as the Coordinator of the Parish Prayer Ministry Team. We thank them both for generously offering their time and talents to serve our parish community and ask you to keep them in your prayers as they take on these important roles, supporting our liturgies and helping our parish grow in prayer and faith.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARISH VOLUNTEERS ~ A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped transfer and organise items from the parish office to the shed, and to all who assisted with the Ash Wednesday Masses in the church and Performance Hall. Your generosity and willingness to serve continue to strengthen our parish community and nurture our faith.

INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028 – HOLY HOUR Sydney will host the International Eucharistic Congress in September 2028. As part of the three-year preparation, parishes across Australia are invited to hold a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration on Sunday, 1 March 2026. Our parish will have Adoration following the 10:00am Mass. All are warmly welcome to join in prayer and reflection.

LUKE18 PILGRIMAGE ~ If you are aged 14-35 and would like to join our youth and young adults pilgrimage to Mount Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa on Sunday 22nd March please scan the QR code to register.



PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES ~ Project Compassion boxes are ready for collection at the church doors today. This year, instead of the usual six weekly envelopes, there is just one Project Compassion envelope for the entire Lenten season.

JRS LENTEN FOOD BANK APPEAL ~ This Lent, our parish is supporting Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia by collecting food items for their Foodbank, which provides essential groceries to over 150 families each week. We will be collecting a different item:

Week 1 - Cooking oil (750 ml or 1L)

Week 2 - Dishwashing liquid

Week 3 - Canned tuna (unflavored in oil)

Week 4 - Laundry detergent

Week 5 - Dried red lentils (375g or 1kg)

Week 6 - Long life milk (1L, full cream)

We will commence collections next weekend (28th Feb/1st Mar). Collection buckets will be outside the church to place your donations. We thank you for your on going generosity.

ST LUKE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE, MARSDEN PARK OPEN DAY THURSDAY 5 MARCH 4PM - 6PM.

All welcome to attend our Open Day to see what we have to offer. Enrolments now open for K-12, 2027, Limited enrolments available for 2026.

Please register: <https://www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au>



REGULAR ACTIVITIES

PARISH MASS TIMES:

All Mass celebrated at our new worship space
55A Frontier Ave, Marsden Park.

Weekday Mass Times:

Wednesday 7.30am

Thursday 9.00am

Friday 6.30pm



Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday: Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

Sunday: 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.30pm.

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 in

the parish office 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 OCIA - Order 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. 6.30pm Mass followed by the youth program at 7pm in St Luke's Hub.

Next Youth Program: 13th March 2026

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

PRAYER MINISTRY:

1st weekend every 2nd month.

Next opportunity: 4th & 5th April 2026.

Whether you need guidance, support, or simply someone to pray with, feel free to come forward after Mass and let us join you in prayer.



MORNING TEA:

Every 2nd Sunday after 10.00am Mass.

Sunday: 8th March

WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

Proceeds of this fundraising activity goes towards the parish building fund.

This weekend: 21st & 22nd February.

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: 19th February. 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 (CONT'D)

WELCOME OUR NEW PARISH CHOIR – JIREH ~ We are delighted to introduce Jireh, our parish's newest choir. "Jireh" is a Hebrew word meaning "The Lord will provide." They made their debut at the 5:30pm Mass last Saturday, offering their voices in praise and worship. Please keep this new ministry in your prayers as they grow in faith and continue to enrich our parish liturgies with music.



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

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Top Juice Westfield Penrith



TOP JUICE



Weekend Food Stall

MENU (21-22 FEB)
Cash/ Card accepted



Assorted Brownies
\$2 each



Chiffon cupcakes
\$3



Bhel Purj (Sat only)
\$6



Chicken Biryani
\$20

Available after 5:30 PM Sat Vigil and 10 AM Sunday masses.
All proceeds go towards our stage 2 church building and operational costs.



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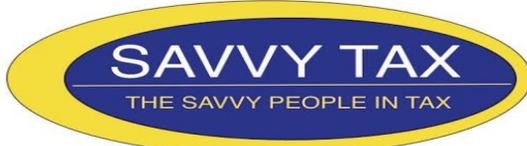
Accounting & Taxation Services

Our services.

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- Bookkeeping
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- SMSF Tax
- Trust & Partnership Tax

Get in touch.

- E: randy@hipolito.com.au
- M: 0423 110 580
- www.hipolito.com.au



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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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