



St Luke's
CATHOLIC PARISH
MARSDEN PARK



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PARRAMATTA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

22ND MARCH 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ YEAR A



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

Sunday Reflection...



In Gospel of John 11:1–45 we read the story of Lazarus and his sisters, Mary of Bethany and Martha of Bethany. Lazarus becomes very sick, so the sisters send a message to Jesus Christ asking Him to come. They believe that if Jesus comes, their brother will be healed. But Jesus does not go immediately. When He

finally arrives in Bethany, Lazarus has already died and has been in the tomb for four days.

Many people are sad and confused. Martha goes out to meet Jesus and says, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Her words show deep sorrow, but they also show faith. She still believes in Jesus even in the middle of her grief and disappointment.

Jesus responds with powerful words: "I am the resurrection and the life." With these words, Jesus is saying that life is found in Him. Those who trust in Him will have life, even beyond death. He is not only someone who helps people in their problems; He is the source of life itself.

When Jesus sees Mary and the others crying, He is deeply moved. The Gospel tells us that Jesus wept. These simple words show His great

love and compassion. Even though He knows what He is about to do, He still shares in the sorrow of the people. God is not distant from our pain. He understands our suffering and walks with us in it.

Jesus then goes to the tomb where Lazarus has been buried. He asks for the stone to be removed. Then He calls out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" Lazarus comes out of the tomb alive. The people are amazed and many begin to believe in Jesus. Through this miracle, Jesus shows that He has power even over death.

This story teaches us an important lesson. Sometimes God does not act in the way or time that we expect. There may be moments when we feel that God is late or silent. But this passage reminds us that God is still working, even when we cannot see it.

In times of loss, waiting, or confusion, we are invited to trust in Jesus. He brings hope where there is despair and life where there is death. When we place our faith in Him, we discover that His power and love are greater than anything we face.

~ Fr Gayan Thamel

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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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 contributors and innovative problem solvers for our changing world.



St Luke's
Catholic College



St Luke's
CATHOLIC PARISH
MARSDEN PARK

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ YEAR A

Entrance Antiphon: Cf Psalm 42:1-2 ~ Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14 ~ The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm—Ps 129. R. v.7 ~ (R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11 ~ People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation - See John 11:25. 26 ~ Glory and praise to you,

Lord Jesus Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel - John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45 (shorter Form) ~ The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Communion Antiphon: Cf John 11:26~ Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

Recently Deceased: Danilo Ilagan; Gloria Garbolo; Melba Reyestan; Derek Anselm Rego; Rodolfo Magaling; Paolo Carrer; Josie Mateo; Terezinha da Silva Rojanski; Carmello Pilato.

Death Anniversary: Armando Joya; Arsenio Virata Jamir; Rafael Tiotuico Madeline Ivy Ma-Ambong.

In Memoriam: Daisy Pangilinan; Cicily Abraham and Abraham Paulose

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

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.

Special Intentions:

Thanksgiving: Gimil Abraham

Birthday: Anet Mejo ~ 16th Birthday

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

PARISH MASSES ~ Our parish celebrates four Masses each weekend. The 10:00am Mass is very popular, and we still have about 30% of seating capacity available at the following Masses: Saturday 5:30 PM, Sunday 8:00 AM, Sunday 5:30 PM We warmly invite parishioners to consider attending these Masses.

EASTER VIGIL CANDLES ~ Please note that wax candles cannot be used in the Performance Hall due to venue regulations. Therefore, battery-operated candles will be used during the Easter Vigil. Battery candles are available at the Piety Stall for \$5 each.

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME ~ If you know someone, or a family member, who is unable to attend Mass due to illness or limited mobility and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the parish office. A member of our Pastoral Care team will be happy to bring Holy Communion to them.

RETURN OF OFFERING TINS ~ During the opening of our parish building, offering tins were distributed to parishioners. We warmly ask that all tins be kindly returned to the church in the coming weeks. Your contributions play a vital role in helping us continue the next stage of our church building. Thank you for your continued prayers, generosity, and support.

WALKING WITH CHRIST ~ The Walking with Christ Bible Study Group will resume after the Lenten programme on Thursday, 16 April at 7:00 pm in the Old Parish Office. All parishioners are warmly invited to come along and be part of this enriching time of prayer, discussion, and fellowship.

HELP NEEDED – CHURCH CLEANING ~ We are looking for volunteers to assist with the church cleaning roster. If you are able to help, please contact the parish office. Your support is greatly appreciated.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK ~ The latest edition of Catholic Outlook is now available. Please take a free copy.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

28/29 Mar- Palm Sunday – Masses will be in the Church.

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm, Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.30pm

2nd Apr- Holy Thursday – 7:00pm (Performance Hall)

3rd Apr- Good Friday – Stations of the Cross – 10:00am

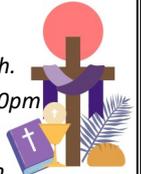
Good Friday Service – 3:00pm (Both at Performance Hall)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available after the 3:00pm service.

4th Apr- Easter Vigil – 7:00pm (Performance Hall)

NB: Easter Vigil Mass – Change of Time - The Easter Vigil on Saturday, 4 April will be celebrated at 7:00 pm in the Performance Hall, rather than the usual Saturday evening Mass time of 5:30 pm.

5th Apr- Easter Sunday – 8:00am, 10:00am, and 5:30pm. (Performance Hall)



WEEKEND FOOD STALL ~ Join us after Mass this weekend for our Parish Food Stall! Saturday Vigil (5:30 PM) & Sunday Mass (10:00 AM) New Item: Dubai Chocolate Cupcakes. Back on the Menu: Ube cupcakes, Chicken Tandoori, Pork Chilli All-Time Favourites: Assorted brownies, Chiffon cupcakes, Chicken Biryani Cash and card payments accepted. All proceeds will go towards our Stage 2 Church Building and operational funds. Thank you for your continued support!

YOUTH FOR CHRIST - ENRTY CAMP ~ Youth for Christ Australia (YFCA) is a Catholic youth group for teenagers 13-19 years old. YFCA is having an entry camp on April 17-19 at Scout Bundilla Camp, Winston Hills. For inquiries, please contacty Ermi & Ed Acallar 0438 716 510

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.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

Our Pastoral Care Team is available to bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are sick or unable to attend Mass. If you or someone you know would like to receive Communion at home, please contact the Parish Office:
marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Saturdays: 4.30pm to 5.25pm in the parish office or by appointment.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

During School Term at Saturday Vigil & Sunday Mass. (Kindy to Year 4).



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

YOUTH MINISTRY:

Every 2nd Friday. 6.30pm Mass followed by the youth program at 7pm in St Luke's Hub.
Next Youth Program: 10th April 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: 11th & 12th 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.
On Sunday: 12th April

WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

Proceeds of this fundraising activity goes towards the parish building fund.
Next weekend: 21st & 22nd March.

MARSDEN PARK CARE COMMUNITY MASS

2nd Friday of each month at 11am - Mass
4th Sunday of each month at 10am - Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

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: 16th April. 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)

FREE WEEKLY LEGAL CLINIC AT CATHOLIC CARE, EMERTON ~

Every Thursday from 11 am at Catholic Care (11 Emerton Parade, Emerton) you can visit for FREE legal advice on matters including: Family Law, Care and Protection, Local Court matters, Wills and Estates and Traffic Offences. Walk-ins are welcome, for more information and to make a booking call 8843 2500.



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:

This Wk 4 - Laundry detergent & Wk 5 - Dry Lentils

Collection buckets will be outside the church to place your donations. We thank you for your on going generosity.

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TOP JUICE

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

PLEASE NOTE:

We encourage you to support the advertisers that support us. Please understand that St Luke's Catholic Parish Marsden Park cannot take responsibility if the service provided by an advertiser does not meet expectations.

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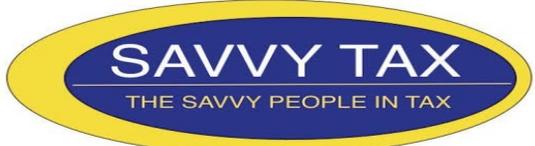
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- M: 0423 110 580
- www.hipolito.com.au



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