



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



DIOCESE of  
PARRAMATTA

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

26TH APRIL 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ YEAR A & ANZAC DAY WEEKEND



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

## Sunday Reflection....

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about a sheepfold, a gate, and a shepherd. At first, it sounds like a simple story, but it carries a deep message about trust, belonging, and life.

Jesus says that the true shepherd enters through the gate, and the sheep recognize his voice. They follow him because they know him. But they run away from strangers. Why? Because they don't trust voices they don't know.

In our daily lives, we hear many voices. Some tell us what success looks like. Others tell us what will make us happy. Social media, friends, work pressures—all these voices compete for our attention. But not all of them lead us to life. Some lead to stress, comparison, or emptiness.

Jesus is inviting us to listen carefully. His voice is different. It is not loud or forceful. It is gentle, steady, and full of love. It calls us by name. It reminds us that we are known and valued, not because of what we achieve, but because we belong to Him.

He also says, "I am the gate." This means He is the way to safety, to peace, and to true life. Not just survival—but a full life. A life with purpose, hope, and joy, even in difficult times. He leads us into a place where we are safe and cared for.

So how do we recognize His voice? We spend time with Him. Through prayer, through Scripture, and through quiet moments where we listen. The more we stay close, the more familiar His voice becomes, and the easier it is to trust Him.

Today, we can ask ourselves: Which voices am I following? Are they leading me closer to peace, or further away? And am I making space to hear the voice of the Good Shepherd?

Jesus doesn't force us. He calls us. And when we choose to follow Him, we don't walk alone—we walk into a life that is full, secure, and deeply loved. ~ Fr Gayan Thamel



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The Parish Office will be closed On Monday April 27th for the ANZAC Day public holiday and will re-open on Tuesday April 28th April.

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



**St Luke's**  
Catholic College



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

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ YEAR A

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf Psalm 32:5-6 ~ The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia .

**First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41**

~ On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

**Responsorial Psalm—Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1**

R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Second Reading - 1 Peter 2:20-25** ~ The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured

he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

**Gospel Acclamation - John 10:14**

~ Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

**Gospel - John 10:1-10** ~ Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

**Communion Antiphon:** ~ The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

## COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

**Recently Deceased:** John Neish; Henry Faustorilla; Danilo Ilagan; Gloria Garbolo  
**Death Anniversary:** Milagros Aguilar; Eduardo Pasaquian; Armando Joya; Arsenio Virata Jamir; Rafael Tiotuico; Madeline Ivy Ma-Ambong.

**In Memoriam:** Daisy Pangilinan; Cicily Abraham and Abraham

*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](mailto: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.

## WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

### Part V. OCIA formally RCIA ~ Period of Enlightenment

Imagine an engaged couple a few weeks before their wedding. Expectations mount. Preparations intensify. They are acutely aware of the important life step they are about to take. Anticipation is often tinged with anxiety. For people in their final weeks of preparation for baptism, the experience can be somewhat similar. This stage - the Period of Enlightenment - normally coincides with Lent and is a time of heightened reflection and repentance as preparations for baptism (usually at Easter) come to a head. © The Story Source, 1993.

## 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](mailto:accounts@stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au) or (02) 7261 0246.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ANZAC DAY REMEMBRANCE**~ ANZAC Remembrance will be commemorated at the end of all Masses on this weekend of 25/26 April. We will pause to honour the service and sacrifice of all who have served our country in times of war and peace.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COMMITMENT MASSES** ~ The First Holy Communion Commitment Masses will take place on the weekends of 2/3 May and 9/10 May at all Masses. During these Masses, the children preparing for First Holy Communion, together with their parents will make their commitment as they continue their sacramental journey. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this important step in their faith journey.

**MOTHER'S DAY VIDEO~ AS A TRIBUTE TO THE MOTHER'S OF OUR COMMUNITY** ~ A pictorial tribute will be created to be shown during our Mother's Day Masses. We invite parishioners to submit photos of St Luke's parish mum's no later than 3rd May. This can be send via email to marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

**STAGE 2 CHURCH BUILDING FUND – UPDATE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** ~ At all Masses on the weekend of 2/3 May, Arvin Joya will acknowledge those who are currently supporting the Stage 2 Church Building Fund. He will also invite new members of the parish community to consider joining the pledge program and will provide a brief update on the financial report. We are grateful for the ongoing generosity and support of our parish community.

**ST LUKE'S PARISH IS SEEKING A FUNDRAISING LEAD.** ~ If you are organised, enjoy working with others, and would like to support our parish, especially our Stage 2 Church Building Project. We'd love to hear from you. Please speak to Fr Gayan after Mass or contact the parish office. Thank you for supporting our parish community.

**SAVE THE DATE** ~ Our Parish Annual Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, 25 July 2026 at 7:00pm at the Performance Hall of St Luke's Catholic College. More details to follow.

**PARISH MINISTRY RECRUITMENT DRIVE**—On the weekend of 23/24 May, as the Universal Church celebrates Pentecost, our parish will hold a Ministry Recruitment Drive. This will be an opportunity for individuals and families to learn more about the different parish ministries and consider sharing their time and talents through volunteering. We invite everyone to prayerfully reflect on how they may contribute to the mission of our Church.

**THE CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM** ~ The CLP is a 8-session renewal course run by Couples for Christ, designed to renew Christian faith and build stronger family lives. It serves as an entry point into a supportive community, featuring talks, group discussions, and fellowship, focused on Basics of Christianity, Authentic Christian Living, and Life in the Holy Spirit. Start Date: 03 May 2026 130-430PM Venue: St Lukes Catholic College (The HUB) Contact persons: Carlo (0402123152), Cathy J (0413337627)

## 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: 8th May 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

### MORNING TEA:

Every 2nd Sunday after 10.00am Mass. On Sunday 10th May ~ Mother's Day!

### WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

Proceeds of this fundraising activity goes towards the parish building fund. The weekend of 2nd & 3rd May. Also on the 16th & 17th May.

### PRAYER MINISTRY:

1st weekend every 2nd month. This weekend~ 6th & 7th June 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.

### 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: 30th 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



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT ~ WEEKEND FOOD STALL!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Weekend Food Stall. Together we made nearly \$900 in net profit. Your generosity and presence made it a wonderful success.

We are especially grateful to our dedicated volunteers—your time, effort, and teamwork made everything possible, from preparing the food to serving the community.

In May there will be two weekends that we have the food stall ~ 2nd/3rd May and 16th/17th May.



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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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