



*St Luke's*  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
MARSDEN PARK



DIOCESE of  
PARRAMATTA

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

10TH MAY 2026

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ YEAR A & MOTHER'S DAY



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

## *Sunday Reflection....*

During the Second World War, many soldiers carried small photographs of their families in their pockets. In the middle of fear, noise, and uncertainty, they would take them out and look at them. A wife, a child, a home—those simple images reminded them of who they were and where they belonged. The photograph did not remove the danger around them, but it anchored them. It gave them courage, because they knew they were loved and not forgotten.

In John 14:15–21, Jesus speaks words that reach that same deep human need: “I will never leave you orphans.” This is not a distant comfort—it is a promise of presence and belonging. To feel like an orphan is to feel alone, unprotected, and unseen. Jesus directly rejects that for those who belong to him. You are not abandoned. You are not left to face life on your own.

He then says, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” At first, this can sound like a condition or a demand. But placed next to his promise, it becomes something different. Just as those soldiers did not carry the photographs out of obligation but out of love, so too our response to Jesus flows from relationship, not fear. Love becomes the source of action, not just duty.

Then Jesus promises something more: the Spirit of truth will come and remain within us. This means God’s presence is not distant or occasional, but close, personal, and active within our lives. We are not left to figure things out alone. We are strengthened from within.

This changes how ordinary life is lived. It is seen in quiet decisions—choosing honesty when it is easier to compromise, showing patience when we are stretched, forgiving when it is difficult. These are not attempts to earn love, but responses to a love already given.

And when we struggle or fail, the promise still stands: “I will never leave you orphans.” We are not cast aside. We are not forgotten. Like those soldiers returning to the photograph, we return again to the truth that we are held and known.

So we don’t walk away trying harder on our own. We walk away remembering this: we are never left as orphans. We belong, we are loved, and we are never alone. ~ *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**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Gayan Thamel.

**Email:** [gayan.thamel@parracatholic.org](mailto:gayan.thamel@parracatholic.org)

**Parish Secretary:** Gerald “Ged” Oblea

**Phone:** (02) 7261-0246.

**Mobile:** 0422 724 160.

**Email:** [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

**Website:** [stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au](http://stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au)

**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

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ YEAR A

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf Isaiah 48:20 ~ Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

**First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8. 14-17** ~ Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm—Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v. 1 R.)** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.



**Second Reading - 1 Peter 3:15-18** ~ Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved

wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel Acclamation - John 14:23** ~ Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**Gospel - John 14:15-21** ~ Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

**Communion Antiphon: John 14:15-16** ~ If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.



### COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

**Recently Deceased:** Cesar Umali Jr ; Maria Theresa Valbuena Diaz; Carmelita Amos; John Neish; Henry Faustorilla; Danilo Ilagan; Gloria Garbolo.

**Death Anniversary:** Daisy Pangilinan (1st Yr) ; Milagros Aguilar; Eduardo Pasaquian; Armando Joya; Arsenio Virata Jamir; Rafael Tiotuico

**In Memoriam:** Lawrence Monteiro

*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.

### WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO?

#### Part V. OCIA formally RCIA ~ Scrutinies

For those preparing for baptism (and, indeed, for all Christians), turning away from sin is a gradual and life-long process. The O.C.I.A. includes three short ceremonies called scrutinies which contribute to this process. During a scrutiny we call on God's healing presence to free the catechumens from the forces of darkness and to be open more fully to the goodness and fullness of life promised us by Christ.

The scrutinies are held on designated Sundays during Lent.

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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 inquires about building fund donations.

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COMMITMENT MASSES** ~ The First Holy Communion Commitment Masses will take place on this weekend 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.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ATTIRE DONATION** ~ As part of our parish sustainability efforts, we invite parishioners to donate First Holy Communion dresses (girls) and suits (boys) no longer being used. These will be made available to families during the First Holy Communion lessons, supporting one another in preparing for this sacrament. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office after Mass or by contacting the parish office. Thank you for your generosity.

**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.

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** ~ The Dinner Dance committee is inviting parishioner to consider sponsoring one the following dinner dance expenses to maximise the income made from our annual fund-raising event. Event Entertainment Sponsor: DJ (\$600) Photobooth (\$400) Event Entertainment Sponsor: (\$300) If your able to assist, please contact the



Night of  
*Masquerade*

25 JULY 2026 | 7-11 PM

St Luke's Catholic College Performance Hall

**TICKETS: \$120 PP**

St Luke's Parish Dinner Dance



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ENTERTAINMENT



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**MASKS AVAILABLE** FOR PURCHASE ON THE NIGHT

dinner dance team via email: [dinnerdance@stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au](mailto:dinnerdance@stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au)

**DINNER DANCE TICKETS NOW ON SALE!** ~ Our Annual Dinner Dance will take place on Saturday 25th July from 7.00pm at the Performance Hall at St Luke's Catholic Collage the Parish School Hall. Tickets are \$120.00 each, all funds raised from this event will go towards stage 2 of our parish church building. Tickets are available from the Parish office or our ministry leads. Please note there will be child minding available, click on this link: <https://forms.gle/2cUz7Q4Z5TzRw3PK8> or scan this QR code to register your interest.

**Volunteer request for dinner dance on back page!**



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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: 12th June 2026

For students in Year 4 to Year 12.

All enquiries please email:

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

### SRE-SCRIPTURE PROGRAM:

Every Tuesday at Public schools during school term. Volunteers required. All enquiries please email:

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

### MORNING TEA:

Every 2nd Sunday after 10.00am Mass.

This Sunday 10th May ~ Mother's Day!

### WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

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

Next weekend of 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: 14th May. 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](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)



## WEEKEND FOOD STALL~THANK YOU



A heartfelt thank you to our amazing volunteers, generous donors, and supportive parish community. Every item was sold and enjoyed—an incredible effort by all. We're also delighted to share that this is our first weekend this year with a net profit of over \$1,000. All proceeds will go towards our Stage 2 Church Building and operational costs.

Thank you for your continued support.

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR DINNER DANCE.** ~ We are seeking volunteers to assist during our Annual Parish Dinner Dance on the 25th July. If you can fulfil one of these roles, please contact the Parish Office or Dinner Dance Committee to register your interest. A person who is a certified RSA – (Responsible Service of Alcohol) First Aider; Pack down crew from 11.30pm .

**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.

## COMMUNITY SPONSORED DIRECTORY

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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](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)

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**Get in touch.**

- E: [randy@hipolito.com.au](mailto:randy@hipolito.com.au)
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