



St Luke's
CATHOLIC PARISH
MARSDEN PARK



DIOCESE of
PARRAMATTA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

17TH MAY 2026

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD~ YEAR A



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

Sunday Reflection....

During Matthew 28:16–20 shows the disciples meeting the risen Jesus on a mountain in Galilee. Even after the resurrection, the scene is honest—some worship, and some still doubt. Jesus does not begin by focusing on their weakness or uncertainty. Instead, he begins with a strong declaration: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” Everything that follows flows from that truth.



Because of his authority, Jesus gives them a clear and ongoing mission. They are to go into all the world, make disciples, baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teach others to obey his commands. This is not a small or temporary task, and it is not dependent on their perfection or confidence. It is grounded in his rule and his power.

Then comes the promise that holds it all together: “I am with you always, to the end of the age.” This changes everything. The command is not given from a distance, but with presence. They are sent, but not left alone.

The passage moves simply from doubt, to authority, to mission, and finally to presence. The conclusion is clear and steady: the call is to follow and continue forward, because Christ remains with his people

always. ~ Fr Gayan Thamel



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



COMPLIMENTARY
WINE, SOFT DRINKS
& WATER



ENTREES &
LEBANESE
BUFFET



DESSERTS,
TEA & COFFEE



ENTERTAINMENT



RAFFLE DRAW
ON THE NIGHT
WITH GREAT PRIZES!

MASKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON THE NIGHT

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 fundraising event. Event Entertainment Sponsor: DJ (\$600) Photobooth (\$400) Event Entertainment Sponsor: (\$300) If you able to assist, please contact the dinner dance team via email:

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.



CONTACT US

Parish Priest: Fr Gayan Thamel.

Email: gayan.thamel@parracatholic.org

Parish Secretary: Gerald "Ged" Oblea

Phone: (02) 7261-0246.

Mobile: 0422 724 160.

Email: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

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 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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD ~ YEAR A

Entrance Antiphon: Acts of the Apostles 1:11 ~ Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11 ~ In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm—Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6 ~ R.) God mounts his

throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading - Ephesians 1:17-23 ~ May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation - Matthew 28:19. 20

~ Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world, Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 28:16-20 ~ The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Communion Antiphon: Matthew 28:20 ~ Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

Recently Deceased: Joseph Davnhans; Cesar Umali Jr ; Ivoga Naioti Roache Maria Theresa Valbuena Diaz; Carmelita Amos; John Neish; Henry Faustorilla

Death Anniversary: Thomas D'Souza; Daisy Pangilinan ; Milagros Aguilar; Eduardo Pasaquian; Armando Joya; Arsenio Virata Jamir; Rafael Tiotuico

In Memoriam: Valerio Callus & 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

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 ~ Presentation of the Creed

In family life, values are handed on from one generation to the next, often symbolized through a particular custom, document or treasured heirloom. Throughout the centuries the Church, too, has passed down its most precious beliefs, often symbolized in rituals and prayers. The Presentation of the Creed is one such example. In a short ceremony several weeks before their baptism, catechumens are formally presented with the Creed, a statement of Catholic belief. More than an acquisition of a document, the focus of this ceremony is on the people of the community handing on an enduring tradition of faith to yet another generation of believers. © 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 or (02) 7261 0246.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES ~ The First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated from 1-5 June at 6:30pm in the church. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time.

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.

COMMISSIONING OF MINISTERS ~ We congratulate those parishioners who have completed the Diocesan Ministry Course for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; Ministers of the Word and Ministers at the Altar. They will be commissioned during the 10:00am Mass on Sunday, 31 May. We give thanks for their generous response to God's call to serve and pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen them in their ministry within our parish community.

MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE ~ We wish to inform the parish community that Cristina Joya will be stepping down from her role as Music Leader. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to her for her generous service, dedication, and contribution to the liturgical life of our parish. At the same time, we are pleased to announce that Annah Suarez will be assuming the role of Music Leader. We warmly welcome her and look forward to

her leadership and service in this ministry. We ask the community to please keep both Cristina and Annah in your prayers during this time of transition.

FR GAYAN'S ANNUAL LEAVE ~ Please note that Fr Gayan will be on leave from 8 June to 8 July. During this period: Wednesdays: Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion will be held instead of Mass.

Thursdays and Fridays: Mass will be celebrated by Fr Chinonye.

Weekends: Fr Chinonye will celebrate all Masses, except on 14 June, when Fr John Boyle will celebrate the 8:00am and 10:00am Masses.

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.

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 .

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: 12th June 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.

Next Morning Tea: 14th June

WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

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

This 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: 28th 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



WEEKEND FOOD STALL~THIS WEEKEND



Join us after the Saturday 5:30 PM Vigil Mass and Sunday 10 AM Mass for our Weekend Food Stall. Cash and card accepted. All proceeds go towards our Stage 2 Church Building and operational costs. Thank you for supporting our parish community.

BISHOP'S GOOD WORKS APPEAL



This appeal will be held next weekend 24/25 May. Envelopes are available today. Thank you for your continued support.



COMMUNITY SPONSORED DIRECTORY

Proudly sponsoring the event

RED & BLUE Home Loan

NEE DHUNGEL
0402389371

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT WITH US

Connect With Us
readandbluehome loan
www.readandbluehome loan.com.au
info@readandbluehome loan.com.au

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.

Community Bank Galston & District
Phone 9653 2227
Mobile 0435 664 109

Bendigo Bank
Our bank of choice!

RayWhite
UNITED GROUP

P 02 9623 4033
W www.raywhiteunitedgroup.com
Proudly Serving Western Sydney & The Hills District with Six

Kav Prasad
Sales Executive
0423 046 793
Shop 35/111 Railway Terrace, Schofields NSW 2762
Schofields.ljhooker.com.au

LJ Hooker

YOUR FRIENDLY PARTNER IN ACCOUNTING & TAXATION

Accounting & Taxation Services

Our services.

- Tax Accounting
- Bookkeeping
- Payroll Processing
- Individual & Company Tax
- SMSF Tax
- Trust & Partnership Tax

Get in touch.

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

SAVVY TAX
THE SAVVY PEOPLE IN TAX

Registered Tax Agent and CPA
Call for appointment
0406 989 615 or 0432 610 180

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.

Website: www.golddisabilityservices.com.au
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/golddisability>