



WEEKLY BULLETIN

2ND AUGUST 2026

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A



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

Sunday Reflection....

In today's Gospel, the disciples see a problem. A huge crowd has gathered, it is getting late, and there is not enough food. Their solution seems sensible: "Send the people away." Jesus has a different response: "You give them something to eat."

The disciples look at what they have—just five loaves and two fish. It seems too little to make any difference. Yet Jesus does not ask them to begin with what they do not have. He asks them to offer what they do have. Once they place their small gift into his hands, he blesses it, breaks it, and feeds thousands. There is even enough left over.

How often do we think our time, talents, kindness, or generosity are too small to matter? We wait until we have more before we help someone or serve God. But Jesus teaches us that God often works through ordinary people who are willing to offer their little with trust.

The miracle is not only that the crowd is fed. The miracle is that small offerings become abundant when they are entrusted to Christ. God's power is revealed not through abundance at the beginning, but through faithfulness with what is already in our hands.

Today Jesus asks each of us the same question: "What do you have?" Whatever it is—a listening ear, a word of encouragement, a simple act of generosity, or a few moments of your time—place it in his hands. When we offer what we have with faith, Jesus can do far more than we could ever imagine. With him, what seems insufficient becomes more than enough. *God Bless ~ Fr Gayan Thamel*



Thanks to the generosity of a parish family, our parish now has free access to Formed, an outstanding Catholic online resource. Formed offers Bible studies, faith formation programs, talks, movies, children's content, and many other resources to help you grow in your faith and deepen your relationship with Christ. We invite all parishioners to create a free account by following the registration steps below and take advantage of this wonderful gift. We sincerely thank the parish family whose generosity has made this possible.

To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to signup.formed.org or formed.org/parishes or scan
2. Enter the parish name or Postcode "St Luke's" or 2765
3. Enter your name and your email address



Once you have registered as a user you may access the content.

CONTACT US

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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.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 69:2,6 ~ O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading - Isaiah 55:1-3 ~ Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

Responsorial Psalm ~ Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

Second Reading - Romans 8:35. 37-39 ~ Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation ~ Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 14:13-21 ~ Jesus When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

Communion Antiphon: Wisdom 16:20 ~ You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUEST

Recently Deceased: Generosa Magdaraog; Emily Rudd, Annie Bateria.

Death Anniversary: Randolph Gunasekara (1st Yr); Catherine Tolmie (1st Yr); Joe Menezes; Hazel Rebello (4th Yr); Christopher Dimagmaliw.

In Memoriam: Mr & Mrs Sammut; Anthony Xureb; 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: Noorul Ayn Hazeera Zavahir; Tony Duggan; Mila Makasini; Annabelle Edwards Amor Matulac & Tony Yu.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on Friday 14 and Saturday, 15 August, and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Friday, 14 August: 6:30 pm

(Vigil Mass of the Assumption)

Saturday, 15 August: 9:00 am (Feast of the Assumption)

Please note that the Saturday evening Vigil Mass will be for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, not for the Feast of the Assumption.

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION – The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates 16 years old and above interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. For more information and to enroll into the process, please contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION – Commitment Masses for children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on the weekends of 15/16 August and 22/23 August. Preparation sessions will begin following the Commitment Masses. As these children continue their preparation for this important sacrament, we ask our parish community to keep them and their families in your prayers.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & BENEDICTION ~ Beginning Friday, 7 August, St Luke's Parish will celebrate First Friday Mass followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday of each month. All parishioners are warmly invited to remain after Mass for this beautiful devotion, offering prayers of thanksgiving, reparation, and petition before the Blessed Sacrament. Come and spend some time with the Lord, renewing your faith and deepening your relationship with Him.

OCIA – ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS ~ The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) will begin on Tuesday, 1 September, at 7:00 pm in the parish office. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic, or if you know someone who would like to learn more about the Catholic faith and explore becoming Catholic, we warmly invite you to attend the Inquiry Night.

PARISH DINNER DANCE – THANK YOU ~ A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to the wonderful success of our Annual Parish Dinner Dance. So many people generously gave their time, talents, and energy before, during, and after the event. Whether you helped with the planning and organisation, sold tickets, secured sponsors, prepared food, organised logistics, set up the venue, welcomed guests, served throughout the evening, cleaned up afterwards, or worked behind the scenes, your contribution was invaluable and greatly appreciated. The evening was a wonderful example of our parish community coming together in a spirit of generosity, service, and fellowship. It was through everyone's willingness to help and work together that the event was such a memorable success. We raised \$20,000.00 in profit that will go towards stage 2 of our building project. Thank you for your support and for all that you do for St Luke's Parish. May God bless you and your families abundantly.

THANK YOU ~ We sincerely thank a generous parishioner for donating towards the purchase of our new outdoor speaker. We also extend our gratitude to another parishioner who generously installed the speaker and fixed the outdoor TV. Your generosity and willingness to share your time, talents and treasure are greatly appreciated.

RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ~ Elijah McInnes and Isaac McInnes will be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church during the 5:30 pm Mass this Sunday, 2 August. Please keep Elijah, Isaac, and their family in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith.

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: 7th August 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.
This Weekend: 9th August

WEEKEND FOOD STALL:

Proceeds of this fundraising activity goes towards the parish building fund.
Next Food Stall ~ 15th & 16th August.



PRAYER MINISTRY:

1st weekend every 2nd month.

This Weekend~ 1st & 2nd August 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: 6th August. 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



DIocese of
PARRAMATTA

Our physical spaces are maintained and used in a way where all children and adults at risk feel safe to participate in Diocesan and Parish liturgies and activities.

MORNING TEA & NAME TAG SUNDAY



Join us after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, 9 August for Morning Tea & Name Tag Sunday. Take the opportunity to enjoy a cuppa, meet new people, reconnect with fellow parishioners, and strengthen the sense of community that makes St Luke's such a welcoming parish. Whether you've been part of our parish for years or are visiting for the first time, everyone is warmly invited. Wear a name tag, share a conversation, and stay for morning tea- we'd love to see you there!

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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

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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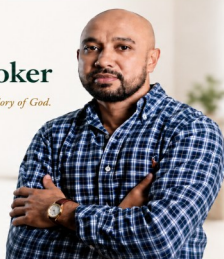
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