

OUR VISION:

“WE ARE CONTINUALLY ATTRACTING PEOPLE TO ST LUKE’S AND EVERYONE WHO COMMITS TO BEING A MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY IS TRANSFORMED IN EVERY AREA OF THEIR LIFE BY HAVING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.”

**First Reading**

Jer 33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14.

*To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.*

**Second reading**

1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

**Gospel**

Lk 21:25-28. 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of

heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. ‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

**Reflection: Happy New Church Year!**

It seems appropriate that the first full year we will celebrate, as a new faith community of St Luke’s, will be the year of Luke. The Gospel of Luke is a great treasure of the Church. Without this Gospel, many events in the life of Jesus would be unknown. Here are just some of the things that are only recorded in the Gospel of Luke:

- The Visitation (1:39-56)
- The Presentation of Jesus (2:21-40)
- The Finding of Jesus in the Temple (2:41-52)
- The Mission of the Seventy (10:01-20)
- The Good Samaritan (10:29-37)
- “Mary has chosen the good portion” (10:38-42)
- The Parable of the Lost/Prodigal Son (15:11-32)
- Lazarus and the Rich Man (16:19-31)
- Ten Lepers Cleansed (17:11-19)

If these weren’t recorded in Luke’s Gospel, we wouldn’t know about them, because they aren’t recorded elsewhere in the New Testament. Perhaps my favourite section of the Gospel which is exclusive to Luke is the story of the so-called ‘Good Thief’. When Jesus hung on the Cross one of the two thieves on either side of him

criticised Jesus. However, the other one asked Jesus to remember him when he



entered into his Kingdom. Jesus replied: “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” With these words Jesus showed that he was at one with the father in the story of the Prodigal Son in dispensing instant mercy to those who turn to him in repentance seeking forgiveness and mercy. So, one particular feature of the Gospel of Luke is the theme of God’s incredible mercy.

Perhaps in your reading of this Gospel you can identify some further themes.

- Deacon Tony

9<sup>th</sup> December - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sund of Advent

**MINISTRY ROSTER**

Welcomers: Volunteer needed

Acolyte: James Irudayaraj

Servers: Jessica Thompson

Readers: Varuni & Joshua Emerson, Ofe & Qwayn Lumba

Eucharistic Min: Arvin Joya

Hospitality: Volunteers needed

Children’s Liturgy: Sinta Velasco, Sindhu Tholath, Annette Hoban

Pastoral Director

**If you are not able to fulfil your ministry role, or if you would like to volunteer for a vacant role, please email [marsdenpark@parracatholic.org](mailto:marsdenpark@parracatholic.org)**

**We welcome this week as our  
Celebrant: Fr Peter from St Clair**

### OUR COMMUNITY PRAYER

O God

You show us in St Luke, our patron, a person of faith who desired all people to come to know and love you in the community of your Church. Teach us to embrace what St Luke pioneered: discipleship of Jesus Christ.

Trusting in your love and grace and nourished by Word and Sacrament may we grow in our relationship with you and together make our Catholic Faith Community a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Luke, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop,  
pray for us.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.

**LOW GLUTEN HOSTS ON REQUEST –  
PLEASE SEE ACOLYTE BEFORE MASS**

### National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse

The Prime Minister of Australia and the Leader of the Opposition delivered the National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse on Monday 22 October at Parliament House, Canberra. A response from the Diocese of Parramatta can be found here:  
<https://parracatholic.org/national-apology/>

### Plenary Council 2020

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God's people are invited to reflect on the question: *"What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"* Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at the new website, now online:  
[www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

### Holy Hour for Vocations: 6 December

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite YOUTH (ages 18-35) to join us for Holy Hour for Vocations on Thursday, 6 December at 7:00 pm. Join us also for pizza at 8:00pm, Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP: Sr Paula on [vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com) or 0449 656 406.

### Thanksgiving and Farewell Mass: 7 December

Celebrated by Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, a thanksgiving Mass for the service of Fr Peter Confeggi as he moves into retirement, Fr Luis Herrera as he returns to Columbia and for the service of all those in

ministry at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. Fellowship after Mass. 7.30pm St Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. For catering purposes, RSVP to 9622 1125  
or [admin@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:admin@mqofblacktown.org.au)

### Australian Catholic Historical Society

#### Lecture: 8 December

Annual Mass and Christmas Lunch at midday. Mackillop Centre, Mount Street, North Sydney. Visit the ACHS website [www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au](http://www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au) for more information.

### **WANTED: AN ADULT VOLUNTEER TO PLAY THE ROLE OF SANTA'S 'HELPER' AT OUR**

**CAROLS NIGHT: 14 DEC**  
Must be joyful, with an ability to engage with children, and have the stamina to remain in a red suit and beard for half an hour or so on a warm summer's evening. If you can help



see Deacon Tony or Annette!

### Christmas at St Finbars, Glenbrook: 16 December

*Music and Readings for Christmas.* Service commences at 7.30pm. 46 Levy Street, Glenbrook. Donation (\$15/\$35 Families). For more information please call 02 4758 6067.

### Concert at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta: 17 December

Australian Brandenburg Orchestra Concert. Tickets via [www.brandenburg.com.au/](http://www.brandenburg.com.au/) –  
More details at:  
<https://stpatscathedral.com.au>

### Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 2019: Thirsting for Justice

A wonderful opportunity for a faith formation experience for parishioners, leaders, teachers, catechists ... all people in ministry and all people who would like to enrich their faith! Join this pilgrimage group to attend the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress 18-30 March 2019. Cost of pilgrimage \$4350 for 12 days with some additional expenses. Please contact Lisa Bright on 9622 1125 or [lbright@mqofblacktown.org.au](mailto:lbright@mqofblacktown.org.au) for an information pack.

### Can you support St Luke's to grow?

St Luke's Catholic Faith Community is Australia's newest Catholic worshipping community. Please consider helping us with your time and talents by volunteering for one of our many ministries. And please support us by sharing some of your

treasure through our giving program to help facilitate our weekly worship and form part of the foundation of a future church building. You can find donation envelopes on the Welcome Table in the foyer Sunday. please pass these to Dcn Tony or include them on one of the collections during Mass.

**Parramatta Catholic Foundation** thanks Parishioners for their kind-hearted, generous support which raised \$1.2 million in the last year for vital ministry and works of Faith, Hope and Charity. Annually, the Diocese of Parramatta contributes over \$3.6 million to sustain the charitable works of CatholicCare, Holy Spirit Seminary, special religious ed in schools, and more. [www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au](http://www.yourcatholicfoundation.org.au)

### Family Christmas celebration in Marsden Park: 14 December



All Welcome! Join our Catholic Faith community, in conjunction with St Luke's Catholic College, on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 6.00-8.00pm for Christmas Carols and a Nativity play. There will be LIVE animals, BBQ food and drinks available for purchase, and a possible visit from Santa (if he's not too busy!) Entry via Frontier Avenue carpark.

### Christmas Mass Times for St Luke's

**24<sup>th</sup> December:** Join Bishop Vincent Long as celebrant for Mass at 7.00pm.

**25<sup>th</sup> December:** 10.00am Mass.



Sunday, December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent – Year C

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*Christ  
Is Coming!*

**SUNDAY MASS**

Every Sunday 10.00am in The Hub

St Luke’s Catholic College (Enter via  
Frontier Ave Marsden Park)

**CONTACT US**

Pastoral Director: Deacon Tony Hoban

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Park

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NSW 2761

**SCHOOL ENQUIRIES:** 9854 3100

[www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au)