

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

1 Sam 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, ‘Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord’s anointed and be without guilt?’ David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul’s head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, ‘Here is the king’s spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord’s anointed.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second reading

1 Cor 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel

Lk 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do

good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ‘Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.’

Reflection: An Open Invitation

We are lucky that, because Marsden Park is a growth area with about 50 people moving in every week, that our faith community is continuing to grow. The reality is that, in the western world, most Christian Church communities are shrinking. In fact, 94% are seeing fewer people attend, while just 6% are growing. So, what are the 6% doing that the others aren’t? One of the key things they do is have the people in their congregation ask other people to come along. I have heard a number of testimonies from people who had considered entering the church (or re-joining the church) and who didn’t do so until someone asked them to join them for Mass. We might organise some invitation cards to help with this, but for now, we have an ample supply of our brochures which promote our Mass time, location and contact details. (Please take a handful with you from the Welcome Table).



By all means, drop them in the letterboxes of people who live near you. But a much way better chance of getting someone to act is to hand them a brochure and ask them if they’d like to come along to Mass with you. And tell them what you like about St Luke’s. Easy as that.

Would you be willing to give it a try?

- Deacon Tony Hoban
Pastoral Director

3rd March – 8th Sunday Ord Time

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers: Volunteer needed

Hospitality: Volunteer needed

Acolyte: Volunteer needed

Servers: Ryan, Feba

Readers: Ofelia Lumba, Luanshya Naidoo, Aileen Sebastian

Eucharistic Min: Volunteer needed

Children’s Liturgy: Rowena, Sinta, Sindhu, Annette

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

We welcome this week as our Celebrant: V Rev Fr Peter Williams

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

Time is running out for Plenary Council 2020

Submissions to Plenary Council 2020 close on Ash Wednesday, 6 March 2019. YOUR voice matters! Make a personal submission now or join a small group. Our question is for everyone: "What you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" To make a submission or to find out more visit: <https://parracatholic.org/haveyoursayplenary2020/>

Join St Patrick's Cathedral Choir

St Patrick's Cathedral Choir, Parramatta is recruiting singers! Choral scholarships are also available to singers who demonstrate advanced vocal skills and musical leadership qualities. For further information visit <http://www.stpatscathedral.com.au/music/ministry/index.htm> or contact the Music Director, Bernard Kirkpatrick on 0430 431 884.

Bishop's Lenten Appeal: 23-24 February

The Ephpheta Centre, supported by the Parramatta Catholic Foundation, gives hope, compassion, connectivity and care to the deaf and hard of hearing. Your kind-hearted support will provide chaplaincy and pastoral care for the vulnerable and isolated, in homes, hospitals, prison and aged-care facilities. Please be a channel of hope and give generously online at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.

Mount St Benedict: 9 March

Mount St Benedict Centre invites you to the last ever Lenten Reflection day prior to the closure of the Centre. The day will include input, time for reflection and conversation on scripture and the themes of Lent in conversation with contemporary issues and spirituality. Saturday 9 March 10am-3pm.

Facilitators Sr Catherine McCahill SGS and Sr Patty Fawcner SGS. For information and RSVP mtstbenedict@goodsams.org.au or 02 8752 5390.

St Luke's Youth Group: 15 March

The next youth gathering will be on Friday evening 15th March from 7-9pm. It will be held at our new office at 2 Springdale St, Marsden Park (off Frontier Avenue and opposite St Luke's Catholic College). The night will feature food, games and activities, prayer, reflection, and exploration of faith.

St Luke's Lenten Retreat: 6 April

Come and join us for a special Lenten Retreat morning on Saturday 6th April. The morning will include prayer and reflection, discussion and community. We will start at 9.30am and conclude with lunch at 12.30pm. It will be held at our new office at 2 Springdale St, Marsden Park (off Frontier Avenue and opposite St Luke's Catholic College). Expressions of interest to: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Pilgrimage to the Holy Lands of Jordan and Israel, escorted by Father Peter Blayney, Parish Priest, St Patrick's Guildford, 30 October – 13 November 2019. Organised by Olive Tree Travel (Melbourne). For details of itinerary, cost etc., please contact the Parish Secretary, Guildford, on 9632 2672 or patricksguilford@bigpond.com or Olive Tree Travel on 03 8488 9696.

Communion to the Sick at Blacktown Hospital

We urgently require people to take Holy Communion to patients in Blacktown Hospital on Sundays. Volunteers are currently rostered every second month (6 times/year) for 2 - 3 hours. Security checks required and carpark access available. Ministers of the Eucharist who can help with this important ministry please contact Deacon George Bryan at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown either via the office or George.Bryan@parracatholic.org

Volunteers Urgently Needed for Visiting Residents of Aged Care Facility

Are you interested in visiting an elderly person in a nursing home who has no or very few visitors? This service is organised through CatholicCare. You would visit on average once every two weeks with CatholicCare providing training and other support. After talking with you about your interests, we will match you with a resident in a nursing home within approximately 10km of your home. The visit is entirely within the nursing home – you do not take

the person on outings or shopping etc. For more information, contact Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au.

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.



IF YOU DO NOT WANT PHOTOS OF YOURSELF OR YOUR CHILDREN TAKEN OR PUBLISHED PLEASE FORWARD AN EMAIL TO marsdenpark@parracatholic.org ADVISING US OF THIS!

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

Phone:

(02) 8605 2623

Email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Website:

stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

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SCHOOL ENQUIRIES: 9854 3100

www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au