

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

Acts 5:12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Second reading

Rv 1:9-13, 17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God’s word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord’s day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, ‘Write down all that you see in a book.’ I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, ‘Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.’

Gospel

Jn 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again,

‘Peace be with you. ‘As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.’

After saying this he breathed on them and said: ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.’ Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him: ‘You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’ There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Reflection: A TIME FOR GRATITUDE

As we celebrate our first anniversary as a worshipping community, it is a time for gratitude. Gratitude for the graces and blessings of the past year.

Gratitude for:

- the great contributions so many people have made to help us get established as a new faith community, from those who have helped as welcomers, as children’s liturgy teachers, as wardens (those who collect and count our collections), as readers, as altar servers, acolytes and Communion ministers, as musicians and in hospitality. Every one of these ministries is an important part of the fabric of our experience when we gather.
- For the men who regularly help us set up for Mass on a Saturday afternoon: James, Emmanuel and Ramon.



- the support of St Luke’s Catholic College. For the teachers who have supported students to take part in the learning community Masses throughout the year. For collaboration of many at the school for our first Christmas Carols and Nativity Play event last December. For the use of this wonderful facility for our weekly Masses. In particular, we thank Principal, Greg Miller, and Director of Mission, Julie Atkins, for their tremendous support and collaboration.
 - the wonderful Advisory Group members who have helped us with sound advice and support: Tessie James, John Missio, Mark Rupac, Nina Nunez and Nars Lumba, and others who assisted on this group for part of the last year.
 - that we have an ongoing presence in the community through our office at 2 Springdale St.
 - for the many ‘Firsts’ we have celebrated, which will be profiled in a short video at the end of Mass today.
 - the youthful vibrancy of this community, with up to 60 children present for Children’s Liturgy and a new youth group established this year.
 - the unique aspects of our community such as the International Food Fair each month and the wonderful (and unpredictable!) contributions of the younger members of our community at the end of each Mass.
 - The presence of every person who makes up our community.
- Today is indeed a time of gratitude and thankfulness for all of this and much more. Please celebrate well and give thanks to God for all of these blessings.
- **Deacon Tony and Annette**

5th May – Third Sunday of Easter

MINISTRY ROSTER

Welcomers: Charles Emerson

Hospitality: Volunteers needed

Acolyte: Volunteer needed

Servers: Jessica Thompson

Readers: Volunteer (F), Luanshya Naidoo (S), Volunteer (I)

Eucharistic Min: Varuni Emerson

Children's Liturgy: 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: Fr Chris de Souza

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.

Bishop Vincent's Pastoral Letter

Bishop Vincent's pastoral letter to the people and clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta can be found at:

catholicoutlook.org/bishop-vincent-pastoral-letter

Join St Patrick's Cathedral Choir

St Patrick's Cathedral Choir, Parramatta is recruiting singers! For further information visit stpatscathedral.com.au/music or contact the Music Director, Bernard Kirkpatrick on 0430 431 884

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? You would visit on average once every two weeks, with CatholicCare providing training and other support. We will match you with a resident

in a nursing home within 10km of your home. For more information, contact Deb Woolacott 0418 114 055 or deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au.

1 million rosaries: 3 - 5 May

The One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies multinational pro-life prayer event is scheduled for 3, 4 and 5 May this year. Persons participating will pray at least one Rosary for the protection of the unborn. For details and to register go to: <http://www.saintmichaelthearchangelorganization.org/>

Raising Lazarus Retreat Day: 7 May

The Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat and the IFM present a retreat day on 7 May with Dr Bonnie Thurston on *Raising Lazarus: Contemplative Living & Our Inner Journey from Death to New Life*. Held at the IFM Blacktown from 10am to 2pm. BYO Lunch. To register, please contact mark.oconnor@parracatholic.org

Interfaith Relations after Christchurch: 10 May

CCD invites all parishioners and friends to attend "Christian-Muslim Relationships after Christchurch - Our Responsibility," presented by Rev Dr Patrick McInerney, Director of the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations on Friday 10 May at the IFM Blacktown. Please register with Maree on 02 8838 3486.

Reflection Day for Women: 11 May

Sr Mary-Louise Walsh presents a Reflection Day for Women on Mary – Mother and Educator at Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd Mulgoa, on 11 May 9.30am to 3pm. \$25 entry, BYO lunch. Tea and coffee provided. To register call 47738338 or email info@schoenstatt.org.au

Permanent Diaconate Information Session: 11 May

The discernment program for those who are interested in finding out more about this Vocation will be held at the IFM Blacktown on 11 May 2019 from 10am to 12pm. For further information, visit www.parracatholic.org/permanent-diaconate or contact Deacon Willy Limjap 0428 332 619 or Deacon George Bryan 0408 440 769.

Mary in my life Retreat: 17-19 May

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth are running a retreat for women aged 18 to 35 who want to deepen their relationship with Jesus and Mary at the Holy Spirit Convent, Plumpton, from 17 May at 6pm to 19 May at 1.30pm. This retreat is meant to help participants slow down, collect and centre themselves, and explore the peace

available in each and every moment. RSVP to Sr Paula – vocationscsfn@gmail.com or 0449 656 406.

Exploring *Laudato Si*: 24 May

CCD invites all parishioners and friends to attend a presentation by Sr Valda Dickenson RSM exploring aspects of Pope Francis' Letter on Our Common Home – *Laudato Si*. Friday 24 May at the IFM Blacktown 10am to 2pm. Register with Maree on 02 8838 3486 and BYO lunch.

Oz Rosary: 24-26 May

Oz is happening again! On the weekend of the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians pray for Australia and its protection. This year we are praying also for our political leaders and the spiritual leaders of our church, our Cardinals, Bishops and Priests. To register: [facebook.com/OZROSARY53](https://www.facebook.com/OZROSARY53) or ozrosary53@gmail.com or contact Jane on 0476 535 595.

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)

Baptisms available most Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

CONTACT US

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