

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

Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man’s malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage’s dream.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Second reading

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a ‘first-born son’ and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

Gospel

Lk 14:1. 7-14

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, ‘When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, “Give up your place to this man.” And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host

comes, he may say, “My friend, move up higher.” In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.’ Then he said to his host, ‘When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.’

Reflection: What is a Good Father?

What is a father? Anthropologists tell us that the archetypal father is meant to have these qualities: He is meant to order, carry, feed, and bless his family. What does this entail? First of all, he is meant to be a principle of order rather than disorder. A good father lives in such a way that his family feels safe and secure when he’s around. A bad father, through absence, non-reliability, or by being abusive, makes the family feel unsafe. For example, we see how a father can be a principle of disorder in a situation where he is unfaithful, is an alcoholic, or is nursing some other addiction. His behaviour then will be unpredictable and his children will be forever guessing as to whether he will come home or not – and what kind of mood he will be in if he does come home. Conversely, a good father, even if his family considers him boring and unexciting, will make his family feel safe and secure. Next, a good father carries his family rather than asks them to carry him. A good father is an adult, an elder, not a fellow-sibling or a child (in his behaviour) forever demanding that the family carry him. A good father does not make his own problems and concerns, his own tiredness and heartaches, the centre of the family’s attention. Rather he relates beyond his own tiredness and heartaches so as to make the focus of attention the heartaches and headaches of his family. Beyond this, a good father feeds his family rather than feeds off of them. A good father does not demand, however subtly and unconsciously, that his children bring



meaning, satisfaction, and glory into his own life. Rather he is more concerned that his children and his family find meaning, satisfaction, and happiness in their own lives. Good parents feed their children; bad parents feed off of them. Finally, a good father affirms and admires his children rather than demand that they affirm and admire him. A good father expresses to his children his pride in the as opposed to being threatened by their talents and achievements. He doesn’t demand that his children express their pride in him. No father does this perfectly, but if your father did it even half-adequately, express your gratitude and count your blessings.

• Fr Ron Rolheiser

**We welcome this week as our Celebrants:
Fr Ed Kenny/Bishop Vincent Long**

7th & 8th Sept
MINISTRY ROSTER
Welcomers:
Sat – Volunteer req’d
Sun – CFC
Acolyte:
Sat – James
Sun – Arvin
Servers:
Sat – Rohit
Sun – Denver, Andrei
Readers:
Sat – Vol Req (1) Lavanya (2) Luanshya Naidoo (1)
Sun – CFC
Eucharistic Min:
Sat – Varuni
Sun – CFC
Hospitality: CFC
Children’s Liturgy: Sinta, CFC, Annette

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.

Plenary Council 2020: Discernment Phase 2 - Information and Training Sessions

Sept 7 – St Thomas Aquinas School Hall
Springwood (168 Hawkesbury Road,
Springwood) 9am-12

Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP: tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org

Plenary Council 2020

The National Centre for Pastoral Research has just published *Listen to what the Spirit is saying*, the final report of the Listening and Dialogue stage of the Plenary Council. The report captures the voices of the more than 222,000 people who shared their submissions, questions and stories of faith during the 10-month process. Access at: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports

Diocesan Forum Resources

You are invited to view the resources from the recent Diocesan Forum at www.parracatholic.org/forum2019. Read the address from Bishop Vincent Long, materials prepared for the forum, data collated from the forum and images from the day. There will be further opportunities to engage in deanery and diocesan initiatives following the Forum as we continue to go out into the deep to become the community Christ calls us to be.

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

We have trialled an extra Mass here at St Luke's during August - a Vigil Mass on Saturday nights at 6pm. This will continue in September. However, it is proving hard to get Priests to be celebrants for this Mass and, regrettably, it is likely that it may not be able to continue after the end of September. We will keep you posted with any developments on this in the coming weeks.

Bishop's Annual Appeal for Retired and Sick Priests: 1 September

There will be a special collection for the Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese –

on Father's Day. Your donation helps them cover healthcare costs and expenses associated with everyday living, supplementing the pension that some receive. Please give generously this Father's Day Appeal. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Donations can be made here: parracatholic.org/csf

The Sultan and the Saint Special Screening: 5 September

The Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations is co-hosting a special screening of *The Sultan and the Saint* to mark the 800th anniversary of the meeting between St Francis of Assisi and the Sultan of Egypt. Thursday 5 September at Event Cinemas Parramatta from 7pm. Tickets are \$12 and must be purchased in advance online through <https://events.humanitix.com.au/the-sultan-and-the-saint-800th-anniversary>.

Alpha at St Luke's: 7 September

Alpha begins on Saturday 7 September at 7pm in the Hub at St Luke's. It is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha has three elements: food (a great way to build community and get to know each other), a video presentation, (about 30 min and designed to engage and inspire conversation), and small group discussions (the chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic). For more information or to register call 8840 8521 or email marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

A Day with Deacon Harold: 8 September

Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers will be spending the day at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown on Sunday 8 September. 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown from 12pm until 5.30pm. Further details at parousiamedia.com

Jesuit Mission Indian Bazaar: 14 September

Come and join in the fun and festivities at Jesuit Mission's Indian Bazaar on Saturday 14 September, 9am to 5pm at St Ignatius' College, Riverview. There will be rides, stalls, auctions and more. The annual fundraiser supports Jesuit Mission's work in over 13 countries, empowering the most vulnerable people to transform their lives and build brighter futures. More details at <https://jesuitmission.org.au/indian-bazaar/>

OLMC Parramatta 50 Year Reunion: 21 September

Did you commence Year 7 at OLMC in 1964, or attend any year thereafter, such that you did your HSC in 1969, or your SC in

1967? It's OK if you left before your exams, you're still welcome at our 50th Reunion! Contact Jennifer Newton: email fiftyyearsonolmc64-69@hotmail.com or Facebook page OLMC Parramatta 1964-1969 50th Reunion (September 2019).

Sacrament of Confirmation at St Luke's: 20 October

Preparation sessions for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held at St Luke' on Wednesday evenings in September at 6pm: September 4, 11, 18 and 25, with Confirmations taking place during Sunday morning Mass on October 20 at 10am. If you would like your child to be involved, please complete one of the 'Sacraments of Initiation' forms on the Welcome Table and bring it back with a copy of your child's Baptism certificate next week – or email it to marsdenpark@parracatholic.org.

Youth Corner Important dates to put in your calendar:

*13th September ~ Youth Group for high school saints in training (7pm- 8:50pm in the Church office)

*14th September ~ Youth Mass (Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass)

For any further enquiries send us an email saintlukesyg@gmail.com and to keep up with everything follow us on Instagram: saintlukesyg

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

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 6pm Vigil

Sunday 10.00am

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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