

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 08 MARCH 2026

First Reading
Exodus 17:3-7

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9

Second Reading
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel
John 4:5-42

EXPLORING THE WORD

The gospel today tells the story of Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well—a passage rich with insight about grace, inclusion, and spiritual thirst. Jesus breaks cultural and social barriers by speaking with a Samaritan woman, someone marginalized in multiple ways. He offers her "living water," symbolizing the life-giving presence of God that quenches spiritual thirst far beyond physical needs. Her encounter with Jesus transforms her perspective and compels her to share the good news with her community. This story reminds us that God's love knows no boundaries—social, ethnic, or personal—and invites each of us to seek true fulfilment in Him. Moreover, it challenges us to be witnesses, just as the woman became, letting our encounters with Christ inspire others. It's a call to recognize that everyone longs for something deeper than daily survival, and Christ offers that living water freely to all.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 15.03. 2026

First Reading
1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13
Responsorial Psalms
Psalm 28:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Second Reading
Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel
John 9:1-41

BUILDING FUND UPDATE
loan balance is
\$850,503.00

Thank you for supporting our 2nd Collection.

CASH COLLECTIONS
01 March 2026
1st Collection:
4,013.60
2nd Collection:
1,209

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION
New to the area? Want to join the Parish.



Check it out on our Parish website or scanning this QR Code.

PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION

**Wednesday, 25 March 2026
7:00PM**

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW PARISH APP



GET IT ON
Google Play



Download on the
App Store



St Luke's Catholic Parish
-Flat Bush



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MASS INTENTIONS

Recent Death: Paulo Siasoco, Tonette Jarcia Barrosa
Repose of Soul/Anniversaries of Death: Teofila Quero, Angel Jr. Quero, Dolorosa Cortez, Divina Cabucana, Alquinn Gaffud, Pablito & Priscilla Santos
Special Intentions: Romina Banson
Birthday: Gloria Mandingiado, Adeline & Andrew Tay



DIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/

For more information email:
marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz
Gerry M: 021 0224 7442 / gerrys@cda.org.nz

INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR MARCH

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

SAFEGUARDING WOKSHOP

FACE TO FACE Wednesday
11th March 2026
7:00PM. Kindly Hosted by Holy Cross Parish
21 Carruth Road, Papatoetoe
Please Contact, Lisa-May Gray
lisam@cda.org.nz
09 360 3019

3rd Sunday of LENT YEAR A



The Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, recalling the great teaching of Saint Augustine, with regard to Christ's request to the woman, "give me something to drink", said: "Yes, God thirsts for our faith and our love. As a good and merciful Father, He wants our total, possible good, and this good is He Himself. The Samaritan woman, on the other hand, represents the existential dissatisfaction of one who does not find what he seeks. She had "five husbands" and now she lives with another man; her going to and from the well to draw water expresses a repetitive and resigned life. However, everything changes for her that day, thanks to the conversation with the Lord Jesus....."
(Benedict XVI, Angelus 24 February 2008).

Mother Teresa of Calcutta, with wisdom typical of saints, explained why we should give ourselves to God: "Why should we give ourselves completely to God? Because God has given Himself to us. If God who owes us nothing is ready to give us nothing less than Himself, can we respond with only a small part of ourselves? Giving ourselves totally to God is a way of receiving God. I am for God and God is for me. I live for God and renounce myself, in this way I allow God to live for me. To possess God we must allow Him to possess our souls. (Blessed Teresa di Calcutta).

To recognize that if we entrust ourselves to God, we receive every "possible good" which, as the Pope reminds us, is God himself, means living the dynamic of conversion to God: renouncing a self-centered mentality, which deceives self-sufficient man, in order to receive the gift of God. Man without God is inevitably destined to dissatisfaction, limited in everything by his own limits as a creature, even in "giving himself" or "obtaining for himself" joy, love, happiness... Man without God cannot think to reach boundless joy, unlimited and eternal love, the living water of which, precisely, Jesus speaks with the Samaritan woman.

Sancta Maria College OPEN DAY

Wednesday 11 March 2026

Two sessions are available:
9:00am and 1:00pm
Assemble in our Auditorium
Bookings not required

2027 Year 7-13 enrolments open
on 11 March and close 29 May 2026.



St Luke's Catholic Church DONATION RECEIPTS

Did you know you may be able to claim back 33.33% of your donations to the Church as a tax credit?

If you have a myIR account, the easiest way is online through myIR. If you don't have a myIR login, you can submit a [Tax Credit claim form \(IR526\)](#) and post it to Inland Revenue along with your receipts.

Donation receipts will be prepared in April and are expected to be available for collection from mid May. We kindly ask that you wait until then before contacting the parish office, as preparing the receipts takes some time. Once they are ready, you are welcome to make contact to arrange collection.

Your generosity supports the life and mission of the Church today. If you are planning your estate, you might also consider remembering the Church in your will as a way of continuing that support into the future.

PARISH BANK DETAILS

Account Name: St Luke's Flat Bush

Parish Bank Account: 02-0108-0708780-000

Church Building Fund: 02-0108-0708780-003

St. Luke's Catholic Parish - Flat Bush

HOLY WEEK 2026

PALM SUNDAY	HOLY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY	HOLY SATURDAY	EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 29 Mass as usual <small>(procession at all Masses. Palms are provided)</small>	APRIL 02 7PM	APRIL 03 CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF CHRIST	APRIL 04 7PM - EASTER VIGIL <small>(Candles are provided)</small>	APRIL 05 8:30AM 10:30AM

THERE WILL BE NO 9AM MASS ON HOLY SATURDAY



MUSIC MINISTRY

MUSICIAN REQUIRED

The **Abba Choir**, who serve our parish by leading the music at the 5pm Vigil Mass every 4th Saturday, are currently **in need** of a **piano or digital keyboard player**. If you feel called to share your musical gifts in this ministry, please contact Nick (musicministry@flatbushcatholic.org.nz) or the parish office.



Thursday nights
23 APR to 4 JUN
(7 weeks, + one Saturday)

Ask the really big questions. Explore life's deepest longings: meaning, purpose, identity, and the God who created you out of love.



St Luke's Catholic Church



WAYS TO GIVE

There are different ways to give towards the parish on a regular basis and the building fund.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Auckland Ecclesiastical Goods Trust is a registered charity (CC29112).

Your donation is tax-deductible and you will receive a receipt on your request from the parish office.

You are welcome to do Internet banking to accounts below, Tap 'n Go is available at church, and collections at Mass.

02-0108-0708780-003 02-0108-0708780-000

ACCOUNT NAME:
ST LUKE'S FLATBUSH

Building Fund Account
Particulars: First name
Code: Last name
Reference: Contact number

Parish Operating Account
Particulars: First name
Code: Last name
Reference: Contact number

LIGHTS ON LENTEN RECONCILIATION

Friday
5:45PM - 6:45PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 7:00PM

On Fridays in Lent followed by Holy Mass

Note: There will be a collection during the Mass to support the Lenten Appeal by Caritas New Zealand.

