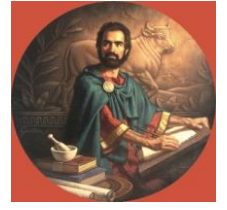


# Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

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**WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2018**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**  
**THE YEAR OF YOUTH**

*This week's readings: Job: 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Gospel Mark 1:29-39*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION – GREG SUNTER:** This week's gospel follows directly on from last week's reading and, as is typical with Mark's gospel, the events occur on the very same day. The urgency of the gospel is obvious in this week's reading; Jesus had a very busy 24 hours! Having launched his public ministry in the synagogue earlier that day, Jesus accompanies his new disciples to meet some of their family and have a meal. However, on arriving at the home of Simon and Andrew, they find Simon's mother-in-law is sick. Unlike the public displays of his healing power that preceded and will follow this episode, Jesus does not say anything but simply takes the woman by the hand and helps her up. Her response of beginning to wait on Jesus and his disciples is a faith response and a recognition of who Jesus is. A theme that runs through this gospel is that the disciples never fully understand who Jesus is. Here, a woman who has just met him recognises him as the Messiah and begins to serve him.

Still on the same day, we see the expansion of Jesus' healing ministry. On this one day he has cast an unclean spirit out of a possessed man in the synagogue, healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever and then healed the crowds of people who came to the door. The next morning he announces that they will take the ministry to the whole region of Galilee. In a very simple way, the gospel of Mark has described the growth of Jesus' ministry from very humble isolated examples to a deliberate reaching out to the people of an entire region.

**HISTORICAL CONTEXT – CAPERNAUM:** Jesus appears to have made Capernaum his base after leaving Nazareth. He may, in fact, have based himself at Simon Peter's house. There are many references in the gospels to Jesus' actions in Capernaum. Archaeologists have identified the house in Capernaum that they believe to be Simon Peter's house – less than 100 metres from the Capernaum synagogue. Evidence reveals carved inscriptions and symbols that identify both Jesus and Peter. The house appears to have been used as a 'house-church' until a church was built on the site in the 5th Century. Excavations of the site can be seen today.

Have you thought? Simon's Wife? In this week's reading, it is Simon's mother-in-law who is healed. This obviously means that Simon is married. However, there is no mention whatsoever about his wife. Is she alive or dead? Do they have children? We have no indication. It is not until the writings of Paul (1 Cor 9:5) that we learn Simon Peter was indeed married and that his wife accompanied him on his travels. Perhaps this visit to his family home was to announce to his wife and family that he had decided to follow Jesus and give up fishing.

**LIVING THE GOSPEL – PRAYER:** In the midst of an extremely hectic 24 hours where Jesus effectively launches his public ministry, Jesus takes time to go aside to a lonely place and pray. The passage tells us that it was 'long before dawn' that he did this. It may have been his usual practice to pray early in the morning or he may have been restless after the events of the previous day and the thought of what lay ahead. Nevertheless, Jesus provides us with a model of using prayer to reflect on events and to prepare ourselves for the day ahead.

## **Raise your voices ...**

**Entrance antiphon:** O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

**Response to the Psalm:** Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

**Gospel acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

**Communion antiphon:** Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

**Saint Luke the Evangelist  
Catholic Parish  
Blackburn South**

*We are Companions on the Journey ...*

<http://pol.org.au/blackburnsouth/Home.aspx>

Whitehorse Deanery  
Eastern Region  
Archdiocese of Melbourne

**Rev Father Gerard Johnson  
Parish Priest**

Marilyn Robert

**Part-time Parish Secretary**

Email: [BlackburnSouth@cam.org.au](mailto:BlackburnSouth@cam.org.au)

Website:

<http://pol.org.au/blackburnsouth/Home.aspx>

**SUNDAY MASS**

Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm  
Sunday - 8:30am & 10:30am

**WEEKDAY MASS & ROSARY**

Tues. 11.00am  
Weds. - Sat. @ 9:00am

Rosary prayed after Mass times as listed above. All welcome.

**RECONCILIATION**

Saturday: 9.30am & 5.30pm

**EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION**

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration  
Every Wednesday  
Start: 7:00pm | End: 8:00pm

**WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS**

By appointment and six months (6) notice, please.

**St Luke the Evangelist  
Catholic Parish Primary School**  
46 Orchard Grove,  
Blackburn South Vic 3130  
Tel: (03) 9877 4023

Mrs Jackie Purcell: **Principal**

Email:

[principal@sblackburnstc.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sblackburnstc.catholic.edu.au)

Website:

[stlukes@sblackburnstc.catholic.edu.au](http://stlukes@sblackburnstc.catholic.edu.au)

**Prayer to Saint Luke  
the Evangelist**

Lord God, who chose Saint Luke to reveal by his preaching and writings the mystery of your love for the poor, grant that those who already glory in your name may persevere as one heart and one soul and that all nations may merit to see your salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen!



**WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** all who are sick and those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For those who died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK:** **Monday:** St Agatha, virgin, martyr. **Tuesday:** St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs. **Thursday:** St Jerome Emiliani; St Josephine Bakhita, virgin. **Saturday:** St Scholastica, virgin. This weekend's Sunday Masses: Preface VI & Eucharistic Prayer III.

**NEW ROSTERS:** 2018 Parish Rosters are currently being prepared. If you are usually on one or more and would like to continue to be of service to the Parish Community in this way, please add your name to the list(s) on the notice table after Mass tonight/today. *Thank you, from all of us!*

**WELCOME BACK** to our Parish School Community, Mrs Jackie Purcell our Parish School Principal and to all our Professional educational staff. Our School Mass to launch the 2018 academic year will be held this Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, at 9am.

**THE 6PM CHOIR** will lead the singing on the following days this month: **Sat 10<sup>th</sup> and Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Feb.**

**ST. LUKE'S FETE – 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018:** St. Luke's Fete is just a couple of months away. If you would like to contribute to our 'Cheap and Cheerful Craft Stall' for the 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2018, please start your crafting. If you have any questions, queries, please contact Jo Adams on 0409 935 937. **Your time and talent will be greatly appreciated.** Please visit this page at your convenience: [www.facebook.com.au/stlukesparishfete](http://www.facebook.com.au/stlukesparishfete)

**PARISHIONERS** will be inspired to know that Mary and Bill Goodwin are celebrating 62 Years of Marriage this Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February. *Our Thanks!*

**A VOCATION VIEW: World Day for Consecrated Life (2/2/18)** Christ raises up, from among our midst, those called to the Consecrated Life so that they might be unique signs of the Kingdom and "to be all things to all people. (1 Cor 9:22)" We pray for those who have left everything to follow Him.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE** a Welcomer, Lector, Collector, Counter and/or Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist – come to the Parish Workshop. Other ways to be involved and to minimise any anxiety of being of service to the Parish. Details coming soon from Rev Fr Tony Doran, our facilitator who is deciding dates.

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** There are some 2018 Columban Calendars still available from the Priest's Sacristy for anyone who would like to purchase one; RRP=\$9 each.

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING:** 8<sup>th</sup> February each year the Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita of Sudan. 7.30pm Mass @ St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne.

**'SPIRITUALITY & HUMAN LIFE STAGES'** (new), 'Discernment', 'The Human Experience of God' and other seminars are soon to begin at Heart of Life Spirituality Centre in Box Hill as part of its Semester 1 offerings. For more information and bookings, visit [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne) or email [holsc@bigpond.com](mailto:holsc@bigpond.com) or tel 9890 1101.

**NEWSLETTER NOTICES:** Please send to the following e-mail address by **Wednesday 5pm** – [BlackburnSouth@cam.org.au](mailto:BlackburnSouth@cam.org.au)

**A MESSAGE FOR MARRIED COUPLES ON ST VALENTINE'S DAY:** God does not call us to mediocrity. God calls us to be a radical witness; to bring alive within our marriage the passionate love and extravagant mercy he has for every human person. God calls us to live this reality within our own marriage and to proclaim it to our families and to the world through our lived example. But marriage can be a challenge sometimes! We are not always easy to love, especially when hurts and disappointments accumulate. Yet God is endlessly patient and merciful! Even when we fail, even when we settle for less, even when we doubt ... God's mercy calls us back. This year, St Valentine's Day coincides with Ash Wednesday. Why not make Lent a time to bring mercy more deeply into your marriage with this daily prayer:

**Heavenly Father, You call us to radical holiness; to witness to your passionate love and extravagant mercy. Forgive us for the times we have failed to love and help us to more readily forgive each other. Inspire us with the ambition to grow ever closer to the fulfillment of our vocation. Amen.**

## **PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER**

### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**SATURDAY**      **6:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY**        **8:30 AM**  
                         **10:30 AM**

#### **3 AND 4 FEB 2018**

Lorraine Kermond  
Melina Barcellona  
Debbie Brown

#### **10 AND 11 FEB 2018**

Monica Hodder  
Engelina Nyhuis  
Elizabeth Dixon

### **MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

**SATURDAY**      **6:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY**        **8:30 AM**  
                         **10:30 AM**

#### **3 AND 4 FEB 2018**

Mia Perang  
Ken D'Souza  
Jess Kilroe-Smith

#### **10 AND 11 FEB 2018**

Shirley Prabha  
Godfrey Thong  
Dale Dixon

### **WELCOMER'S ROSTER**

**SATURDAY**      **6:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY**        **8:30 AM**  
                         **10:30 AM**

#### **3 AND 4 FEB 2018**

#### **10 AND 11 FEB 2018**

### **SLIDE OPERATORS**

**SATURDAY**      **6:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY**        **8:30 AM**  
                         **10:30 AM**

#### **3 AND 4 FEB 2018**

David Prabha  
Rosemary Donaldson  
Manny Gonzales

#### **10 AND 11 FEB 2018**

**CHOIR**  
Mary Whiting  
Manny Gonzales

### **CHURCH FLOWERS** **10 FEB 2018**

Joan McHugh

### **CHURCH CLEANING** **10 FEB 2018**

Team 3 (Maree's Team)  
Monica Hodder, Marie Parker,  
Jeannette Neumann, Filomena  
Manley, Beryl Kanagalingam

### **MAINTENANCE** **10 FEB 2018**

Team 9  
John Ryan, Darren Foster &  
Anthony Fernandez

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:** *Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage!* Forget life's tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit. *There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.* **2018 Melbourne weekend dates: 16-18 March, 1-3 June, 17-19 August, and 9-11 November 2018** Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided. Information/Bookings: PH: Andre and Maria 0411 225 992 Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

**CHANEL COLLEGE 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY REUNION** for students of THE MARIST FATHERS ERA [1958-1970]. For details send your email address to [chanel.geelong@gmail.com](mailto:chanel.geelong@gmail.com) OR your postal details to PO Box 3069 Geelong West 3218.

**PALMS ENCOUNTERS** are ethically run group tours that provide participants with authentic, hard to come by experiences. The tours have been carefully designed to give you an insight into the daily life of people of another culture, an understanding of sustainable approaches to reducing poverty, and an insight into the life and work of Palms development volunteers. We still have **limited places** available for our next trip to **Timor-Leste 11-23 March** if you book by **5pm Thursday 25 January**. Please contact Palms on 02 9560 5333 or see [www.palms.org.au/encounters](http://www.palms.org.au/encounters)

**POPE'S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION SAY 'NO' TO CORRUPTION:** *Thursday 1 February 2018 Fr Blazek SJ, Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network US and Canada.*

The abuse of power for personal benefit, corruption, is a problem across all human history. Bribery is often involved. One hears sadly of corrupt narcotics officers working for the mob, or of favours granted at various places of employment for a kickback, or at high levels of government for a public works contract. The Holy Father has taken a firm stand against such immoral and illegal activity, asking us to pray that those tempted to corruption may be delivered from illicit enticements.

This is also a very Ignatian intention: the founder of the Jesuits knew that riches, power and pride were all closely interrelated. The enemy of our human nature leads us to think our gifts and abilities are our own or that having some power might bring us material, social or spiritual wealth. Sadly, in this progression many of us fall prey to the sin of pride, thinking ourselves better than others, or even placing our will above the Lord's in fashions small and large.

The struggle against corruption is a priority for Pope Francis. On a visit to the Italian city of Cesena last October he characterised corruption as the 'termite of politics' and contrary to the common good. In that pastoral visitation listeners applauded his challenge to reject 'even the most minimal form of corruption.'

Later that same year the Holy Father called corruption a 'smog' that 'pollutes' society. Pope Francis invites Catholics to be 'crafty,' having a 'healthy lack of trust' for those promising easy riches. Such craftiness, he enjoined, calls for careful self-examination in the face of temptation, and a healthy prayer life.

**POINTS FOR MEDITATION:** Have I been tempted by the lure of riches, be they material, financial or social? Am I in business relationships or friendships with individuals who are abusing power and influence? How might I challenge them, or extricate myself from these webs?

## **Parish Groups & Contacts**

*Did not our hearts burn within us as we walked along ...*

**Parish Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Welcomers & Collectors Roster**  
Margaret Gearon

**Parish Children's Liturgy Group**  
Nina Grieve  
Jess Kilroe-Smith

**Parish Thanksgiving Counters**  
Dale Dixon  
Steve Kilroe-Smith

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
Darren McLean

**Parish History**  
Margaret Gearon

**Whitehorse Deanery**

**Parish Finance Council**  
Steve Brennan  
(Parish Accountant)

**Parish Hall Hire**  
Marilyn Robert - 9877 2292

**Parish Gardens**  
Judy Noy

**Parish Church Sacristan**  
Greg Grant

**Parish Church Linen**  
Toni Plevier

**Parish Church Cleaning & Flowers**  
Meghan McLean

**Parish Maintenance**  
Bill Goodwin

**Holy Communion**  
to the housebound

**Parish & School Choirs**  
Maria Pinto, Lina Mafi,  
Marg Yore & Kat Bergin

**Parish and School Fete Committee**

**Parish School Advisory Board**

**Parish School Parents' Association**

**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
For Assistance: 1800 305 330  
(Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

**Parish Contact:**  
Tony Kearney

### **RECRUITMENT NOTICE:**

*These Parish Groups welcome new members who choose to participate in the life of the Parish in these ways - would you like to make contact with one or more of them?*