

# Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

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**WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2018**

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

**THE YEAR OF YOUTH & PARISH STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL PROGRAM**

*This week's readings: Dan 12:1-3; Heb. 10:11-14, 18; Gospel Mark 13:24-32*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER:** The whole of chapter 13 in the Gospel of Mark is devoted to a discourse about the future. In the section preceding this week's passage, Jesus has foretold the destruction of the Temple and the fall of Jerusalem. He has also predicted war on a massive scale and the persecution of his followers. Now, in this passage, Jesus predicts the return of the Son of Man and the fulfilment of the kingdom of God. Why does the gospel include such an extended description of the collapse of the world as it was? Because that's exactly what was going on around the community of this gospel writer! This gospel is understood to have been written somewhere in the period 70-75 CE. In the year 70 CE the city of Jerusalem was besieged by Roman troops who stormed the city and destroyed it. As a sign of complete disdain for the people of Jerusalem and a mark of overwhelming victory, the Romans burnt and completely destroyed the Temple in the heart of Jerusalem. For the entire Jewish community, this was absolute devastation. The destruction of the Temple surely marked the coming of the end times – the day of judgment and completion of this world. The community gathered around this gospel writer were no less affected. On top of this, the Roman Emperors were reaching new heights (or depths) in their persecution of the followers of Jesus. In the midst of this despair and fear, the followers of Jesus are challenged to remember the teachings of the one they follow. This passage is written for them as an encouragement to not give up in the face of what appears to be overwhelming odds. It is a call to hope. Although we can understand the context in which it was originally written, we are also challenged to apply its message of hope and perseverance to our own lives.

**Historical Context – 70 CE:** In 66 CE a Jewish revolt against Roman occupation began in Caesarea and soon spread to most of the country. By the year 68 the sheer weight of Roman numbers had stamped out a lot of the rebellion. The leaders of the revolt rallied again in Jerusalem and in the year 70 the Roman armies laid siege to the city for several months. Finally, Titus, the emperor Vespasian's son, led an assault on the city and the Romans ransacked and burnt the entire city. The treasures of the Temple were looted and the Temple itself – the very centre of Jewish religion – was destroyed. **Living the Gospel – People of Hope:** Whilst the community who were the intended audience of the Gospel of Mark were expecting the return of Jesus and the end times to occur during their lifetimes, nearly two thousand years later we realise that wasn't the case.

Today, as in Mark's time, many people approach the future and change with fear and apprehension. As Christian people we are called to be optimistic and hopeful as we approach the future. We know that God is good, that God loves us unconditionally and that God has a dream for us. That is the simple basis of Christian hope. **Gospel Focus – Eschatology:** Theologians refer to beliefs about the future and the end times of the world as 'eschatology'. The word itself comes from two Greek words meaning 'last' and 'discourse' – basically meaning talking about the end. In Christian tradition, eschatology concerns many different concepts: the end of the world; the return of Jesus; the Last Judgment; the fulfilment of the Messianic prophecy; the accomplishment of the kingdom of God. These eschatological events are sometimes simply referred to as 'the end times' or 'the last things'. The whole of Mark Ch 13 – from which this gospel passage comes – is referred to as an eschatological discourse by Jesus.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTERS AND/OR ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR COLLECTION (alphabetically) AT THE COUNTER IN THE CHURCH FOYER FOR ALL PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE RECENTLY DUAL PLEDGED TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH & P.P.**

**Raise your voices ... Entrance antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Response to the Psalm:** Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.!

**Gospel acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

**Communion antiphon:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

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

*We are Companions on the Journey ...*

[www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth](http://www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth)

Whitehorse Deanery  
Eastern Region  
Archdiocese of Melbourne

**Rev Father Gerard Johnson  
Parish Priest**

**Sonya O'Farrell**

**Part-time Parish Secretary  
Wednesdays, Thursdays &  
Fridays**

**10.00am – 2.00pm**

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

Website:

[www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth](http://www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth)

**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  
Wednesday

Start: 7:00pm | End: 8:00pm

**WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS**

By appointment and  
six months (6) notice, please.  
*(This helps with the planning of both  
celebrations and Parents usually know  
nine months in advance when their  
baby is to be born).*

**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@slblackburnst.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@slblackburnst.catholic.edu.au)

Website:

[stlukes@slblackburnst.catholic.edu.au](http://stlukes@slblackburnst.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!

*Patron Saint of artists, physicians, surgeons,  
students and butchers.*

**WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** all who are sick and for those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For those who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, may they all rest in peace. **This month of November we remember:** Frank Aldag, Kathleen Bookluck, Wilma Kingston, Audrey Murphy, Jean Maguire, Alicia Buccat, John Andrews; Hugh, Laura, Clive and Joan, Patrick & Maria, Michael, McDade; Leslie & Marie, John & Anne Pyke; Kevin & Joan Cranich; Edward, Dorothy, Fred, Franklin & Catherine Holmes; Graeme Dorning, Arthur Clark, Bruce McKenzie, Richard & Lillian Plant, Eileen & Alan Cameron, Gurna Dixon, Olga Soyer, Hans Leitich, Willy Plevier, Laurie Eade, members of the Fahey family, Giovanni & Francesca Iannazzo, Pasquale & Antonietta Stella, Emma Spadea; David's Parents, relatives mainly non Christian friends, Shirley's Parents, siblings, cousins, friends; Remy Carey, Felisa Aipuerto, Philip Perang, Liam O'Brien, Zenaida Da Zanduerfa, Anun Catubie, Amosa Castaneda, Nora Gascon, Tonette Solatan, Maryann Sembrno, Willy Dehbonstel; members of the Hogan family; members of the Lee family; members of the Storey family; Rob, Margaret & Barney Reilly; Stephen Murphy; Giannino Fogale, Danube, Ellen & Kevin Callaghan and members of the Fogale family; Julia, Joseph Veronica, Gabrielle and members of the Wide family; Josephine Sybil D'Souza, Margarita Francis, Jesus Ariel, Pacifico, Josefina, Ernestina, Pastor Magale; Eutiquio Juan, Benjamina & Pedro Limsiaco; Martin & Marcel Wong; Nora Chong, Stephen Leong, Rooney Busing; Family members relatives and friends of the Harrington family; Nina Nieborski; Anna, Maria, Ben, Vincent, Luisa Gallichio; Ross Webb, Claire Weir; Tony, Benedetta, Francesco, Vincenzo Mileo; Michele Picardi, Aurora Mileo/Picardi; Eileen Jessup; Robert, Eileen and Bill Grant, Vi & Ernie Bridecon, Noël Posselt; Saviour, Angela and George Soler; members of the Austin & Howell families;

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK:** Ordinary Time. **Wednesday:** The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary; **Thursday:** St Cecilia, virgin, martyr; **Friday:** St Clement I, pope, martyr and St Columban, abbot; **Saturday:** St Andrew Dũng-Lac, priest, and companions, martyrs; **Sunday Masses:** Preface III of the Sundays in Ordinary Time & Eucharistic Prayer III. Eucharistic Acclamation No. III.

**MONTH OF NOVEMBER:** This month is a special time in the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar to pray for the dead. **November Mass envelopes** are available for you in the pews.

**THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD:** Once again, we will have a **Book of the Names of the Dead** during the month of the Holy Souls, November. The names of our beloved dead can be recorded by you (*in a legible and orderly way, filling one page at a time, in front of the Lectern or Ambo please*) in the Book, and we will pray for those whose names are recorded in the Book in a special way during our November Masses.

**A VOCATION VIEW:** As Christians, our sole inheritance is Christ; everything else is temporal and fleeting. Let us rejoice in His calling, that we might have His strength in order to respond to the invitation to "Come! Follow me." (Psalm 16)

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** "And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory." MARK 13:26 We will all have that day when we are standing before God and our life is played out like a movie. When this happens and God asks each of us, "What have you done with the gifts that I have given you?" How will you respond?

**ST. LUKE'S PARISH GROUNDS MAINTENANCE ROSTER - 2018/2019** is now available from the notice table in our church foyer for all those Parishioners who have volunteered to go on it for the next twelve months. Please pick up yours today.

**THE 6PM CHOIR** will serve again on Saturday 24th November.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** next Sunday morning at the 10.30am Mass with Jess and Nina.

**ALL OUR YEAR 12 PARISHIONERS** have now finished their secondary schooling. Please keep them all in your prayers as they sit their final exams.

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

**WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO:** 75 bite-size explanations of Catholic practices @

*The Story Source, 1993. TeresaPirola.net* **RITE OF WELCOME:** The public nature of this celebration highlights the fact that the catechumen's commitment to Christ involves a commitment to a specific community of people. The parish community in turn welcomes the catechumen and pledges its support in the weeks and months to come. The period of the catechumenate The catechumenate is the second of four stages of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. During this period an unbaptized person becomes more deeply acquainted with the people, teachings and practices of the Catholic Church with the expressed desire of becoming a Catholic. He/she is no longer called an 'enquirer' but a 'catechumen' (from the ancient Greek: one who 'echoes the gospel'). The relationship between catechumen and the parish community is a bit like an engaged couple who are seriously preparing for marriage. The length of this period is open-ended, taking anything from weeks to years according to the pace of the individual's experience of conversion. The word 'catechumenate' is also used as a general term to refer to the overall process of Christian initiation. *To Be Continued*

**INTER-PARISH WALK:** Sat 17 Nov 2018, meet at 1.45pm, Pound Bend Car park, Warrandyte State Park, Warrandyte. 30 mins from St John Vianney's. Rides can be arranged. Join us for a walk around Warrandyte State Park, enjoy the abundance of native life from kangaroos and kookaburras, cockatoos, galahs, and (apparently!) a koala too. Easy, flat walk on unpaved path. Share coffee, cake and a chat afterwards. See flyer on Church noticeboard for more details or call Nimmi 0413135889 or Thuy 0423882718.

## PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

		17 AND 18 NOV. 2018	24 AND 25 NOV. 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Terry Wells	Olive Hammill
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Megan McLean	Kana Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Sonya O'Farrell	Michael Liddy

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD

		17 AND 18 NOV. 2018	24 AND 25 NOV. 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Olive Hammill	Tony Lobo
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Godfrey Thong	Beryl Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Elizabeth Dixon	Steve Kilroe-Smith & Kevin O'Callaghan

### WELCOMER'S ROSTER

		17 AND 18 NOV. 2018	24 AND 25 NOV. 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Greg Grant	Lorraine Kermond
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Joe Brogno	Don McKenzie
	10:30 AM	Kilroe-Smith Family	Margaret Gearon

### SLIDE OPERATORS

		17 AND 18 NOV. 2018	24 AND 25 NOV. 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Tony Lobo	Choir
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson	Darren McLean
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

### CHURCH FLOWERS

17 NOV. 2018  
Val Wells & Marie Parker  
24 NOV. 2018  
Lesley Cormick & Toni Plevier

### CHURCH CLEANING

24 NOV. 2018  
Team 3 (Maree's Team)  
Maree Moss, Rita Gibb,  
Lynda Kilroe-Smith & Nancy Stephan

### MAINTENANCE

17 NOV. 2018  
Team 9  
John Ryan, Darren Foster  
& Anthony Fernandez

## Parish Groups & Contacts

*Do not our hearts burn within us as we walk along ...*

### Lectors, Welcomers Collectors Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, & Rosters

Margaret Gearon - 0409 807 135

### Children's Liturgy Group

Nina Grieve - 9877 4023  
Jess Kilroe-Smith - 0452 613 863

### Stewardship Counters

Dale Dixon - 0433 885 087  
Steve Kilroe-Smith - 0404 864 232

### Pastoral Council & Child Safety Officer

Darren McLean - 0417 774 504

### History

Margaret Gearon - 0409 807 135

### Whitehorse Deanery

### Finance Committee

Steve Brennan  
Parish Accountant

### Hall Hire

Parish Office - 9877 2292

### Care Group & Gardens

Judy Noy - 9894 1506

### Church Sacristan

Greg Grant 0401 644 474

### Church Linen

Toni Plevier

### Church Cleaning & Flowers

Megan McLean 0419 347 693

### Maintenance

Bill Goodwin 9803 6056

### Holy Communion to the housebound

### Parish & School Choirs

Maria Pinto, Lina Mafi  
0411 136 043

Marg Yore & Kat Bergin  
9877 4023

### Parish and School Fete Committee

Jackie Purcell - 9877 4023

### Parish School Advisory Board

Jackie Purcell - 9877 4023

### Parish School

### Parents' Association

Jackie Purcell - 9877 4023

### St Vincent de Paul Conference

For Assistance: 1800 305 330  
(Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

### Parish Contact:

Margaret Gearon

### 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?*

**THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 18 Nov 2018:** This week on The Journey, Fr Mike Delaney reflects on the Gospel of Mark, Sr Hilda Scott asks the question, "Where did you last see God", Sam Clear reminds us "Do not fear the future" in his walking the walk God spot, and Fr Dave Callaghan encourages us to "Become What we Behold". Christian music is the soul of the Journey Catholic Radio program, where faith hope, love and life come together. Go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

**WIDENING THE DOOR OF HOPE: A RESPONSE TO THE VICTORIAN ASSISTED DYING LEGISLATION** Date: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018; Time: 7.30pm start, 7.00pm light refreshments Venue: Mercy Theatre Australian Catholic University 115 Victoria Parade Fitzroy (enter via Young Street) Orators: Assoc. Prof. Natasha Michael MBChB FRACP FACHPM MRCPI MRCGP MSc Director, Palliative Medicine Cabrini Health University of Notre Dame Sydney School of Medicine Dr Stephen Parnis MBBS DipSurgAnat FACEM FAICD FAMA Former Vice-President AMA Emergency Physician, St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne RSVP / Inquiries: by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018 [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au) or (03) 9926 5727. Please see Church noticeboard for more details.

**TALK AND TOUR MORNINGS: 23 NOVEMBER** Our Lady of Sion College warmly invites prospective students and families to attend a Talk and Tour morning. Hear from our principal and take a tour with our Year 10 students to see our College in action. Tour mornings begin at 9.30 am; please allow enough time for parking. Register at [info@sion.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@sion.catholic.edu.au). Enrolment applications for Year 7, 2021, will open on 1 February 2019. For more info please see Flyer on Church Noticeboard.

**HEART OF LIFE - 2019 PROGRAM OUR 2019 PROGRAM** is now available and can be downloaded [here](#). Weekday seminars and workshops are offered, as well as Saturday reflection days and weekends, and ministry formation programs. Please consult the brochure for more information. For Spiritual Direction or Pastoral Supervision, please contact the Centre at any time on telephone (03) 9890 1101.

**THE HEART WAITS: A REFLECTIVE DAY OF PRAYER, PREPARING FOR ADVENT:** (Carole Carmody rsm) Sat 24 Nov 2018, 10am-3.30pm, \$60 (Morning tea provided, BYO lunch) This is a time to pay attention to yourself in the midst of many demands. A time to nurture your heart. **Bookings:** Bookings for our seminars and workshops can generally be made up to one week before the start date (subject to places still being available) by: using the [Book & Pay](#) facility on our website, or contacting Heart of Life by: email [holsc@bigpond.com](mailto:holsc@bigpond.com) or tel (03) 9890 1101.

**RINGWOOD ST.V. DE P. REGIONAL COUNCIL FESTIVAL MASS:** The St Vincent de Paul Society Conference is hosting the Ringwood Regional Council Festival Mass on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am. There will be a number of members being commissioned into the Society during the Mass and long service awards at the end. The State President, Kevin McMahon will be the guest speaker. Please join us in this celebration. Margaret Gearon, Conference President.

**SAFETY STATEMENT:** We are committed to a safe and nurturing culture for all children and vulnerable adults in our Church. Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish Blackburn South holds the care, safety, wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults as central and fundamental responsibilities of the Church. This commitment is drawn from and inherent to the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel.

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

Dear friends, this Sunday, the 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, has been instituted by Pope Francis as the World Day of the Poor. Pope Francis asks of us, that as we enter Advent and prepare for Christmas, we examine what we are doing for our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate than ourselves. The theme for Pope Francis' World Day of the Poor message this year is "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him" (Ps 37:5). Please read, reflect on and distribute this beautiful message: <http://www.pcpne.va/content/pcpne/en/attivita/gmdp/2018/messaggio.html> The Holy Father challenges us to truly listen to the needs of the poor and respond, not just with sympathy, but with personal involvement and action. As a community of faith, we give thanks to God for the parishes, schools, communities and agencies who do great works to lift up the poor in our community. As we think of gifts and presents this Christmas, let us listen to, and be an attentive presence for, the poor. Office for Justice and Peace 383 Albert Street East Melbourne VIC 3002 [justice@cam.org.au](mailto:justice@cam.org.au) Ph. 03 9926 5710

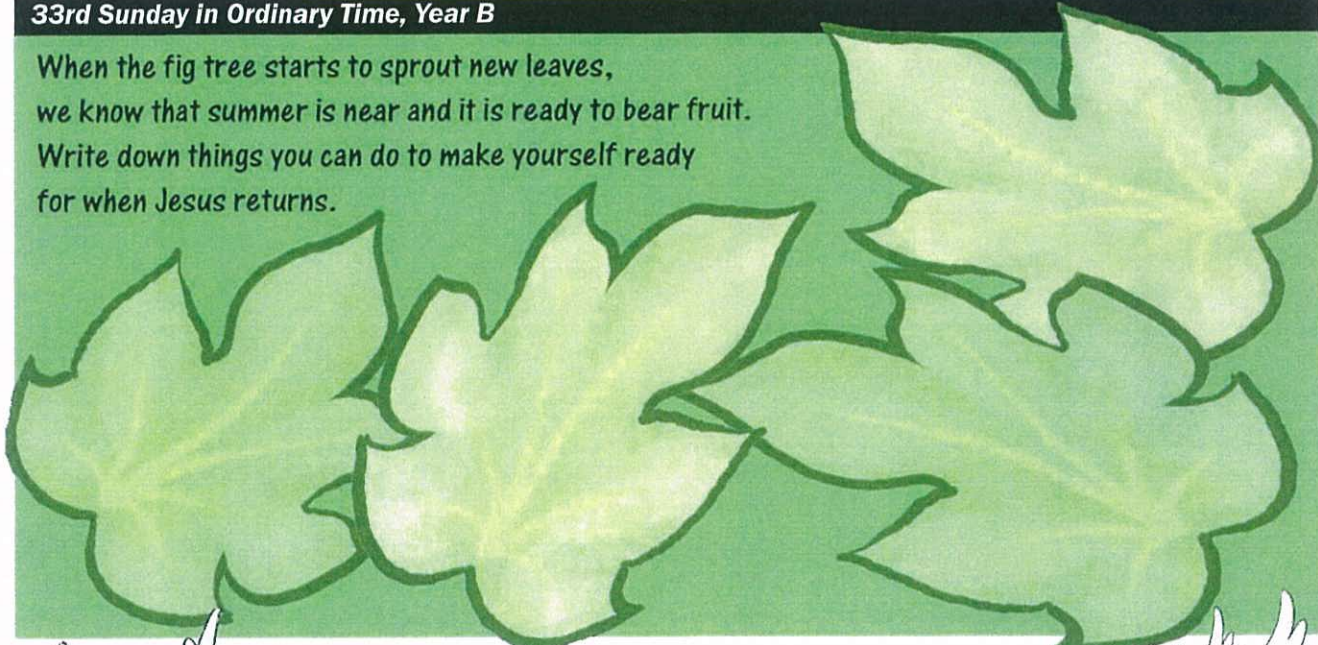


# We are God's chosen ones



## 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

When the fig tree starts to sprout new leaves, we know that summer is near and it is ready to bear fruit. Write down things you can do to make yourself ready for when Jesus returns.



When Jesus returns, God will send his angels to gather his chosen ones.

Write down the names of some people for the angels to gather.



## FIND THE SECRET ANSWER

Help the angel find the hidden answer to this question ..... "Who will know when the time is right for Jesus to return?"

In the puzzle below, cross out any letter that appears four or more times. Then unscramble the remaining letters to complete the verse below.



B	M	G	S	N	D	V	K	P	Y	Z
J	W	Q	I	H	Z	O	S	W	E	V
P	C	T	B	V	Q	G	X	M	P	I
M	Q	S	L	N	K	Y	C	S	U	B
X	D	J	M	T	X	V	D	J	Z	V
L	U	O	K	S	J	B	K	C	D	R
Q	E	L	P	G	O	Z	U	Q	S	Y
G	I	W	U	X	M	F	K	C	N	G
L	O	C	S	B	I	P	L	J	D	P
Z	U	Y	L	H	N	G	Q	A	W	K

ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ KNOWS.



## St Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

### 2018 PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Our Parish Stewardship Renewal Program has been finalised and once again we wish to warmly thank everyone for their involvement and generous response.

A special thank you goes to our Program Leadership Team – Darren McLean - Chairperson; Margaret Gearon; Steve, Lynda and Jessica Kilroe-Smith; Kana Chelliah; Marilyn Raj; Steve Brennan; Dale Dixon; Laurie Peatrie; Christolyn Raj; Sonya O'Farrell and Jackie Purcell, and to all the volunteers who offered their assistance.

Thanks also to Mr Frank Schobben, our Director from the Development Office for the Archdiocese. His informative, clear and positive approach has been welcomed by both the Leadership Team in particular and parishioners in general.

**Collect Today** - your letter of thanks confirming your new commitment and where applicable a new set of envelopes. The letters are available in alphabetical surname order and members of the Program Leadership Team will be on hand at all Masses to assist with this process. The new commitments take effect next week on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November, and to avoid any confusion please destroy any old envelopes that you may still have.

**Not yet completed your pledge?** Don't worry – pledge cards are available on the table at the rear of the church. Completed cards can still be placed in either collection bag.

A reminder that all Groups & Ministries responses are currently being processed and all those who responded will be contacted in the very near future. Your support in this key area of parish life is very much appreciated.

GENTLE REGARDS & THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN!

*Fr Gerard*

With trust in God's providence and everyone's self-less generosity we pray:

#### **STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PRAYER**

*Lord, we thank you for calling us to be your Church.  
Through our Baptism and Confirmation, we are called to service  
and to witness.  
In the Eucharist we sustain and strengthen that call.  
By serving others we follow your example and proclaim our  
beliefs.  
By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our love and care.  
Lord, help us always to worship you as you deserve,  
to grow in faith and service  
and to give without counting the cost.  
We ask this and all our prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen*



## *God comes to People through People*

– ‘*Benedictus*’ Day by Day with Pope Benedict XVI

Part of the essence of Christianity – and this is included in the concept of the Church – is that our relationship to God is not just an inner one, one made up of my “I” and God’s “Thou,” but is also a matter of being spoken to, of being led. A meeting is part of every path to conversion. The Church is there so that people who have searched for the door and found it can be in her. Among all the variety of temperaments, there will always be someone who suits me and who has the right word to say to me. As human beings we are there so that God can come to people by way of other people. **God always comes to people through people.** So we, too, always come to God through other people who are being led by God, in whom God in Godself meets us and opens us up to God. If we could lift ourselves up to the ultimate degree simply by reading Holy Scripture, then this would be just another philosophical movement, without this element of community that is such a vital element in faith.

*We are Companions on the Journey ...  
& ... do not our hearts burn within us as we walk along! (Luke 24:32)*