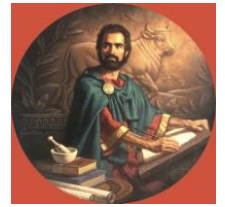


# Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

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**WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2018**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B**

**THE YEAR OF YOUTH**

*This week's readings: Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Gospel Mark 9:2-10*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER:** Like so many other important events in the Bible, the events of this week's gospel occur on a high mountaintop. Mountaintops were places of special and dramatic encounter with God and the disciples' experience of the transfiguration is clearly no exception! In this instance, the disciples suddenly see Jesus' power fully revealed but they fail to fully understand what is going on. One might think how much more obvious could God be about trying to reveal Jesus' identity to the disciples, but still they don't really catch on. Peter thinks he has caught on to the message. When the great prophets Elijah and Moses appear beside Jesus, Peter understands Jesus to be part of the line of prophets in the Hebrew tradition. He believes he has had a great insight and is so impressed that he wants to remain on the mountaintop – setting up tents in honour of Jesus, Elijah and Moses. In essence, Peter has still only partially understood who Jesus is. He thinks he is the Messiah, but a Messiah in the same mould as the prophets of old, a prophet of the old tradition. He has not understood that Jesus is breaking that mould and creating a new vision, a new tradition – one that is endorsed by the voice of God on the mountaintop.

Rather than allowing the disciples to set up tents and remain in the 'high' of this experience, Jesus immediately leads the boys back down the mountain. This is perhaps the greatest message of this passage: that life is not lived on the mountaintop but back down in the valley. Although the mountaintop experience may have provided some new insight and new energy, it is back down in the valley that the world waits; that the real work needs to be done; that the sick and the poor are crying out for God's love and mercy.

**SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT – NOT QUITE:** Throughout the gospel of Mark, it is important to look at the stories that lie either side of important events to pick up the subtlety of the gospel writer's message. In this instance, the passage that immediately follows the Transfiguration is a story of the disciples trying unsuccessfully to heal a boy and Jesus having to intervene. It reinforces the message of the mountaintop in which the disciples still only partially understand Jesus' purpose and presence. They still haven't fully mastered who Jesus is and so they have not fully mastered the ability to heal.

**HAVE YOU THOUGHT? MOUNTAINTOP MOMENTS:** Throughout the Bible there are instances of important encounters with God on mountaintops. Even this week's first reading, the sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham, occurs on a mountaintop. It is not the potential sacrifice, but the new relationship between God and Abraham that is a mountaintop moment. In modern language, we often speak about 'peak experiences' – moments of exceptional clarity, intense emotion or extraordinary accomplishment. Sometimes, like Peter, we are tempted to try to remain 'in the moment' rather than using the peak experience as a motivator for when we go back down the mountain to our normal (if perhaps changed) existence.

**GOSPEL FOCUS – A NEW VISION:** Part of Peter's mistake is to see the appearance of Elijah and Moses as a confirmation that Jesus has come to continue the work of the great prophets of the past. Rather than placing Jesus in the old tradition of the prophets, the appearance of Elijah and Moses, together with the voice of God, is to endorse the new direction that Jesus' ministry is taking. Jesus' new vision for the world is informed by the relationships forged between God and the prophets of the past, but it is a vision of a completely different way of relating to God: a much more personal relationship that calls us to respond from the heart to those around us.

**Raise your voices ...**

**Entrance antiphon:** Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face.

**Response to the Psalm:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Gospel acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Communion antiphon:** This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

**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  
Thursday & Friday  
9.30am – 4.30pm**

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

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@sblackburnstcatholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sblackburnstcatholic.edu.au)

Website:

[stlukes@sblackburnstcatholic.edu.au](http://stlukes@sblackburnstcatholic.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 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. *Parishioners may like to remember their loved ones in this way by contacting the Parish Office leading up to the person's anniversary and requesting that their loved ones' names be included and mentioned in the Prayers of the Faithful at Sunday Mass accompanied by the usual stipend envelope that is on the notice table.*

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK:** **Friday:** Autumn Ember Day (Special Day of Prayer and Penance.) Please welcome our visiting Priests for this weekend – Fr Zahar Mhanna (Sat. evening) and Fr James Grant (Sun. morning).

**PARISH LENTEN EXERCISES:** Weekday Mass, Project Compassion, mid-week Stations of the Cross Wednesday afternoons at 4.00pm, Holy Hour each Wednesday evening at 7.00pm, a Parish Ministry Workshop and learning by heart the (new) Mass responses.

**WEEK 2: Prayer and the Cross** This week's insert invites us to reflect on the theme "Prayer and the Cross." We will see that Jesus' journey to the cross is filled with many prayerful moments. How can we learn from these examples? And how should they inform the way we pray today?

**PROJECT COMPASSION LENT WEEK TWO: Rattanak from Cambodia** Rattanak is a skilled young barber, living an independent life in rural Cambodia. But it wasn't always that way. As a child he contracted polio and also became deaf. Like many people who are deaf or hard of hearing, Rattanak faced isolation at home, with a lack of opportunity to escape poverty. <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/weekly-stories/week-2-rattanak> please visit this webpage for more details.

**LENTEN GUIDELINES:** Please see Parish noticeboards for more details.

**LENT 2018:** Pastoral Letter of Archbishop Denis Hart; please see Parish noticeboards for further details.

**THE 6PM CHOIR** will lead the singing on **Sat 24th Feb** this month.

**A VOCATION VIEW:** God calls Abraham to be willing to sacrifice all that is dear to him, even his own son, Isaac. In order to respond to a priestly or religious vocation, the same call to sacrifice is heard. Are you willing? (Gen. 22:1-2)

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE** a Welcomer, Lector, Collector, Counter, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist and/or Holy Communion to the housebound – come to a Parish Workshop. Other ways to be involved and to minimise any anxiety of being of service to the Parish. *Date claimer* with Rev Fr Tony Doran our facilitator. **Thursday 15th March:** an afternoon session 2.00pm - 3.30pm **or** an evening session 7.30pm - 9.00pm, in our Parish Church.

**ST. LUKE'S FETE – 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018:** St. Luke's Fete is just a month away. If you have any questions, queries, please contact Jo Adams on 0409 935 937. ***Your time and talent will be greatly appreciated.*** This Parish and School initiative is an opportunity to foster new friendships and deeper relationships throughout the Community. *Please visit this page at your convenience:* [www.facebook.com.au/stlukesparishfete](http://www.facebook.com.au/stlukesparishfete)

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: SURINAME –** All God's Creation is Very Good! Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018. 10.30am – 11.30am. We are the Host this Year, so it would be good for as many Parishioners to attend who can. Our Parish Care Group is preparing the refreshments to follow afterwards. Please see Parish noticeboards for details.

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

**LOCAL CONF. OF ST.V.DE.P.** Please do not leave any donations for Vinnies' Stores in the Church foyer. Electrical goods can be given to Eastern Emergency Relief, Mitcham Food donations gratefully accepted.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY:** 8 March 2018. Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference's Council for Australian Catholic Women. This Year's theme: *"Time is Now: Rural and Urban activists transforming women's lives"*. Please see Parish noticeboards for further details.

**OUR LADY OF SION COLLEGE:** *Talk and Tour Morning,* Friday 16 March, 9.30 am. *College Open Day,* Thursday 22 March, 2.30 pm – 6.30 pm.

## PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

	<u>24 AND 25 FEB 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 MARCH 2018</u>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	6:00 PM Terry Wells	Ian Holmes
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:30 AM Beryl Chelliah	Godfrey Thong
	10:30 AM Sonya O'Farrell	Margaret Gearon

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD

	<u>24 AND 25 FEB 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 MARCH 2018</u>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	6:00 PM Melina Barcellona	Kathryn Holmes
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:30 AM Kana Chelliah	Robyn Marxsen
	10:30 AM Marg Yore	Steve Kilroe-Smith

### WELCOMER'S ROSTER

	<u>24 AND 25 FEB 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 MARCH 2018</u>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	6:00 PM Lorraine Kermond	Terry Wells
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:30 AM Don McKenzie	Rosemary Donaldson
	10:30 AM Pam & Michael	Kilroe-Smith Family

### SLIDE OPERATORS

	<u>24 AND 25 FEB 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 MARCH 2018</u>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	6:00 PM CHOIR	David Prabha
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:30 AM Darren McLean	Rosemary Donaldson
	10:30 AM Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

### CHURCH FLOWERS 3 MARCH 2018

- LENT SEASON -

### CHURCH CLEANING 3 MARCH 2018

Team 6 (Sonya's Team)  
Sonya O'Farrell, Lucy Brown,  
Rose Knight & Joe Brogno

### MAINTENANCE 3 MARCH 2018

Team 4 (Frank Melville,  
Rodney Caple & Danny Nolan)

**INTER-PARISH WALK: SUN 4 MARCH:** Join us and walkers from St Anthony's Annual Walk, along the Mary MacKillop Heritage route in the city, traipse an ecumenical route past various Churches, listen to a Welsh Choir, stop for a coffee, connect spiritually. More info: Nimmi 0413135889 Thuy 0423882718.

**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)

**'LET THE HEART LISTEN'** is a 15 week x 3 hour program for people involved in listening to and supporting others. Facilitated by Carole Carmody rsm, the program runs 9.30am-12.30pm on Thursdays from 1 March to 21 June 2018 at Heart of Life Spirituality Centre, Box Hill. Cost \$650. Bookings: Tel 9890 1101 or email [holsc@bigpond.com](mailto:holsc@bigpond.com)

**CREATIVE ENRICHMENT DAY: THE MYSTICAL BOAT: A JOURNEY OF TRANSFORMATION** (Carole Carmody rsm, Marlene McGrath, Paul Beirne) Saturday 17 March 2018, 10am-4pm, \$60 (BYO lunch) In this day, we provide the opportunity to be attentive to the dwelling place of the mystic within.

### **THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 25 FEBRUARY 2018:**

In this special time of Lent, we find ourselves being encouraged to Surrender our troubles, anguish and joy to Our Lord. This week on the Journey, Fr Graham Schmitzer shares the Gospel reflection the Diocese of Wollongong Lenten program, Trish McCarthy reminds us of Self Care in her Milk and Honey segment, Sr Hilda Scott with her Wisdom from the Abbey gently talks about A memory. Our Music this week is a small collection of some of the music on our Lenten CD. And, that is Journey Catholic Radio, an inspiring and up lifting show about faith, hope, love and life. 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.

**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.

## Parish Groups & Contacts

*Did not our hearts burn within us as we walked 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 - 0497 630 173

**Thanksgiving 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 Council**  
Steve Brennan  
Parish Accountant

**Hall Hire**  
Marilyn Robert - 9877 2292

**Gardens**  
Judy Noy - 9894 1506

**Church Sacristan**  
Greg Grant 0401 644 474

**Church Linen**  
Toni Plevier

**Church Cleaning & Flowers**  
Megan McLean

**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 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?*