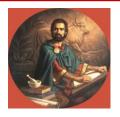
Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130 Tel: 03 9877 2292 | Fax: 03 9894 3359





WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 22 APRIL 2018
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (VOCATIONS DAY) — YEAR B
THE YEAR OF YOUTH

This week's readings: Acts 4:8-12; I Jn 3:1-2; Gospel John 10:11-18

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: The image of Jesus as the good shepherd is such a familiar image that it can sometimes become over-familiar and cease to engage us. Countless works of art have presented this image literally, picturing Jesus as a shepherd with a crook and surrounded by sheep or even with a lamb draped around the back of his neck. The image from this week's gospel often gets merged with the image from the parable of the lost sheep that appears in the gospels of Luke (15:1-7) and Matthew (18:10-14) where artists frequently place Jesus as the hero of his own parable and portray him as the 'good shepherd' going out to retrieve the one lost sheep. Such amalgamations of different gospel images can become very confusing. Some of this confusion and literal interpretation stems from the gospel writer's choice of metaphoric language. In the gospel, Jesus says, 'I am the good shepherd', not 'I am like the good shepherd'. The writer's use of metaphor, rather than simile, provides a much more compelling image but can result in a more literal interpretation.

The emphasis of the image is on the adjective. Jesus is the good shepherd. Shepherds generally were not regarded as particularly good people – more like the scum of the earth! – so the choice of image is a deliberate one to unsettle the listeners. Unlike their normal expectation of shepherds – cut-throats who would run away at the first sign of danger – Jesus is the good shepherd: the one who does not abandon his flock; the one who has concern for his sheep; the one who will lay down his own life for his sheep. The final verses of the passage make an interesting extension to the image of shepherd and sheep. Unlike the 'sacrificial lamb', the good shepherd chooses to lay down his life and also has the power to take it up again.

Historical Context – **The GOOD Shepherd?** The John gospel writer's use of the image of Jesus as the good shepherd would have been a confronting image for the initial audience. Shepherds in first century Palestine were far from the idyllic pastoral image that we generally associate with the image. They occupied one of the lowest steps on the social ladder – men of such poor reputation that they could only be trusted to herd sheep; they certainly couldn't be trusted around other people! Jesus' use of the image cut two ways: it was a confronting image for the audience; but it was also a challenge to those leaders who had been charged to 'shepherd' their people and behaved no better than thieves – Jesus was giving them an image of what it means to be a good shepherd.

Scriptural context – **The Shepherd Messiah:** The gospels go to great lengths to affirm the lineage of Jesus and associate him with the house of David, the first great Jewish king. David began life as a simple boy tending his father's flock of sheep. When the line of kings was instigated through David they were charged with being 'shepherds' of their people. However, down through the line of kings, this care for the people was lost and they ceased to be 'shepherds'. Jesus' claim to be the good shepherd is his claim to be in the line of the true kings of Israel – a shepherd of the people.

Different View – The Australian Shepherd: Australian audiences can tend to struggle a bit with the image of Jesus as the good shepherd. The Australian image of sheep is one of huge flocks of sheep that number in their hundreds and thousands and roam freely over enormous open plains. I guess we also tend to look on sheep as pretty stupid animals that will follow anything anywhere. It doesn't seem to work to put Jesus into this image of vast sheep stations. The idea of a shepherd knowing his sheep individually seems a bit ridiculous in this context.

Raise your voices ...

Entrance antiphon: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm: The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

Communion antiphon: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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

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. (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@slblackburnsth.catholic.edu.au Website:

stlukes@slblackburnsth.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 those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For those who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, especially our ANZACS. 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: Easter Time. **Monday:** St George, martyr; St Adalbert, bishop, martyr. **Tuesday:** St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest, martyr. **Wednesday:** Anzac Day. **Thursday:** St Mark, evangelist. **Friday:** St Louis Grignon de Monfort, priest; **Saturday:** St Peter Chanel, priest martyr. **Sunday Masses:** Preface of Easter V. Euch. Accl. No. 2 & Eucharistic Prayer III.

EASTER TIME (SPIRITUAL) **EXERCISES:** Weekday Mass, Holy Hour each Wednesday evening at 7.00pm, returning Project Compassion Boxes a.s.a.p., the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) – available twice a week and continuing to learn by heart the (new) Mass responses.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES can be returned a.s.a.p. please.

<u>DIVINE MERCY SHRINE:</u> If you would like to make a donation towards the costs of acquisition and installation please find envelopes marked "**Special Collection**" in the basket on the notice table that you can use to put your donation in and then place it in either of the collections during Sunday Masses over the coming weeks. *Thanks!*

THE 6PM CHOIR will lead the singing on Saturday 6 pm Sunday Vigil Mass 28th April. **A VOCATION VIEW:** Good Shepherd Sunday; World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The priest is called, in imitation of Christ, to lay down his life for his people. Pray that our priests and seminarians might be courageous in following the example of Christ. (John 10:11-18)

PARISH AUTUMN GARDEN WORKING BEE: Organised for Saturday April 28th from 1.30pm – 3.30pm. Please bring your own garden tools and equipment. Removing the agapanthuses along the south fence-line is a priority. Please see Parish noticeboard for further details. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

PARISH CARE GROUP: You will be pleased to know that twelve Parishioners turned up to this Parish meeting last Sunday morning after the 10.30am Mass. The only Parishioner who put their hand up to take on the role of coordinating this Parish service was Judy Noy – so we thank her for doing so. Needless to mention there was unanimity about whether the Care Group ought to continue. Noelle joined us to "tell the story" thus far. It will help if Parishioners wanting to support this Parish work made contact with Judy either via phone 9894 1506 or email: iudynoy@optusnet.com.au to advise of your willingness to be involved, your specialty when it comes to baking and your availability to be of service setting up, serving and/or tidying up on occasions when the need arises. Judy will make contact with our Parish School to canvass for support from our Parish families their as well.

TODAY IS THE WORLD DAY OF VOCATIONS: Pope Francis tells us: We will never discover the special, personal calling that God has in mind for us if we remain enclosed in ourselves, in our usual way of doing things... We could lose the chance to dream big and to play our part in the unique and original story that God wants to write with us. God calls young people from our local communities to serve as priests and consecrated religious. We all have a role to play in helping young people to 'dream big' and hear this call. What can I do to foster vocations from this community?

POPE FRANCIS – Message for 2018 World Day of Vocations: 'It will not fill our hearts if we keep standing by the window with the excuse of waiting for the right time, without accepting this very day the risk of making a decision. Vocation is today! The Christian mission is now! Each one of us is called to become a witness of the Lord, here and now. 'We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous "yes", nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord.'

URGENT: OUR LOCAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE needs 2 to 3 people to assist with the bread run once every 5 weeks on a Wednesday evening (4.45 to 6.15pm). If you are able to assist, please contact Margaret Gearon on 0409 807 135.

PLEASE BE ADVISED: Our next scheduled Mass and celebration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick in our Parish will be at Regis Inala in Middleborough Road and will occur on Tuesday 1st May at 11.00am followed by refreshments in the usual place. Weekday Mass here, just that day, will be transferred there to Regis Inala Chapel for this occasion.

MASS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS: Please see Parish noticeboard for further details.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: 2018 Knox Public Lecture Wednesday 16 May at 7.30pm Dr Jeff Kildea 'What Price Loyalty? Australian Catholics in the First World War' Bookings and Information: Email: jill.doncovio@ctc.edu.au or phone 9412 3304. R.S.V.P.: Wednesday 9 May. Venue: Catholic Leadership Centre, Corner Victoria Parade & Hoddle Street, East Melbourne.

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

21 AND 22 APRIL 2018

Olive Hammill

Maria D'Souza

Jess Kilroe-Smith

21 AND 22 APRIL 2018

Terry Wells

Rosemary Donaldson

Kilroe-Smith Family

21 AND 22 APRIL 2018

EXTRAORDINARY MINIST VERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

 SATURDAY
 6:00 PM
 Olive Hammill

 SUNDAY
 8:30 AM
 Godfrey Thong

 10:30 AM
 Marg Yore

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

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

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

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

SLIDE OPERATERS

CHURCH FLOWERS

28 APRIL 2018

- Joan McHugh

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

PM Terry Wells
DAM Darren McLean
Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH CLEANING

28 APRIL 2018

Team 5 (Kellie's Team) - Kellie McCarthy, Emma Brodawka, Toni Wynne & Daniella Manolopoulos

28 AND 29 APRIL

Terry Wells Beryl Chelliah Sonya O'Farrell

28 AND 29 APRIL

Melina Barcellona Kana Chelliah Marg Yore

28 AND 29 APRIL

Greg Grant Don McKenzie Dixon Family

28 AND 29 APRIL

David Prabha Rosemary Donaldson Manny Gonzalez

MAINTENANCE

28 APRIL 2018

Team 9 (John Ryan, Darren Foster & Anthony Fernandez)

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

TOUCHING THE FRINGE OF HIS GARMENT: Saturday 5 May and Sunday 6 May, 9am–5pm St Clare's Hall, access from Killara Street, Box Hill North If you or someone you know needs healing of any kind, these two days are for you. You are invited to reach out and touch the fringe of his garment, in this journey of inner healing retreat presented by the Catholic School of Evangelisation. BYO lunch and bible; morning and afternoon tea will be provided. Cost: \$50 donation, students \$30 Bookings: by Monday 30 April at https://www.trybooking.com/TEBY (use promo code CSOE for 10% discount) Details: Rose on 0411 650 339 or melbourne@schoolofevangelisation.org.au

OUR LADY OF SION COLLEGE 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Principal Tina Apostolopoulos warmly invites all past staff and students of Our Lady of Sion College to attend an afternoon of reunion and reminiscing. Catch up with colleagues and friends, enjoy a tour of the College to see what has changed and enjoy afternoon tea with musical entertainment from our award-winning ensembles.

What: Welcome Back to Sion Day; **When:** Saturday 19 May 2018, 2.00 – 4.30 pm; **RSVP:** For catering purposes please RSVP at www.trybooking.com/335414 **Contact:** For all queries, please contact Robyn at pasststudents@sion.catholic.edu.au We look forward to welcoming you back to Sion.

'VINCENT PALLOTTI: POWERED BY INFINITE LOVE' will be performed at Hennessy Hall, 5 Doon Avenue, Glen Waverley on 4th and 5th of May, 2018. Our aim is for the show to touch the lives of as many people as possible by having a large audience. Please see Parish noticeboard for further details.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 29 April 2018. Just a reminder, that all Journey Catholic Radio information is always a week in advance. This week on the Journey Catholic Radio, our Gospel reflection about the "Vines and the Branches" is spoken to us by Fr Steven Varney. The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes questions us about The Wrong Map, and Marilyn Rodrigues encourages us to Pray, Hope and Don't Worry. The music is the thread that helps us connect our show to you, and with this, we create a show about faith, hope, love and life. Go to www.icr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

BE A VOLUNTEER OUT THERE: Communities in Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. Palms volunteers don't do quick fixes, but immerse themselves in overseas communities for long-term skill exchange. If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, share them with our global family! Come to the Palms Info Session: Saturday 5 May 10:30am Ross House, Jenny Florence Room 247 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE. Go to www.palms.org.au/volunteer or Contact Palms on 02 9560 5333 Please see Parish noticeboard for further details.

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

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 - 0452 613 863

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

Care Group & Gardens Judy Noy - 9894 1506

Church Sacristan

Greg Grant 0401 644 474

Church Linen
Toni Plevier

Church Cleaning & Flowers Megan McLean 9878 8691

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?