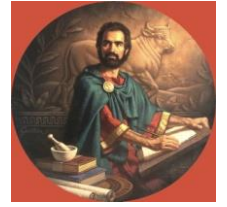


Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

Tel: 03 9877 2292 | Fax: 03 9894 3359

Email: blackburnsouth@cam.org.au | Web: <http://pol.org.au/blackburnsouth/Home.aspx>



WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 29 APRIL 2018

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

THE YEAR OF YOUTH

This week's readings: Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Gospel John 15:1-8

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the 'classic' gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many 'famous' or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt – we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don't need to pay it much attention.

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action; it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It is an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to 'prune' our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

I am reminded of the old *Karate Kid* movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.

Living the Gospel – Bearing fruit: The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

Scriptural context – In context: The imagery that Jesus used in his parables and in extended metaphors such as the one used in this week's gospel sometimes seems a little foreign to a 21st century audience. However, the world in which Jesus lived and taught was dominated by small scale farmers and producers in an agrarian economy. His use of images such as 'shepherd', 'vine', 'tenants', 'farmers' and 'wineskins' would all have been immediately recognisable to his audience. They would also have appreciated much more than we do the subtlety of Jesus' use of such images when he twists them in an unexpected way.

Historical Context – The 'True' vine: The image of the vine has its origins in Psalm 80 where the nation of Israel is likened to a vine: 'You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.' (Ps 80:8-9) However, the people of Israel have forgotten who they are and who it was that planted them in their country – it is like the rootstock of a grafted plant has taken over and gone wild. Jesus' presence as the 'true vine' reminds them of what they are called to be.

Raise your voices ...

Entrance antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Communion antiphon: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, 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@slblackburnstc.catholic.edu.au

Website:

stlukes@slblackburnstc.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 Kathleen Bookluck who died recently, for Laura Ferraro,
Emilta Schumm and all those anniversaries occur about this time, lest we forget. May
they rest in peace. *Parishioners may like to remember their loved ones in this way by
submitting their request in writing to the Parish Office (current Privacy legislation
requirements) 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 Pius V, pope;
Tuesday: St Joseph the Worker. **Wednesday:** St Athanasius, bishop, doctor. **Thursday:**
Sts Philip and James, apostles. **Sunday Masses:** Preface of Easter 1. Euch. Accl. No. 3
& Eucharistic Prayer II. We welcome and thank our Parish School Choir to the
10.30am Mass this weekend directed by Kat Bergin.

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

DIVINE MERCY SHRINE: 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,
Sat 12th May and Sat 26th May.

A VOCATION VIEW: St. John Vianney spoke of the priesthood as the "love of the
heart of Jesus." To be called to the priesthood and/or consecrated/religious life is to
love the people of God in a unique and dynamic way. (1 John 3)

PARISH AUTUMN GARDEN WORKING BEE: Thankyou to all Parishioners who
arrived for our Parish working bee this weekend. Hopefully you can see where you
have been and so can all our Parishioners.

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: judyoy@optusnet.com.au to advise of your willingness to be involved,
your speciality 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.

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.

PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(PENANCE) COMMENCEMENT DATE: MAY 22 2018: Please pray for our
First Reconciliation Candidates, their Parents, Teachers and Catechists who are
preparing for the celebration of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation in our Parish.
*Loving God, you are our friend always. We are good people but sometimes we mess
things up and hurt one another. We are sorry for the uncaring things we do. Thankyou for
loving us all the time even when we hurt one another and make one another unhappy.
Help us to make good choices in our family so that the sun can shine and drive away the
clouds. Help us to be more caring and thoughtful towards one another.*

MASS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS: The Life, Marriage & Family Office warmly
invite all expectant mothers and their families to the Mass for Expectant Mothers. The
Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday
27 May at 11.00am. Registrations can be made online at:
www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily or alternatively by contacting: 9287 5587 or
mailing lmf@cam.org.au Please note that registration closes on Friday 18 May.

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.

'FRIENDS' OF EILEEN: Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor (Brown Nurses) foundress,
Eily Rosaline (Eileen) O'Connor, led an exemplary life. A new website for her "Friends"
has been launched: <https://www.ourladyasnurses.org.au/eileen-oconnor> If you would
like to receive their newsletter please contact them via this email address
Eileen@ourladyasnurses.org.au to be included in their distribution of their quarterly
newsletter. Their motto is "to Jesus through Mary".

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

		28 AND 29 APRIL	5 AND 6 MAY 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Terry Wells	Ian Holmes
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Beryl Chelliah	Godfrey Thong
	10:30 AM	Sonya O'Farrell	Marg Yore

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

		28 AND 29 APRIL	5 AND 6 MAY 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Melina Barcellona	Kathryn Holmes
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Kana Chelliah	Robyn Marxsen
	10:30 AM	Marg Yore	Steve Kilroe-Smith

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

		28 AND 29 APRIL	5 AND 6 MAY 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Greg Grant	Lorraine Kermond
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Don McKenzie	Marie Pekish
	10:30 AM	Dixon Family	Leigh Kelly

SLIDE OPERATORS

		28 AND 29 APRIL	5 AND 6 MAY 2018
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	David Prabha	David Prabha
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson	Mary White
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

5 MAY 2018
- Jeannette Neumann

CHURCH CLEANING

5 MAY 2018
Team 6 (Sonya's Team) –
Sonya O'Farrell, Lucy Brown,
Rose Knight & Joe Brogno)

MAINTENANCE

5 MAY 2018
Team 1
(Bob Dimmattina &
Steve Kilroe Smith)

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 paststudents@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 6 May 2018: On The Journey next week, we welcome Fr Richard Healey to reflect on the Gospel, proclaiming Jesus' love for us. We also have the wonderful Sr Hilda Scott OSB sharing some new Wisdom From the Abbey, with a wonderful story about finding God, Sam Clear with new reflections from his Walk 4 One and his speaking ministry, and much more fantastic content to enrich your life! Along with some of the best Christian music out there, this is a fantastic episode! Join us to receive some faith, hope, love, and life! Go to www.jcr.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?