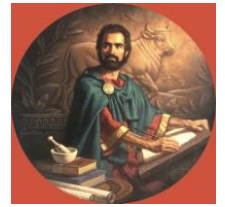


Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

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 13 MAY 2018

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – YEAR B

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY & THE YEAR OF YOUTH

This week's readings: Acts 1:1-11; Eph 4:1-13; Gospel Mark 16:15-20

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: This passage makes up the concluding verses of the Gospel of Mark. Actually, literary criticism of the Mark gospel suggests that the original gospel ended at 16:8 with the women fleeing from the empty tomb in fear. Verses 9-20 appear to be a later addition to the gospel. The community in which this gospel was written expected Jesus to return within their lifetime and so the dramatic and suspenseful conclusion of the gospel at the discovery of the empty tomb makes perfect sense. However, it soon became apparent that Jesus' return was not going to come as soon as the believers had hoped and so the post-resurrection appearances and the commissioning to continue on with Jesus' work became much more important.

If we were to read this passage literally, we would believe that to be a Christian one had to be able to perform exorcisms, speak in tongues, handle snakes, drink poison and heal by touch. If this were literally true, I guess there wouldn't be too many Christians around today! Rather, the purpose of the passage is that Jesus sends his followers out 'to the whole world' to continue his ministry. It is the 'whole world' to which they are sent; not just their cosy little corner of the world but the whole world. It's what Christian people for the last 2,000 years have been called to do: continue Jesus' ministry to the whole world. It's what each and every one of us is called to do today: 'proclaim the Good News to all creation'. That doesn't mean standing on street corners with a Bible in our hands but it means proclaiming the Good News through our everyday actions and by being open and honest about our faith. It means treating all people as Jesus would.

Living the Gospel – Proclaim Good News: Francis of Assisi is credited with saying, 'Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary, use words!' In every interaction we have we say so much about who we are, what we think of the other person and what we believe – even without opening our mouth. Our actions and attitudes proclaim our beliefs more powerfully than our words ever do. If we claim to be concerned about justice and yet behave unjustly then it is our actions, not our words, that will be heard! When we are called to 'proclaim the Good News' we are called to do this first and foremost in action.

Scriptural context – Acts: Throughout this Easter season, the first reading in the Sunday liturgy is taken from the Acts of the Apostles and so both the first and second readings come from the New Testament. (Normally, the First Reading is taken from the Old Testament.) This week's first reading account of the Ascension is the very beginning of the book of Acts. This book and the Gospel of Luke are now recognised as being by the same author. The book of Acts records the events involving the followers of Jesus after his death and the growth of communities of believers who sought to follow Jesus' ways.

Different View – Snake handlers and Faith healers: There are certainly Christians who interpret literally Jesus' description of the signs that will be associated with believers. We have all seen images of old Revivalist meetings where people were called forth to be healed by touch and have evil spirits driven from them. Much of this practice can be traced to this week's gospel. The many evangelical churches and the tele-evangelists who dominate our early morning television screens operate out of this tradition and generally have a very literal interpretation of scripture. It is based in a belief that God acts in the world through miraculous intervention rather than through the slow and steady presence of individuals like you and me.

Raise your voices ...

Entrance antiphon: Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Communion antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, 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 especially our Mothers who are
with the Lord, 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: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
Monday: St Matthias, apostle; **Friday:** St John I, pope, martyr. **Sunday Masses:** Preface
of Ascension I. Euch. Accl. No. 2 & Eucharistic Prayer III.

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
Sat 12th May and Sat 26th May.

A VOCATION VIEW: We are called to live in accord with the calling we have
received, whether as priest, religious/consecrated, married or single; encouraging
one another by the example of our lives. (Eph. 4:1)

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.

**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. Thank you 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. Please keep all
our Candidates and their families in your prayers.*

PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION on
Thursday evening 7th June @ 7.00pm in our Parish Church with Monsignor Tony Ireland,
episcopal Vicar for the Easter Region. *Please pray for all our Candidates.*

A NEW CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER FOR 2017/2018: Parishioners are invited
to join the Church Cleaning Roster by contacting Megan McLean. Her phone
number is 0419 347 693 and email is mcleans1@bigpond.net.au Anyone who wants to
join is asked to contact me either by phone or email **by Saturday 12th May** please? *If
you have any queries about how often, what the duties are etc. please do not
hesitate to give me a ring.*

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.

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.

ST SCHOLASTICA'S PARISH KINDERGARTEN, Bennettswood. Our kindergarten
is the only Catholic kindergarten. We are having an Open Day on Saturday 26th May
2018. Please see flyer on our Church noticeboard for more details. If you have any
questions please telephone Katherine Presley on 9808 1006.

ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE FOR EVANGELISATION is offering Ministry Workshops:
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion During Mass Thursday 17 May, 7pm - 9pm
(light refreshments from 6.30pm) For bookings, please visit:
<https://www.trybooking.com/VEDA> The Reader of God's Word Thursday 26 July, 7pm
- 9pm (light refreshments from 6.30pm) For bookings, please visit:
<https://www.trybooking.com/VKZ0> If you have any enquiries, please contact
Suzanne Hermon at the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation on 9926 5761 or
evangelisation@cam.org.au

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

12 AND 13 MAY 2018

SATURDAY 6:00 PM Ian Holmes
SUNDAY 8:30 AM Melina Barcellona
10:30 AM Val Gardiner

19 AND 20 MAY 2018

Lorraine Kermond
Melina Barcellona
Debbie Brown

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

12 AND 13 MAY 2018

SATURDAY 6:00 PM Kathryn Holmes
SUNDAY 8:30 AM Rosemary Donaldson
10:30 AM Elizabeth Dixon

19 AND 20 MAY 2018

Mary Whiting
Maria D'Souza
Jess Kilroe-Smith

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

12 AND 13 MAY 2018

SATURDAY 6:00 PM Terry Wells
SUNDAY 8:30 AM Joe Brogno
10:30 AM Mary

19 AND 20 MAY 2018

Greg Grant
Don McKenzie
Dixon Family

SLIDE OPERATORS

12 AND 13 MAY 2018

SATURDAY 6:00 PM CHOIR
SUNDAY 8:30 AM Megan McLean
10:30 AM Manny Gonzalez

19 AND 20 MAY 2018

David Prabha
Darren McLean
Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

19 MAY 2018

- Kate Skowonska -

CHURCH CLEANING

19 MAY 2018

Team 8 (Judy's Team)
Judy Noy, Chelsea Brown,
Debbie Brown, Sarah Santili

MAINTENANCE

19 MAY 2018

Team 3
Sean Harford & Peter Fung

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY: "A Mother can take the place of anyone but no one can take her place." Here's wishing you a Mother's Day that's filled with every pleasure, and a future that's as happy as the memories you treasure!

MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF CARITAS AUSTRALIA, DEACON JIM CURTAIN: Please see Parish notice board.

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

INTER-PARISH WALK, 27 MAY 2018: Lysterfield Lake (20 minute from Waverley Gardens SC), 2pm. **Meeting point:** Mahogany Car Park; **Time:** 2.00pm sharp. **Walk Difficulty:** Easy – with two short gradients. More details please see parish noticeboard. Enquiries to Nimmi 0413 135 889, Thuy 0423 882 718, Michaela 0412 260 406.

SOUTHERN STARS SOCIAL CLUB over 28's Party Night For Single Catholics in 28 – 60 Age Group. Saturday 19th May 2018 starting at 8.00pm. Location: Benedict House at St Benedict's Parish, 301 Warrigal Road Burwood; Melways Map 61 H 6. Cost \$13 includes luck door prizes and supper. Enquiries: Peter 9885 2167 See Parish noticeboard for similar 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.

'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.ourlady nurses.org.au/eileen-oconnor> If you would like to receive their newsletter please contact them via this email address Eileen@ourlady nurses.org.au to be included in their distribution of their quarterly newsletter. Their motto is "to Jesus through Mary".

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 : 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 Website: www.wwme.org.au

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 -9926 5710

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?