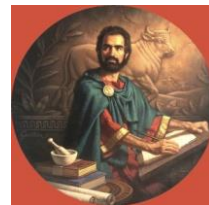


Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

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 19 AUGUST 2018 TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B *THE YEAR OF YOUTH*

This week's readings: Prov. 9:1-6; Eph 5:15-20; Gospel John 6:51-58

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: This gospel passage continues the 'Bread of Life' discourse that we have been following through the Gospel of John for a few weeks now. It overlaps with the reading from last week with Jesus announcing that his flesh is the 'bread of life'. Not surprisingly, the Jewish audience is horrified by the idea of eating human flesh. Jesus drives his point home further with his audience by also referring to the drinking of blood. In Jewish tradition, even to touch blood made a person ritually unclean. Any meat that was to be eaten had to be drained of blood, according to kosher rules. The words used by Jesus in this passage are so confronting that they cannot possibly be taken literally. It is a complete overstatement of the image to try to make sure that a literal interpretation is impossible.

When the gospel writer has Jesus speaking about eating his flesh and drinking his blood he is drawing on a very old image of eating and drinking as representing 'absorbing'; or 'comprehending'; or 'understanding' the message of the speaker. In this ancient understanding, to 'eat the flesh' of Jesus is to take into yourself and accept everything that Jesus stands for; everything that Jesus teaches; everything that Jesus believes. It is an act of faith. When we received Christ in the Eucharist, is this the depth of significance and purpose with which we take communion? Unmistakably, this passage points us to the Christian sacrament of Eucharist. The practice of sharing Eucharist as a memorial of Jesus was already well established in the Christian communities by the time this gospel was written and throughout this extended discourse on the 'Bread of Life' the author provides a direct link between the practice of Eucharist and the teachings of Jesus.

Gospel Focus – Real Presence: The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a central doctrine of the Catholic faith. It is regarded as a revealed truth proved by both scripture and tradition. This week's gospel, indeed the entire 'Bread of Life' discourse (Jn 6:26-72), is an essential passage of scripture that supports the teaching of Christ present in the Eucharist. Along with scripture, the other proof of the doctrine is tradition. Since the first century, only a brief time after the death of Jesus, Christians linked their celebration of Eucharist with the words of Jesus at the last supper – they celebrated Eucharist as a memorial of Jesus.

Different View – Cannibalism? One of the criticisms levelled against Catholicism since the days of the early Church – and continuing even today – is the claim that Catholics perform an act of cannibalism in the Eucharist! The critics seize on the 'body and blood of Christ' that are consumed in the Eucharist. Transubstantiation is a difficult concept for many people to comprehend (including many Catholics). Whilst the 'substance' of bread and wine – the essence of their bread-ness and wine-ness – are changed to the body and blood of Christ, the 'form' of the bread and wine remains the same.

Living the Gospel – You are what you eat: In a world that is obsessed with health and fitness and yet, ironically, also experiencing an ever-increasing overweight and obese population, what we eat has come under greater scrutiny than ever before. 'You are what you eat' has become a catchcry for healthy eating but Catholics have known the truth of this statement for centuries. When we participate in the Eucharist, we not only receive the body of Christ; we become the body of Christ. The people who make up the Church in the world are indeed the body of Christ. In the words of St Teresa, 'Christ has no body now but yours!'

UPDATING OUR PARISH CENSUS THIS WEEKEND AND NEXT AT EVERY SUNDAY MASS

Raise your voices ... Entrance antiphon: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Response to the Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Communion antiphon: I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

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

Sonya O'Farrell

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

10.00am – 2.00pm

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 for those Parishioners unable to be
among us this weekend. For those who died recently, especially Peter Wernert and for
all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, may they all rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Ordinary Time. **Monday:** St Bernard, abbot,
doctor; **Tuesday:** St Pius X, pope; **Wednesday:** The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary;
Thursday: St Rose of Lima, virgin; Friday: St Bartholomew, apostle; **Saturday:** St Louis,
St Joseph Calasanz, priest; Mass of the Virgin Mary. **Sunday Masses:** Preface VII of the
Sundays in Ordinary Time. Eucharistic Prayer II and Euch. Accl. No. II.

A VOCATION VIEW: Because we have been called, formed and nourished by Christ,
our actions must be in accord with the great gifts we have received. To strive for holiness
every day of our lives is to live in accord with the promises made at Baptism. (Eph. 5:15)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons
but as wise..." **EPHESIANS 5:15** A wise person recognises that all we have and all we are
comes from God. A wise person thanks God continually throughout the day for all His
many blessings. A wise person realizes that God has blessed us for a reason and that He
wants us to help Him build His kingdom of earth.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again on Saturday 1st September.

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

PARISH CENSUS UPDATE: Please take the time to fill in LEGIBLY **one**
(per household/family) of the Census Cards you received from the Greeters on your
way in to Mass tonight/today; there are **pencils in the pews**. The completed cards can
then be **placed in the collection baskets** at the usual time. Our recent experience with
the distribution of the current set of Parish Thanksgiving Envelopes has prompted this
action. Also, it will equip us for the Parish Thanksgiving Renewal Program that will occur
later this year in October. Thankyou for your cooperation with this matter, it lightens the
administrative load for all of us.

BILLINGS OVULATION METHOD® TEACHER TRAINING COURSE – Friday,
31st August – 1st September, 2018, Billings LIFE, 2A/303 Burwood Highway, East Burwood,
3151. This is an opportunity for those interested in offering women and couples a reliable
and scientific method of natural fertility management. Nurse practitioners, community
health nurses and others interested in women's reproductive health will find the
knowledge and skills gained through their participation in this course to be invaluable.
To Register or to get more information: 1800 335 860

DISCOVERING PRAYER THROUGH THE LABYRINTH: A labyrinth becomes a
spiritual journey on many levels, leading the person inward to their own centre, and then
back out into the world. Come join us at Heart of Life Spirituality Centre in Box Hill on
Saturday, 15 September 2018 from 10 am – 4 pm. Cost \$60 (BYO Lunch). Enquiries and
bookings can be made by reply email (holsc@bigpond.com) or to tel 03 9890 1101 or
www.heartoflife.melbourne

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 19 AUGUST 2018: This
week on The Journey, Fr Steven Varney offers us his reflection on the Gospel of John. Bruce
Downes, The Catholic Guy talks to us about Honoring, Frances Pirolas, in her Smart Loving
segment ponders Marriage: Happy or Holy (repeat), and Sr Hilda shares her unique wisdom
from the Abbey. Vibrant Christian music helps us to celebrate the Journey Catholic Radio,
where faith, hope, love and life come together. Go to www.jcr.org.au or
www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

ARCHBISHOPS CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES: 13th September 2018
featuring our new Archbishop, Peter A Comensoli. Come along and be encouraged,
inspired and challenged by him as he undertakes his leadership role in the Archdiocese
of Melbourne. Come along and support the new Archbishop. The venue remains the
CQ Club 113 – 123 Queen St Melbourne. Cost \$45. Time 0700 – 0900 sharp. Enquiries
Michael Bohan 0439 172 465 The **Catholic Man Breakfast Series** is an opportunity for men
to gather and be encouraged and inspired in their faith."

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 104TH WORLD DAY OF
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2018:** "Welcoming, protecting, promoting and
integrating migrants and refugees" Dear brothers and sisters! "You shall treat the
stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as
yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God"
(Leviticus 19:34) ... [https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee-
kit/booklet/856-migrant-and-refugee-kit-2018/file](https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee-kit/booklet/856-migrant-and-refugee-kit-2018/file)

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA UPDATE: Leading into the Victorian
Election ... <http://www.css.org.au/>

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO: 75 bite-size explanations of Catholic practices
© The Story Source, 1993. TeresaPirola.net: **BELLS AND SMELLS:** Why is the Catholic
Church so full of 'things': bells, incense, candles, holy water...? Catholicism is a very 'earthy'
religion. In God becoming human through the person of Jesus Christ, we are reminded that
material realities are not to be scorned but embraced as part of our loving response to our
Creator. While we know that no image or 'thing' can capture the presence of God who is
Mystery beyond all comprehension, we also recognize that human persons need to express
themselves in a human way. When we portray the mysteries of our faith through human
realities we are not 'confining' God but simply making a statement about the truths we hold
dear.

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

18 AND 19 AUGUST 2018

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Ian Holmes
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Godfrey Thong
	10:30 AM	Val Gardiner

25 AND 26 AUG 2018

		Terry Wells
		Beryl Chelliah
		First Communion

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

18 AND 19 AUGUST 2018

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Olive Hammill
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Beryl Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Jess Kilroe-Smith

25 AND 26 AUG 2018

		Melina Barcellona
		Kana Chelliah
		First Communion

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

18 AND 19 AUGUST 2018

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Terry Wells
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson
	10:30 AM	Kilroe-Smith Family

25 AND 26 AUG 2018

		Greg Grant
		Don McKenzie
		First Communion

SLIDE OPERATORS

18 AND 19 AUGUST 2018

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	David Prabha
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez

25 AND 26 AUG 2018

		David Prabha
		Mary White
		Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

18 AUG 2018
Joan McHugh
25 AUG 2018
Val Wells & Marie Parker

CHURCH CLEANING

25 AUG 2018
Team 6 (Sonya's Team)
Sonya O'Farrell, Rose Knight,
Joe Brogno

MAINTENANCE

25 AUG 2018
Team 2
Dale Dixon &
Ian Holmes

WHY DO WE HOLD PALMS ON PALM SUNDAY? On Palm Sunday, the Sunday leading into Holy Week, we commemorate the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The Gospels that describe this event speak of large crowds laying palm branches on the road before Jesus and proclaiming him as king. Here is a man with charisma, with a stirring message! And yet, before the week is out, he has been betrayed into the hands of his enemies and crucified. Palm Sunday (also called Passion Sunday) highlights the paradox of Christ's kingship. Our palms represent his victory, but a victory that comes only through suffering and self-sacrifice. **WHY ASHES?** The ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday remind us of our mortality and symbolize the spirit of penance that marks the Lenten season. Ashes were commonly used in ancient religions (including Judaism) as an expression of sorrow. In the early Church, Jewish converts introduced a similar practice into the Christian liturgy. By being marked with ashes, a Catholic today is recognized by the community gathered as one who has chosen to repent of sin and believe in the Good News. A sign to be worn

THE CROSS: Is the cross you wear around your neck just an attractive piece of jewelry to you? Have you ever pondered the startling paradox of this symbol? After all, in Jesus' day the cross was an instrument of execution. Translated into modern terms, it's a bit like wearing a miniature electric chair around your neck! The repugnance of such an idea highlights the radical edge of the Gospel. Jesus' life led to suffering, loss, failure and even death. Yet it was precisely through such self-sacrifice that the resurrection was possible. As Christians we are called to life by walking the way of the cross. Not a religion for the faint-hearted! **PENANCE:** 'Penance' is not a terribly popular word these days. Yet the 'offering up' or denying ourselves of a simple desire (e.g. a favourite TV program, an extra dinner serving) is still a rich and fruitful practice embedded in our Catholic tradition. Far from being a negative thing, regular acts of penance strengthen our will-power, develop perseverance and free us from self-centredness. Just as an athlete prepares for a race with months of regular training, so does the practice of penance prepare a Christian for the 'tough' side of Gospel living; those days that require you to 'give your all' when you thought you had already.

WHY DO WE PRAY THE ROSARY? One might look upon the rosary as a precious heirloom passed down through generations of our faith family. Essentially, it is a simple, repetitive prayer by which we reflect on the life, death and glorification of Christ through the eyes and heart of his mother. According to a tradition that dates back to the 15th century, St Dominic founded the devotion to the rosary. Other evidence, however, suggests that it developed gradually, especially under the influence of the Cistercian and Dominican religious orders. The rosary is one way we can prayerfully contemplate the mysteries of our faith. **WHY DO WE HAVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS?** Have you ever made a journey retracing the steps of an ancestor? In the early Church a tradition developed whereby Christians would make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, retracing the journey that Jesus took to Calvary. Visual representations depicting the Passion of Jesus were erected along the way. In memory of this sacred path, the stations were popularized in art and as a devotional practice, encouraged especially by the Franciscans. There are fourteen stations in our modern day devotion whereby people move from station to station, reflecting on the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

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
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 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?