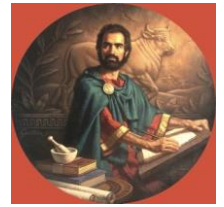


Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

Tel: 03 9877 2292 | Fax: 03 9894 3359

Email: blackburnsouth@cam.org.au | Web: www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth



WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2018
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B
THE YEAR OF YOUTH

This week's readings: Is 35:4-7; James 2:1-5; Gospel Mark 7:31-37

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: Strangely, this week's gospel about the healing of a man who was deaf and dumb is less about healing than it is about Jesus being the Messiah. The theme is set up in the first reading when the prophet, Isaiah, describes the signs by which the coming of the Messiah will be recognised: the blind will see; the deaf will hear; the lame will leap; and the dumb will speak. When Jesus healed the man in the gospel story the crowd were admiring of what he had done. They even exclaimed, 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.' These words are a direct echo of the Isaiah text – they were recognising Jesus as fulfilling the prophecies of the promised Messiah.

However, the passage also demonstrates to us that Jesus was trying to show the people that he was not exactly the Messiah that many of them were anticipating. This healing story takes place in the region of The Decapolis – south-east of the Galilee region and populated mostly by Gentiles. By travelling in this area and working miraculous healings, Jesus is making the point that his mission is to all people, not just 'the Chosen People' of Israel. He commands the crowd who witnessed the healing to tell no one about it but, filled with the idea that Jesus was the Messiah they had been waiting for, they broadcast the news. Jesus wanted their silence because he knew that they did not fully understand the sort of Messiah that he was. Only when they understood that this Messiah must suffer and die would he have allowed them to speak of his deeds.

Gospel Focus – Ephphatha: The healing that Jesus works in this passage is perhaps one of the most 'physical' of his healing actions. He puts his fingers in the man's ears and places spittle on his tongue. It is an incredibly intimate contact with a complete stranger and someone regarded as outcast and unclean because of his disabilities. When Jesus speaks the word of healing, Ephphatha ('Be opened'), he appears to be speaking not only to the man but to all those listening. Be open to the possibility of embracing those you have cast out; be open to a different understanding of Messiah.

Scriptural context – Isaiah's Prophecy: All three synoptic gospel writers were at pains to demonstrate that Jesus was the fulfilment of the prophecies of the scriptures. This reference to Isaiah's prophecy appears in all three synoptic gospels. It is perhaps most familiar in the context of the Gospel of Luke, where the gospel writer actually combines it with a different passage from Isaiah and portrays Jesus as reading it in the synagogue as an announcement of his mission (Lk 4: 16-21). It is good to have the Isaiah text as the first reading this week and then see the way it is referred to in the gospel of the day.

Living the Gospel – Open to compassion: When Isaiah described the signs by which the Messiah would be recognised, he identified those people who were isolated from society by their physical afflictions. He portrayed a Messiah who released them from those afflictions and allowed them to re-enter society. That is what Jesus did time and time again. In the healing of the deaf and dumb man, Jesus called on all those around him to also be opened – that their hearts may be opened to compassion. Jesus calls to us through today's gospel to also be open to compassion and open to the needs of those around us.

Raise your voices ...

Entrance antiphon: You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Response to the Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Communion antiphon: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

We are Companions on the Journey ...

www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth

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:
www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth

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 for 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 Emmanuel Raj, may they all rest in
peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Ordinary Time. **Wednesday:** The Most Holy
Name of Mary; **Thursday:** St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor; **Friday:** The Exaltation of
the Cross; **Saturday:** Our Lady of Sorrows. **Sunday Masses:** Eucharistic Prayer For Use In
Masses for Various Needs IV and Euch. Accl. No. II.

A VOCATION VIEW: The encounter with Jesus never leaves one unaffected, but our
ears must be opened to receive His word. (Mark 7:31-37)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to
be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?"
JAMES 2:5 What is more important – being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society
teaches us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When
we are rich in faith, we keep God first in all things and realize that material things really
don't matter and that it's more important to share with those who have less.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again on Saturdays 15th & 29th September.

WALK OF WITNESS HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING TUESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2018:

The Walk of Witness will commence in Federation Square at
12.30pm with the Parable of The Good Samaritan At 1.00 the Walk will proceed from
Federation Square to St. Patrick's Cathedral, with a stop on the Steps of the Victorian
Parliament (approx. 1.45), arriving at St. Patrick's Cathedral at 2.00pm, where Bishop
Mark Edwards will officially launch the Statement for the Archdiocese of Melbourne.
[total distance 1.5kms] Please see Church noticeboard for more information.

ARE YOU A MECHANIC WITH A MISSION? ALL SKILLS NEEDED! Could you
make a wheel difference mentoring local mechanics in Myanmar? Contact Christine
on 02 9560 5333. For more mission opportunities, visit palms.org.au/volunteer Can't
commit just yet? Check out palms.org.au/encounters For more details please see
Church noticeboard.

ISTAND WEEKEND - COMMITMENT TO JESUS What: Weekend run by
YMT Melbourne filled with games, dramas, sport, prayer, good food, live
music, testimonies and talks. Bring along friends and sign up before spots run out! You
can register via the YMT website at <https://www.ymt.com.au/istandevents/> Who: Year
groups 8-12 Where: 60 Adekate Camp Road, Dean, VIC When: 3rd of October on
Wednesday 5:00pm to the 5th of October Friday 2:00pm Contact the team on
0419 103 511 for more details.

ST. CECILIA'S, SOUTH CAMBERWELL, is holding a **Parish Reunion Sunday
14 October 2018** Commencing with 10am Mass followed at 11am by a gathering of
friends in St. Cecilia's Hall. A wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends from the
past.

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

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO: 75 bite-size explanations of Catholic practices
© The Story Source, 1993. TeresaPirola.net **WHY DO WE BAPTIZE?** An adult baptised
into the Church enters into a relationship. He or she no longer lives as an individual entity
but as a member of the body of Christ. Like a wedding, the baptismal ceremony marks
the beginning of this new life of union and ongoing commitment. A baptized person
says 'Yes, I want to be one with you; I want to live a life faithful to the Gospel'. (When
an infant is baptized, the parents and godparents make this commitment on the child's
behalf.) Likewise, the community pledges itself to be one with that person. Two other
rituals, Confirmation and Eucharist, complete this process whereby a person becomes
part of the Catholic Church. Together the three are known as the Sacraments of
Initiation. **RECONCILIATION:** 'Why go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation?' people
sometimes ask. 'Isn't it enough to say sorry to God in my heart?' The Catholic approach
to Reconciliation is deeply community-oriented. For us, sin is never a private affair. When
one member of the body of Christ hurts, the whole body suffers. Imagine a husband and
wife who harshly criticize each other. They can regret their words and say sorry to God.
But for the forgiveness of God to really take effect in their marriage, they also need to
reconcile with one another. Similarly, in Reconciliation we offer a public sign to our faith
community that we are sorry for the ways we have undermined the unity of the Church
and that we desire to renew our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

WHY CONFIRM? As the name implies, the Sacrament of Confirmation confirms or
strengthens the new life received at Baptism. Symbolically, the bishop or priest makes
the sign of the cross on the forehead using an oil called chrism. As he does so he says,
'(Name), be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.' Although the Holy Spirit is received at
baptism, Confirmation focuses on this gift by recalling the promise of Jesus to send the
Spirit. In the case of youth, Confirmation is often regarded as a sign of maturity in Christ.
Having been baptized as a baby and raised in the Christian life, the youth is now called
upon to make a more mature commitment to the Gospel. In particular, Confirmation
underlines our commissioning to be bold, apostolic witnesses to the gospel.

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

		<u>8 AND 9 SEPT. 2018</u>	<u>15 AND 16 SEPT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Ian Holmes	Lorraine Kermond
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Melina Barcellona	Megan McLean
	10:30 AM	Margaret Gearon	Elizabeth Dixon

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

		<u>8 AND 9 SEPT. 2018</u>	<u>15 AND 16 SEPT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Kathryn Holmes	Mary Wighting
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson	Kana Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Steve Kilroe-Smith	Jess Kilroe-Smith

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

		<u>8 AND 9 SEPT. 2018</u>	<u>15 AND 16 SEPT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Terry Wells	Greg Grant
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Joe Brogno	Don McKenzie
	10:30 AM	Mary Taranto	Dixon Family

SLIDE OPERATORS

		<u>8 AND 9 SEPT. 2018</u>	<u>15 AND 16 SEPT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	David Prabha	David Prabha
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Darren McLean	Mary White
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

8 SEPT. 2018
Val Wells & Marie Parker
15 SEPT. 2018
Lesley Cormick & Toni Plevier

CHURCH CLEANING

8 SEPT. 2018
Team 1 (Val's Team)
Val Fogarty, Jim Fogarty,
Megan McLean, Raquel Ramirez

MAINTENANCE

8 SEPT. 2018
Team 3
Sean Harford &
Peter Fung

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST? For Catholics, the sacrament of the Eucharist, the sacred meal whereby we break bread and share the one cup, is the paramount sign of our unity with and in Christ. It has been described as the source and summit of the Church's life. When we receive the Eucharist we believe that we receive Jesus in an extraordinarily intimate way: we take him into our very beings in the form of food and drink. In doing so, we remember the way he died for us and rose again to lead us into eternal life. The Eucharist not only commemorates past events, it draws us into the mystery of Christ in the here and now and ultimately towards our eternal life with God.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 16 September 2018 This week on The Journey, Sr Hilda Scott shares Wisdom from the Abbey with her reflection on Cardinal Basil Hume, Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy encourages us to "Surrender To God", and Francine Pirola shares her vision and "Willingness to Grow". We are blessed to have amazing talented musicians sharing their gifts with us, it is also where faith, hope, love and life live together in the Journey Catholic Radio Program. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

SPIRITUAL LEADERS FORMATION PROGRAM – This one-year, part-time program held on Friday mornings in Box Hill is offered to people in various positions of leadership, spiritual formation and outreach ministries. It is suitable for priests and ministers, lay ecclesial ministers, chaplains, community leaders, principals and nurses. The program, which commences 22 Feb 2019, focuses on personal integration of the theory and practice of a contemplative, discerning approach to pastoral ministry. Applications close 16 Nov 2018. Contact Heart of Life for the brochure and application form: holsc@bigpond.com or tel 9890 1101.

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

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."

MARY MACKILLOP ANNUAL APPEAL: In the spirit of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, we invite you to bring life to "the poorest and most neglected parts of God's vineyard." Your donation to Mary MacKillop Today will support thousands of people in Timor-Leste, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and here in Australia with education, health, finance and livelihoods opportunities, bringing hope to communities for generations to come. Envelopes arrived in the mail recently and so are now available from the notice table this weekend.

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

Do not our hearts burn within us as we walk 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?