

Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

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WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER 2018

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

THE YEAR OF YOUTH & PARISH STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL PROGRAM

This week's readings: Gen 2:18-24; Heb 2:9-11; Gospel Mark 10:2-16

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: In the Western world today, somewhere between one-third and one-half of marriages end in divorce. It's a statistic that we hear wheeled out as a sign of the collapse of family values in our society. However, the reverse statistic is also true: somewhere between one-half and two-thirds of marriages are lasting ones. In the last 30-40 years, divorce has transformed from being a shameful scandal to an accepted, even commonplace, fact of life. It would be uncommon not to know someone affected by divorce. Despite those who argue that divorce is too 'easy', it is an emotional and difficult decision for couples to reach and has rippling impacts on children, extended families and friends.

When the Pharisees in the gospel asked Jesus about the law regarding divorce, they really weren't interested in divorce; they wanted to check Jesus' orthodoxy – how he stood in relation to traditional teaching. Rather than respond to them directly, Jesus asks them first of all to name the teaching to which they refer. He then explains that Moses only ever wrote the instruction because the people were so unwilling to listen to God's way.

For the second time in the last few weeks, the gospel shows Jesus welcoming children and praising their attitude as the way to the kingdom of God. Children of the time had no status and were regarded as literally the property of their father. When Jesus laid his hands on the children and gave them his blessing, this was the action of a father 'claiming' the child as their own. To welcome the kingdom like a little child is to enter into living the kingdom of God without any claim to position or status; to recognise our complete dependence on others; to let go of our ideas of who is important and who is not; to allow ourselves to be 'claimed' by Jesus.

Scriptural context – Discipleship: This section of Mark's Gospel explores what it means to be a disciple. While this particular passage may seem to be a bit out of place, Jesus seems to be stressing to the disciples that there are some bottom lines – some non-negotiables – when it comes to being a disciple. Unlike the Pharisees who are preoccupied with the letter of the Law, Jesus encourages his disciples to get beyond that and understand the spirit of the Law – God's dream for humankind. The shift in the passage to the focus on children seems a little disconnected but the whole passage is about living in the kingdom with the right attitude. **Gospel Focus – Like a little child:** Most of us at some time or another have been told to 'grow up'; 'stop acting like a child'; or to 'act your age'. It implies that, as we grow older, we have to behave in a more 'responsible' or 'mature' way than when we were children. Jesus turns this on its head and tells us that unless we 'welcome the kingdom like a little child' we will never enter it. The gospels are full of stories about people who call on God's mercy because they recognise that without God they are nothing. When they subsequently receive God's mercy or healing they welcome it all the more – like a little child.

Historical Context – Writ of dismissal: In Jewish tradition, a man could divorce his wife but a woman could not divorce her husband – she could only seek a court ruling to force her husband to divorce her. The grounds for divorce under biblical law were *ervat devar* – meaning 'some fault or indecency'. One legal tradition held that *ervat devar* applied exclusively to adultery while another applied it to anything that was 'offensive' to the husband. To divorce his wife, a man simply had to renounce his wife and ask a court to authorise a writ, or bill, of dismissal – his wife had no chance to challenge his decision.

Raise your voices ...

Entrance antiphon: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Response to the Psalm: May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love. Alleluia!

Communion antiphon: The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

**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 Beatrice Patrick, may they all rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Ordinary Time. **Tuesday:** St Denis, bishop, martyr, and companions, martyrs; St John Leonardi, priest; **Thursday:** St John XXIII, pope; **Saturday:** Saturday Mass of the BVM; **Sunday Masses:** Preface VI of the Sunday in Ordinary Time. Eucharistic Prayer II and Euch. Accl. No. III.

MONTH OF OCTOBER: The months of May and **October** are special months on the Catholic Church's liturgical calendar, dedicated to the veneration of the Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus. An opportunity to pray for *Married Life and Family Life with the intercession of the Mother of the Church.* Pope Francis invites the faithful to pray the Rosary in October <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2018-09/pope-francis-pray-rosary-october.html>

A VOCATION VIEW: Vocations to the priesthood and religious life spring from holy families, who strive to truly be united in Christ. Each vocation lived out in holiness strengthens and enriches the other vocations in the Church. (Mark 10:2-16)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "So out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name." GENESIS 2:19 The creation story reminds us of two important points. First, since the start, God has put the entire world into our care. Second, stewardship has been around since the beginning of mankind, it isn't something recently invented by the Church. Just as past generations built our Church, it is now our responsibility to continue to nurture and develop these gifts for future generations.

WE WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC FAMILY this weekend Elena Le, Daughter of Leanne and David.

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL PROGRAM:

Darren Mclean, the chairperson of our Leadership Team for this Program and Parish Pastoral Council will *bounce the ball* for us this weekend. Over the coming weeks it will be in all our best interests to be on our best behaviour because now that homes in our Parish have received their invitation people within them may choose to be with us again. It is up to all of us *regulars* to receive them well, make them feel welcome and encourage them to become a member of the Parish family of families once again. 'Putting our hand out to shake' hopefully will deliver the appropriate message to anyone who chooses to accept our invitation. A cuppa is waiting for you after Mass too; this is **our** opportunity to stop, reflect and chat about how you think things are going in **our** Parish and how they could be done differently and/or better - with your help.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again on Saturday 13th & 27th October.

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

LIFE MARRIAGE & FAMILY SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER: Focus for 2018 is 'LIVING ICONS' Mothers, Fathers and the Gospel of the Family. New video and print resources highlighting the role of both mother and a father in family life have been produced by the life, Marriage & Family Office. Printed booklets available from the notice table in the Church Foyer and resources at: www.cam.org.au/lifemariageginistry You might also like to see the promotional videos, even one from Archbishop Peter <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtoVDA9K1nbQcfKWn0uEAzSb8aVgEcsAg>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – SPECIAL OBSERVANCE SUNDAY: Today our local St V. de P. Conference wants to acknowledge and **THANKYOU** for your generous support over the past twelve months; the annual Christmas and Winter appeals have been significant occasions of wonderful support and assistance to those among us in need because of your goodwill. Your willingness to be so committed has enabled the local Conference to remain effective and quietly apostolic - protecting the dignity and anonymity of givers and receivers as well as providing 'a Hand Up' with no strings attached. When you decide you want to be involved in the ministry of the Local Conference please contact Margaret Gearon on 0409 807 135.

MELBOURNE'S ANNUAL MARCH FOR THE BABIES SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER: Victoria's Annual March for the Babies assembles in Treasury Gardens, Corner Spring Street and Wellington Parade at 1.00pm Saturday 13 October. The March concludes with speeches in front of Parliament House commemorating the thousands of Australian lives lost each year through abortion.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2018 is rapidly approaching on 8 - 13 October. You are invited to join the friends and supporters of Catholic Social Services Victoria with the community of **St Pius X Parish, West Heidelberg to celebrate Mass acknowledging Mental Health Week on Friday 12 October at 5.00 pm.** This is a prayerful opportunity to stand with the suffering Christ in our families and wider communities and to support our brothers and sisters living with mental health issues. St Pius X Parish Church, 419 Waterdale Road, West Heidelberg. Enquiries: St Pius X Parish: 9457 5794. [Download flyer](#)

AS A FOLLOW UP to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference social justice statement for 2018–2019 'A PLACE TO CALL HOME: MAKING A HOME FOR EVERYONE IN OUR LAND' You are invited to a Housing and Homelessness Forum on 24 October. The forum will bring together parishioners and parish leaders with relevant Catholic service agencies to consider how parishes can contribute to resolving the housing crisis for people in our communities. Click here for a [flyer](#) and for a [program](#) for the event.

- Wednesday 24 October, 5.30 for 6.00 – 8.45pm
- St Columba's Parish Centre 24 Glenhuntly Road, Elwood
- Rsvp www.trybooking.com/YHAV

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

	<u>6 AND 7 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>13 AND 14 OCT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM Terry Wells	Olive Hammill
SUNDAY	8:30 AM Engelina Nyhuis	Kana Chelliah
	10:30 AM Marg Yore	Sonya O'Farrell

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

	<u>6 AND 7 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>13 AND 14 OCT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM Olive Hammill	Mary Wighting
SUNDAY	8:30 AM Kana Chelliah	Beryl Chelliah
	10:30 AM Dale Dixon	Steve Kilroe-Smith

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

	<u>6 AND 7 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>13 AND 14 OCT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM Greg Grant	Lorraine Kermond
SUNDAY	8:30 AM Don McKenzie	Rosemary Donaldson
	10:30 AM Leigh Kelly	Pam & Michael

SLIDE OPERATORS

	<u>6 AND 7 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>13 AND 14 OCT. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM David Prabha	Choir
SUNDAY	8:30 AM Mary White	Mary White
	10:30 AM Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

6 OCT. 2018
Kate Skowronska
13 OCT. 2018
Val Wells & Marie Parker

CHURCH CLEANING

13 OCT. 2018
Team 5 (Kellie's Team)
Kellie McCarthy, Emma Brodawka,
Toni Wynne & Daniella Manolopoulos

MAINTENANCE

13 OCT. 2018
Team 5
Manuel Gonzalez, Arthur
Kolitsis & Mike Lockwood

ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND TEACHER'S

have been so busy in Term 3, preparing for this year's Art Show. All of their hard work will be able to be viewed over the weekend of **St Luke's Day Celebrations on Sunday 21st October**. The St Luke's Parent's Association have a very exciting raffle prize for the Art Show! Monica Adams, a talented artist from the Mornington Peninsula (and aunt to some St Luke's students) will be painting an original piece for our school and parish. Raffle ticket sales for this original Monica Adams piece will be available leading up to St Luke's Day - after 10.30am Mass on Sunday 14th October and on Sunday 21st October. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 22nd October during the primary school assembly. All the raffle money raised will be going towards the installation of a **Sensory/Adventure Garden in the primary school for the students**. In the meantime, please have a look at Monica Adams' artwork at www.monicaart.com.au If you have any questions, please contact Jo Adams on 0409 935 937. Thank you for your support.

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.

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER will hold their Annual Mission Fair on **Saturday 13th October 9.00am – 3.00pm** at 154 Cotham Road Kew. This year the proceeds will go to help provide primary education and health services for 150 poor girls and 100 poor boys in the Catholic Sohag Diocese, Egypt. Enquiries: 9817 3715.

WORLD ROSARY DAY SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER: Countries around the world are joining to hold Rosary Rallies across the world to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Together we are calling upon God, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary. The World Rosary will start with a '54-day Novena' on 15 August (Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) until the feast of the Holy Rosary on the 7 October. Each nation has been asked to pray for its own intentions on the day. The Australian intentions for the world rosary will be family, rekindling of faith and continued Godly protection. Details: Call Jane from OzRosary 0476 535 595 or <http://holyleagueofnations.com> Register: <https://ozrosary.wixsite.com/ozrosary53/contact-us-and-participate>

ROSARY RALLY - 13 OCTOBER, 10AM - ST SCHOLASTICA'S PARISH: An invitation is offered to all to participate in The Recitation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, to celebrate the anniversary of Our Lady's appearance at Fatima. The Rosary is being offered all day around Australia to celebrate this event. Place: 10am at St Scholastica's Parish (School Quadrangle), 4-8 Starling Street, Burwood. We suggest you bring your own chair.

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO: 75 bite-size explanations of Catholic practices © The Story Source, 1993. TeresaPirola.net **WHY DO WE BLESS THINGS?** Quite apart from the blessing of people and the blessing of the eucharistic bread and wine at Mass, Catholics are renown for blessing objects: houses, medals, statues, vestments, food...even computers! As found in scripture, a blessing is an authoritative pronouncement of God's favour. We bless as a way of placing our lives under the power of Christ. When we bless objects we acknowledge the goodness of God's creation and our desire to use these gifts for the service and glory of God.

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

Stewardship 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?

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 14 OCTOBER 2018: This week on The Journey, we reflect on the Gospel of Mark, Sr Hilda shares her Wisdom from the Abbey with "The unexpected Gift", The Peaceful Parent, Marilyn Rodrigues reminds us to have "Realistic Expectations of Ourselves", and we are encouraged by Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy of the importance of "Deeper Prayer". Our music this week is a gentle reminder of the amazing Christian music artists we are lucky to have on our program and it is where faith, hope, love and life come together in the Journey. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

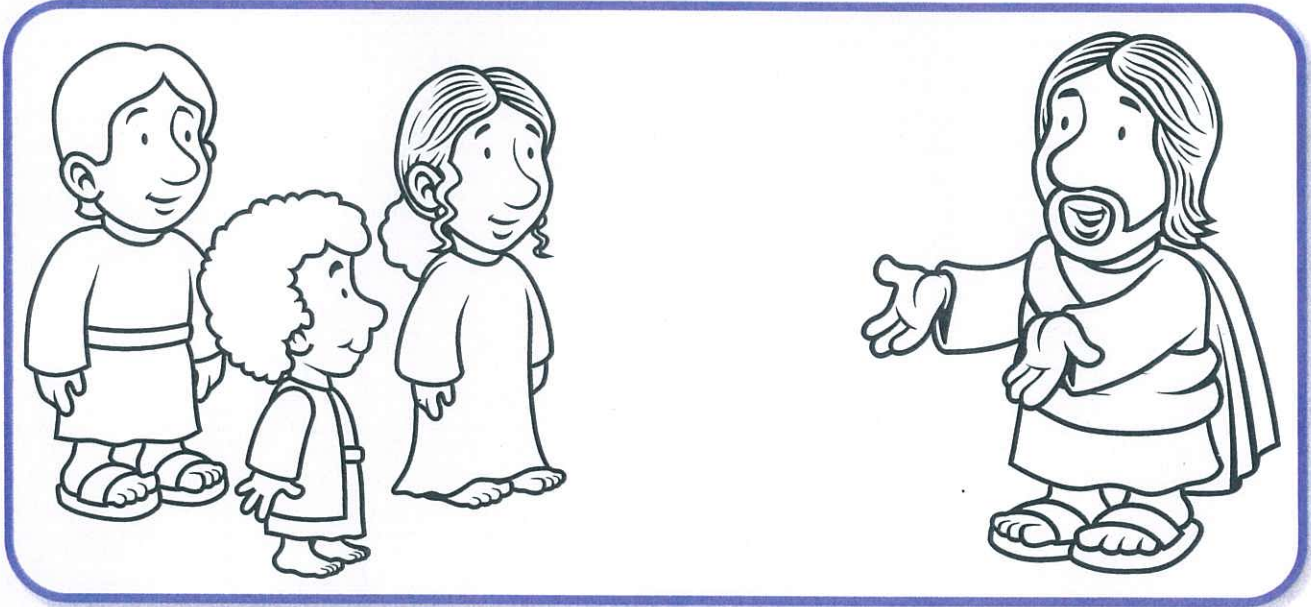
INFORMATION ON FORTHCOMING ORGAN RECITALS at St Patrick's Cathedral. The next recital will be given on Tues 9 Oct from 7pm-8:15pm by Mr Rhys Boak, Director of Music at St Michael's Church, Collins Street, Melbourne. Rhys is an accomplished Organist, Accompanist and arranger. He has chosen a programme that will ideally suit the Cathedral organ and acoustics. See Church noticeboard for more details.

Blessed are the children

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Some people brought their children to see Jesus. The disciples eventually tried to turn them away but Jesus wanted them to stay. He took the children in his arms and blessed them.

Draw yourself with Jesus and the rest of the children.



What do you think the kingdom of God is really like?

Write or draw your answer



CHILDREN

How many words can you make from the letters in CHILDREN ?

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

St Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South



PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2018

Welcome to the first weekend of our Parish Stewardship Program.

The Program recognises that 'Parishes are the Heartbeat of the Church' and will challenge us to reflect on what it means to be a member of our community.

At each Mass this weekend, copies of the Program brochure and Groups & Ministry form will be distributed. We encourage you to read these materials, listen to the speakers and follow the Program on the parish website from now on. Reflect, pray about and discuss the themes and topics with your family, friends and fellow parishioners.

This weekend we will hear from our fellow parishioner Darren McLean who has kindly accepted the role of Chair of the Program Leadership Team. Darren will also introduce a special message of welcome from the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, Monsignor Greg Bennet.

PARISH 'OUR FUTURE' FORUM

A reminder that all parishioners are warmly invited to a special event as part of the Program – 'Our Future' Forum on Tuesday 23rd October at 10.00 am and 7.30 pm in the Church. We are offering two session times, but you only need to attend one session time that suits you. It will be a great opportunity for you to contribute to the discussion on our priorities for the future.

POPE FRANCIS SAYS

"The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel" Evangelii Gaudium 114

Together we pray for the success of the Program.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PRAYER

*Lord, we thank you for calling us to be your Church.
Through our Baptism and Confirmation we are called to service and to witness.*

In the Eucharist we sustain and strengthen that call.

By serving others we follow your example and proclaim our beliefs.

By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our love and care.

*Lord, help us always to worship you as you deserve,
to grow in faith and service*

and to give without counting the cost.

We ask this and all our prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CUPPA AFTER MASS TODAY.

Helping The Kingdom Come About – *To set our hearts on the kingdom therefore means to make the life of the Spirit within and among us the centre of all we think, say, or do.* *Making All Things New* by Henri Nouwen

'Stewardship' is a very concrete way to help the kingdom of God come about. What is the kingdom? Jesus is clear that if we make the kingdom our first priority, "all these other things will be given you as well" (Matt. 6.33). The kingdom is where God provides for all that we need. It is the realm of sufficiency where we are no longer pulled here and there by anxiety about having enough. "So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself" (Matt 6.34). Jesus also compares the kingdom to a mustard seed, "which, at the time of sowing, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth. Yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade" (Mark 4:31-32). Even a seemingly small act of generosity can grow into something far beyond what we could ever ask or imagine (see Eph. 3.20) – the creation of a community of love in this world, and beyond this world, because wherever love grows, it is stronger than death (1 Cor. 13:8). So when we give ourselves to planting and nurturing love here on earth, our efforts will reach out beyond our own chronological existence. Indeed, if we raise funds for the creation of a community of love, we are helping god build the kingdom. We are doing exactly what we are supposed to do as Christians. Paul is clear about this: "Make love your aim" (1Cor. 14.1).