

Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

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WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 28 OCTOBER 2018
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

THE YEAR OF YOUTH & PARISH STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL PROGRAM

This week's readings: Jer. 31:7-9; Heb. 5:1-6; Gospel Mark 10:46-52

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: This passage from the Gospel of Mark draws to a close a significant section of the gospel. It stretches from 8:22 to this passage, 10:52. Like other examples in the Gospel of Mark, the stories at the beginning and end of the section are related and shed light on what they surround. Like this passage, the event at the beginning of the section is an account of the healing of a blind man. Contained within the two healings of blindness, as we have seen over the last six weeks, is an extended lesson on discipleship. Within this section, Jesus speaks about his upcoming death on three occasions and each time the disciples display their own form of blindness when they fail to understand what Jesus is trying to tell them quite explicitly. In this section, we have heard that discipleship involves suffering and hardship; it means placing one's own needs last and the needs of others first; and that discipleship is all about faith. In this healing of blind Bartimaeus, we see all the hallmarks of what Jesus has been trying to teach the disciples in the preceding episodes. As a blind man, Bartimaeus would be regarded as 'imperfect' – incomplete – and consequently in a permanent state of uncleanness. He would not be allowed to live within the bounds of normal society, nor have contact with people. So it is that Jesus encounters Bartimaeus on the side of the road, outside the city walls as he is leaving Jericho. Learning that it is Jesus passing by, Bartimaeus calls on Jesus to help him and the crowd tries to shut him up and remind him of his status. But Jesus calls Bartimaeus to him and, placing the needs of the other first, asks 'What do you want me to do for you?' When Bartimaeus makes his request, Jesus announces that it is his faith that has saved him and his sight is restored. Bartimaeus, like a good disciple, then follows Jesus on the road.

Scriptural context – Blindness: Blindness is a powerful metaphor that is used repeatedly throughout scripture. It is almost always a metaphor for blindness of heart or blindness of mind rather than a purely physical affliction. There are multiple accounts of healing blindness in the gospel. Saul/Paul is blinded on the road to Damascus and only has his sight restored when he is baptised. The Pharisees are described as being 'blind fools' and there the prophets make numerous references to blind seeing as a sign of the Messiah's arrival. It is a very powerful image of being 'blind' to truth and 'blind' to the teaching of Jesus.

Have you thought? On the side of the road ... When Jesus encounters Bartimaeus he is sitting by the side of the road – a reject of society sitting off to the side as the world passes him by. There are times in all of our lives when we feel like this: hurt; ashamed; unloved; rejected; cast aside. It is at these moments in our lives that Jesus really wants to 'break through' into our experience. If we allow ourselves to hear his voice calling us to him, then we too can 'throw off our cloak' – our old life – and join him on the road.

Living the Gospel – Bartimaeus, a model? Bartimaeus is a man who has almost nothing in life. His blindness has made him outcast and he is reduced to begging on the side of the road. When he is called to Jesus he jumps up and casts off what may well be his only real possession – his cloak. Yet what he does have in abundance is faith and hope. When asked what he wants Jesus to do, his answer may seem obvious, but his desire to see goes beyond physical sight. He asks for the sight of one who truly believes and to whom the truth of Jesus is revealed. In this way, he is a model to all who would be disciples.

We welcome Fr Tony Doran, Parish Priest of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Ringwood, to this our 'Future' weekend – ('laying the footings' for the next 50 years). Please make him welcome.

Raise your voices ... Entrance antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Response to the Psalm: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Gospel acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death, and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

Communion antiphon: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

**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@slblackburnst.catholic.edu.au

Website:

stlukes@slblackburnst.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 John Andrews who died recently and for all those whose
anniversaries occur about this time, may they all rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Ordinary Time. **Thursday:** All Saints; **Friday:**
The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Soul's Day); **Saturday:** St Martin de
Porres, religious; Saturday Mass of the BVM;

MONTH OF NOVEMBER: This month is a special time in the Catholic Church's liturgical
calendar to pray for the dead.

A VOCATION VIEW: Greatness in the Kingdom is found not in ruling and lordship, but
in service. Daily, we must put the needs of the other before our own. (Mark 10:35-45)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "And Jesus said to him, 'Go your way; your faith has made
you well.' And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way." MARK
10:52 Faith is believing in something even though you may not be able to see it. Many
people think that miracles don't happen anymore. But, if you focus on the positive, not
the negative, focus on your blessings instead of your hardships, miracles will seem
common and you will see God's active presence in your daily life.

**WEEK 4 OF OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL PROGRAM –
OUR 'FUTURE':**

It's the fourth week of the Program – and the third of the three themes. In recent
weeks we have reflected on the role of faith in our lives and the importance of
coming together to celebrate the Eucharist each weekend as a Family of
Families. We have also considered the notion of our parish as a **community of
faith** and how we can make our own contribution to parish life by being
involved in our Groups & Ministries. This week brings it all together. **We look to
the future** (the next 50 years) – imagining what sort of parish **we want to be and
become**. Ours is one filled with optimism – but one that needs the support and
contribution of every individual if we are to achieve our dreams.

This week we ask you to finalise and realise your commitments by:

- Signing up for a Parish Group or Ministry (*we've had 6 returned thus far*)
- Making your meaningful Stewardship and Presbytery pledge of financial
support to the Stewardship Renewal Program

Parishioners might be curious to know that **18** Parishioners attended the
morning "Future" Forum held last Tuesday and **18** Parishioners attended the
evening 7.30pm session. Please **RETURN** your 'Groups and Ministries' form into
the box on the Church notice table as soon as possible.

**STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL 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**

WEEK FOUR – (OUR) FUTURE WEEKEND: This week our Parish Expo focuses
particularly on **Operational and Finance** aspects of the Parish including
Administration, Fundraising and financial support of our Parish Priest.
Parishioners are invited and encouraged to review the list of groups and
ministries identified in the 'Parish Groups & Ministries two-page Form' (*available
on our Parish website too*); this is an opportunity to prayerfully discern and
explore how your unique gifts can be used to make a difference in our Parish;
what special gifts and talents God might be calling you to share. Through the
gifts of time and talent our Parishioners generously share, we are the hands and
feet of Jesus Christ in our parish community.

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST PARISH thanks all those Parishioners – especially
Sonya O'Farrell and her team, who played their part in making our annual Patronal Feast
Day Parish Mass and Community Spit-roast lunch & dessert (*for 300 people*) last Sunday
so enjoyable and hospitable for all concerned. It was wonderful to see so many
Parishioners present, to be inspired by our Parish School Student's Art work on exhibit and
to be prompted by the 'Groups & Ministries' Expo that provided information about what
our Parish does/offers, inviting all to seriously consider becoming more involved by any
service you would like to do for and on behalf of the Parish.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again this weekend, Saturday 27th October.

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

TALK AND TOUR MORNINGS: 23 NOVEMBER Our Lady of Sion College warmly
invites prospective students and families to attend a Talk and Tour morning. Hear from
our principal and take a tour with our Year 10 students to see our College in action. Tour
mornings begin at 9.30 am; please allow enough time for parking. Register
at info@sion.catholic.edu.au. Enrolment applications for Year 7, 2021, will open on 1
February 2019. For more info please see Flyer on Church Noticeboard.

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

		<u>27 AND 28 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 NOV. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Lorraine Kermond	Monica Hodder
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Godfrey Thong	Megan McLean
	10:30 AM	Val Gardiner	Jess Kilroe-Smith

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

		<u>27 AND 28 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 NOV. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Bernie Brennan	Mary Wighting
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson	Beryl Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Margaret Gearon	Marg Yore

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

		<u>27 AND 28 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 NOV. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Greg Grant	Lorraine Kermond
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Marie Pekish	Don McKenzie
	10:30 AM	Dixon Family	Leigh Kelly

SLIDE OPERATORS

		<u>27 AND 28 OCT. 2018</u>	<u>3 AND 4 NOV. 2018</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Choir	David Prabha
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson	Darren Mc Lean
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

27 OCT. 2018
Joan McHugh
3 NOV. 2018
Engelina Nyhuis

CHURCH CLEANING

3 NOV. 2018
Team 8 (Judy's Team)
Judy Noy, Chelsea Brown,
Debbie Brown & Sarah Santilli

MAINTENANCE

10 NOV. 2018
Team 8
Don McKenzie &
Charles Chin

CHILDREN'S LITURGY this Sunday morning at the 10.30am Mass with Jess and Nina.

INFORMATION NIGHT AT YARRA THEOLOGICAL UNION TUESDAY 13TH

NOVEMBER 2018: 7.30pm – 8.30pm. Study Theology as an Undergraduate or Postgraduate Student for credit. Or choose to enrol, for your own interest without completing essays for credit. All welcome to come along and find out more. Feel free to bring a friend. No booking required.

HOLY SAVIOUR COMMUNITY FESTIVAL: Saturday 10th November 765 Highbury Road, Vermont South Huge variety of Stalls from 11.00am. Delicious Food all day, Rides from 12.00pm-6.00pm, Free Music & Activities all day, Entertainment, food drinks till 8.00pm. All Welcome. For further details please see our Church noticeboard.

WIDENING THE DOOR OF HOPE: A RESPONSE TO THE VICTORIAN ASSISTED DYING LEGISLATION Date: Tuesday 20th November 2018; Time: 7.30pm start, 7.00pm light refreshments Venue: Mercy Theatre Australian Catholic University 115 Victoria Parade Fitzroy (enter via Young Street) Orators: Assoc. Prof. Natasha Michael MBChB FRACP FACHPM MRCPI MRCPG MSc Director, Palliative Medicine Cabrini Health University of Notre Dame Sydney School of Medicine **Dr Stephen Parnis** MBBS DipSurgAnat FACEM FAICD FAMA Former Vice-President AMA Emergency Physician, St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne RSVP / Inquiries: by Monday 12th November 2018 justice@cam.org.au or (03) 9926 5727

ALL SAINTS ART & MUSIC EXHIBITION: St. Dominic's Parish, Camberwell invite you to the 'All Saints Art & Music Exhibition' which will exhibit the artistic and musical talents of various members of our Parish Community. 2pm - 4pm Sunday November 4th (commencing in the Parish Centre) St. Dominic's Parish, 816 Riversdale Road, Camberwell Entry is by donation and includes afternoon tea. RSVP by October 28th to the Parish Office or Br Sebastian: sebastian.condon@op.org.au

WHY WE DO THE THINGS WE DO: 75 bite-size explanations of Catholic practices © *The Story Source*, 1993. TeresaPirola.net **R.C.I.A. ENQUIRY:** When two people meet each other for the first time there is usually a 'getting to know you' period before the relationship proceeds to a deeper level. The initial stage of the R.C.I.A. - the period of Enquiry - is a bit like that. As a person expresses initial interest in the Catholic community, parishioners respond to the enquirer's questions and share something of their own experience of being Catholic. No formal commitment is called for at this stage. It is a time of initial exploration as the enquirer, with the help of the parish community, decides whether he/she will undertake the journey towards baptism and full communion with the Catholic Church.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 28 OCTOBER

2018: This week on The Journey, Fr Stephen Varney reflects on the Gospel of Mark, Pete Gilmore shares his vision on the "Greater Things than I am" in his Living the Gospel God Spot, and Marilyn Rodrigues reminds us that we all have "Daily Crosses to Bear" in her segment, The Peaceful Parent. Our uplifting music reminds us of the power of the spirit and the universal language of prayer in music. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

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 Committee

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 0419 347 693

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:

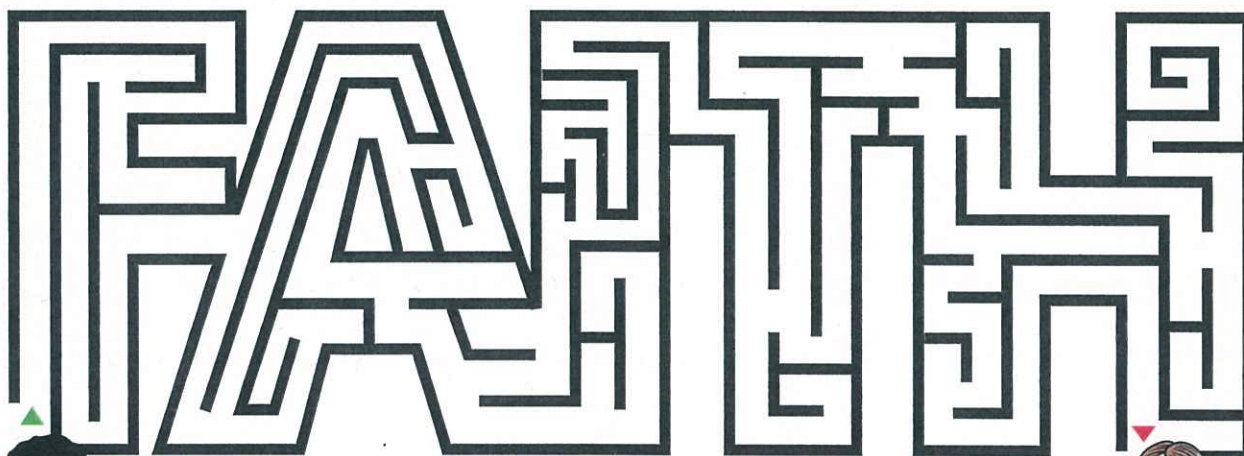
These Parish Groups welcome new members who choose to participate in the life of the Parish in these ways - would you like to make contact with one or more of them?

INTER-PARISH WALK: Sat 17 Nov 2018, meet at 1.45pm, Pound Bend Car park, Warrandyte State Park, Warrandyte. 30 mins from St John Vianney's. Rides can be arranged. Join us for a walk around Warrandyte State Park, enjoy the abundance of native life from kangaroos and kookaburras, cockatoos, galahs, and (apparently!) a koala too. Easy, flat walk on unpaved path. Share coffee, cake and a chat afterwards. See flyer on Church noticeboard for more details or call Nimmi 0413135889, Thuy 0423882718.

CATHOLICCARE THANKS YOU: CatholicCare would like to thank the community of St Luke the Evangelist Blackburn South Parish for its generous donation of \$1074.70 to the recent CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Your generosity supports the vital work of CatholicCare, who work on behalf of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Together we fulfil the Church's mission of service to the community. We help families and individuals to develop strong and healthy relationships and ease the pain of difficult life transitions so that they can live 'life to the full'. Thank you for enabling us to continue this vital work. Please see further details on our Church noticeboard.

The Lord helps those who have faith

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



Bartimaeus was a blind man who begged Jesus to help him. He had faith that Jesus could make him see. Help Bartimaeus find his way to Jesus so that he can be healed.



The Lord helps those who are less fortunate - the poor, the sick and people who are sad. Write or draw about something nice you could do for someone who is poor, sick or sad.



Jesus showed his love for all people by welcoming the poor and the sick. What were some of the wonderful things he did? Circle the correct answers.

- PERFORMED MIRACLES**
- HURT PEOPLES FEELINGS**
- HEALED THE SICK**
- FED THE HUNGRY**
- SAID MEAN THINGS**
- WELCOMED EVERYBODY**
- TOLD LIES**
- SET A GOOD EXAMPLE TO OTHERS**

St Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2018



Welcome to the final week of our Parish Stewardship Program.

In recent weeks we have reflected on the role of faith in our lives and the importance of coming together to celebrate the Eucharist each weekend.

We have also considered the notion of our parish as a *community* of faith and how we can make our own contribution to parish life by being involved in our Groups & Ministries.

This week brings it all together. We look to the future – imagining what sort of parish we want to be. Ours is one filled with optimism – but one that needs the support and contribution of every individual if we are to achieve our dreams.

This week we ask you to finalise your commitments by:

- Signing up for a Parish Group or Ministry
- Making your meaningful Stewardship and Presbytery pledge of financial support to the Stewardship Program

We welcome Rev Anthony Doran, PP – Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ringwood who will be with us for all Masses over the weekend encouraging us with our commitments. We also welcome Frank Schobben from the Parish Development team of the Archdiocese of Melbourne who will coordinate the distribution/completion/collection process with assistance from members of the Leadership Team.

We thank you in advance for your generous support.

WEBSITE UPDATE

The dedicated Stewardship Program section this week features a final video message from Monsignor Tony Ireland, Episcopal Vicar – Eastern Region of the Archdiocese.



THOUGHTS FROM OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Why do you think it is important to support your Parish financially through our Parish Stewardship Program?

“Supporting financially helps to ensure we have a church to attend that is maintained and runs well. We are also part of a larger Catholic community which our support is important to.”

Lynda Kilroe-Smith

“It is important to support the Parish financially through our Parish Stewardship Program as it enables Parish Groups and Ministries to perform their roles effectively and efficiently in providing support and engaging with the Parish.” *Darren McLean*

“If we don’t, I fear we won’t be able to exist as a stand-alone Parish, going forward.”

Sonya O’Farrell

“Our running costs need to be covered through current contributions to ensure our future as a community. It should be a natural response to give back to the Lord what He has already provided to us.” *Steve Kilroe-Smith*

AS WE HEAR FROM ST PETER

“The Church of God that will last into eternity is the Church of living stones, built upon the cornerstone of Christ that must constantly be built up.” (1 Peter 2:5)

Asking – *Take away the many fears, suspicions, and doubts by which I prevent you from being my Lord, and give me the courage and freedom to appear naked and vulnerable in the light of your presence, confident in your unfathomable mercy.* – *A Cry for Mercy by Henri Nouwen*

If our security is totally in God, then we are free to ask for money. Only when we are free from money can we freely ask for others to give it. This is the conversion to which fundraising as ministry calls us. Already we have seen that many people have a hard time asking for money because money is a taboo subject. It is a taboo subject because our own insecurities are connected with it, and so we are not free. We also are not free if we are jealous of the rich and envy their money. And we are not free if we feel anger towards those who have money, saying to ourselves, “I’m not so sure that they made all that money in an honest way”. When rich people make us jealous or angry, we reveal that money in some way is still our master and that therefore we are not ready to ask for it.

I am deeply concerned that we do not ask for money out of anger or jealousy, especially when these feelings are well hidden behind polite words and a careful presentation of our request for funds. No matter how polished our approach is, when our asking comes from anger or jealousy we are not giving the person the means to become a brother or sister. Rather, we put the person in a defensive position because he or she realises that there is some kind of competition going on. The offer to participate in our vision and mission is no longer for the kingdom. It no longer speaks in the name of God, in whom alone our security is secure.

Once we are prayerfully committed to placing our whole trust in God and have become clear that we are concerned only for the kingdom; once we have learned to love the rich for who they are rather than what they have; and once we believe that we have something of great value to give them, then we will have no trouble at all in asking someone for a large sum of money. We are free to ask for whatever we need with the confidence that we will get it. That is what the gospel says: “Ask, at it will be given to you; ... knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matt. 7:7). If for some reason a person says “No,” we are free to respond gratefully. We can trust that the Spirit of Christ who is guiding us is also guiding that person. Perhaps her financial resources are more urgently needed elsewhere. Maybe he is not yet ready to make a real commitment. Perhaps we need to listen more deeply to the Spirit so that our asking will be clearer and our vision more attractive. Because we approach potential donors in the Spirit of Christ, when we ask them for money we can do so with an attitude and in an atmosphere of confident freedom. “Christ set us free, so that we should remain free” (Gal. 5:1).

When we truly enjoy God’s unlimited generosity, we will be grateful for what our brothers and sister receive. Jealousy will simply have no place in our hearts.
– *Bread for the Journey*

Asking people for money is giving them the opportunity to put their resources at the disposal of the kingdom. To raise funds is to offer people the chance to invest what they have in the work of God. Whether they have much or little is not important as the possibility of making their money available to God. When Jesus fed five thousand people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, he was showing us how God’s love can multiply the effects of our generosity (see Matt. 14:13-21). God’s kingdom is the place of abundance where every generous act overflows its original bounds and becomes part of the unbounded grace of God at work in the world (see 2 Cor. 9:10-15).