

Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

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WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 10 MARCH 2019
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

THE YEAR OF SAINT LUKE – BEING THE GOOD NEWS BY PROMOTING GOD'S HOSPITALITY

This week's readings: Deut 26:4-10; Rom 10:8-13; Gospel Luke 4:1-13

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: The wilderness, or desert, is used repeatedly throughout the Bible as a place of special encounter with God and preparation for a new direction or a new ministry. The 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness immediately followed his baptism in the Jordan where his status as the beloved of God was confirmed. He is led by the Spirit to go out into the wilderness for a period of fasting, prayer and preparation before entering into his public ministry. In fact, the event that immediately follows this passage is the episode in Nazareth where Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah and declares the intent of his ministry. It is presented as if, having spent his time in preparation and overcoming the temptations before him, Jesus strode out of the wilderness and laid out what he had decided.

The episode of the temptations is a clear indicator of the humanity of Jesus – he experienced doubt, uncertainty and fear just as we do. If the gospel intended to emphasise the divinity of Jesus, none of these temptations would have been an issue. We are told that Jesus was indeed tempted, not just pestered by the devil. The opportunities laid before Jesus were actually tempting to him. They challenged his resolve. They made Jesus question the sort of Messiah that he was to be: the all-conquering, powerful Messiah that the people expected; or the servant to the poor who will be tortured and put to death. Jesus is tempted to use his power to make his task easier or to display his authority to others. Had he chosen to do this, surely it would have been easier to get people's attention – and that was the temptation: to take the easier path or stick to the more subtle, more personal, more difficult path.

Scriptural context – The temptations: The three temptations Jesus faces all focus upon the nature of his mission and ministry. The first temptation is to miraculously feed himself – is his ministry to be about himself or others? The second is to take power and authority over all the world – to fulfil the human expectations of what a Messiah ought to be or fulfil God's plan of service, rather than domination? The third temptation is about grandstanding – to make a spectacular declaration of his arrival or to minister to the lowly and reveal himself in that way?

Have you thought? – The Devil: The personification of 'the devil' is sometimes difficult to contemplate. The one who tempts Jesus in the wilderness is referred to in this passage as 'the devil'. Devil is the English translation of a Greek word, *diabolos*. As the gospel of Luke was originally written in Greek, we can assume that *diabolos* was the word used. *Diabolos* has several meanings: *the accuser*, *the slanderer*, *the one who separates*. It is the purpose of the temptations to 'separate' Jesus from God and from his intended approach to his ministry. The temptations we face are often those that 'separate' us from what we know to be right.

Living the Gospel – Lent: The 40 days that Jesus spent praying and preparing in the wilderness is reflected in the season of Lent that lasts 40 days from Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays in the season). It has been traditional that during the time of Lent Christian people renew their efforts in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these practices are actions of preparation. Just as Jesus prepared for his ministry in the wilderness, so too is Lent an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our reflection on what we are called to do in this world.

Raise your voices ...

Entrance antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Response to the Psalm: Be with me Lord, when I am in trouble.

Gospel acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Eucharistic Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Communion antiphon: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

**Saint Luke the Evangelist
Catholic Parish
Blackburn South**
Being the Good News ...

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,

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS &
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

Mr Ed Weekes: Acting 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, especially Vicki Bowes and for those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For those who died recently, Allan Steele and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, may they all rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Lent - Wednesday: Stations of the Cross. Sunday Masses: Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation I. Eucharistic Acclamation No. 1.

REGIS INALA SECOND TUESDAY (OF THE MONTH) MASS occurs this Tuesday, 12th March at 11.00am @ 220 Middleborough Road, Blackburn South Victoria 3130. During Mass the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be offered. All Parishioners are welcome.

A VOCATION VIEW: God brings us through difficult experiences and always leads us to life. Depend on the Holy Spirit to guide you on the path of life. (Luke 4:1-13)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me." (Deuteronomy 26:10) This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your "first fruits", the best that you have to offer, or do you give from what is leftover? Second, do you recognize that everything you have has been given to you by God? Ask God for a grateful and generous heart, every day, in all circumstances.

THE ARCHBISHOP HAS RELEASED A PASTORAL LETTER responding to the conviction of George Cardinal Pell and its ramifications for us and all. Copies are available for you on our Church notice table in our Foyer.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again this Sat 9th and Sat 23rd March.

PAISH SCHOOL CHOIR will resume with us from the start of Term 2 this year; usually the first Sunday of the month at the 10.30am Sunday morning Mass.

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

PHASE ONE OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 CONCLUDED LAST

WEDNESDAY: We can now turn our efforts locally, as Lent begins and ask ourselves the question modified for us: "**What is God asking of us in Blackburn South at this time?**" Maybe some of the work we have already done with our Parish response could help answer this question. What are your thoughts, suggestions, recommendations ...

**EACH SUNDAY THROUGH OUR LENTEN SEASON TO
PENTECOST SUNDAY**

we're asking you, our Parish Community, to suggest ways we can improve on how we are Church to one another and those we encounter.

This is in response to the insightful work of our Plenary Council 2020 attendees at the end of last year. Some the challenges for the Catholic Church as identified by our Parish Plenary Council group are shown below. Many of these can be addressed at parish level. Each week, we will be asking relevant questions for you to reflect on, guided by the Spirit, and respond. Responses will be collated and our journey will be displayed on the west wall of our Church (work sacristy) for all to see.

This week we pray that we open our hearts to the call of the Spirit through the coming weeks ...

- **The Church needs to be guided by the Holy Spirit and have faith that God knows where he is leading us.**
- **Changes need to happen in our church structures, attitudes at all levels to encourage all people to know the unconditional, ever present love of God in our lives.**
- **To help the People of God, through meditation on scripture and programs, possibly through digital media because of the busyness of life, to appreciate that each person is loved by God as they are and for us to accept differences, not discriminate and to be fair and just.**
- **Our Church and our communities NEED to be inclusive, accepting, filled with compassion and love. Ask who is being excluded and act on ways to include?**
- **We need to ask people in our community what they need physically and spiritually and listen to their responses and act on them.**

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

PARISH MINISTRY ROSTER

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

SATURDAY 6:00 PM
SUNDAY 8:30 AM
10:30 AM

9 AND 10 MAR. 2019

Terry Wells
Beryl Chelliah
Jenny Dixon

16 AND 17 MAR. 2019

Melina Barcellona
Engelina Nyhuis
Margaret Gearon

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

SATURDAY 6:00 PM
SUNDAY 8:30 AM
10:30 AM

9 AND 10 MAR. 2019

Olive Hammill
Kana Chelliah
Elizabeth Dixon

16 AND 17 MAR. 2019

Shirley Prabha
Godfrey Thong
Steve Kilroe-Smith

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

SATURDAY 6:00 PM
SUNDAY 8:30 AM
10:30 AM

9 AND 10 MAR. 2019

John Ryan
Rita Gibb
Dixon Family

16 AND 17 MAR. 2019

Rita Gibb
Joe Brogno
Mary Taranto

SLIDE OPERATORS

SATURDAY 6:00 PM
SUNDAY 8:30 AM
10:30 AM

9 AND 10 MAR. 2019

Choir
Anthony Fernandez
Manny Gonzalez

16 AND 17 MAR. 2019

Tony Lobo
Megan & Darren McLean
Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

No flowers during Lent

CHURCH CLEANING

16 MARCH. 2019

Team 2 (Monica's Team)
Monica Hodder, Marie Parker,
Filomena Manley & Beryl
Kanagalingam

MAINTENANCE

23 MARCH. 2019

Team 3
Joe Brogno & Tavite Mafi

Parish Groups & Contacts

by ... Promoting God's Hospitality

**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

Parish Garden Maintenance

TBA

Holy Communion

to the housebound

Emmaus College

Education Board Parish Reps

Maureen Mac Mahon &

Bernard O'Malley

Parish & School Choirs

Maria Pinto, Lina Mafi

0411 136 043

Marg Yore & Kat Bergin

9877 4023

Parish and School

Fete Committee

T.B.A. - 9877 4023

Parish School Advisory Board

Ed Weekes - 9877 4023

Parish School

Parents' Association

Ed Weekes - 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?

Lenten Prayer for Transformation

Loving Father,

I invite you into my life today
and make myself available to you.

Help me to become the-best-version-of-myself
by seeking your will and becoming a living example
of your love in the world.

Open my heart to the areas of my life that need to change
in order for me to carry out the mission
and experience the joy you have imagined for my life.

Inspire me to live the Catholic faith
in ways that are dynamic and engaging.

Show me how to best get involved in the life of my parish.

Make our community hungry for best practices
and continuous learning.

Give me courage when I am afraid,
hope when I am discouraged,
and clarity in times of decision.

Teach me to enjoy uncertainty and lead your Church
to become all you imagined it would be
for the people of our times.

Amen.

THE PROCESS TO CONVENE THE PANEL TO APPOINT OUR NEXT PARISH

PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL has begun. Fr Gerard met with Rob Scanlon (Acting Director Nominee) from CEM Eastern Regional Office recently to formally 'bounce the ball'. More to come in due course.

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>



The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert

1st Sunday of Lent, Year C

During the season of Lent, we prepare for Holy week and Easter by focusing on our faith and love for God. Write down some ways you can do this.

Read a passage from Luke's Gospel every night before I go to bed.

When Jesus went into the desert, he chose the ordinary path of human life and resisted the temptation to use his miraculous powers to make life easier for himself. Draw a picture of yourself performing a selfless act that would make life easier for someone else.

Help Jesus find the right path through the desert and into Galilee. Be wary of temptation along the way!

The devil appeared to Jesus and offered him the power to rule all the nations of the earth, if he worshipped him instead of God. Select the right path for Jesus to take.

Worship the devil

Run Away

Worship God and serve him

