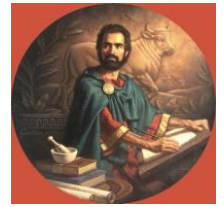


Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

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 7 APRIL 2019
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

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

This week's readings: Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Gospel John 8:1-11

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up' to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupation had forbidden the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. By bringing the woman to Jesus they sought to place him in a no-win situation. If he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the death penalty, then he was flaunting Roman law. If he did not uphold the law then he could be branded as a false teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap! But where is the man with whom the woman was committing adultery? When he is not also brought forward for judgment as any legitimate accusation would demand, Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He realises that those accusing the woman must have somehow been involved in setting her up so that she could be 'caught committing adultery'. In Jewish law, accessories to a crime were equally guilty and subject to the same penalty. When Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned ...,' he's letting them know that he's aware of their part in this crime and what judgment is due them also! If they persist with their accusation, they'll also be tried as accessories! So they quietly walk away.

Jesus' words to the woman sum up his message throughout the gospel: 'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin any more.' As with others in the gospels, Jesus recognises that the woman has indeed sinned, but he does not condemn her for it. By telling her not to sin any more he is calling her to conversion. He is saying, yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do better and I'm challenging you to try.

Gospel Focus – Restoring honour: When the accused woman is brought before Jesus for judgment he neither looks at the woman nor at the accusers. He bends down and writes in the dirt. When the accusers melt away, Jesus (still kneeling on the ground) looks up at the woman to speak to her. She has probably never been treated with this level of respect in all her life. With this action, as much as anything else, Jesus restores dignity and honour to the woman. No longer looked down upon, she can begin a new life.

Living the Gospel – Forgiven, not forgotten: The words Jesus speaks to the accused woman could as easily be addressed to each of us. We all feel at times that we've done the wrong thing – something we don't deserve to be forgiven for. However, Jesus says to us, I know you've done the wrong thing, and you are already forgiven, but you need to make a commitment to change and not repeat the error. It is Jesus' promise not to give up on us – not to forget about us – that we can draw strength from as we try to respond to his challenge to change.

Scriptural context – Jerusalem: This gospel passage begins with Jesus going to the Mount of Olives. We know the Mount of Olives best from the passion narratives in the synoptic gospels. But today's passage is not part of the last week of Jesus' life. The three synoptic gospels generally portray the ministry of Jesus as something of a journey towards Jerusalem and have him arriving just in time for the Passover and his arrest. However, the gospel of John places most of Jesus' ministry in and around Jerusalem to better focus the tension between the teachings of Jesus and the Jewish hierarchy.

Raise your voices ... Entrance antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God are my strength.

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

Gospel acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Eucharistic Acclamation: When we eat this bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Communion antiphon: Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

**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@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, especially Jim Grant, Vicki Bowes, Iris Evans and those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For those who died recently and for Fr James Kierce, Catherine Fogarty, Loretta D'Intini, Shet Yeap, members of the Chikkanagoudar and Rodriques families and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, may they all rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Lent – **Wednesday evening:** Stations of the Cross. **Thursday:** St Stanislaus, bishop, martyr. **Saturday:** St Martin I, pope, martyr. **Sunday Masses:** Preface for Lent IV, Eucharistic Prayer II. Eucharistic Acclamation No. II.

REGIS INALA SECOND TUESDAY (OF THE MONTH) MASS occurs this Tuesday, 9th April at 11.00am @ 220 Middleborough Road, Blackburn South Victoria 3130. All Parishioners are welcome.

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE: To prepare our inner selves, both personally and communally for the Week of Weeks, there will be an opportunity to do so next Thursday evening at 7.00pm in our Church. Please bring a stone/rock with you.

PARISHIONERS PLEASED BE ADVISED: Our Parish Car Park will be having a 'make-over', re: Line Marking, all day Wednesday 10th April, weather permitting. Parking will not be available all day. We cannot have cars parked in the Car Park overnight on Tuesday either, as the workers will start early on Wednesday morning. We will put out some witches hats across the entrance and exits on Tuesday evening to remind people not to use the car park during this time. Thank you for your anticipated understanding and patience with this matter. It is expected that the Car Park ought be fine to use again on Thursday, if all things go to plan.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY next Sunday at the 10.30am morning Mass and 28 April too.

A VOCATION VIEW: God continues to open a way for us. How is God doing something new in your life? Perhaps God is inviting you to be a priest or religious. (Isaiah 43:16-21)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." (Philippians 3:8) The first commandment says that we should not put other gods before the Lord. Sharing all of our gifts, our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support Church needs helps us keep God first in everything. It helps us from putting other gods before God. It helps us to use our gifts for the glory of God and not for our own honor.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again this Sat 13th April and at 8.30am on Sunday 21st April.

PARISHIONERS PLEASE BE ADVISED: Last Sunday morning Fr Gerard arrived at 7.20am at the Church to open up and set up for our usual Sunday morning program only to discover there was no power to the Church. After checking the Church switch board he turned his attention to the meter box. There he discovered that two fuses had been removed from their usual places. After returning them to where they belonged power was re-established to the Church for Masses that morning. So, let's all remain vigilant please as our Parish Church building is under threat by unwanted visitors whose images were captured on our CCTV and there are indications of someone(s) tampering with the lock on the Priest's Sacristy door too.

OUR 'POST-IT NOTES' FEEDBACK on 'What We do well here at St Luke's' is available for all to read this week on the white posters across the glass panes at the rear of the Church; there is another copy on the noticeboard in the Church foyer.

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

EACH SUNDAY THROUGH OUR LENTEN SEASON TO EASTER SUNDAY, we are asking ourselves the question "What is God asking of me/us in St Luke's Parish Community at this time?" The collation of our responses will guide us to become all God imagined we, and our parish, could be for the people of our times.

- Part of the renewal experience of Lent is to become more truly disciples of Jesus, to share more deeply his values, his outlook, his attitudes, becoming a 'Jesus' person ...

In today's Gospel passage, **there are two kinds of sinners:**

- First, there is the woman who was caught in the act of adultery, a very serious matter.
- But in this story, the scribes and Pharisees are also sinners. In the eyes of Jesus they are totally lacking in the compassion that God displays and which he expects his followers to have "Be merciful as your Father in heaven is merciful".

The woman in this story, and the scribes and Pharisees, represent all of us.

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

		<u>6 AND 7 APR. 2019</u>	<u>13 AND 14 APR. 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Monica Hodder	Terry Wells
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Megan McLean	Beryl Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Lynda Kilroe-Smith	Sonya O'Farrell

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

		<u>6 AND 7 APR. 2019</u>	<u>13 AND 14 APR. 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Olive Hammill	Olive Hammill (Readings) Bernie Brennan & Shirley Prabha (Palm Sunday Gospel)
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Darren McLean	Kana Chelliah (Readings) Godfrey Thong Melina Barcellona (Palm Sunday Gospel)
	10:30 AM	Jess Kilroe-Smith	Dale Dixon (Readings) Steve Kilroe-Smith & Genevieve Hemsley (Palm Sunday Gospel)

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

		<u>6 AND 7 APR. 2019</u>	<u>13 AND 14 APR. 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Terry Wells	John Ryan
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rita Gibb	Joe Brogno
	10:30 AM	Pamela	Kilroe-Smith Family

SLIDE OPERATORS

		<u>6 AND 7 APR. 2019</u>	<u>13 AND 14 APR. 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Tony Lobo	Choir
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson	Anthony Fernandez
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

	<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	<u>MAINTENANCE</u>
No flowers during Lent	<u>13 APRIL 2019</u>	<u>20 APRIL 2019</u>
	Team 6 (Sonya's Team)	Team 5
	Sonya O'Farrell, Rose Knight, Joe Brogno & Shirley Prabha	Manuel Gonzalez & Mike Lockwood

HOW JESUS TREATS PEOPLE – Firstly, Jesus does not deny the woman's sin. Secondly, there is another element in the story - the woman has been dragged before Jesus as a pawn in a game. The game is one of entrapment of Jesus. Jesus ignores the trap and asks "If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her". They all walk away.

NO CONDEMNATION - Jesus says "neither do I condemn you. Go away and do not sin any more". He refuses to condemn her, rather he gives her an opportunity to repent, to convert and change her ways. Jesus came not to condemn but to save, to rehabilitate, to give new and enduring life. Jesus always leaves a door open.

LENT WEEK 5 - TWO-WAY LOVE: I need to realise that God always and everywhere loves me. But that love is only fully completed in me when I become a genuinely loving and caring person, one who loves both God and others in word and action.

THE INSIGHTFUL WORK of our Parish Plenary Council 2020 attendees at the end of last year identified some of the challenges for the Catholic Church and some are shown below. Many of these can be addressed at parish level:

- **Restitution to all affected by the sexual abuse by clergy and immediate removal of all priests involved**
- **Consult victims who are affected what needs to be done to bring healing – listen, respond and implement; what more can be done to address the person's experience individually and systemically.**
- **Formulate ways to develop people's sense of gratitude and ways of sharing of themselves and their abundance.**
- **It was deemed very important to encourage ways to assist the People of God to reconnect with a sense of wonder of nature and a sense of gratitude as through this we connect with our God of wonder and awe**

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

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?