

# Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

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**WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2019**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) – YEAR C**

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

*This week's readings: Acts 5:12-16; Rv 1:9-13, 17-19; Gospel John 20:19-31*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER:** This passage can be seen as the gospel writer's version of the Pentecost that was previously recorded by the writer of Luke-Acts. As the account of Pentecost in the book of Acts was already in existence, the gospel writer felt no concern about alluding to it in his version of the gospel story. The inclusion of this event in the gospel of John adds a 'completeness' to the gospel text – from the Word with God in chapter 1 through the ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus to this moment of charging his disciples with the task of carrying on his work and breathing on them the Holy Spirit. It seems that the gospel writer wanted to bring the story to its conclusion. The idea of Jesus 'breathing' the Holy Spirit onto the disciples is an interesting one. The Greek word *pneuma* carried two meanings: breath and spirit. So to deliberately breathe on someone was to share one's spirit with them. Jesus gives this act a greater meaning by declaring the spirit to be the Holy Spirit that will empower the disciples for the mission he is entrusting to them.

The disciple Thomas has received a pretty raw deal from history. The phrase, *doubting Thomas*, has found its way into our everyday language and condemns Thomas as the one who wouldn't take the word of his fellow disciples but wanted to see the Risen Lord himself. However, rather than remembering Thomas for his doubt, we should remember Thomas as the one who makes the extraordinary declaration of faith, 'My Lord and my God!' It is Thomas, alone amongst all those who recognise the greatness of Jesus across the four gospels, who acknowledges Jesus as not just the Messiah, but God.

**Historical Context – My Lord and my God:** By the time the Gospel of John was written – in the last decade of the 1st Century – there were already diverse beliefs about Jesus. As is recorded in the gospels, there were those who regarded Jesus as one of the prophets of Israel; others recognised him as the promised Messiah; others still had come to believe in Jesus the Christ as the incarnation of God. That is certainly the theology expressed in the Gospel of John. Perhaps as a means to further his community's theology and correct other ideas, the gospel writer has Thomas declare, 'My Lord and my God!'

**Scriptural context – Holy Spirit:** In the Gospel of John, during the Last Supper discourse, Jesus repeatedly assures his disciples that the Father will provide them with another Advocate to guide them. This advocate (or paraclete) is to be the Holy Spirit. Although 'advocate' carries a certain legal meaning, the gospel writer uses it to mean one who represents the continued presence of Jesus, just as Jesus was the advocate or paraclete of God. In the Holy Spirit that Jesus breathes on the disciples we see the final element of the Trinitarian experience of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Have you thought? – Does he mean us?** When Thomas made his declaration of faith, Jesus said, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy (or Blessed) are those who have not seen and yet believe.' (v29) Because this gospel was written 60 years or so after the time of Jesus, there were indeed many who believed but had not ever seen him. The blessing is on all those who believe without the benefit of a physical encounter of Jesus. Whilst the gospel was written as an acknowledgement of those at the end of the 1st Century, it is also a blessing and encouragement for believers of today!

## **Raise your voices ...**

**Entrance antiphon:** Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleuia.

**Response to the Psalm:** Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

**Gospel acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me with good news, the wonder of salvation. Proclaiming Justice, Love and Truth. Go forth to every nation. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

**Communion antiphon:** Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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

[www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth](http://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](mailto:blackburnsouth@cam.org.au)

Website:

[www.cam.org.au/blackburnsouth](http://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 Weekday Mass  
times as listed above. All welcome.

**RECONCILIATION**  
**Saturday 9.30am & 5.30pm**

**EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION**  
*in recess this week too*

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](mailto:principal@slblackburnsth.catholic.edu.au)

Website:

[stlukes@slblackburnsth.catholic.edu.au](http://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 Vicki Bowes and Keith Yelland and those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For those who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time especially Beatrice Patrick, may they all rest in peace.

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK:** Easter Time – **Monday:** St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor; **Tuesday:** St Pius V, pope; **Wednesday:** St Joseph the Worker; **Thursday:** St Athanasius, bishop, doctor; **Friday:** St Philip and James, apostles; **Sunday Masses:** Preface of Easter I, Eucharistic Prayer II. Eucharistic Acclamation No. II. The **Paschal Greeting**, also known as the Easter Acclamation, is an Easter custom among Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, and Eastern Catholics. In place of "hello" or its equivalent, one greets another person with "Christ is Risen!" and the other responds "Christ is Risen Indeed!"

**PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES** are welcome back now any time and placed in the basket at the foot of the Crucifix on the sanctuary please.

**APOSTLES CREED:** During Easter time we'll proclaim this Creed at Sunday Mass as a way of familiarising ourselves with this aspect of our tradition, especially during Paschal time.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** this Sunday at the 10.30am morning Mass, Sunday 28 April.

**A VOCATION VIEW:** Are you like Thomas? Do you need to see to believe? Pray for faith and trust.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** "Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'" (John 20:21) Peace – the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be grateful and generous. Look for opportunities to share His peace, not only within our local parish boundaries, but outside of them as well. In giving, we receive the peace of Jesus Christ.

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

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** Basilica of Our Lady of Victories Camberwell for Holy Mass which begins at 3.15pm, preceded by 3.00pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy and 12.30pm – 3.15pm Confessions, Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayers; 2.30pm Personal witness by Simon Costa AO; 2.45pm Song by Gary Pinto. 4.30pm opportunity to venerate Saint Faustina's First Class Relic.

**EACH SUNDAY THROUGH OUR PASCHAL SEASON TO PENTECOST SUNDAY,** we ask 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.

On this, the first Sunday after the celebration of Easter, the emphasis is on faith in the presence and power of the living Jesus in our midst. This Risen Jesus now lives on in the community which believes in him. It is endowed with the same powers that Jesus had during his life here on earth.

It is through the Christian community and its witness that people come to know of Jesus and are led to faith in his message of truth and life. It is a witness that rests on the shoulders of every single follower of Jesus and we do it not just by explicitly religious actions but by the very pattern and impact of our daily lives.

There is a work to be done, the work that Jesus began and which we are to continue, individually and as a parish. "As the Father sent me, so am I sending you." We are being given a mission. All followers of Jesus we've received a mission and consequently, are missionaries.

We, individually and as a parish, need to be true to the mission Jesus gave to his disciples to be makers of reconciliation, to be peacemakers, breaking down walls of hatred, prejudice and fear? We do this by being people of integrity, of love and compassion, of justice for all. When we do that, Easter is celebrated and Jesus is alive among us.

**OUR SUMMARY OF WHAT WE DO WELL** here at Saint Luke's is our supplement this week to peruse, digest and distil – personally and communally, for what comes next for 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

27 AND 28 APR. 2019

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Olive Hamill
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Kana Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Val Gardiner

4 AND 5 MAY 2019

Shirley Prabha
Engelina Nyhuis
Jenny Dixon

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD

27 AND 28 APR. 2019

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Mia Perang
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Beryl Chelliah
	10:30 AM	Marg Yore

4 AND 5 MAY 2019

Bernie Brennan
Godfrey Thong
Margaret Gearon

### WELCOMER'S ROSTER

27 AND 28 APR. 2019

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Lorraine Kermond
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Don McKenzie
	10:30 AM	Dixon Family

4 AND 5 MAY 2019

Terry Wells
Marie Pekish
Mary Taranto

### SLIDE OPERATORS

27 AND 28 APR. 2019

SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Tony Lobo
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez

4 AND 5 MAY 2019

6.00PM Tony Lobo
Liliana Poropat
Manny Gonzalez

### CHURCH FLOWERS

27 APRIL 2019  
Engelina Nyhuis

4 MAY 2019  
Kate Skowronska

### CHURCH CLEANING

4 MAY 2019  
Team 1 (Val's Team)  
Val Fogarty, Jim Fogarty,  
Megan McLean & Raquel Ramirez

### MAINTENANCE

4 MAY 2019  
Team 7  
Steve Brennan &  
George Brodawka

## PREPARING FOR OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – SOME SUGGESTIONS:

**ROLE OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is made up of keen and committed parishioners who, with the Parish Priest, share responsibility for the life and faith development of the St. Luke's Parish Community. The PPC gives witness to the equality, dignity and responsibility of all the baptized to share in the mission of Jesus Christ.

*"Co-responsibility requires a change in mentality, particularly with regard to the laity in the Church, who should be considered not as collaborators with the clergy, but as persons truly co-responsible for the being and activity of the Church."* (Pope Benedict XVI)

The PPC has a role of oversight, looking out for the whole parish community rather than various sectional interests. It works with parishioners to build a community of faithful followers of Christ by being accessible and available to parishioners and working with them so that all may become involved in the life of the parish community, grow in faith and influence the society around them.

*"The thing the Church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the Church as a field hospital after battle."* (Pope Francis)

Working in close partnership with the Parish Priest, the PPC seeks out and responds to the ideas, aspirations, needs and concerns of parishioners. It seeks to be aware of what is happening in the St. Luke's community, encouraging the work of existing groups whilst providing opportunities for new initiatives to emerge in harmony with the goals of the Parish Plan.

**OUR LADY OF SION COLLEGE:** Talk and Tour mornings: Friday 3 May, Monday 3 June, Monday 24 June 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](mailto:info@sion.catholic.edu.au). Enrolment applications for Year 7, 2021, are currently open and will close on 23 August 2019.

**Information Evening for Prospective Families: Wednesday 22 May 2019, 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm.** Our Lady of Sion College warmly invites prospective parents and guardians to attend our Information Evening. Hear from our principal and from students about some of the reasons they love going to school at Sion. The Information session will be followed by light refreshments and a chance to speak with key staff members about enrolment.

**HEART OF LIFE: Learn How to Run a Retreat** and then practise your skills as you are mentored in leading a live-in weekend retreat. Sat 4 May 2019, 10am-4pm for the Preparation day in Box Hill, and Fri 7 Jun, 4pm to Sun 9 Jun, 4pm at the quiet and beautiful precinct of The Holy Name Retreat & Spirituality Centre in Cheltenham. Participants must attend both events. Cost \$305 includes Sat 4 May (BYO lunch) and accommodation and catering on 7-9 Jun. Book & Pay online at [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne) or contact us at [holsc@bigpond.com](mailto:holsc@bigpond.com) or tel 9890 1101 for more information and bookings.

**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**

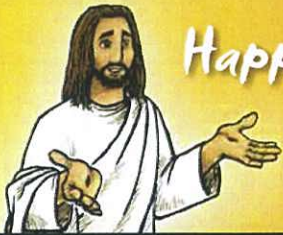
For Assistance: 1800 305 330

*(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?*

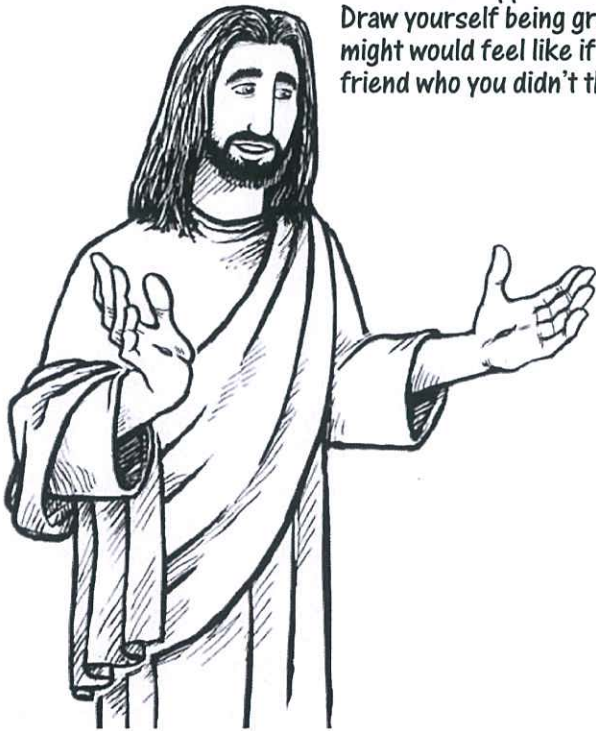


Happy are those who do not see and yet believe!



2nd Sunday of Easter, Year C

When Jesus appeared to his disciples they were very happy. Draw yourself being greeted by Jesus. Write down what it might feel like if you were re-united with a close friend who you didn't think you would ever see again.



A large white rectangular area with a purple border, intended for writing a response to the prompt above.

There are many things present in our lives that we don't see with our eyes. Circle the words which represent things we do not see.

- BIBLE
- LOVE
- JOY
- ALTAR
- BREATH
- CHALICE
- CRUCIFIX
- FORGIVENESS
- PEACE
- FLOWERS
- CANDLE
- HOPE

Complete the Text maze:

"You are my Lord and my God!"

START

W	B	O	I	G	E	T	R	<b>Y</b>
S	R	O	L	T	C	A	U	O
L	D	G	Y	M	E	R	C	W
D	A	N	S					
R	C	D	E					
Q	Y	M	P					
U	G	O	<b>D</b>					

FINISH