

Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

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WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 12 MAY 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY) – YEAR C

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

This week's readings: Acts 13:14, 43-52; Apoc 7:9, 14-17; Gospel John 10:27-30

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: Shepherds in the first century did not have a particularly good reputation. Whilst the task itself was a responsible one, it was usually undertaken by hired help – usually young men or even boys. Being hired help, they had little allegiance to the flock and were generally regarded as basically untrustworthy and often accused of illicitly selling off the sheep's milk and even the occasional lamb. They lived for months at a time out in the hills with the sheep; often risking their lives in defence of their flock, yet still regarded with suspicion. Shepherds were held in such low regard that they could not appear in court as a witness. Yet, despite this grim picture of shepherds, Jesus described himself as the *Good Shepherd*. With that one word, he acknowledged the reputation of shepherds but utterly dismissed it by describing himself as a shepherd – but a good shepherd. He chose to describe himself as the worst of all occupations but raised the status to unimpeachable heights. **In describing himself as the good shepherd, Jesus joined a distinguished list of biblical shepherds:** Abraham, his son Isaac, and grandson Jacob were all shepherds; Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, when God appeared to him in the burning bush and revealed God's name; and the great King, David, began life as a humble shepherd-boy. So, despite the poor reputation of shepherds in Jewish society, some of the greatest leaders of the Jews began life as shepherds. Today's gospel passage follows the famous 'good shepherd' passage in the gospel of John and continues on the image. The passage portrays Jesus as 'claiming' his flock; guaranteeing them not only safety but also eternal life. This oath of loyalty and commitment is all the stronger and more remarkable in light of Jesus' rehabilitation of the status of shepherds.

Scriptural context – The Father and I are one: The final sentence of today's passage has Jesus declaring, 'The Father and I are one.' It seems a fitting way to finish the gospel reading for liturgical use in the Easter season. However, the passage in John's gospel continues on. Immediately upon hearing these words, the listening crowd grab rocks and are about to stone Jesus to death! They were horrified by his apparent blasphemy – claiming to be one with God. Such a bold declaration of oneness with the Father was no doubt used by the gospel writer to try to eradicate emerging questions about the divinity of Jesus.

Have you thought? Why John? You may have noticed that during the Easter season, we have been hearing exclusively from the gospel of John. But aren't we in Year C of the liturgical cycle – the year of Luke? Well, yes, but ... The gospel of the year is predominantly proclaimed during Ordinary Time. However, there is no Year of John. This gospel is read during the Easter season and at other specific feasts and seasons. As the synoptic gospels focus on the life and ministry of Jesus, the theological and metaphoric nature of John's gospel is much more suited to the post-resurrection season of Easter.

Gospel Focus – Eternal life: In the gospel passage, Jesus says of the sheep that belong to him, 'I give them eternal life.' He does not say, I give them the promise of eternal life. The message that comes through the gospel of John is clear that eternal life is not some future existence, but rather a new way of being in the here and now. But that is not to suggest that there is not an 'eternal' quality to eternal life. The gospel of John makes clear that eternal life begins in the here and now but has no end.

Raise your voices ... Entrance antiphon: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

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

Communion antiphon: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

**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 Weekday 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

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 Vicki Bowes and Keith Yelland and those Parishioners unable to be among us this weekend. For those who died recently, especially Father John Pearce CP and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, may they all rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Easter Time – **Monday:** Our Lady of Fatima; **Tuesday:** St Matthias, apostle; **Saturday:** St John I, pope, martyr. **Sunday Masses:** Preface of Easter III, Eucharistic Prayer I. Eucharistic Acclamation No. I. *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!"*

REGIS INALA SECOND TUESDAY (OF THE MONTH) MASS occurs this Tuesday, 14th May at 11.00am @ 220 Middleborough Road, Blackburn South Victoria 3130. Refreshments usually follow with the residents. All Parishioners are welcome.

FR TONY SPIERINGS P.E.: Parishioners will be delighted to know that Fr Tony Spierings has asked to celebrate his Golden Jubilee of Ministerial Priesthood here amongst us. Please be advised that this worthy Celebration to honour him and his 50 Years of Priestly Ministry will take place on Sunday 2nd June at 11am followed by refreshments for all in our Parish Hall. *(Please take note of the change of time for this Sunday only.)* Some Parishioners have advised that they would like to contribute (financially) towards a Gift from the Parish. If you would like to do this please put your donation into a well marked sealed envelope and place it into either collection. It will then be tallied and presented to Fr Spierings on the day; please do not leave it to the last minute to do so.

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 during Paschal time.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again on Sat 11th May and Sunday 25th May.

A VOCATION VIEW: Who will shepherd God's people? Pray that good leaders, filled with joy and the Holy Spirit, will serve our Church. (Acts 13:14, 43-52)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: *"The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit."* (Acts 13:52) The disciples heard Our Lord's call and were able to spread the Gospel message with strength and vitality. We, too, can experience that same joy if we make room for the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts. When we use our gifts in the way that God intends, He fills us with supernatural joy. A joy that others notice and are attracted to.

NEW SERIES OF PARISH STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES: For Parishioners who support the Parish via Weekly Envelopes, please be advised that your new series of Weekly Envelopes are available this weekend and alphabetically. For Parishioners who support the Parish financially via EFT, Credit Card, Debit Card, direct Debit etc. please be advised there is a Parish Letter waiting for you too that provides a summary of your giving to date and how your financial support has been disbursed for the Parish. *(As the current series finishes this weekend it would be helpful if as many Parishioners as possible could take their Envelopes with them this weekend please to minimise any disruption to our cash flows and easing the administrative burden on Sonya, our Part-time Parish Secretary.)*

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

FORTHCOMING ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL: You're invited to bake your favorite cake, muffin, slice or biscuits for our cake stall to support our Parish Care Group and the work of our Parish's School Parent's Association. The P.A. **just requests no cream as there is no refrigeration on the day.** Please pick up your plate and hygiene bag on your way out tonight/today. More details on our Church notice-board in our foyer.

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?" This Sunday, known as "Vocations Sunday" is normally devoted to praying that people may answer the call to dedicate their lives in a special way to the ministry of the Church community. We need pastoral shepherds/ordained priests for our parish communities and we do not have enough. We need the special witness that religious/consecrated women and men give through lives of celibacy, poverty and obedience. Our prayer today is that those who are being called will answer the call.

Today too we look at another aspect to **Vocation Sunday** – the special gifts that each of us has received. These gifts are called "charisms". "Charism" comes from the Greek word *charis* which means a gift or grace.

In our parish, we might ask "What is your charism? What have you been given so that you can make a personal contribution to the life of this community?" Maybe it is as a parent forming children, a grandparent being a good role model, a teacher educating young people not just to know mathematics and geography but to become constructive members of our society and Church; maybe as a civil servant, a member of the police force, or fire brigade, or an entrepreneur, an engineer or an architect.... The question is: How do you express your Christian faith through your daily life? How do you serve the Christian community by what you do?

Vocation Sunday is for all of us here. Each of us needs to reflect on what my particular "charism" is and how I can respond to it for the wellbeing of the whole parish community. Secondly I need to help and not be an obstacle to others in responding to the particular calling or grace that God through the Spirit is giving them.

If we all actively respond to that call what a wonderful community we would be!

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>11 AND 12 MAY 2019</u>		<u>18 AND 19 MAY 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Melina Barcellona	Monica Hodder
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Godfrey Thong	Megan McLean
	10:30 AM	Marg Yore	Elizabeth Dixon

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

	<u>11 AND 12 MAY 2019</u>		<u>18 AND 19 MAY 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Terry Wells	Shirley Prabha
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rosemary Donaldson	Darren McLean
	10:30 AM	Dale Dixon	Steve Kilroe-Smith?

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

	<u>11 AND 12 MAY 2019</u>		<u>18 AND 19 MAY 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Greg Grant	Lorraine Kermond
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Rita Gibb	Joe Brogno
	10:30 AM	Margaret Gearon	John Logiusto

SLIDE OPERATORS

	<u>11 AND 12 MAY 2019</u>		<u>18 AND 19 MAY 2019</u>
SATURDAY	6:00 PM	Choir	David Prabha
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Anthony Fernandez	Rosemary Donaldson
	10:30 AM	Manny Gonzalez	Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

11 MAY 2019
Val Wells & Marie Parker

18 MAY 2019
Lesley Cormick & Toni Plevier

CHURCH CLEANING

18 MAY 2019
Team 3 (Maree's Team)
Maree Moss, Lynda Kilroe-Smith,
& Rita Gibb

MAINTENANCE

18 MAY 2019
Team 9
John Ryan, Darren Foster
& Anthony Fernandez

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY in Blackburn South continues to assist nearly 400 families and individuals each year through personal support and visitation. Come and See how you can help us to help others, at an information session on Sunday 26th May at 11:30am, (after the conclusion of 10:30am Mass), and on Saturday 1st June at 6.45pm (after the conclusion of 6.00pm Mass), in the St Luke the Evangelist Church Foyer, 46 Orchard Grove, Blackburn South. All welcome.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL POOR BOX: When depositing notes into the box located in our Church foyer, please make sure they go all the way in please? Sometimes they remain in the aperture which then becomes a temptation for passersby who cunningly retrieve the notes which deprives St V. de P. of their capacity to provide a hand up to people in our neighbourhood.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN: The Woolworths Earn and Learn program has started again. Our school previously participated in 2017 and we received some wonderful items to benefit our students and school. From Wednesday 1st May to Tuesday 25th June 2019, when you shop at Woolworths, you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator, via team members at the self service checkout or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet which has been sent home. Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either on the Church Foyer notice-table or at Blackburn South Woolworths. It is not necessary to change your shopping preferences to receive these stickers, please only collect them if it is part of your normal weekly shop. We thank you for your support.

INTER-PARISH WALK: Join us for a relaxed walk with other believers from surrounding parishes, share coffee, cake and a chat afterwards. Sat 25 May 2019, 1.45pm, around Albert Park Lake, Albert Park (15 mins drive from the City). Meet at Swan Picnic Ground, cnr of Albert Rd & Lakeside Dr. Mel 2KG5; Walk difficulty - flat and easy. More details on please see Church noticeboard. Rides can be arranged. Contacts Nimmi 0413 135 889, Mic 0412 260 406.

ARCHBISHOPS CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST SERIES: 16th May 2019 features Union Leader Mr Joe de Bruyn. Come along and hear the former National Secretary of the SDA talk about the application of Catholic Social Teaching in the Labour Movement. The venue remains the CQ Club 113 – 123 Queen St Melbourne. Cost \$45. Time 0700 – 0900 sharp. Enquiries Michael Bohan 0439 172 465 Bernie Docherty 0428 890 185 Bookings: Trybooking www.trybooking.com/484991. The **Catholic Man Breakfast Series** is an opportunity for men to gather and be encouraged and inspired in their faith.

THIS WEEK ON THE JOURNEY, (GOING TO AIR ON 12TH MAY), Catholic Radio Program, our Gospel is John 10:27-30. Mother Hilda from the Abbey encourages us to "Have a Nice Day", Fr Dave Callaghan reminds us to "Become Like a Child", and Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy, talks to us about "The call to Forgive". The music this week is woven through our program to create a peaceful flow of harmony that we know you enjoy. 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

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?



Heavenly Father,

We thank You for our mothers to whom You have entrusted the care of every precious human life from its very beginning in the womb.

Watch over every mother and give her courage in times of fear or pain, understanding in times of uncertainty and hope in times of trouble.

We pray for those women who selflessly care for the children of others. Grant that they may know the joy of fulfilling this motherly calling, whether in teaching, nursing, religious life, or in other work which recognizes the need to protect human life.

We ask You to send Your Holy Spirit, to comfort all mothers who sorrow for children that have died, are ill or in danger of any kind. Help grieving mothers to rely on Your tender mercy and love.

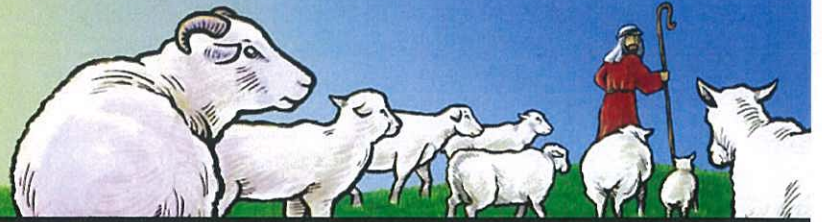
May all mothers receive Your Grace abundantly in this earthly life, and may they look forward to Your Eternal Peace in the life to come.

Lord, help us, never fail to love them, admire them, respect them and simply say -

THANK YOU MUM!

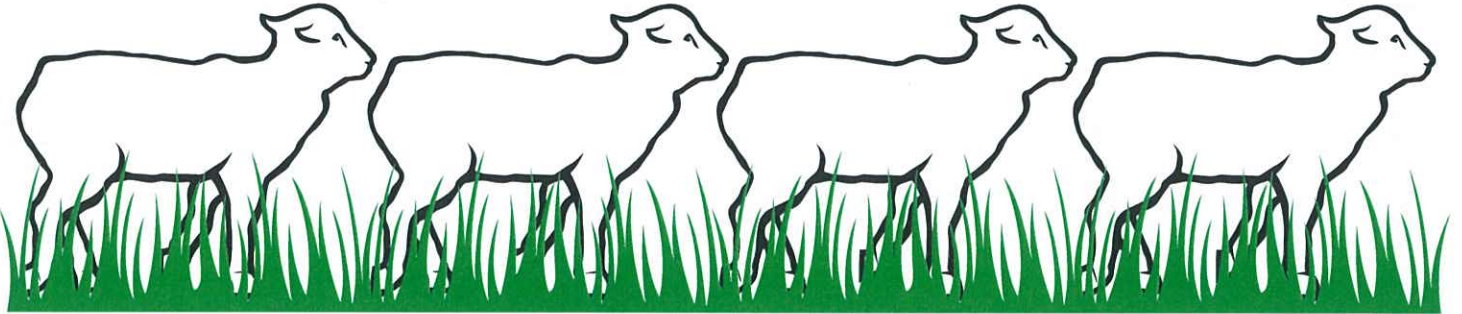
Jesus is our shepherd and we follow him

My name is



4th Sunday of Easter, Year C

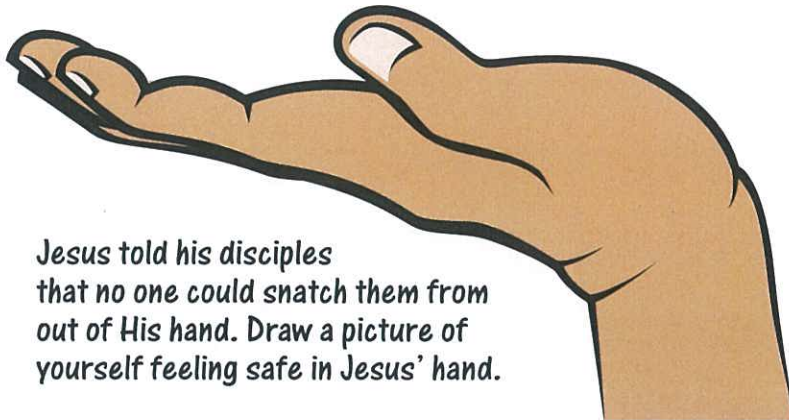
In each of the sheep, write down the name of someone you know who is a follower of Jesus.



What are some of the ways we can follow Jesus?



Jesus' sheep will never be lost. Help the sheep follow the path to the shepherd.



Jesus told his disciples that no one could snatch them from out of His hand. Draw a picture of yourself feeling safe in Jesus' hand.