

Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Parish Blackburn South

46 Orchard Grove Blackburn South Vic 3130

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WEEKLY BULLETIN: SUNDAY 19 MAY 2019
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR C

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

This week's readings: Acts 14:21-27; Apoc 21:1-5; Gospel John 13:31-35

GOSPEL REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER: The passage from the Gospel of John actually comes from the Last Supper account, as is indicated by the opening line: 'When Judas had gone'. However, the passage is being used during the post-resurrection Easter season. The passage about being glorified can be read in this context as referring to the crucifixion that was, rather than the crucifixion that is still to come in the original setting. The reference that Jesus will not be with the disciples much longer can also be read as an indicator towards the Ascension. It is a clever liturgical use of a gospel passage out of its intended context.

The second half of the gospel passage is perhaps the more familiar section. It is a common text for marriage ceremonies. However, sometimes its selection is purely based on the use of the term 'love'. Earlier in his ministry, Jesus was asked which commandment was the most important. He replied that you must love the Lord your God with all your heart and that you must love your neighbour as yourself. (Mt 22) The 'new' commandment that he issues at the Last Supper is not so much a new commandment as a variation on a theme. The newness highlights the changes that are occurring in the small group of friends. His language conveys an imperative: you must love one another, 'just as I have loved you'. He tells the disciples – and us – that the way they behave towards one another must be with the same love that Jesus treated them. And the love that Jesus gave was the love of God for all the world. So the love that Jesus commands the disciples (us) to show one another is nothing less than the powerful love of God.

Have you thought? Love: I love my dog! I love your hair! I love that new song! I absolutely love chocolate! We throw around the word 'love' so casually today that it has almost lost its meaning. The decision whether or not to say 'I love you' in a relationship has become a major dilemma – or alternatively, just the formula that has to be said to get what you want! Jesus did not use the word so casually or so inappropriately. He spoke of love very deliberately and very specifically. Jesus calls us to share in the selfless love that he modelled and to follow his example.

Gospel Focus – God's Love: What does it mean to love as Jesus loved? The love Jesus poured out to all was an expression of God's love that has been poured out to all creation since the very beginning and continues to be poured out today. God's love doesn't keep score. When humankind turned its back on God, God's love continued to call them back to faithful relationship. God's love is not conditional – whatever we do, God continues to love us. There is no barrier that we can construct that God's love cannot get around. It is this sort of love that the new commandment demands of us.

Living the Gospel – Love is all around: Love surrounds us all the time. It is impossible to turn on a radio without hearing 'love' used in one way or another. Love is the most common theme of songs, poetry, literature and art. Although we might bemoan the casual use of 'love', the fact remains that we fill our lives with the sounds and images of love. It's easier to imagine the all-pervasive nature of God's love when we recognise just how pervasive the commercial and artistic expressions of love have become. As Christian people, the challenge that faces us is to imbue these expressions with a richer, deeper notion of love.

Raise your voices ...

Entrance antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

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: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, 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 and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, especially Christine Peattie and T. J. John, may they all rest in peace.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Easter Time & May is a month dedicated to Mary the Mother of God – **Monday:** St Bernardine of Siena; **Tuesday:** St Christopher Magallanes, priest, and companions, martyrs; **Wednesday:** St Rita of Cascia, religious; **Friday:** Our Lady Help of Christians; **Saturday:** St Bede the Venerable, priest, doctor; St Gregory VII, pope; St Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, virgin. **Sunday Masses:** Preface of Easter IV, 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!"*

RITE OF RECEPTION AND WELCOME: Monique and Matthew Griffin are presenting their new daughter, Emma Grace, to us this weekend who will be Named for the first time in our Parish Family, Received and Welcomed.

WELCOME TO OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES: This weekend the 2019 Parish Confirmation Candidates and their Families are presenting themselves to us. Let's keep them all in our prayers during this time of preparation and celebration.

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY will be celebrated at the 10.30am morning Mass next Sunday.

THE 6PM CHOIR will serve again on 25th May.

A VOCATION VIEW: God has chosen to dwell with us. Share your gifts with others to reveal his presence. (Revelations 21:1-5)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: *"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:34)* It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes strength and courage to love someone when we feel unappreciated, used or feel our opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage to "love my neighbor" when he may be someone I don't like, someone I don't know or someone that doesn't look like me.

NEW SERIES OF PARISH STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES: If the Report you received recently does not tally with what you think it ought to contain, please contact Sonya at the Parish Office at your earliest convenience to resolve any perceived ambiguities, anomalies or inaccuracies.

NEW ROSTERS: We are putting together new Liturgical Rosters for the remainder of the year for Ministers of the Word, Eucharist and Welcomers this weekend. Please add your name to the roster/s that you choose to join and how you want to serve the Parish Community. The Clipboards are on the card table in our Foyer. Thank you!

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

ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL: Thankyou to all who have baked 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 this weekend. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

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 here at St Luke's to build a community whose main concern is to work together for the transformation of our whole society in the vision of the Kingdom. In the Gospel Jesus speaks of the foundation and heart of his teaching and message – to love other people – as He has loved us.

The word that is used by John is 'agape' – it implies a reaching out to others in a caring attitude for their wellbeing, irrespective of whether there will be a similar response by the other. It is the compassion that Jesus shows for the sinner and the evil person. As disciples of Jesus, imbued with his message of agape, loving in the way that he loved us, we are called to do the same – to give support to our fellow disciples and to share our faith and our love with as many people as possible. It is through this constant love-centred interaction among each other that the "new earth, the new heaven and the new Jerusalem" can begin to come into existence. It is in our hands. And we have a perfect example in Jesus our Lord.

Easter is the time when we remember and celebrate the new life which has come to us at St Luke's through our Risen Lord. Can we at St Luke's say that we have experienced this "new life"? Are we at St Luke's becoming changed in any way – for the better?

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

18 AND 19 MAY 2019

Monica Hodder
Megan McLean
Elizabeth Dixon

25 AND 26 MAY 2019

Lorraine Kermond
Beryl Chelliah
Lynda Kilroe-Smith

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

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

18 AND 19 MAY 2019

Shirley Prabha
Darren McLean
Marg/Mike Yore

25 AND 26 MAY 2019

Mia Perang
Kana Chelliah
Margaret Gearon?

WELCOMER'S ROSTER

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

18 AND 19 MAY 2019

Lorraine Kermond
Joe Brogno
John Logiusto

25 AND 26 MAY 2019

Terry Wells
Marie Pekish
Pamela

SLIDE OPERATORS

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

18 AND 19 MAY 2019

David Prabha
Rosemary Donaldson
Manny Gonzalez

25 AND 26 MAY 2019

Choir
Megan/Darren McLean
Manny Gonzalez

CHURCH FLOWERS

18 MAY 2019

Lesley Cormick & Toni Plevier

25 MAY 2019

Joan McHugh

CHURCH CLEANING

25 MAY 2019

Team 4 (Jo's Team)
Joanne Nolan, Melissa O'Mara,
Tina Tempany & Jesse Barrett

MAINTENANCE

25 MAY 2019

Team 1
Bob Dimmattina
& Steve Kilroe-Smith

GIVE HOPE BY GIVING GENEROUSLY TO CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY 2019,

SUNDAY 19 MAY: The Melbourne Catholic Archbishop's Charitable Fund will be conducting its annual Chaplaincy Sunday Appeal in parishes to support the vital work of Catholic chaplains in our community this weekend. The presence of Catholic chaplains in all the health, aged care, and justice systems across Melbourne is a crucial witness to our faith, a crucial dimension of our service of love, and a vital testimony to the value of life in all its stages. The focus for 2019 is healthcare Chaplaincy. Healthcare chaplains offer emotional, spiritual and sacramental support to patients and their families in Melbourne's major public hospitals. Parishioners are encouraged to offer prayers and financial donations to help provide continued spiritual and emotional comfort to families facing illness, pain, grief and death.

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY The local Blackburn South conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society has been in operation for over 50 years, but is



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

needing new members in order for the good work to continue. The commitment is only a few hours a week, and induction and training is offered to all new and existing members. Come and See how you can be involved in our good works at an information session next week, on Sunday 26th May at 11:30am (after the conclusion of 10:30am Mass), and also 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.

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.

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.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 26 MAY 2019: This week on the Journey, our Gospel is John 14:23-29 encourages our belief in the Lord. Mother Hilda shares her Wisdom from the Abbey with reminder of the great companionship that was Guido and Pope St John XXIII, Marilyn Rodrigues, The Peaceful Parent, talks openly about Testing Our Faith and Trish McCarthy urges us to Look Deeper in her Milk and Honey God spot. We are truly lucky to have some wonderfully talented Christian Music artists on our show. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

BRING YOUR PALMS TOGETHER... As we prepare for Pentecost, join Palms Australia to celebrate diversity, cross-cultural understanding, and our Call to peaceful development of global family. Palms Together Thursday June 6th from 5:30pm Irish Times Pub 427 Little Collins St MELBOURNE RSVP by June 2nd to Robert@palms.org.au or call 02 9560 5333 www.palms.org.au

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?

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. There is a small Box on our Notice Table in our Church Foyer to deposit the stickers or there is a Box at Woollies down the end of our street in Canterbury Road where the stickers can be deposited as well or there is a Box in the Foyer of our Parish School.

Love one another

my name is

5th Sunday of Easter, Year C

Jesus tells us to love each other as he loves us. How did Jesus show us that he loves us?



Write or Draw

things you can do to show your love for others?



Use the words below to

complete

these Scripture passages

FAMILY

FRIENDS

PEOPLE IN NEED

"Love your _____, do good to those who _____ you."
Luke 6:27

"You shall love the _____ your God with all your _____, and with all your soul."
Matthew 22:37

"You shall love your _____ as yourself."
Matthew 22:39

"Just as I have _____ you, you also should love one _____."
John 13:34

**Lord enemies
hate loved heart
neighbour another**

What is the role of a pastoral council?

A Pastoral Council shares in the responsibility for the ongoing life and development of the faith community, working together with parishioners to provide support for their efforts as followers of Christ.

A Pastoral Council consists of the Pastor and other parish leaders together with a group of parishioners chosen by the parish community. The Pastoral Council's role is to promote the Church's mission to live and communicate the love and values of Christ in our world.

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Why have a pastoral council?

Pastoral Councils are one of the structures which were strongly recommended by the Bishops of the Second Vatican Council. They witness to the basic equality of dignity of all members, by reason of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, highlighting the role of all to share in the saving mission of Jesus. Pastoral Councils are part of the Vatican II movement towards shared responsibility and shared ministry.

What are the functions of pastoral councils?

Pastoral Councils seek to:

- search out and respond to the hopes, ideas, needs and concerns of parishioners
- grow in knowledge and awareness of what is already happening in the parish
- encourage and support the good work of existing groups within the parish
- evaluate carefully information gathered in order to contribute towards the making of decisions that reflect the values of the Gospel and the teachings of the Church
- set long-term and short-term pastoral goals for the parish
- provide opportunities for parishioners to grow in their relationship with God and with each other
- develop, implement and improve parish initiatives that assist parishioners in their continuing efforts to live as effective Christians in society

(AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM by Pope John Paul II - 6 January 2001)

(29) (Pastoral Planning) is not therefore a matter of inventing a "new programme". The programme already exists: it is the plan found in the Gospel and in the living Tradition, it is the same as ever. Ultimately, it has its centre in Christ himself, who is to be known, loved and imitated, so that in him we may live the life of the Trinity, and with him transform history until its fulfilment ... This programme for all times is our programme for the Third Millennium. But it must be translated into *pastoral initiatives adapted to the circumstances of each community*.

... the programme of the Gospel must continue to take root, as it has always done, in the life of the Church everywhere. *It is in the local churches* that the specific features of a detailed pastoral plan can be identified — goals and methods, formation and enrichment of the people involved, the search for the necessary resources — which will enable the proclamation of Christ to reach people, mould communities, and have a deep and incisive influence in bringing Gospel values to bear in society and culture.

I therefore earnestly exhort the Pastors of the particular Churches, with the help of all sectors of God's People, confidently to plan the stages of the journey ahead, harmonizing the choices of each diocesan community with those of neighbouring Churches and of the universal Church.

(30) I have no hesitation in saying that all pastoral initiatives must be set in relation to *holiness*.

(31) ... to place pastoral planning under the heading of holiness is a choice filled with consequences. It implies the conviction that, since Baptism is a true entry into the holiness of God through incorporation into Christ and the indwelling of his Spirit, it would be a contradiction to settle for a life of mediocrity, marked by a minimalist ethic and a shallow religiosity.

(33) ... our Christian communities must become *genuine "schools" of prayer*, where the meeting with Christ is expressed not just in imploring help but also in thanksgiving, praise, adoration, contemplation, listening and ardent devotion, until the heart truly "falls in love". Intense prayer, yes, but it does not distract us from our commitment to history: by opening our heart to the love of God it also opens it to the love of our brothers and sisters, and makes us capable of shaping history according to God's plan.

(34) It is therefore essential that *education in prayer* should become in some way a key-point of all pastoral planning. ... How helpful it would be if not only in religious communities but also in parishes more were done to communities but also in parishes more were done to ensure an all-pervading climate of prayer. With proper discernment, this would require that popular piety be given its proper place, and that people be educated especially in liturgical prayer. It is especially necessary that listening to the word of God should become a life-giving encounter.