

St Luke the Evangelist, Blackburn South & St Timothy's, Forest Hill



ONE MISSION, TWO CHURCHES

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A - 5th July 2026



Zechariah 9:9-10, Psalm 144(145):1-14, Romans 8:9,11-13
GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11: 25-30

Meditation: Do you want to know the mind and heart of God? Jesus thanks the Father in heaven for revealing to his followers the wisdom and knowledge of God. What does Jesus' prayer tell us about God and about our relationship with him? First, it tells us that God is both Father and Lord of the earth as well as heaven. He is both the Creator and Author of all that he has made, the first origin of everything. His authority, wisdom, and gracious care extends to every living thing, and his boundless love and goodness is directed to the welfare of each person made in his image and likeness. He is the source of all human life. That is why all fatherhood and motherhood are ultimately derived from him (Ephesians 3:14-15).



Pride - the root of sin

Jesus' prayer contrasts the "wisdom of the world" with the wisdom which comes from above - from the Father of heaven who is all wise and good. Jesus' prayer contains an implicit warning that pride can keep us from the love and knowledge of God. What makes us ignorant and blind to the wisdom of God? Certainly intellectual pride, coldness of heart, and stubbornness of will shut out God and his wise rule and fatherly care for our personal lives. Pride is the root of all vice and evil and the strongest influence propelling us to sin against God and to do wrong to our neighbor. Sinful pride first vanquishes the heart, making it cold and indifferent towards God. It also closes the mind to God's truth and wisdom for our lives. What is pride's flaw? It is the inordinate love of oneself at the expense of others and the exaggerated estimation of one's own knowledge, power, importance and position over others.

Simplicity and lowliness of heart: Jesus contrasts pride with child-like simplicity and humility. The simple of heart are like "little children" in the sense that they see purely and simply without any pretense or falsehood. They instinctively recognize their utter dependence and reliance on others - especially those who can teach and form them to live strong, healthy, mature lives. No one can grow in wisdom and maturity unless they are willing to be taught and formed in how to live wisely and to distinguish between good and evil, truth and falsehood. Simplicity of heart is closely linked with humility - the queen of virtues that forgets oneself in order to love and serve others for their sake. The humble of heart are the freest of all - emptied of vanity and self-concern they can single mindedly focus on the welfare of others. The Lord Jesus is our model. He proclaimed to his disciples, "I am gentle and lowly of heart" (Matthew 11:29). Jesus came "not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for the many" (Matthew 20:28). Jesus' "gentleness" is not weakness or powerlessness. It is "strength under control" which is at the service of good rather than evil. Jesus humbled himself to lift us out of our misery and slavery to sin in order to raise us up to glory with him and the Father. Jesus came not to bruise the weak but to heal, to pardon and not to condemn, to restore us to abundant life by defeating sin, Satan, and death. It was love for his eternal Father and for each one of us that motivated Jesus to humble himself to death on the cross in order to rescue us from slavery to sin and death. The Lord Jesus shows us the true path of love and victory, freedom and joy, through the cross that defeated pride and hatred, greed and selfishness, guilt and condemnation.

Knowing God personally: Jesus makes a claim which no one would have dared to make - he is the perfect revelation of God because he has been with the Father before all creation and time existed. He and the Father are united in an inseparable bond of love and unity. That is why Jesus alone can truly reveal the fullness of God's mind and heart and purpose for our lives. One of the greatest truths of God's revelation and our Christian faith is that we can know the one true and living God. Our knowledge of God is not simply limited to knowing some things about God and his true nature - we can know God our Father and Creator personally because God our Father desires to be closely united with each one of us in a bond of love through his Son, Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus makes it possible for each one of us to have a personal direct relationship and experiential knowledge of God as our loving and gracious Father.

A Philosopher Lecturing on the Orrery by Joseph Wright of Derby (1766), Oil on canvas, © Derby Museum of Art, Derby, England
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Office (for both Churches): 17 Stevens Road Forest Hill Vic 3133 (St Timothy's)

Parish Office tel: 03 9412 8499; Presbytery tel: 03 9877 2292

St Luke the Evangelist, 46 Orchard Grove, Blackburn South

Email: foresthill@cam.org.au | Web: sttimothys.org.au / Email: blackburnsouth@cam.org.au | Web: blackburnsouth.org.au

Parish Priest

Fr Alex Chow

Parish Secretary

Sonya O'Farrell

Wednesdays,

Thursdays & Fridays

10am – 2pm

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SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil: 5pm (SL)

Sunday: 8:30am (SL)

10:30am (ST)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. 6:30pm (SL)

Wed. 9:15am (ST)

1st Wed. Mass of

Anointing @ 10am

Thurs. 9:15am (ST)

Fri. 9:15am (SL*)

6.30pm (ST)

Sat. 9.15am (SL*)

**Rosary after Mass*

RECONCILIATION

SL: Tues 5:30 - 6:10pm

Sat 9.45 - 10.15am

ST: Fri 5:30 - 6:10pm

**EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT &
EVENING PRAYER**

SL: Tues 5:30 - 6:30pm

ST: Fri 5:30 - 6:30pm

**HOSPITALITY AFTER MASS
AT ST. LUKE'S**

Second weekend of each
month - bring a plate to
share (optional)

YOUNG ADULT GROUP -

Wednesday 22nd July @
7pm - external venue

LEGION OF MARY -

Friday 10th July @ 10.15am
at St Luke's Parish Hall
Kitchen. Enquiries to
Lucy 0419 591 423

Next Week's Daily Readings
6 July - 12 July Ordinary Time

MONDAY July 6 Hosea 2:16-18,
21-22 Ps 144:2-9 Mt 9:18-26

TUESDAY July 7 Hosea 8:4-7,
11-13 Ps 113B:3-10 Mt 9:32-38

WEDNESDAY July 8 Hosea
10:1-3, 7-8, 12 Ps 104:2-7 Mt
10:1-7

THURSDAY July 9 Hosea 11:1-4,
8-9, Ps 79:2-3, 15-16 Mt 10:7-15

FRIDAY July 10 Hosea 14:2-10
Ps 50:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17 Mt
10:16-23

SATURDAY July 11 Is 6:1-8,
Ps 92:1-2, 5 Mt 10:24-33
St Benedict, abbot

SUNDAY July 12 Is 55:10-11
Ps 64:10-14 Rom 8:18-23 Mt
13:1-23

15^h SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME



**Walking Together
in Christ:**

40 Years On!

The Time for Rebirth is Now! created by Youth Delegates
at the 2008 NATSIO Assembly - Adelaide. Drawn from
St Pope John Paul II's address to Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander Peoples in Alice Springs (1988).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

This weekend we have the Peter's
Pence collection for Pope Leo's mission
of proclaiming the Gospel
and bringing hope and love to every
part of the world.

Thank you for your generosity.

ROSTERS FOR CHURCH CLEANING & FLOWERS

Seeking new volunteers for our cleaning and flower rosters at St Luke's.
Please sign up on the clipboards in the church foyer.
Contact the parish office for more information.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Saturday 5pm SL
Sunday 8:30am SL
10:30am ST

4 and 5 JULY

Godfrey Thong
Beryl Chelliah
Alfred Lee

11 and 12 JULY

Lucy Ferris
Greg McKeown
Trevis Yee

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday 5pm SL
Sunday 8:30am SL
10:30am ST

Marg Yore
Kana Chelliah
Laura Cigana

Edna Lee
Beryl Chelliah
Eleanor Mendes

SLIDE OPERATORS

Saturday 5pm SL
Sunday 8:30am SL
10:30am ST

Choir
Rosemary Donaldson
Manny Gonzalez

Choir
David Prabha
Lee Min Yee

SL WELCOMERS 4 - 5 July.

5pm Libby Theodore
8.30am Sarah Santilli
10.30am Volunteer

SL CHURCH CLEANING

18th July - Maree's team
Maree Moss, Allen Leung,
Serena Ng & Lynda Kilroe-Smith

SL CHURCH FLOWERS
4th July - Ellen Donoghue
11th July - Edna Lee

ST CHURCH FLOWERS
Parishioners

SL WELCOMERS 11 - 12 July.

5:00pm Edna Lee
8.30am Marie Pekish
10.30am Volunteer

ST CHURCH CLEANING

10th July
Susan Chen & Isaac Cheng

ST COUNTERS
This week Team 6:
Barry Silvester & Seng Chan
Next week Team 7:
Kelvin Chen & Anico Yee

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

All who are sick, especially Fran Davidson, Filomena Italiano, Lesley Cormick, Derek Koh, Shirley Prabha, Helen MacKay, Kevin Ryan, Suzy Bookluck, Emilio Moreno Garcia, Agatha Wink, Chris Leach, Dora Leung, Hazel Greal, Josephine Alexander, Kit Bing Fan, Kathryn Holmes, Stewart Davis, Mark, Margaret Hayes, Charmaine Bancroft, Marilene Japour, Paciencia Cabral and all those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend.

All who have died, especially all those whose anniversaries occur about this time including Klaus Clahsen, Madeleine Bradley, Caterina Cannestra, Michael J. Kelly, Gregoria Gonzales, Giovanna Pinzone, Joseph Pinzone, Doreen MacDonald, Giuseppe Muscatello, Kate Scott, Joan Donohue, Ellen Drysdale & Max Miller. May they rest in peace.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY:

For respect for human life. Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

COMING SOON: A new Bible Timeline course on the Gospel of Luke starts on Thurs. August 13th at St Luke's Church. It will run fortnightly until Nov. 19th. More information to follow.

NEW BLUE CHAIRS FOR ST TIMOTHY'S CHURCH: We have ordered 40 new blue chairs for St Timothy's church as some of the existing pink chairs and benches are very well worn and need to be replaced. This will cost \$4,774.

If you would like to make a donation to the parish to assist with this cost, please contact Sonya in the parish office or donate via the Tap 'n Go portal in the church foyer. A total of \$1,690 has already been donated by parishioners. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed.

ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS: Sunday 12th July, 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral. Couples and their families are invited as we celebrate the gift of marriage and family. Couples who are celebrating the following anniversaries, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40 years and above will receive a commemorative certificate. Please register by July 7 at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events/mass-for-marriage-anniversaries-2026>

PARISH & SCHOOL FETE: St Luke's Fete, in partnership with St Timothy's, will be held on **Sunday October 18th**. The next fete committee meeting is on Thurs. 16th July at 7pm in St Luke's parish hall kitchen. We are looking for donations of prizes or other items for our Silent Auction and potential online raffle. We are also looking for stall coordinators for our Pre-loved Books, Silent Auction, Beer Garden/Wine & Cheese & BBQ stalls. Contact Sonya in the parish office or email stlukesfete@gmail.com. **More volunteers are very welcome to join us, as many hands make light work!**

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC: [Proclaim26 ignites leaders for mission](#)

MAJELLAN MEDIA: [It's About Respect](#)

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

The First collection is for the priest and retired priests.

The Second collection is for parish expenses.

Please note that collection totals will no longer be published each week in the newsletter. Presbytery and Church donations will be reported on a monthly basis at all weekend Masses. To donate regularly via envelope, credit card or bank account, please contact the parish office.

Parish Groups & Contacts

Volunteers and Rosters:

Kelvin & Susan Chen (ST),

Margaret Gearon (SL)

Baptism Preparation: *Fr Alex*

Parish Collection Preparers

ST: Barry Silvester &

Michael Kawalevski

Parish Safeguarding Committee

Fr Alex, Sonya O'Farrell,

Darren McLean & Janette Clark

Parish History

SL: Margaret Gearon

Parish Accountant

Bernard Negline

SL & ST: Hall Hire

Sonya O'Farrell @ 9877 2292

Church Sacristan

ST: Roster of Parishioners

SL: Greg Grant

Church Cleaning & Flowers

SL: Megan McLean

ST: Susan Chen

Church Linen: *SL: Beryl Chelliah*

Parish Garden Maintenance

ST: Des Connors

SL: Darren McLean

Parish Choirs

ST: Miguel Ilagan

SL: Fr Alex

Bible Timeline: *Chris Lim*

ALPHA: *Lynda Kilroe-Smith*

Young Adult Ministry:

Sarah Santilli & Jersy Soesanto

RCIA: *David West*

St Vincent de Paul Conference

For Assistance: 1800 305 330

(Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

ST: John McCoy

SL: Margaret Gearon &

Steve Kilroe-Smith

Entrance Antiphon: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple.
 Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.
Response to the Psalm: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
 you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!
Eucharistic Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.
Communion Antiphon: Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY/FAMILY MASS

ST TIMOTHY'S: Sunday 12th July @10.30am Mass
ST LUKE'S: Next Family Mass will be on July 11th
 and on the 2nd Saturday of each month.


SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2026



First Eucharist - August 1st @ 5pm
Baptism - August 15th @ 5pm, St Luke's
 Parents of children who do not attend Catholic schools are asked to contact the parish office at least 6 weeks prior to enrol in preparation sessions for any of the above sacraments.




FATHERHOOD
 WITH
FR TONY SCHICK

Fr Tony will share a talk about *Fatherhood* – what it means to be a father in faith today.

28 JULY | ST LUKE'S BLACKBURN SOUTH | 

 MASS 6:30 PM |  DINNER 7:00 PM

 FAITH. FATHERHOOD. FELLOWSHIP.
All men welcome.



July 26, 2026




Cordis – A Night for Young Adults

Rest, receive and discover anew the heart of the Gospel.

We all want to know that we belong, to be known, loved, and part of something bigger than ourselves. Join young adults from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne for an evening of good food, meaningful conversation with a guest speaker, prayer and community. At Cordis find new friends, explore your faith and encounter God in a new and real way. Whether you are involved as a youth leader, someone looking to grow in your faith or simply searching for a place to belong, you are very welcome here. Come as you are. Open to young adults 18 years and over.

Date & Time; Sunday, July 26, 2026, 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Location: St Christopher's Parish, Syndal
Guest Speaker: Justine Hughes "Loved First: Rediscovering the Heart of the Gospel".

For more information
<https://youth.melbournecatholic.org/events/cordis-july-2026>

For registration
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1604311>

For **car pooling from St Luke** (by 24 July), please contact blackburnsouth@cam.org.au.

ST LUKE'S FETE in partnership with ST TIMOTHY'S - 18th October '26

We have started to promote the fete on our social media. Please like and share our posts to encourage everyone to attend the fete and support our generous sponsors.
<https://www.facebook.com/stlukesfete2026/> <https://www.instagram.com/stlukesfete/>

Are you interested in doing more to help others?

Your local St Vincent de Paul Society Conferences of Forest Hill and Blackburn South invite you to think about joining them to live your faith by helping to care for the needy in this area. Induction and training will be available to all new volunteers. Please consider taking up this very rewarding work.



Want to know more? – 'Come & See'

If you are interesting in finding out a little about the work of the St Vincent de Paul Group in this area, please come along to a 'Come & See' Session on Tuesday 21st July at 7pm in the Foyer of St Timothy's Church, Forest Hill. For further information please contact Susan Dornom on 0413 979 049.



If you are burdened, I will give you rest

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

In the box below, write down some things that are burdens which people carry in their lives.



Jesus tells us that he is gentle and humble. How can we be gentle and humble like Jesus? Draw a picture of yourself being gentle and showing humility towards others.

Find out what Jesus said to his followers by using the words below to complete the sentences.



_____ to me all who _____.
I will give you _____.
I am _____ and humble of _____.
My _____ is easy.
My burden is _____.

heart gentle labour
Come yoke light rest

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 5 JULY 2026



COLLECT

O God, who in the abasement of your Son
have raised up a fallen world,
fill your faithful with holy joy,
for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin
you bestow eternal gladness.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

READINGS AND REFLECTIONS

What is your favourite image of Jesus? Look in your church. Perhaps you will find a strong and majestic image of Christ as king or high priest. Perhaps you will see a tortured image of Christ dying on the cross. The image of the Sacred Heart is meant to display Jesus' enduring love and overwhelming compassion, but sometimes it comes across as terribly sentimental, even effete. When you listen to the gospel at Mass, what image of Christ do you carry in your mind?

In today's gospel, Jesus says he is 'gentle and humble of heart'. He says that we can go to him when we are troubled or overburdened and we will find rest. Is this your abiding image of Jesus? If you were a great artist, imagine how you would depict the face of Christ.

A reading from the prophet Zechariah**9:9-10****First Reading**

The Lord says this:

‘Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
 Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
 See now, your king comes to you;
 he is victorious, he is triumphant,
 humble and riding on a donkey,
 on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
 He will banish chariots from Ephraim
 and horses from Jerusalem;
 the bow of war will be banished.
 He will proclaim peace for the nations.
 His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
 from the River to the ends of the earth.’

This passage begins with rejoicing. The glad shouts accompany the arrival of the victorious king. But wait, the king comes not on a warhorse or glorious in a chariot; he arrives humbly riding on a donkey! War and conflict are at an end. The king introduces an era of universal peace. Certainly, this is a message we need to hear and receive in today’s world.

Five centuries before Christ, Zechariah is presenting a new vision for the people who have returned from exile. We hear echoes here of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. As he approaches the Paschal mystery of the cross and resurrection, he opens up a new era of the Holy Spirit.

The reader should try to surprise the listeners with the dramatic contrasts in this text.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 144:1–2, 8–11, 13–14**

R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

or

R. Alleluia!
 I will give you glory, O God my King,
 I will bless your name for ever.
 I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. **R.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
 slow to anger, abounding in love.
 How good is the Lord to all,
 compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

All your creatures shall thank you,
 O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
 They shall speak of the glory of your reign
 and declare your might, O God. **R.**

The Lord is faithful in all his words
 and loving in all his deeds.
 The Lord supports all who fall
 and raises all who are bowed down. **R.**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 144/145 is both a hymn of praise and a beautiful acknowledgement of God’s great love and compassion.

The personal words of praise in the first stanza give way in the third to the communal praise offered by all of creation. People and animals, nature and the cosmos, all reveal the wonders of the Creator, the Lord’s goodness and support which is acclaimed in the second and fourth stanzas.

The cantor/reader could try by their intonation to illustrate the alternation between our praise and God’s compassion.

**A reading from the letter of St Paul
to the Romans** 8:9, 11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew** 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

Second Reading

When people say they are 'spiritual', it can mean anything; it's often extremely vague and all-inclusive. Paul is quite clear. 'Spiritual' is to do with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the risen Lord. We are spiritual if we welcome the Spirit to make a home in us. This means that, in our way of life, we try to discern what the Spirit is prompting us to do, we are conscious of the presence of the risen Lord walking always by our side.

Life in the Spirit is not disembodied. It does not reject the body; it directs the body. As Jesus once said, *I have come that they may have life and have it to the full* (Jn 10:10).

The reader should work out the phrasing of the second long sentence. 'Brothers' should be read as 'brothers and sisters'

Gospel

Those who fancy themselves as great scholars or theologians might feel as though these words of Jesus undermine their work. In fact, in this prayer, Jesus is pointing to the core of faith – it is not about study and erudition, it is about a personal encounter. By knowing Jesus, God ('abba') is revealed to us. We immerse ourselves in a mystery of love. Learning may support us in our understanding, but is different from believing and trusting and loving.

The second paragraph offers a stunning promise. Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, can show us how to deal with our troubles and anxieties. We have a relationship with this person, our Saviour, and so we can take any difficulty or problem to him. Our burdens will be lighter when we share them with Christ, and we will find rest. This gift is offered not to clever minds but to open hearts.

It is a short text to be read with tender warmth.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Solemn Blessing (Ordinary Time V)

May almighty God always keep every adversity far from you
and in his kindness pour out upon you the gifts of his blessing.

Amen

May God keep your hearts attentive to his words,
that they may be filled with everlasting gladness.

Amen

And so, may you always understand what is good and right,
and be found ever hastening along
in the path of God's commands,
made coheirs with the citizens of heaven.

Amen

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Amen

(Adapted from the Solemn Blessing for Ordinary Time V, Roman Missal p. 716)

MARRIED COUPLES AND THEIR FAMILIES
ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE

MASS FOR MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES

Love bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:7



SUNDAY 12 JULY 2026 • 11AM
ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Couples celebrating the following anniversaries—5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th or 40 years and above—will receive a commemorative certificate.

Register by Tuesday 7 July
www.trybooking.com/DMQDP

For any queries please contact
9926 5761 or proclaim@cam.org.au



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE



ST. LUKES SCHOOL
BLACKBURN SOUTH



St Luke the Evangelist Blackburn South

We are Taking Enrolments for All Year Levels

Book in for an Open Morning or a Personal Tour

SCAN TO
BOOK A
TOUR



We are Companions on The Journey

2026

