



ONE MISSION, TWO CHURCHES

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A - 30th August 2026



Jeremiah 20:7-9, Psalm 62(63):2-6,8-9, Romans 12:1-2
GOSPEL READING: Matthew 16:21-27

Meditation: What is the way to glory and victory in the kingdom of God? Jesus told his disciples that he must first suffer rejection, be crucified, and then rise again on the third day. In so many words he explained that there could be no victory and no glory without the cross. Jesus' prediction of his suffering and death on the cross caused his disciples great dismay and disbelief. Peter, who was often the first to react to whatever Jesus had to say, wanted to protect Jesus from any threat or harm. That is why he rebuked the very thought of Jesus having to face rejection, condemnation, and crucifixion.



"My way or God's way": Why did Jesus use the word "Satan" when he addressed Peter? When Jesus went out into the wilderness to prepare for his public ministry, Satan came to tempt him to follow a different path than the one chosen by the Father in heaven. Now Jesus recognizes in Peter's response another temptation to seek a different and less costly path for accomplishing his mission than the way of the cross. The word "Satan" literally means "adversary" - one who stands in opposition. Jesus reminds Peter that his role is not to be an adversary but a disciple - one who gets behind his Master to follow with trust and obedience.

Victory and glory through the cross: Jesus knew that the cross was the only way he could ransom us from slavery to sin with the price of his blood which was shed for our freedom. Through his sacrificial death on the cross, Jesus defeated Satan who held us in bondage to sin and condemnation. And Jesus defeated the power of death and overcame the grave through his resurrection. Through his obedience to his heavenly Father's will, Jesus reversed the curse of Adam's disobedience. His death on the cross won pardon for the guilty, freedom for the oppressed, healing for the afflicted, and new life for those condemned to death. His death makes possible our freedom to live as the adopted sons and daughters of the merciful Father in heaven.

The paradox of God's economy: Jesus told his disciples that they, too, must be willing to lay down their lives in order to gain new everlasting life with the Father in his kingdom. There's a certain paradox in God's economy. We lose what we gain, and we gain what we lose. When we try to run our life our own way, we end up losing it to futility. Only God can free us from our ignorant and sinful ways. When we surrender our lives to God, he gives us new life in his Spirit and the pledge of eternal life. God wants us to be spiritually fit and ready to do his will at all times. When the human body is very weak or ill, we make every effort to nurse it back to health. How much more effort and attention should we give to the spiritual health of our hearts and minds!

The great exchange: What will you give to God in exchange for freedom and eternal life? Are you ready to part with anything that might keep you from following the Lord Jesus and his perfect plan for your life? Jesus poses these questions to challenge our assumptions about what is most profitable and worthwhile in life. In every decision of life we are making ourselves a certain kind of person. It is possible that some can gain all the things they have set their heart on, only to wake up suddenly and discover that they missed the most important thing of all. Of what value are material things if they don't help you gain what truly lasts for eternity. Neither money nor possessions can buy heaven, mend a broken heart, or cheer a lonely person.

Losing all to gain all with Jesus Christ: A true disciple gladly gives up all that he or she has in exchange for an unending life of joy and happiness with God. God gives without measure. The joy he offers no sadness or loss can diminish. The cross of Jesus Christ leads to victory and freedom from sin and death. What is the cross which Jesus Christ commands me to take up each day? When my will crosses with his will, then his will must be done. Are you ready to lose all for Jesus Christ in order to gain all with Jesus Christ?

Photo taken by Fr Alex Chow, 30 Aug 2020, Simon of Cyrene helps Christ, Monumental Way of the Cross,
Sanctuary of Saint Mary Our Lady of Graces, San Giovanni Rotondo, Foggia, Italy
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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 | Email: blackburnsouth@cam.org.au | Web: luktim.church

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)

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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

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RECONCILIATION

SL: Tues 5:30 - 6:10pm

Sat 9.45 - 10.15am

ST: Fri 5:30 - 6:10pm

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

SL: Tues 5:30 - 6:30pm

ST: Fri 5:30 - 6:30pm

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**HOSPITALITY AFTER MASS
AT ST. LUKE'S**Second weekend of each
month - bring a plate to
share (optional)**YOUNG ADULT GROUP -**

To Be Confirmed

LEGION OF MARY -Tuesday 1st Sept @ 9am at
St Luke's Parish Hall
Kitchen. Enquiries to
Lucy 0419 591 423**Next Week's Daily Readings**
31 Aug - 6 Sept Ordinary Time**MONDAY Aug 31** 1 Cor 2:1-5

Ps 118:97-102 Lk 4:16-30

TUESDAY Sept 1 1 Cor 2:10-16

Ps 144:8-14 Lk 4:31-37

WEDNESDAY Sept 2 1 Cor 3:1-9

Ps 32:12-15, 20-21 Lk 4:38-44

THURSDAY Sept 3 1 Cor 3:18-23

Ps 23:1-6 Lk 5:1-11

St Gregory the Great, pope, doctor**FRIDAY Sept 4** 1 Cor 4:1-5

Ps 36:3-6, 27-28, 39-40 Lk 5:33-39

SATURDAY Sept 5 1 Cor 4:6-15

Ps 144:17-21 Lk 6:1-5

SUNDAY Sept 6 Ezek 33:7-9

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9 Rom 13:8-10

Mt 18:15-20

23rd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026***Adsumus Sancte Spiritus***Prayer of invocation to
the Holy Spirit for discernment**

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen



melbournecatholic.org/synod



St Vincent de Paul Society, Blackburn South & Forest Hill conferences invite new and current members to a Welcome to New Members and Visitation workshop on Tuesday 1st September from 6.30 to 8.00pm at St Luke's Parish Hall, 46 Orchard Gve Blackburn South. RSVP to Saveria.Lavista@svdp-vic.org.au by Fri. 28th August for catering purposes.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

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

29 and 30 AUG

Marg Yore
Beryl Chelliah
Ryan Yee

5 and 6 SEPT

Godfrey Thong
Michael Ballek
Joelle Roussetty

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

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

Edna Lee
Kana Chelliah
Eleanor Mendes

Lucy Ferris
Liliana Restrepo
Chin L Tay

SLIDE OPERATORS

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

Choir
Rosemary Donaldson
Manny Gonzalez

Choir
David Prabha

SL WELCOMERS 29 - 30 Aug

5pm Edna Lee
8.30am Sarah Santilli
10.30am Volunteer

SL CHURCH CLEANING

Bernard's Team
Bernard O'Malley, Joanne Nolan,
Melina Barcellona & Anne Allsopp

SL CHURCH FLOWERS

29 Aug - Edna Lee
5 Sept - Jo Adams

ST CHURCH FLOWERS

Parishioners

SL WELCOMERS 5 - 6 Sept

5:00pm Libby Theodore
8.30am Margaret Gearon
10.30am Volunteer

ST CHURCH CLEANING**4 Sept**

Liliana Restrepo & Jackie Kha

ST COUNTERS

This week Team 6
Barry Silvester & Seng Chan
Next week Team 7
Fela Colasanti & Chin L Tay

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

All who are sick, especially Maria Dainton, Seng Chan, Fran Davidson, Filomena Italiano, Derek Koh, Ann Jones, 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 Hans Plevier and Lee Bee Soon who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time including Stanley Pereira (30 days) Annie Frances Kelly, William Curtin, Luigi Lazzari, Arthur Willett, John Bailey, Claire McCorquodale, Irene Munsey, John Patrick, Ann Collins, Rosa Lopes, Yvonne Blanchfield, Basil Bingham, Bill Hurley, Noel Mason, Antonio Monson, Benita Loos, Joseph and Angela Cappodona, Walter Blanchard Thompson, Susan Lovass, Therese Byrne, Rudolph Getto, Mary Anne Nolan, Mary (Mollie) King, Frank Smith, Peter Sullivan, Peter Farrelly and Mary Thi Dao Le. May they rest in peace.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST:

For evangelization in the city. Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

TIME CHANGE FOR MONTHLY ANOINTING MASS AT ST TIMOTHY'S: Please note that **from September onwards** the start time for the Anointing Mass at St Timothy's (first Wednesday of each month) will be **11am** (changed from 10am)

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. 10th September at 7pm in St Luke's parish hall kitchen. We are seeking donations of prizes or other items for our Silent Auction. 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: [Finding our voices](#)

MAJELLAN MEDIA: [Bless Our Animals](#)



iSTAND Camp: An opportunity for Year 8-12 students (Ages 14-18)

You are invited to Youth Mission Team's iSTAND Camp, STEADFAST; a two-day retreat



for high school students. This is a great opportunity for young people to dive deeper into their faith, meet new friends and take some time out during the school holidays. You can expect: Games, team-building and fun, inspiring talks and testimonies, particularly reflecting on the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians,

Time for prayer and reflection, Live music and great food. Contact us with the information below, or take a flyer from the church foyer or Scan QR Code.

DATE: Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th September (10.30am-8.30pm each day)

LOCATION: St Timothy's Parish Hall, 17 Steven Rd, Forest Hill Vic 3133

CONTACT: Anthony Bolling, YMT Manager – 0419 103 511 or melbourne@ymt.com.au

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 Kawalewski*

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: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

Response to the Psalm: My soul is thirsting for you. O Lord my God.

Gospel Acclamation: May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Eucharistic Acclamation: We proclaim your death O Lord and profess your resurrection until you come again.

Communion Antiphon: How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

AMALGAMATION – One Mission, Two Churches: A Journey Towards One Parish

Since 2021, St Luke the Evangelist, Blackburn South, and St Timothy's, Forest Hill have been walking together in faith and mission. Through shared ministries as well as shared structures "One Mission, Two Churches" reflects the journey we have undertaken together. We are now taking the next step. A recommendation has been received to formally begin the process of amalgamating St Luke's and St Timothy's into one parish. This step formally recognises the relationship that already exists between our two communities and begins a 6–8 month period of prayer, consultation, listening and discernment.

At the heart of this journey is our mission. Rather than simply asking, "What will we lose?", we are invited to ask, "**What is God calling us to become?**" How can we become a more welcoming, missionary and outward-looking Church in our local area? The Archdiocese of Melbourne's Take the Way of the Gospel encourages parishes to consider three characteristics of a missionary Church:

Vibrant – flourishing faith communities nurturing worship, evangelisation, formation, fellowship and service.

Vital – communities with a clear missionary vision, strong leadership, collaboration and a shared sense of purpose.

Viable – communities that responsibly steward their spiritual, ministerial, financial, property and personnel resources for the mission of the Church.

These three qualities will help guide our prayerful reflection as we discern the parish God is calling us to become.

We like to hear from everyone. A transition team has been established with representatives from both parishes: St Luke's: Sonya O'Farrell, Lynda Kilroe-Smith and Darren McLean as well as from St Timothy's: Kelvin Chen, Peter Naughtin and Harin Perera. The Transition Team will help to listen, communicate, facilitate consultation and gather feedback from parishioners via suggestion boxes, email feedback. There will be two forums where we come gather together in person to discuss the three themes. These are scheduled on 04 October and 12 November. This team will also be available in the coming weeks if you would like to learn more or speak with them.

Change can bring uncertainty, but as disciples of Christ, we are called to trust in the Lord and remain open to the Holy Spirit. Let us not simply ask what we want to preserve, but what God wants us to become. *May the Holy Spirit guide St Luke's and St Timothy's as we discern how we can become one parish, united in mission and committed to being disciples that proclaim the Hope, Peace and Love of Jesus Christ in this local area.*

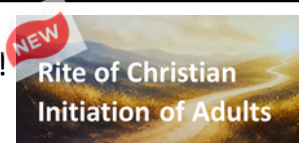
Sincerely in Christ - Father Alex Chow

RCIA is starting soon!

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or know someone who is? Want to learn more about the faith in a friendly environment?

We will be meeting at St Luke's on Tuesday nights at 7pm, starting from the **20th of October.**

To join us or for more information, contact Fr Alex (alexander.chow@cam.org.au) or simply scan the QR Code.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY/FAMILY MASS

ST TIMOTHY'S: Sunday 6th Sept @10.30am Mass

ST LUKE'S: Next Family Mass will be on Sept 12th and on the second Saturday of each month.

48-hour Perpetual Rosary Retreat: This will be a gift of a rosary to The Blessed Virgin Mary for Her Birthday from Saturday 5th Sept @ 6pm to Monday 7th Sept @ 6pm. If you are able, kindly put your name down on the form with times located in the foyer both at St Luke's & St Timothy's. The completed form will be emailed to St Mary's Cathedral Perth and this will be placed with the Scroll during Mass on the 8th September at 12.10. Thank you.



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/>