



# ONE MISSION, TWO CHURCHES



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C - 13th July 2025

**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) &  
6.30pm (ST)

**Sunday:** 8:30am (SL),  
10:30am (ST),  
5pm (ST, Vietnamese)

**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

Sat 4:30 - 4:50pm

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)

**YAM GROUP** - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed.

each month at 7pm

at St Luke's Presbytery

Deut 30:10-14. Ps 68:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36-37. Col. 1:15-20.

**Gospel Reflection on Luke 10:25-37.**

Today's gospel is such a familiar one and such an enduring image that the title for the hero has passed into everyday use to describe a stranger who does a good turn for another. Many countries even have what is known as a 'Good Samaritan Law' that protects those who may hurt another person when they act in good faith to provide aid.

The parable is told in response to the question, 'And who is my neighbour?' Anyone hearing Jesus tell the story would have recognised the familiar story structure – things happening in three with the most important element occurring on the third repetition. As three people came upon the injured man on the road, the audience would have known that the hero of the story would be the third one along. But, as Jesus often did with his parables, the pattern is suddenly disrupted. Rather than the hero being an upright, faithful Jewish person, it is none other than a Samaritan who is the one who shows mercy. Samaritans and Jews had a deep-seated mistrust and suspicion towards one another that went back generations. So strong was the ill-feeling between the two peoples that when Jesus finishes his story and asks the lawyer which man proved himself a neighbour, the lawyer cannot even say 'the Samaritan' – he says 'the one who took pity'.

The story concludes with the instruction, 'Go and do the same yourself'. The commandment is to act with compassion towards others – even those you may not like. The priority of compassion over the Law is a major theme of the gospel of Luke. It is often described as the gospel of compassion. The Samaritan acts with compassion, rather than out of 'patterned' behaviours and attitudes. Jesus challenges the lawyer – and us – to 'Go and do the same'.

**Historical context – Priests and Levites**

The priest and Levite get a pretty bad wrap out of this story. Yet, their behaviour would have been unremarkable to the original audience. In Jewish culture, to touch blood made a person ritually unclean and unable to participate in religious rites. Both characters in the story were heading towards Jerusalem – towards the Temple – to carry out their religious duties. To touch the bloodied man would have meant that they were unable to perform their duties. The audience would have expected nothing different from these two men. Their 'crime' was to place duty before compassion and the needs of another.

**Scriptural context – The 'Rule of Three'**

Jesus was a good storyteller. He used a lot of the 'tricks of the trade' of good storytellers. Using a rule of three remains a common device to help storytellers remember the story. (Think of the number of times fairy tales use this device.) In the rule of three, the third repetition of an event or action always holds the key. Jesus used this device to great effect in his parables because he invariably broke the rule! He used the rule to lull his audience into a predictable story and then turned things upside down by having the unexpected occur.

**Have you thought? Contemporary context**

Being such a famous parable, it is common to see this story retold and acted out in 'modern' contexts. However, such attempts invariably lead to a literal retelling of the story and an overemphasis and reinforcement of social prejudices. Who gets cast in the role of the Samaritan? A member of the most socially outcast and hated group in society! Jesus' choice of the Samaritan as the hero was not to highlight the animosity between Jews and Samaritans, but rather to confound the expectations and prejudices of his audience. Let's understand the story in its intended setting before we change it!

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

## Next Week's Daily Readings 14 July - 20 July

**MONDAY, July 14** Ex 1:8-14, 22:  
Ps 123:R, Mt 10:34- 11:1

**TUESDAY, July 15** Ex 2:1-15  
Ps 68:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34 Mt 11:20-24  
**St Bonaventure, bishop, doctor**

**WEDNESDAY, July 16** Ex 3:1-6, 9-12  
Ps 102:1-4, 6-7 Mt 11:25-27

**THURSDAY, July 17** Ex 3:13-20, Ps 104:1, 5, 8-9,  
24-27 Mt 11:28-30

**FRIDAY, July 18** Ex 11:10 - 12:14, Ps 115:12-13,  
15-18 Mt 12:1-8

**SATURDAY, July 19** Ex 12:37-42  
Ps 135:1, 10-15, 23-24 Mt 12:14-21

**SUNDAY, July 20** Gen 18:1-10 Ps 14:2-5 Col  
1:24-28 Lk 10:38-42

**16th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

*(Taken from  
ORDO 2025, Liturgy Brisbane, ACBC 2024)*

## The Jubilee Prayer



Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

### SOME USEFUL CATHOLIC RESOURCES:

**PRAY AS YOU GO** (<https://pray-as-you-go.org/daily-meditation>)

**HALLOW** (<https://hallow.com>):#1 prayer Catholic App

**UNIVERSALIS** website and App. (<https://universalis.com/index.htm>)

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Saturday 5pm SL  
6.30pm ST  
Sunday 8:30am SL  
10:30am ST  
5pm ST

### 12 and 13 July

Melina Barcellona  
Peggy D'Cruz  
Kana Chelliah  
Trevis Yee  
Ha Cao & Chi Nguyen

### 19 and 20 July

Tony Lobo  
Patrick Kelly  
Beryl Chelliah  
Stefanie Chin  
Youth group

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday 5pm SL  
6.30pm ST  
Sunday 8:30am SL  
10:30am ST  
5pm ST

Godfrey Thong  
Owen Grealy  
Beryl Chelliah  
Daphne Hickman  
Hoang Nguyen

Anne Lobo  
Susan Chen  
Kana Chelliah  
Anico Yee  
Youth group

### SLIDE OPERATORS

Saturday 5pm SL  
6.30pm ST  
Sunday 8:30am SL  
10:30am ST  
5pm ST

Choir  
Michelle Chen  
Megan McLean  
Manny Gonzalez  
Toan Tran

Choir  
Michelle Chen  
Paul Tierney  
Lee Min Yee  
Theresa Nguyen

### SL WELCOMERS 12/13 JULY

5pm John Ryan  
8.30am Janette Clark  
10.30am Volunteer

### SL CHURCH CLEANING

19th July - Sonya's team  
Sonya O'Farrell, Netty Solomon,  
Anthony Fernandez & Peng Sim Eng

### SL CHURCH FLOWERS

12th July: To be advised  
19th July: To be advised

### ST CHURCH FLOWERS

Easter flowers: Parishioners

### SL WELCOMERS 19/20 JULY

5:00pm Libby Theodore  
8.30am Marie Pekish  
10.30am Volunteer

### ST CHURCH CLEANING

26th July @ 8am  
Hoang Nguyen, Anico Yee,  
Dzung Vu & Trong Nguyen

### ST COUNTERS

This week Team 3:  
Peter Deayton & Kelvin Chen  
Next week Team 4:  
Mary Choy & Eileen Chang

## WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**All who are sick**, especially Ronda Smith, Chris Leach, Dora Leung, Hazel Grealy, Josephine Alexander, Grace Dimattina, Margaret Hogg, Bernadine O'Meara, 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 Carl Chirgwin & Sister Stella Maria who died recently and those whose anniversaries occur about this time especially Anna Nakon, Rosalind Rodrigues, Frank Bito, Patricia Kidd, Mary Dunn, Reg Arelette, Peter Kelly, Paula Aquilina, Michael McGrath, Muriel Kelly, Etelka Bocsak, Alvaro Marques, Alan Chionh and Leonor Donato Baylon. May they rest in peace.

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## POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY:

For formation in discernment. Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

**CARLO ACUTIS FIRST-CLASS RELIC EXHIBITION:** We are excited to announce that St Luke's church will be hosting the Blessed Carlo Acutis Relic & Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition from July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>. He is scheduled to be canonised on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> this year. For more information, please see the insert in your newsletter this weekend or visit <https://melbournecatholic.org/events/blessed-carlo-acutis-relic-and-international-eucharistic-miracles-exhibition-2>. To register, please visit: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKrqIggqno\\_InUb8uAx4DxJxcTYO2onvmO543R96NBKaVwX4Q/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKrqIggqno_InUb8uAx4DxJxcTYO2onvmO543R96NBKaVwX4Q/viewform)

**ST LUKE'S SCHOOL ENROLMENTS OPEN:** Enrolments for all year levels in 2026 are open NOW! Please contact the school on 9877 4023 or visit the new website <https://www.slblackburnsth.catholic.edu.au/>

**FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION:** The first preparation session for First Eucharist candidates who do not attend Catholic schools will be on Wed. July 30<sup>th</sup> from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. The sacrament of First Eucharist will be celebrated on Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to join in the preparation, please contact the parish office.

**TRIVIA NIGHT:** St Luke's School Parents' and Friends Association invite you to their Sports Trivia Night on Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm in the parish hall. More details at: [www.trybooking.com/DBSNJ](http://www.trybooking.com/DBSNJ). Discounted tickets are available for parishioners. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to attend.

**BAPTISM:** We warmly welcome our newest member of the parish, Declan Xavier Tauro who will be baptised this Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July at the 5pm Mass at St Luke's. Congratulations to parents Nigel and Janice and to his big sisters Teagan and Sierra!

Resources ....

**MELBOURNE CATHOLIC:** [Celebrating and strengthening our communities](#)

**MAJELLAN MEDIA:** [The Good Samaritan](#)

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### **STEWARDSHIP CORNER:**

*The First collection is for the priest and retired priests.*

*The Second collection is for parish expenses.*

**ST:** Last week's Presbytery Stewardship Total Collection: \$346.15

Last week's Church Stewardship Total Collection: \$580.90

Vietnamese Donation: \$98.70

**SL:** Last week's Presbytery Stewardship Total Collection: \$481.25

Last week's Church Stewardship Total Collection: \$506.25

## Parish Groups & Contacts

### **Volunteers and Rosters**

ST: Corrie Quimbo

SL: Margaret Gearon

### **Baptism Preparation**

ST: Mary Italiano

### **Vietnamese Community**

Hoang Nguyen

Andy Tran

### **Vietnamese Youth**

Theresa Nguyen

### **Parish Collection Preparers**

ST: Barry Silvester &

Michael Kawalewski

### **Stewardship Counters**

SL: Dale Dixon

Steve Kilroe-Smith

### **Parishes Safeguarding Committee**

Theresa Nguyen, Mary Italiano,

Darren McLean

Janette Clark

### **Parish history**

SL: Margaret Gearon

### **Parish Accountant**

Bernard Negline

### **SL: Hall Hire**

Sonya O'Farrell @ the

Parish Office – 9877 2292

### **Church Sacristan**

ST: Margaret King & Hoang Nguyen

SL: Greg Grant

### **Church Housekeeping**

ST: Margaret King

### **Church Cleaning & Flowers**

SL: Megan McLean

### **Church Linen**

SL: Beryl Chelliah

### **Parish Garden Maintenance**

ST: Des Connors, Leo Watson,

Anico Yee & Vietnamese Community

SL: Darren McLean

### **Parish Choirs**

ST: Miguel Ilagan & Theresa Nguyen

SL: Lina & Maria Mafi

### **St Vincent de Paul Conference**

For Assistance: 1800 305 330

(Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

### **Parish Contacts:**

ST: John McCoy

SL: Tony Lobo &

Steve Kilroe-Smith

**Entrance Antiphon:** As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

**Response to the Psalm:** Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

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

**Communion Antiphon:** The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

## DIVINE RENOVATION INVITATION

Invitation Changes Everything: Build a Parish that Reaches Out

Can a simple invitation really change a life? According to Micheal Harvey, it absolutely can and often does. In this powerful, interactive session, renowned speaker and founder of Back to Church Sunday, Michael Harvey, will invite us into a bold new vision: a parish culture where invitation is second nature, not second thought.

Join us at St Benedict's, Burwood on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July from 6.30pm to 9pm

Register at: [divinerenovation.tfaforms.net/4940577?\\_tfa\\_5297=Website](https://divinerenovation.tfaforms.net/4940577?_tfa_5297=Website)



### The Footsteps of St Paul Pilgrimage in Greece, Turkey and Rome.

Dates: 20 April – 5 / 9 May 2026 with Fr Alex Chow  
*'Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.'* (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

Come and join us for an extraordinary pilgrimage of Greece and Turkey and (optional Rome extension) as we follow the footsteps of St Paul and experience the contexts in which this passionate letter and many other were written. It will be an opportunity of spiritual renewal, deepen our relationship with God as we reflect and experience the incredible journey of Paul, Apostle of the Gentiles. For more information please go to <https://www.olivetreetravel.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Flyer-for-14-day-Itinerary-to-Greece-Turkey-for-Fr-Alex-Chow-low-res.pdf>. Places are still available, please email to [info@olivetreetravel.com.au](mailto:info@olivetreetravel.com.au)

The LukTim YAM (18 to 35yrs) is an outreach ministry of St Luke the Evangelist and St Timothy's, Forest Hill.

**When: Wed 16 July @ 7pm**

**Where: 46 Orchard Grove, Blackburn South**

**'A GOD WHO SPEAKS?**

***The hiddenness of God. Discovering the face of God?***

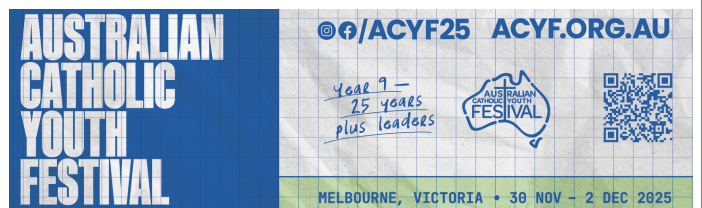
An evening of nibble, praise & worship, talk, sharing, games to deepen our relationship with Christ in a fun, safe and inclusive environment.

Further enquiries to Jersey or Sarah at [luktimyam@gmail.com](mailto:luktimyam@gmail.com) or QR Code for



## SEA SUNDAY

This Sunday, 13 July, is Sea Sunday. Stella Maris, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church, is asking Catholics to reflect on the lives of seafarers and the challenges they face, and to offer our support to those who are among the least visible people in the world yet are among the greatest contributors to our daily life. In 1922, Pope Pius XI approved the first constitution of Stella Maris, known as Apostleship of the Sea. It now operates in over 300 ports across the world. For more information & to donate please visit: [stellamarisaustralia.org](http://stellamarisaustralia.org)



### Encounter: ACYF edition

Join hundreds of young pilgrims across the Archdiocese of Melbourne for a powerful night of prayer, talks and live music in the lead-up to the ACYF. Bring a friend and experience a glimpse of what the Festival will offer! Fr Rob Galea will headline this special edition of Encounter at Cathedral Hall, Australian Catholic University on Saturday August 9th from 7pm to 9.30pm.

Already registered for ACYF? This is your first stop on the pilgrim journey. Not registered yet? Join us, Age: Year 9 - 25 years. Note: Parents/guardians of under-18 participants will be required to 'sign in' and 'sign out' their children. Sign-in commences at 7.00pm.

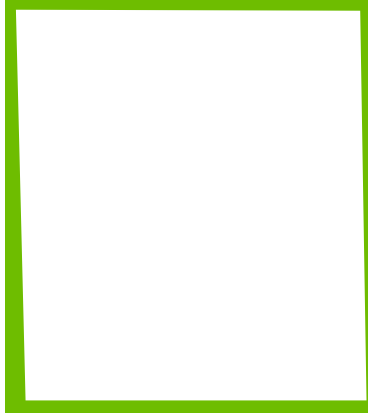
Register at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1408994>



# Who are our neighbours?

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C



Draw pictures of three different people who are your neighbours.

Then draw yourself helping the injured man.



Help the good Samaritan find the injured man and take him to the inn at Jericho.



# 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 13 JULY 2025



## COLLECT

O God, who show the light of your truth  
to those who go astray,  
so that they may return to the right path,  
give all who for the faith they profess  
are accounted Christians  
the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ  
and to strive after all that does it honour.  
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

Luke's gospel has some well-loved and well-known stories that occur nowhere else. Today's story of the Good Samaritan is one of them. The greatest commandment is to love God with our whole being, and our neighbour as ourself. 'Ah, says the lawyer, but who is my neighbour?' 'Listen to this', says Jesus!

## A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 30:10–14

Moses said to the people: ‘Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

‘For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, “Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?” Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, “Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?” No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.’

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 68:14, 17, 30–31, 33–34, 36–37

**R.** Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:  
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**

As for me in my poverty and pain  
let your help, O God, lift me up.  
I will praise God’s name with a song;  
I will glorify him with thanksgiving. **R.**

The poor when they see it will be glad  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needy  
and does not spurn his servants in their chains. **R.**

For God will bring help to Zion  
and rebuild the cities of Judah.  
The sons of his servants shall inherit it;  
those who love his name shall dwell there. **R.**

## Alternative Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8–11

**R.** The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just. **R.**

They are more to be desired than gold,  
than the purest of gold  
and sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey from the comb. **R.**

## First Reading

Sometimes the commandments and the law get bad press; they are regarded as a burdensome imposition and following them as a dry duty. These verses from Deuteronomy give a very different perspective.

The law is the voice of God that leads us, heart and soul, to be one with God. It is beyond neither our strength nor our reach. It is not a set of external regulations. No. This is God speaking to us. It is the creative Word of God which we discover within ourselves, in our mouth and heart. We observe it because it articulates a life-giving relationship with God.

This text will be a joy to proclaim.

## Responsorial Psalm

We do not know why today’s Lectionary offers a choice of responsorial psalms. The second alternative relates to the first reading most clearly.

Psalm 68/69, from which broken verses are selected, is a cry for help. Indeed the psalm affirms that God is kind, loving and compassionate. God’s help does not fail us in our poverty and pain. It makes the poor glad, rescues the needy, and liberates those in bondage.

Its link to the Deuteronomy reading and the gospel is the affirmation that God is life-giving. What, asks the lawyer in the gospel, must I do to inherit eternal life? The answer is: follow the law!

The cantor/reader should be ready for the first six-line stanza.

## Alternative Responsorial Psalm

There is no doubt that Psalm 18/19 reinforces the positive message of Deuteronomy about the law and commandments. Indeed, the psalm goes even further.

God’s law gives joy to the heart, is perfect, revives the soul, is trustworthy and gives wisdom; the precepts of the law gladden the heart, and give light to the eyes; they are more precious than gold and sweeter than honey.

The poetry of the psalm is perhaps repetitive but is loaded with strong visual imagery. It sets up the listener well to appreciate the Gospel discussion about the law and eternal life.

The psalm presents no difficulties and is quite regular in its stanzas and its use of balanced couplets.

**A reading from the letter of St Paul  
to the Colossians**

**1:15–20**

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God  
and the first-born of all creation,  
for in him were created  
all things in heaven and on earth:  
everything visible and everything invisible,  
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers -  
all things were created through him and for him.  
Before anything was created, he existed,  
and he holds all things in unity.  
Now the Church is his body,  
he is its head.  
As he is the Beginning,  
he was first to be born from the dead,  
so that he should be first in every way;  
because God wanted all perfection  
to be found in him  
and all things to be reconciled through him and for him,  
everything in heaven and everything on earth,  
when he made peace  
by his death on the cross.

**A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Luke**

**10:25–37**

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus. 'Do this and life is yours.'  
But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus,  
'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go, and do the same yourself.'

**Second Reading**

Paul did not establish or visit the Colossian Church. It seems likely that this letter was written later by a disciple of Paul using his name – at that time, a common way of honouring a mentor.

The Colossian community was disturbed by teachers who incorporated foreign elements into the Christian message – elements of paganism, Gnosticism, magic and astrology combined with strange festivals and ascetic practices.

The letter responds by focussing on Christ at the centre of everything that is, underlining his role in the work of creation and redemption. The cornerstone of the letter is this hymn that appears in the first chapter. It may be an existing text which originated in the worship of the early Christian community.

It falls into two parts: Christ as "first-born of all creation" and then Christ as "first-born from the dead". The reader should try to highlight this contrast. It is reinforced by the two sentences: *all things were created through him and for him*, and in the second part, *all things to be reconciled through him and for him*. In proclaiming these parallel sentences, as an exception, the prepositions 'through' and 'for' need to be stressed.

Readers should take it slowly.

**Gospel**

So deep was the prejudice between Jews and Samaritans that the very idea of a 'good Samaritan' was deeply shocking. Jesus makes one of them the hero of his story, placing him as a model to be followed above the priest or Levite (a Temple officer). We should try to recapture the impact of this now very familiar tale.

It is extraordinary even on the part of Jesus! A page earlier in the gospel of Luke, a Samaritan village will not receive Jesus because he is heading towards Jerusalem. Now Jesus presents one of them as the ideal neighbour who exemplifies the great commandment of love which gains people access to eternal life.

In Jesus' time, there may have been less surprise than we feel today that the priest and Levite fail to help the victim. This would have rendered them ritually impure and consequently unable to fulfil their responsibilities.

The story challenges today's Christians not just to show love to those in need, but more broadly to confront our ingrained prejudices and racism.

# CONCLUDING PRAYER

## Solemn Blessing (Ordinary Time II)

May the peace of God,  
which surpasses all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

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

(Adapted from the Solemn Blessing for Ordinary Time II, Roman Missal p. 715)



# ONE Mission, Two Churches

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



## BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS

FRIST CLASS RELIC AND EXHIBITION OF EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES REPORTS

**ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST CHURCH**  
46 ORCHARD GROVE, BLACKBURN SOUTH

### ABOUT CARLO ACUTIS

Carlo Acutis was a young Italian boy with a deep devotion to the Eucharist, who used his self-taught computer skills to create a website and exhibition on Eucharistic miracles. Diagnosed with leukemia at 15, he offered his suffering to God, saying, "I'm happy to die, because I've lived my life without wasting a minute on things that don't please God."

Carlo Acutis will be canonised a Saint on September 7<sup>th</sup> 2025.



29TH JULY - 6TH AUGUST 2025

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### JULY 29th

- 3:00-6:00pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
- 6:00-7:00pm: Rosary, Veneration of Relics, Adoration & Confession with contemporary Christian music
- 7:00pm: Mass
- 7:30pm: TALK: *'It is always the era of Saints'* by Josephine Plazzer, Proclaim Team
- 8:15-8:45pm: Veneration, Adoration & Confession with contemporary Christian music

### JULY 30th

- 3:00-6:00pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
- 6:00-7:00pm: Rosary, Veneration, Adoration & Confession
- 7:00pm: Mass
- 7:30-8:45pm: Eucharist Workshop I: **God Is with Us** video, group discussion, Q&A.

### JULY 31st

- 3:00-6:00pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
- 6:00-7:00pm: Rosary, Veneration, Adoration & Confession
- 7:00pm: Mass
- 7:30pm: TALK: *Holy Wild- The wildness and the adventure of holiness of Blessed Carlo Acutis* by Stephanie Sullivan, MGL.
- 8:15-8:45pm: Veneration, Adoration, Confession with Music

### AUGUST 1st

- 3:00-6:00pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
- 6:00-7:00pm: Rosary, Veneration, Adoration & Confession
- 7:00pm: Mass
- 7:30pm: *Carlo's weakness: Devotion to Divine Mercy* by John Canavan,
- 8:15-8:45pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet lead by Gary Pinto

### AUGUST 2nd

- 3:00-4:45pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition, Veneration & Adoration
- 3:00-4:30pm: **Youth Gathering** by Youth Mission Team (Parish hall)
- 5:00pm: Vigil Mass
- 6:00-7:00pm: Light dinner and fellowship (QR Code rego).
- 7:00-8:30pm: **Eucharist Night** - Praise & Worship, Adoration, Reconciliation & testimonies - by YMT

### AUGUST 3rd

- 3:00-6:00pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
- 6:00-7:00pm: Rosary, Veneration, Adoration & Confession
- 7:00pm: *The Evangelisation of Carlo Acutis* by Anna Krohn, OAM
- 7:45-8:45pm: Adoration & Confession with Music Ministry

### AUGUST 5th

- 3:00-6:00pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
- 6:00-7:00pm: Rosary, Veneration, Adoration & Confession
- 7:00pm: Mass
- 7:30-8:30pm: Eucharist Workshop II: **The Story of the Eucharist** video, group discussion, Q&A.

### AUGUST 6th

- 3:00-6:00pm: Stories of Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
- 6:00-7:00pm: Rosary, Veneration, Adoration & Confession
- 7:00-7:30pm: Mass



# REGISTER HERE

RSVP by 29<sup>th</sup> July

## OUR GUEST SPEAKERS



**JOSEPHINE  
PLAZZER**

**Presenting 'It is always the era of Saints', Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July**

Josephine received her formation in Rome and has extensive experience in ministry, evangelisation and spiritual formation across the U.S. and Italy and now works as a Discipleship Specialist with the Archdiocese of Melbourne, helping others encounter Christ.



**STEPHANIE  
SULLIVAN**

**Presenting 'Holy Wild - The wildness and the adventure of holiness', with reference to Carlo Acutis and Pierre Giorgio Frassati.', Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

Stephanie is in her fifth year with the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters, studying theology in Melbourne and passionate about helping others encounter God's healing love and live fully in Him.



**JOHN  
CANAVAN**

**Presenting 'Carlo's weakness: Devotion to Divine Mercy', on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> August**

John Canavan, a professional comedian of 20 years, experienced a life-changing conversion in 1989 and has since shared the message of Divine Mercy across Australia and Oceania.



**GARY  
PINTO**

**Leading the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

Gary Pinto is an ARIA Award-winning, multi-platinum Soul and R&B artist, frontman of CDB, co-writer of the 2008 World Youth Day Anthem, and vocal director on The Voice, X Factor, and Eurovision, with his latest release out now via Sony Music.

## DISCOVER THE STORIES BEHIND OUR SPEAKERS

Scan the QR Code below for more.



**ANNA  
KROHN**

**Presenting Blessed Carlo Acutis: Evangelist', on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August**

Anna Krohn is Executive Director of the Thomas More Centre, a writer and educator in theology and ethics, and recipient of the Medal of the Order of Australia for her contributions to the Catholic Church.



**YOUTH  
MISSION TEAM**

**Leading Youth Gathering on Saturday 02 Aug 2025**

YMT is one of Australia's leading youth ministry organisations, with Melbourne's team of six young volunteers dedicating a year to full-time ministry through school retreats, youth groups, and mentoring programs.



Parents of children under 18 years are required to provide consent by using the QR Code for the Youth Gathering

EMAIL US:

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CALL:

Parish Office Tel: 03 9412 8499

Presbytery Tel: 03 9877 2292

WEBSITE:

[blackburnsouth.org.au](http://blackburnsouth.org.au)  
[sttimothys.org.au](http://sttimothys.org.au)



ST. LUKES SCHOOL  
BLACKBURN SOUTH



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# IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL

TO GREECE & TURKEY (WITH ROME OPTION)



20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL –  
3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2026

LED BY  
FR ALEX CHOW

14  
DAYS

PACKAGE PRICE: AU\$ 8,490\*  
per person (twin share)

OPTIONAL SINGLE  
ROOM SUPPLEMENT:

AU\$ 1,150

FULLY  
ESCORTED

\*Conditions apply. Subject to change.  
Price estimated based on group  
size of 20 pilgrims. Actual pricing  
will be known in late May 2025.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



*‘Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.’ (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)*

*‘For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)*

*‘Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love’*

*(Ephesians 4:2)*

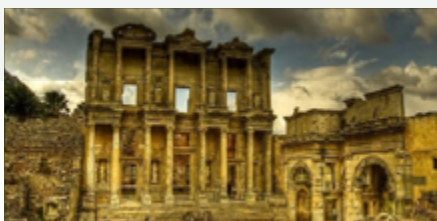
Such passionate, life giving, encouraging and hopeful words written by St Paul the Apostle. Come and join us for an extraordinary pilgrimage of Greece and Turkey and (optional Rome extension) as we follow the footsteps of St Paul and experience the contexts in which these passionate letters were written. It will be an opportunity of spiritual renewal, deepen our relationship with God as we reflect and experience the incredible journey of Paul, Apostle of the Gentiles.

## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

REGISTER FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION at 7pm ON THURSDAY, 5th JUNE

\* Enjoy full travel briefing \* Meet your fellow Pilgrims \* Have your questions answered

CONTACT FR ALEX OR OLIVE TREE TRAVEL TO REGISTER & GET THE DETAILS



### NEXT STEPS

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Fr Alex or Olive Tree Travel or by [CLICKING HERE.](#)
2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$500 per person is payable by 16th June 2025 (unless sold out prior)
3. Final balances will be due by late February 2026.



Ph. 1300 550 830 or 03 8488 9696  
info@olivetretravel.com.au www.olivetretravel.com.au  
103A Gardenvale Road, Gardenvale Victoria 3185



### DAY 1 MONDAY 20TH APRIL

### DEPART AUSTRALIA

Depart Melbourne this evening on your Emirates flight to Dubai. On arrival, transfer to your connecting flight to Athens.

### DAY 2 TUESDAY 21ST APRIL

### ARRIVE ATHENS

Arrive in Athens today. Athens is the thriving capital of Greece but more importantly, we have entered into the world of the New Testament where St Paul and his companions established the first Christian communities throughout his four missionary journeys. On arrival in **Athens** we will be met and transferred to our centrally located hotel for the remainder of the day at leisure. Athens overnight (D)

### DAY 3 WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL

### ATHENS - CORINTH – ATHENS

Journey out to **Ancient Corinth** where the Apostle Paul lived for almost two years, teaching the people the Word of God and converting many. We visit the ancient ruins and see the site where he preached the Gospel from the **Rostrum**. Also visit the Peirene fountain, and the 6th century BC **Temple of Apollo** before an outdoor Mass in this stunning pilgrimage setting. Finally we come to **Cenchreae**, the ancient port from where Paul said farewell to the believers and departed for Ephesus (Acts 18:18). Return to Athens in the late afternoon for dinner and overnight. (BD)

### DAY 4 THURSDAY 23RD APRIL

### ATHENS

When St Paul first came to Athens it was predominantly a city that worshipped pagan gods. St Paul was taken before the city council at the Areopagus Hill, a rough outcrop of limestone rock from which he preached the Gospel message to the Athenian philosophers (Acts 17:16-21). We begin our day with a tour of **Christian Athens** including the **Acropolis**, the **Areopagus** where St Paul delivered his famous sermon about the identity of "the Unknown God" (Acts 17:15-34) and the **Parthenon**. Continue for a visit the **Ancient Agora** and a bus tour to see the highlights of the city including the Kallimarmaro Stadium, dating back to 330 B.C. and restored for the first modern Olympic Games held here in 1896. Visit to the New Acropolis museum. Enjoy dinner and overnight in Athens. (BD)

### DAY 5 FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

### ATHENS – METEORA – KALAMBAKA

Depart this morning and travel north to the small town of **Kalambaka** built at the foot of the majestic grey rocks of **Meteora**. Marvel at this unique phenomenon of nature – 24 perpendicular rocks where 600 years ago Byzantine monks chose to worship God and build their Monastic community of Meteora. We visit two of the Byzantine Meteora monasteries. Among striking scenery and perched on top of huge rocks, the ageless monasteries of Meteora seem to be suspended in mid-air. The monasteries contain beautiful Byzantine art and offer an insight to the mystic world of the monks still residing there. Mass this evening, will be held in a private room at the hotel before dinner and overnight in Kalambaka (BD)

### DAY 6 SATURDAY 25TH APRIL

### KALAMBAKA – VERGINA – VERIA – THESSALONIKI

Depart this morning to **Vergina**, the first capital of the Macedonian Kingdom. Here we visit the "Vergina findings", treasures of Ancient Macedonia and the tomb of King Philip II of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great. A few minutes away is Veria, located on the ruins of **Ancient Beroea**, is one of Apostle Paul's stops. Here we see the Byzantine mosaic in the monument commemorating his preaching. Continue our drive to Thessaloniki. Dinner & overnight in Thessaloniki. (BD)

### DAY 7 SUNDAY 26TH APRIL

### THESSALONIKI

Today is for Thessaloniki exploration. Welcome to Greece's second city, founded in 315 BC, and where St Paul preached during the winters of 49-50AD and wrote the two epistles to the ancient Thessalonians. See the ramparts of the city, the triumphal Arch of Galerius and the Roman Agora where St Paul once preached. We shall visit St Demetrios' Church with its valuable mosaics and frescoes and will drive up to the upper town, which offers a marvellous view of the city. We will also have the chance to celebrate Mass at the Catholic Church. Dinner & overnight in Thessaloniki. (BD)

### DAY 8 MONDAY 27TH APRIL

### PHILIPPI – KAVALA – THESSALONIKI

Arise and journey along the ancient route of the Apostle Paul to nearby Philippi, named after Philip II, father of Alexander the Great. It was here that St Paul won his first European convert, a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:12-40). Visit the Baptistery of Lydia for a beautiful outdoor Mass on the River Zygaktis, and renew

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our Baptismal vows. Visit the market place (where St Paul and St Silas were brought before the rulers) and the cistern which tradition identifies as the place where St Paul was imprisoned. We will also see the famous Acropolis, Basilica and the theatre. It was here that he established the first Christian Church in Europe. Visit the Octagonal church, an early Christian monument thought to be built on the site where St. Paul had established a house of prayer. Finally, we drive to the port in Kavala (Neapolis in New Testament times), where Paul landed with Timothy, Silas, and Luke. Return to your hotel in Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight. (BD)

**DAY 9 TUESDAY 28TH APRIL** **THESSALONIKI – IZMIR (SMYRNA) - KUSADASI** This morning, we depart Thessaloniki Airport for our flight to Izmir (via Istanbul or Athens). Upon arrival we will be met by our Turkish guide and commence our touring programme by visiting the Ruins of Ancient Smyrna, one of the 7 Churches. After the Agora visit we will drive to the coastal city of Kusadasi. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (D)

**DAY 10 WEDNESDAY 29TH APRIL** **EPHESUS PILGRIMAGE** Today we visit the famous city of Ephesus. Ephesus, as we will see, is in a very good state of preservation and the overall existing view of this ancient city will make it evident that she was a wealthy, cultural, and commercial centre in the 1st century. Paul's preaching in the area resulted with the uproar of the Guild of Silversmiths and the evangelisation of the whole province of Asia. Highlights include the ancient temple to the Roman Emperor, the 'slope' houses, the Library of Celsus, the Temple of Hadrian, the Fountain of Trajan, the brothel, and the large theatre in which the riot of Acts 19 took place. Not far from the theatre, we visit the Church of St Mary, where it is said that Mary spent the later years of her life. Celebrate Mass. Finally you will visit the restored remains of the 6th century Basilica of St John at Celcuk where a small church was originally built over the tomb of St John the Evangelist. Return to your hotel in Kusadasi for dinner and overnight (BD)

**DAY 11 THURSDAY 30TH APRIL** **KUSADASI - ISTANBUL** After breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for Izmir Airport to catch our flight at 10:00AM. On arrival, we will be met and transferred to old city to visit Basilica Cistern, the largest of several hundred ancient cisterns that lie beneath the city. We'll also get to see one of the Eastern Orthodox Churches. This afternoon visit the Byzantine Hippodrome, the Blue Mosque and nearby Hagia Sophia (meaning 'Holy Wisdom'). Built in 548 AD, Hagia Sophia was the greatest Church in Christendom until 1453 when Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Empire. Onwards then to the Grand Bazaar, with over 4000 exotic tiny shops. Return to your hotel for dinner and overnight (BD)

**DAY 12 FRIDAY 01ST MAY** **ISTANBUL** Commence the day with a special morning cruise along the Bosphorus River, where you will sail past the Ottoman Palaces, Byzantine fortresses, Beylerbeyi Palace and Suleiman's Mosque. An opportunity to celebrate Mass at a Catholic Church. Enjoy a brief visit to Topkapi Palace. After the visit, transfer to our hotel for dinner and overnight (BD)

**DAY 13 SATURDAY 02ND MAY** **ISTANBUL - AUSTRALIA** End your pilgrimage with a transfer to Istanbul Airport for your departure flight to Dubai. Transfer to your connecting flight back to Melbourne. (B)

**DAY 14 SUNDAY 03RD MAY** **ARRIVE AUSTRALIA** Arrive back to Melbourne this evening with wonderful memories from your pilgrimage!

\*\*

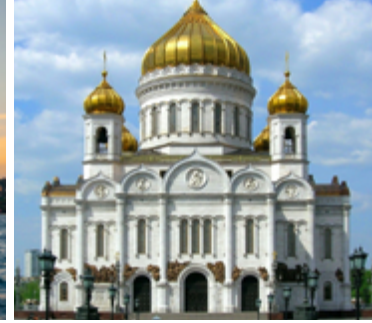
Itinerary subject to change \*\*

**Interested in continuing the Footsteps of St Paul and visiting other amazing sites in Rome?**

Instead of flying straight home from Istanbul, we will hold a limited number of seats out of Rome, allowing pilgrims to enjoy an independently arranged Rome Pilgrimage in the Eternal city and surroundings as organized with/by Fr Alex Chow.

Fr Alex has lived in Rome as a seminarian for 4 years. Fr. Alex has offered to assist pilgrims in finding

[REGISTER HERE](#)



modest but clean and comfortable accommodation. The Roman stay will consist of the following (depending on time availability):

1. Sites of St Paul: Basilica of St Paul Outside the Wall, Tre Fontana (where St Paul was imprisoned and executed), via Ostiense (where St Peter and St Paul met in Rome)
2. 3 major Pontifical Basilica: Basilica of St Peter, Basilica of Mary Major, Basilica of John Lateran
3. Churches of Saints of the Roman Canon: St Cosmos and Damian, St Clement, St Agnes in Agony, St Cecilia, St Bartholomew
4. Beautiful Rome: Colosseum, Rome Forum, Pantheon, Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Piazza di Popolo, etc...
5. Churches of the Passion of Jesus Christ: Church of the Holy Steps, Basilica of the Holy Cross of Jerusalem, Basilica di Santa Prassede (Column of the Flagellation)
6. Elegant Churches: San Luigi dei Francesi (Caravaggio - calling of Matthew), Basilica of Saint Mary of Minerva (the tomb of St Catherine of Siena), Church of Santa Maria della Vittoria (Bernini's dramatic carving "The Ecstasy of Teresa."), Chiesa del Gesu.

**\*\*Olive Tree Travel will arrange your flight from Istanbul – Rome\*\***

### PRICE INCLUSIONS:

- Emirates Flight from Melbourne to Athens via Dubai and then return Istanbul to Melbourne via Dubai
- One way flight from Thessaloniki to Izmir
- One way flight from Izmir to Istanbul
- 11 nights in total: 7 nights in Greece and 4 nights in Turkey in hotel accommodation in twin share rooms.
- Breakfast and Dinner daily. Breakfasts and Dinners at hotels unless otherwise specified.
- All tips, gratuities and portorage (where available)
- Whisperer headsets
- All guiding and entrance fees as per the itinerary.
- Air-conditioned coach

### NOT INCLUDED:

- Drinks with meals
- Travel insurance
- Incidentals, laundry
- Lunches
- Turkey Visa – currently US\$66 and obtained privately before departure

### HOTELS (OR SIMILAR):

• Hotel Luwian	Athens	3 nights
• Hotel Amalia	Kalambaka	1 night
• Hotel Imperial Plus	Thessaloniki	3 nights
• Korumar Hotel	Kusadasi	2 nights
• Port Bosphorous Hotel	Istanbul	2 nights

### NEXT STEPS

1. Register your interest and obtain a booking form from Fr Alex or Olive Tree Travel or by [CLICKING HERE.](#)
2. To secure your place, a deposit of \$500 per person is payable by 16th June 2025 (unless sold out prior)
3. Final balances will be due by late February 2026.

### WHO TO CONTACT:

Father Alex Chow  
 Administrator of St Luke the Evangelist, Blackburn  
 South and St Timothy Forest Hill  
 Phone: 03 9412 8499  
 Mobile: 0431 075 674



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**APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7, 2027**  
close 15 August 2025

## EMBRACE CREATIVITY

Talk and Tour Mornings  
Term 1

**THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY, 9.30 AM**

Term 2

**THURSDAY 01 MAY, 9.30 AM | MONDAY 23 JUNE, 9.30 AM**

Our Lady of Sion College  
Catholic Girls' College Years 7-12  
1065 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill 3128

**P** 9890 9097  
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# Be GOOD SHEPHERD THE

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Year  
of  
hope

By  
Olivia  
Dawson