Reflection on the Gospel-13th Sunday in Ordinary Time C (Luke 9:51-62)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Gary Cohen's film, Judah & Mohammad, depicts the separate lives of two teenage school boys, one a Jewish Israeli and the other a Palestinian Arab. Judah and Mohammad have never met and are unlikely ever to do so. They are near neighbours, but their lives are separated by a "security wall" that keeps them and their people effectively separated and suspicious of each other, despite the desire for peace of many on both sides of the wall. Sandy Tolan's heart-wrenching novel, *The Lemon Tree*, tells a similar story of women on either side of the same divide. Both film and novel reflect a contemporary story of hostility between Israelis and Palestinians that more or less replicates the relationship between Jews and Samaritans in the first century.

Jesus and his Galilean Jewish friends could hardly have expected a gracious welcome, though they may have been welcomed had Jesus planned to stay and worship in the temple on Mt. Gerizim, the centre of Samaritan life and worship. The problem for the Samaritans is Jesus' decision to use Samaritan territory simply as a staging post on his journey to Jerusalem, the heart of Jewish life and worship. The Samaritans "did not receive him because his face was set towards Jerusalem", centre of Jewish life and worship.

James and John have an excessively violent reaction to the unwelcoming Samaritans: "Do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" The force of this question can easily be lost. James and John have heard Jesus telling them to love their enemies, to do good to those who hate them, bless those who curse them, and pray for those who mistreat them (Luke 6:27-28). And yet they want to call down fire on those who do not receive him. Jesus makes it clear that violence is not the way of God's prophet, even in the face of rejection. He has no word of condemnation for the villagers who failed to receive him. He simply turns and rebukes his two disciples and moves on to another village.

There is a sense of relentlessness in this passage. Jesus has "set his face to Jerusalem" and there is no turning back for him or for those who join him on the journey. In the company of his disciples, Jesus now moves inexorably to Jerusalem where he will be "lifted up" in death and exaltation. Bringing the good news and establishing God's reign of peace on our planetary home is the purpose of the journey. We are invited to enter into that journey with all its demands. There is no room on this journey for violence or for clinging to familiar securities. If we are serious about saving our planetary home, we must relinquish the certainties we have known and be prepared to "set our faces" towards whatever it takes to ensure God's reign of peace in our common home.

ST ALIPIUS PARISH—BALLARAT EAST

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR C

Our parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

St Alipius' Parish Church 84 Victoria Street, BALLARAT EAST 3350

SS Peter & Paul's Church 701 Fisken St, BUNINYONG 3357

CONTACT DETAILS

Office Hours: 9.30am—1.30pm Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays

Telephone Email:	e: 5332 6611 ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au	Parish Website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au SAP Liturgy website: www.sapliturgy.net.au		
CLERGY AND STAFF				
Parish Pr	iest: Fr Peter Sherman	Administrator: Fr Kevin Maloney VG		
Parish Co	cordinator: Lucy O'Beirne	Child Safety Officer: Roxanne Leed		
Finance (Officer: Kerrie McTigue	Bereavement: Carmel Flynn & Kathy Curran		

WEEKDAY MASSES COMMENCING MONDAY, 1st JULY 2019

MONDAY: TUESDAY: WEDNESDAY: THURSDAY: FRIDAY:	No Mass No Mass 9.30 am No Mass 11.00 am 9.30 am	Mercy Convent (Victoria St) at the church Anointing Mass, Mercy Place (Corbett St) St. Alipius' Church
ST. ALIPIUS	SAT	EKEND'S MASSES 6th June 6.00 PM 7th June 9.00 AM
BUNINYONGSUN7thJune10.30 AM14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMEYEAR CREADINGSFirst:Is66:10-14		
NEADINGS	Second: Gospel:	Gal 6:14-18

BAPTISMS: Arthur Latchfield, Ivy Quinlan, Isabel Quinlan.

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Janis Stubbins, Nora Roach, Mary Hoy, Richard Roach, Thomas Roach, Harold Dunham, Kevin Coleman, P Purcell, Norm Rouhan.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Nathan Cambell, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Alison Rice, Fiona Dickinson, Carmel Doherty, Aurora Ferrer, Leonie Sinnot, John Darroch, Eleanor Keating, Terry Foran, Cathy Jones, Pauline Stapleton, Fred Marouff, Lena Macklin.

COUNTING TEAMS

This Week: Team 4: <u>Next Week</u>: Team 5: J. Moran ©, B. Forbes, S. Harvey M. Stewart ©, M. Anderson, R. Reynolds

1740.70

\$ 300.00 \$ 3207.00

560.00

5807.00

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

PARISH: En

Envelopes: Loose: Credit Cards (Mth) Direct Debits:



PRESBYTERY

708.00

PARISH OFFICE

\$

The parish office will be closed over the school holidays and will re-open on Tuesday, 16th July at 9.30am. Requests for the mass-sheet can still be left via email, phone or through the mail-slot of the parish office (presbytery).

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

As school holidays begin, we wish all staff, students and their families a very safe and restful break.

CARING GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of the Caring Group will be held on Friday 5th July at 10am in the St. Alipius Hall. All welcome.

MERCY ASSOCIATES' FUNDRAISER

Please save the date for the Mercy Associates' fundraiser for McAuley Community Services for Women. On Tuesday 23rd July at 10 am at the Regent Theatre, we will be hosting High Tea and a Film. The cost for this will be \$25 which includes a remake of "THE LION KING" and High Tea at which sandwiches, hot/cold savouries, scones with jam/cream, slices, cream sponge and tea/coffee will be served. There will be raffle tickets for sale (3 tickets for \$5)



with 10 draws - lovely prizes. There will be door prizes as well. Tickets for film/luncheon and raffle tickets are available from Ursula Diamond-Keith on 0407717626 or from The Mercy Office- 151 Victoria St., 53317774 or on the day. Please come along and support our fundraiser for this great cause. Please have correct money when buying tickets.

LEADERSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY BREAKFAST

You are invited to the Leadership and Spirituality Breakfast on Wednesday 11th September at the Mercure Hotel and Convention Centre, 613 Main Road, Ballarat. The presenter at this breakfast will be Chris Lowney who is a noted author and speaker on Leadership and Ignatian Spirituality. For more information see the poster on the noticeboard in the back of the church.

BISHOP PAUL BIRD'S 70TH BIRTHDAY

Mass to celebrate Bishop Paul's 70th birthday will be celebrated on Friday, July 19, 2019 at 12.05pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. All are welcome to attend.

LITURGY Volunteers Needed

At St Alipius church, we have a need for more people to help out with the data projector, especially on the following Sunday morning Masses: July 7: 9.00 am, July 14: 10.30 am and July 21: 9.00 am. The powerpoint is prepared by the parish and training in the use of the computer and setting up is provided. If you're able to become involved & help out on these dates, please contact the parish office or leave a message on the <u>sapliturgy.net.au</u> website using the contact form.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WINTER APPEAL

We invite you to be part of our annual Winter Appeal. This year, to date, the Society has distributed support to the value of \$260,911 across the Ballarat area. This is a weekly average of \$12,600. To date we have received 3,185 calls which gives us a weekly figure of approximately 177 calls. We are most grateful for the support we receive from our parish as it enables us to continue our support for those in need. If anyone is interested in joining our group please contact Helen on ph. 0419 875 349 for information. Envelopes are available at the Piety Stall. All donations are used in the Ballarat area. Donations of over \$2.00 are tax deductible, receipts will be issued.

JOY SPREADING IS BACK!

A social event for young Catholic adults (18-30) featuring an inspiring talk, some free food & drink, and the chance to connect with other young Catholics in the area. The next gathering will be held in 'The Aviary' at the Golden City Hotel on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 from 6.30pm. The Vicar General, Fr Kevin Maloney, will be presenting a short talk entitled 'Good and Evil in the Creation Narratives'. For more information, visit the Youth & Young Adult Ministry page of the Diocesan website <u>www.ballarat.catholic.org.au</u> or contact Patrick, ph. 5337 7160.

PLENARY COUNCIL – NATIONAL THEMES FOR DISCERNMENT Plenary Council – National Theme for Discernment #1

"How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is Missionary and Evangelising?" This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who shared a passion for participating in the missionary nature of the Church and desire stronger support, involvement and formation among all the baptised who make up the Church. Find our more at <u>http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au</u>

CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS — INFORMATION EVENINGS

Loreto College Year 7 2021 Parent Information Evening will be held on Monday, October 21, 2019 at 7.00pm at the Mary's Mount Centre. Applications for Year 7, 2021 enrolments close on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 4.00pm. For further information please visit our website www.loreto.vic.edu.au.

<u>St. Patrick's College</u> 2021 College Information Evening will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at the OCA Pavilion. To register your attendance please go to <u>www.trybooking.com/BDEBO</u> Applications for enrolment for Year 7, 2021 are now available. <u>http://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/en/prospective-families/prospectus/</u>. The closing date for applications is Friday, December 6, 2019 at 4.00pm.

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR THE POPE

Please note that the annual collection for the Holy Father will be taken up during next weekend's masses.