

Reflection on the Gospel-Trinity Sunday Year B (Matt 28:16-20)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Trinity Sunday celebrates the core Christian conviction that God is not just one, but also three-in-one. For the people of Israel, no other god could compare with their God whom they knew as both creator and liberator and whom they experienced as intimately involved in every aspect of their history and of their day-to-day lives. In a world of many gods, the assertion found in today's first reading from Deuteronomy that "there is no other" god was an enormous claim to make. God's sustaining and liberating presence brought with it serious responsibilities: keeping God's commandments grounded the people of Israel and their descendants in the life of their God.

The earliest Christians inherited the Jewish belief in one God. At the same time, Christians expressed their faith in distinctively trinitarian language, even if references to all three persons of the Trinity are rarely found in the one passage. Over the first six centuries of the Christian era, the belief that God is three-in-one was to develop into the doctrine of the Trinity which is at the heart of Christian faith. The word Trinity is not used in the Christian Scriptures. In fact, it was not until the end of the fourth century, at the Council of Constantinople in 381, that the doctrine of the Trinity was set out in the creed that is still professed today. The Second Council of Constantinople in 551 used the expression "trinity" to refer to the one essence of God to be worshipped in three persons.

Today's gospel passage brings Matthew's gospel to a close. Jesus commands his disciples to make disciples of all peoples and to baptize in the name of the Triune God. At the beginning of this gospel, Jesus is named Emmanuel, "God with us". With Jesus' final assurance, "know that I am with you always", we find ourselves gathered into the very life of God. *Perichoresis*, a Greek term suggestive of dancing or of figures interweaving, is one of the earliest and probably one of the most striking images used to explain the Trinity. The life that is in God is three and yet one in a totally harmonious dance of equals. The wonder is that we are invited to join the dance. Trinity Sunday is the day we set aside to celebrate the nearness of the God who draws us into the dance of life and love. As St. Paul reminds us, God is not a distant God, but rather a God whose Spirit draws us, as "God's children" and as "joint heirs with Christ", into the very communion of the Trinity.

BULLETIN FOR TRINITY SUNDAY, YEAR B



ST ALIPIUS PARISH, BALLARAT EAST

Including St Peter & Paul's, Buninyong

Parish Address: 84 Victoria Street, Ballarat East. 3350

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MASS TIMETABLE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, 1st JUNE 2015

MONDAY:	No Mass
TUESDAY:	11.00 am in Mercy Centre
WEDNESDAY:	11.00 am in Mercy Centre
THURSDAY:	9.30 am in Parish Church
FRIDAY:	9.30 am in Parish Church
SATURDAY:	No Sacrament of Reconciliation

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

ST. ALIPIUS	SAT	6.00 PM
	SUN	9.00 AM
BUNINYONG	SUN	10.30 AM

READINGS - **BODY and BLOOD of CHRIST, YEAR B**

First:	Exodus 24:3-8
Second:	Hebrews 9:11-15
Gospel:	Mark 14:12-16.22-26

ANNIVERSARIES: Bill McInerney, Betty Hutchins, John, Tony & Helen Goossens

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Nell McGettigan, Barb Gleeson, Pamela Hayes, Anthony Conroy, Nathan Cambell, Jean Nolan, Karen Hayes, Denise Learmonth, Mary-Rose McLaren, Doreen Forbes, Mona Shillito, Cath Wheelahan.

COUNTING TEAMS:

This Week: .**Team 10:** J. Kennedy ©, P.Kennedy, L. Mullane.

Next Week: .**Team 11:** P. Saunders ©, M. Saunders.



COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

PARISH:	Envelopes:	\$ 1,275.70
	Loose money:	\$ 300.00
	Direct debits:	\$ <u>180.00</u>
		\$ 1,755.70

PRESBYTERY: \$ 840.00

EVENTS

- Friday, 5th June **Caring Group** meeting in the Hall at 10.00 am.
- Friday, 12th June **Auxiliary Coffee Party** in Nazareth House Hall at 1.30 pm. Admission: \$5.00. Entrance prize, devonshire tea, raffle, spinning wheel, produce and fancy goods stall.
- Friday, 12th June **Nazareth House: TRIVIA WITH A TWIST** St Patrick's Pavilion at 7.30 pm. Come along and join in a great night with prizes, auctions and raffles. Bookings online: www.trybooking.com/HIYB or contact Helen Bettes on 0400 195 647 for further information.
- Wednesdays **Rosary** in the Chapel of Visitation at St John of God Hospital at 12.45 pm. All welcome.
- Wednesday afternoons **Legion of Mary** meets at Nazareth House, Mill St Ballarat, at 1.30 pm. Enquiries: 5332 8624 or 53327227.
- **Legion of Mary Prayers:** Prayers of Petition to Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help, will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral from 11.15 am - 11.45 am on 1st & 3rd Thursdays.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Invest in your most precious asset.....Your Marriage!

There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

21st - 23rd August and 23rd - 25th October. Starts 7.00 pm on Friday. Ends 5.00 pm on Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided.

Information and bookings, ph: Marianne & Marcel on 9733 0997 or email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au

ROYAL COMMISSION

While the Royal Commission into Institutional Sexual Abuse is sitting in Ballarat the Sisters of Mercy chapel in Victoria St. will be open each day from 9.00 to midday for quiet prayer. All are invited to come and spend time in prayer for everyone connected with the Royal Commission or affected by its work. On some days there may be a Mass at 11.00 am but this will not detract from the general atmosphere of prayer.

CARITAS RECEIPTS

Have been issued for donation to Project Compassion. If you have not received yours please contact Jim on 5332 6611 with details.

RAISING FUNDS FOR TIMOR LESTE

Damascus College is holding a Trivia Night on Friday, 12th June at 6.30 pm to raise money for our sister school in Ainaro, East Timor. Tickets are \$15.00 per head, and tables of 6, 8 or 10 are required. BYO drinks. For bookings contact Adrian Newman: a.newman@damascus.vic.edu.au; ph: 5337 2222.

PONCHOS FOR THE HOMELESS

A group of ladies is currently making ponchos for homeless people in the Ballarat area.

They are very keen to receive any used/new pure wool blankets of any size. They are then made into ponchos to distribute to people who need them.

At the moment there is a great demand for these garments for the coming winter. If you have any spare blankets to give—please contact Ursula Diamond-Keith on 5341 7685.

ST PETER'S DAYLESFORD 150TH ANNIVERSARY

St Peter's, Daylesford will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of its opening with Mass on Sunday, 14th June at 10.30 am with Bishop Paul Bird as the celebrant. Lunch will follow at St Michael's School, Smith Street, Daylesford, with a presentation on the history. All past parishioners and priests welcome. For further information contact daylesford@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

REFUGEE WEEK 2015

“Sanctuary Ballarat: Welcome the Stranger”

Asylum Seeker and Refugee Forum, hosted by Ballarat Catholic Social Justice Commission, on Sunday 14th June from 12.30—4.00 pm at St Patrick's Pavilion. See flyer on notice board.