

## Reflection on the Gospel-29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (Mark 10:35-45)

In the kin-dom of God movement established by Jesus, there is no place for domination or for any exercise of power over others. In today's gospel story, this is a lesson that James and John, the sons of Zebedee, clearly need to learn. They seem to think that the structures of power operating in the Roman world are going to be replicated when Jesus conquers the forces of opposition and comes into his "glory". The two brothers, James and John, put in a bid for shared deputy leadership positions as a favour from Jesus. They seem to be blind and deaf to what Jesus has been trying to tell them throughout their journey from Caesarea Philippi to Jerusalem. They seek his patronage without reference to the rest of the leadership group who, incidentally, are not well pleased with their presumptuous companions.

James and John do not yet realise that Jesus' way is not the way of status or entitlement and that their call as disciples and as leaders of the emerging movement has nothing to do with privilege. They need to understand that it has more to do with enduring the suffering associated with commitment to one's mission, and with setting others free to be their best selves. To demonstrate this, Jesus offers them an unpalatable alternative: to "be slave of all". He sustains the slavery metaphor and goes on to summarise his own mission with an image that comes out of the world of his time: "not to be served but to serve and give life as a ransom for many". A ransom was the payment made to free someone from slavery. To substitute oneself for a slave was to give one's life as a ransom for that slave. Reading the gospel from beginning to end helps us to understand the ultimate self-giving of Jesus in death as the climax of a lifetime's outpouring of love, a love that draws forth loving and liberating action in others.

There are multiple ways of enslaving others, of dominating and of trying to control them to achieve one's own personal or corporate ends, good or bad. The request of James and John reminds us that we can all lose sight of the liberating vision of the gospel and get caught up in destructive power struggles. As disciples, we hear the words of Jesus, "It is not to happen with you". Rather, we might turn our attention to those in our world who are literally enslaved. We might find out about ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious against the Trafficking in Humans) and join with them or with others working to obtain justice for those trapped into sexual and other forms of slavery in our own cities.

### BULLETIN FOR 29th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME, 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, 19th OCTOBER 2015

<b>MONDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	11.00 am in Mercy Centre
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	9.30 am in Parish Church
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10.00 am

#### NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

<b>ST. ALIPIUS</b>	SAT	6.00 PM
	SUN	10.30 AM
<b>BUNINYONG</b>	SUN	9.00 AM

#### READINGS - THE 30th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

First:	Jeremiah 31:7-9
Second:	Hebrews 5:1-6
Gospel:	Mark 10:46-52

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Dan & Amelia Nolan, Robert & Elizabeth Stevenson, Michal Casey, John Curran, James Roach, Matt Purcell, James Flanagan.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Nell McGettigan, Pamela Hayes, Anthony Conroy, Nathan Cambell, Karen Hayes, Denise Learmonth, Mary-Rose McLaren, Mona Shillito, Cath Wheelahan, Marinna Lenkic, Barbara Keirl, Linda Holland, Mick Kent.

### COUNTING TEAMS:

This Week: .**Team 6:** M. Stewart ©, M. Anderson, R. Reynolds.

Next Week: .**Team 7:** K. Cummins ©, J. O'Meara, B. Hood, G. Duck.



### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

<b>PARISH:</b>	Envelopes:	\$ 1,250.00
	Loose money:	\$ 300.00
	Direct debit:	\$ <u>847.00</u>
		\$ 2,397.00
<b>PRESBYTERY:</b>		\$ 721.00

### EVENTS

- 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 5332 7227.
- **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.

### ST. ALIPIUS PARISH BOOKLET

Many individuals and groups contribute to the life of our parish. These groups are diverse in nature, sustaining various areas of parish life: liturgical, sacramental, social, pastoral, outreach, education/spiritual renewal, communication. We'd like to share what our parish groups do with parishioners, newcomers and visitors to our parish. To that end we are producing an information booklet about the groups operating within our parish, outlining what they do and providing contact details, meeting times etc. for those who'd like to make contact and/or become involved. A list of parish groups is on the notice board at the church entrance, let's know of any we may have missed! Could we ask groups to provide a paragraph outlining their purpose/activities and a contact name and phone number/email address please? Information can be emailed to Kristen Murray: [kristenmurray1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kristenmurray1@optusnet.com.au) or left at the presbytery.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- November 1st - Liturgy of Lament to Hope. Many of us throughout the Diocese have been disturbed at the information disclosed during the Royal Commission Hearing in Ballarat. We feel great disappointment, disillusionment and anger. This is a natural response to the great wrongs committed in our Church by people whom we trusted. Therefore it has been decided that there will be a Liturgy of Lament to Hope on November 1st at 2.00 pm in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. The Liturgy will be similar to those held in the United States and Ireland. It will conclude within the hour. Planning is almost complete. Bishop Bird will preside. This will be an opportunity for our Diocese to gather to acknowledge a very dark time in our history, to express our sorrow, ask forgiveness, and move towards hope and healing. We look forward to being together on November 1st for a special time of prayer and reflection. We ask that you pray for all concerned.
- Saturday, 24th October **St. Martin's in the Pines 1970 - 75 40-year Reunion.** Info: Robyn Barnett, ph: 5337 2352 or [connect-ing@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:connect-ing@damascus.vic.edu.au)
- Wednesday, 28th October **Information evening** at St. Patrick's College Chapel at 7.30 pm.
- Wednesday, 4th November **Information evening** at Damascus College at 6.30 pm.
- Wednesday, 25th November **Anointing Mass** at 2.00 pm.

### MERCY CONNECT BALLARAT - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Mercy Works is currently recruiting volunteers to support refugee students in Ballarat Schools through their Mercy Connect Project. The volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week for four school terms (during 2016). Experience working in an educational setting is preferred. Training held in February 2016. Contact Paulene Barton - Mercy Connect Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email: [mercyconnectb@gmail.com](mailto:mercyconnectb@gmail.com) for information and an application form.

### MASS AT POOTILLA CEMETERY

Mass will be celebrated at Pootilla Cemetery (Bungaree) on Sunday, 8th November at 9.30 am. All welcome. Some chairs provided; BYO if possible. Info: ph. 5334 0450.