

## Gospel Reflection-The Body and Blood of Christ Year C (Luke 9:11-17)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The gospel for today brings together elements that have traditionally formed part of Christian worship. In the first part of the story, Jesus welcomes those who follow him. He then speaks to them of God's kingdom and heals those in need of healing. In the second part, he takes the loaves, blesses them, breaks them and puts them before the disciples who distribute the bread to the assembled people. All eat and are satisfied.

The second part of the story is full of Eucharistic symbolism. The setting is a "desert" place, recalling the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert of Sinai. The hunger of the people recalls God's care of Israel in the wilderness. God feeds God's people in the deserts of life, but only if those called to be disciples recognise their responsibility to be the hands of God. "Send them away" is one solution, clearly not the one preferred by Jesus. Rather, he says, "You give them something to eat". When the people sit down in circles and share their food, they find there is more than enough for everyone. They gather up the broken pieces, just as we must remember to gather up the pieces that so often go to waste.

Jesus' actions and words over the bread [and the fish] are echoed in the account of his final meal with the disciples: the bread broken and shared becomes his body broken and "given" for them. [In Mark's account, this final meal has been foreshadowed in the story of the unnamed woman whose actions of *breaking* an alabaster jar and *pouring* the precious ointment on the head of Jesus parallel Jesus' actions of *breaking* and *pouring*.]

In the context of Eucharist, bread broken and wine poured out change their meaning. While all analogies fall short, we might begin to understand this mystery by thinking of the Eureka flag. The flag is constructed of fabric and thread, but it is no longer only the sum of its material parts, precious as these may be. The restored flag is housed in a special place in the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka and protected with the utmost care. Because of its associations with the Eureka rebellion and what that stands for in Australian history, it has taken on a meaning other than the goodness of the materiality of fabric and thread. In the celebration of Eucharist, the God-given gifts of bread and wine likewise become more than their material parts. They are Life for us, the shared life of the Risen Christ. Eucharistic life is covenanted life. Sharing in Eucharist means giving life for the sake of the many, sometimes to the point of heroism, sometimes simply by sharing our resources or our leftover pieces with others in need.

## BULLETIN for BODY and BLOOD of CHRIST, YEAR C



### ST ALIPIUS PARISH, BALLARAT EAST

Including St Peter & Paul's, Buninyong

Parish Address: 84 Victoria Street, Ballarat East. 3350

Telephone: 5332 6611

Fax: 5332 3303

Email: ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

### MASS TIMETABLE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, 30th MAY 2016

<b>MONDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	No Sacrament of Reconciliation

### NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

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

### 10th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

<b>READINGS -</b>	First:	1 King 17: 17-24
	Second:	Galatians 1:11-19
	Gospel:	Luke 7:11-17

**RECENT DEATH:** John Kennedy.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Nell McGettigan, Pamela Hayes, Nathan Cambell, Karen Hayes, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Marinna Lenkic, Barbara Keirl, Mick Kent, Mary Barnett, Frank Forbes, Terry McGarry, Kevin Walsh, Margaret Gallagher, Peter McDonald (Ocean Grove), Christian Ashby, Tom Ballinger.

### **COUNTING TEAMS:**

This Week: .**Team 2:** B. Perkins ©, F. Nolan, J. Lewis.

Next Week: .**Team 3:** M. O'Donnell ©, L. O'Donnell, F. Colasante.



### **COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:**

<b>PARISH:</b>	Envelopes:	\$ 1,244.20
	Loose money:	\$ 300.00
	Direct debits:	\$ <u>477.00</u>
		\$ 2,021.20
<b>PRESBYTERY:</b>		\$ 754.00

### **VICTORIAN WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR**

A fundraising concert will be held at **Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong on Sunday, 26th June at 2.00 pm.** Advance bookings are strongly recommended as a sell out is likely. Contact John & Geraldine White on 5341 2675 or 0402 808 299. Tickets **\$30.** Afternoon tea provided.

### **OLHC PARISH COORDINATOR VACANCY**

OLHC Parish Wendouree invites applications for the part-time position of Parish Coordinator (12 hours per week). A role description and application form can be accessed on the Diocesan Web-site:

<http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/> search Employment or Wendouree Parish.

### **WALK-4-ONE LUNCH**

St Michael's Parish, Bungaree presents "Walk-4-One" lunch with guest speaker, Sam Clear, on Sunday 19th June. Sam, a young Tasmanian, pledged himself to a mission: he would walk around the world in an effort to urge and inspire and Christians to unite. Tickets available from Amanda Elliott. Ph: 0427 713 064 or email: [amanda@rumerz.com.au](mailto:amanda@rumerz.com.au)

### **CARING GROUP MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Friday, 3rd June in St Alipius Hall at 10.00 am. All welcome.

### **MERCY CONNECT BALLARAT**

Mercy Works is currently recruiting volunteer mentors to support refugee students in local schools through their Mercy Connect Project. The volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week for four school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred, but you will receive ongoing training and support. Initial training for new volunteers will be held in June 2016. Contact Pauline Barton - Mercy Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email [mercyconnectb@gmail.com](mailto:mercyconnectb@gmail.com) for information. Applications close on 7th June 2016.

### **NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK**

Established in 1989, National Volunteer week is the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, and provides an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our community and to say thank you to the more than 6 million Australians who volunteer. The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat acknowledges and appreciates the wonderful volunteers in all areas of our church communities and thank them for their time and commitment.

### **NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2016 "OUR HISTORY, OUR STORY, OUR FUTURE"**

The week of May 27—June 3 is a time for all Australians to learn our histories, cultures and achievements and explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort. See the Reconciliation Australia website for more information [www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw/](http://www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw/)

### **PRE-ELECTION FORUM—FEDERAL ELECTION 2nd JULY, 2016**

You are invited to attend a pre-election forum on Monday, 20th June 2016 from 6.00 pm—7.45 pm at the Ballarat Central Uniting Church, cnr Dana & Lydiard St Sth, Ballarat. This is an opportunity to hear the viewpoints of the Candidates for Ballarat on issues for a just society, and to ask them your questions