

## Reflection on the Gospel-17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time C (Luke 11:1-13)

This Sunday's gospel offers three little cameos about praying: two teachings on prayer sandwiching a strange parable. In the first cameo, Jesus is at prayer and one of the disciples asks him to teach them to pray. Jesus responds as any devout first century Jew might respond, evoking the words of the Jewish Kaddish prayer: "May the great name of God be exalted and sanctified, throughout the world.... May God's kingship be established in your lifetime and in your days...." In this context, Jesus calls God "father", a metaphor or image denoting the power of God over against the power of the Roman emperor. The prayer continues: "Keep giving us each day the bread we need." It is not a prayer for more than we need, but for just as much as we need. The parable that follows will demonstrate how this might happen. The final petitions in the prayer that Jesus teaches are for forgiveness for sin "as we forgive each who is in debt to us" and freedom from testing, both recurring themes in Luke's gospel. We cannot live without "bread" just as we cannot live without the peace of mind that comes from forgiveness and the knowledge that God is with us in times of trial.

The second cameo has raised questions for interpreters. Is this parable about persistence or shame? These are two very different concepts, but both have been suggested as the motive for the sleeping neighbour's response to the friend in need and as the proper rendering of the Greek *anaideia*. The literal meaning of *anaideia* is shamelessness or avoidance of shame. Avoidance of shame makes sense in a culture where one would be shamed by refusal to help a neighbour who is unable to meet the demands of hospitality, especially where one could well find oneself in similar need some time. No one would dream of refusing such a request for help, whether for the sake of friendship or to avoid being shamed, not even those who let it be known that they resent having to get out of bed in the middle of the night.

The translation "persistence seems to derive from association with the repetition of seeking and searching and knocking, in other words with the sayings that form the third little cameo: "Ask and it will be given you...." Persistence in prayer is a desirable quality but it has nothing to do with the parable of the friend in need who asks only once for "three loaves" and can expect to receive them. Just so, God cares extravagantly for those in need and does so without too much prompting.

### BULLETIN for THE 17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C



#### ST ALIPIUS PARISH, BALLARAT EAST

Including St Peter & Paul's, Buninyong

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#### MASS TIMETABLE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, 25th JULY 2016

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

#### NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

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

#### 18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

<b>READINGS -</b>	First:	Ecclesiastes 1:2.2:21-23
	Second:	Colossians 3:1-5.9-11
	Gospel:	Luke 12:13-21

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Judy Gleeson, Doreen Forbes, Margaret Dunn, Bridie Foran, Laurence Braybrook.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Nell McGettigan, Pamela Hayes, Nathan Cambell, Karen Hayes, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Barbara Keirl, Mick Kent, Frank Forbes, Terry McGarry, Kevin Walsh, Margaret Gallagher, Peter McDonald (Ocean Grove), Gerard Molloy.

**COUNTING TEAMS:**

This Week: .Team 10: P. Saunders ©, M. Saunders.

Next Week: .Team 11: E. Kennedy ©, C. Stewart.



**COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:**

<b>PARISH:</b>	Envelopes:	\$ 3,263.20
	Loose money:	\$ 300.00
	Direct debits:	\$ 402.00
		\$ 3,965.20
<b>PRESBYTERY:</b>		\$ 798.00

**COUNTING TEAMS**

As there are now eleven counting teams your counting cycle may have altered, so please keep an eye on the bulletin for your date. If there are any parishioners who may wish to be involved in counting our weekend collections please contact Jim on 5332 6611 for information.

**LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY PROGRAM UPDATE - new study cycle in August**

A new online study cycle is commencing towards the end of August as part of the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program that the Ballarat Diocese has initiated. This program offers opportunities for formation, study, certification and support for lay workers, both employees and volunteers, in the diocese. It includes online study with a wide range of subjects presented as short courses - you can do one subject or many.

Subjects are offered six times a year and you can start at whichever time suits you. If you are interested, please check out the details on the diocesan website:

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) then contact Amanda Smith, ph: 5337 7125 or email: [amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY WINTER APPEAL**

We invite you to be part of our “Rethink Homelessness this Winter” appeal. Envelopes are available at the Piety Stall. All donations are used in the Ballarat area and donations of over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

**ATTENTION**

**Please do not park cars on the right hand side of the Victoria Street service lane. This is both a Safety Issue and a Courtesy Issue. Access must be left for Ambulance, Fire or Police vehicles. Residents in the houses on the west end of the street have a right to access to their homes.**

***A SINCERE THANK YOU***

To all who have offered prayers and support for Christian Ashby. He continues to improve and, along with his family, is very grateful for your continued support.

***SOCIAL AFTERNOON***

Wednesday, 27th July in the Mercy Centre at 2.00 pm. Please enter via Gent Street.

***HOLY HOUR***

The next Holy Hour will be held on Thursday, 28th July at the Nazareth House Chapel, Ballarat from 7.00 pm - 8.00 pm. This is during the celebrations of World Youth Day so it is a chance to join and pray for all those attending, as well as for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

***NAZARETH HOUSE AUXILIARY COFFEE PARTY***

Friday, 5th August at 1.30 pm at Nazareth House, Mill Street, Ballarat. Entrance prize, spinning wheel, devonshire tea, fancy goods, produce stall. All welcome.

***POP UP SHOP***

The “Pop up shop for Homeless and those in Need” needs socks to distribute to the homeless and those in need. They have distributed beanies, scarves and gloves, but have been asked for socks.

Do you think you could pop a pair of socks, or perhaps two pair, into you shopping trolley next time you are at the supermarket?

We all know how cold Ballarat is, and the days and nights are getting colder.

Please have a warm heart to give others warm feet.

Collection baskets are at the back of the church.