

## Reflection on the Gospel-18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time C (Luke 12:13-21)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Every faithful Jew and every faithful Christian knows that “the earth belongs to God and all that is in it” (Psalm 24). That does not stop people from arguing over possessions and even killing for them. It never has. There seems to be something deep within the human psyche that continually seeks for more. Those who seek to be “rich toward God” or “rich in God” find life. Those who seek to be rich in material possessions will simply be left, at life’s end, with a question: “To whom will this hoard belong?” The question is rhetorical and expects the answer of Psalm 24: “the earth and all that is in it belongs to God”.

Jesus is addressed as “teacher”, and is asked to force a decision in an inheritance debate. He demonstrates that he is “teacher” rather than “divider”. He tells a hard hitting story. He knows that storytelling is more effective in bringing people to life-giving decisions than is any attempt to bring down a definitive ruling, especially for those who surely know the law. His story is about a landowner who is blessed by an abundant harvest. The estate manager or steward as well as the peasant workers and their families might reasonably expect a share in the profits, even perhaps a remission of the debts they inevitably carry. In this instance, the blessing of abundance turns the land-owner in upon himself rather than out towards others and so “toward God”. First person singular pronouns predominate: “What am I to do? I have no place....I will do this....I will .... I will .... I will ....” The futility or senselessness of stockpiling for personal gain is highlighted by the shift to second person singular, “You fool...”, and by the divine judgment on the landowner’s self-focus and greed. Greed appears in today’s second reading from the letter to the people of Colossae. For the author of that letter, greed is simply idolatry, worship of a false god.

In these times of planetary vulnerability, there is some urgency about the call to place our trust in the goodness of a generous God, to reduce our ecological footprint, and to acknowledge by the way we live that the good things of the earth belong to God and to all of God’s people, not just to the privileged few. In consistently refusing to “store up treasure” for our own selfish ends, we become forever “rich toward God”.

## BULLETIN for THE 18th 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, 1st AUGUST 2016

<b>MONDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	11.00 am - Funeral Mass - Karen Hayes
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	No Mass
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	9.30 am in Parish Church
<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	9.00 AM
<b>BUNINYONG</b>	SUN	10.30 AM

### 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

<b>READINGS -</b>	First:	Wisdom 18:6-9
	Second:	Hebrews 11:1-2.8-19
	Gospel:	Luke 12:32-48

**RECENT DEATH:** Karen Hayes.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Merva McInerney.

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

**COUNTING TEAMS:**

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

Next Week: .Team 1: L. Noonan ©, G. Clarkson, L. Mullane.



**COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:**

<b>PARISH:</b>	Envelopes:	\$ 2,137.70
	Loose money:	\$ 300.00
	Credit cards:	\$ 4,290.00
	Direct debits:	\$ <u>402.00</u>
		\$ 6,992.70
<b>PRESBYTERY:</b>		\$ 789.00

**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.

**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 your 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.

**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.**

**CARING GROUP**

Next meeting to be held is on Friday, 5th August in St. Alipius' Hall at 10.00 am. All welcome.

**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.

**ST. ALIPIUS' CHILDREN'S LITURGY PROGRAM - TERM 3**

St. Alipius' Children's Liturgy Program recommenced last weekend at our 6.00 pm Vigil Mass. Children's Liturgy takes place on about a fortnightly basis during Vigil Masses on Saturdays at 6.00 pm. Dates are available on the notice board in the foyer of the church.

St. Alipius' Parish Children's Liturgy Program caters for kinder and school age children and operates throughout school terms. Children preparing for their Sacraments are most welcome to attend. Our Program follows the Liturgical Year. During liturgies, children are invited to participate in prayer, reflect on the Gospel in relation to their lives, share their reflections and participate in creative activities.

The program is run by parent volunteers who lead and/or act as support people for their sessions. We are looking for new parent volunteers to ensure the program can continue into the future. Volunteers are provided with resources and supported in their roles. If you are interested in becoming a leader or support person in our Liturgy Program, please contact Kristen Murray Ph: 5340 0286 or email: [kristenmurray1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kristenmurray1@optusnet.com.au)

**ENVELOPE**

Would the person using (blue) Env. No. 51 from the previous program please contact Jim on 5332 6611.