

Reflection on the Gospel-22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time C

(Luke 14:1, 7-14) -Veronica Lawson RSM

One of the most disturbing features of life in our times is the forced displacement of peoples. Some displaced people receive the hospitality they seek. Others find themselves locked out and abandoned. These people, like Jesus, are “carefully watched” lest they disturb the life-style and comfort of those who have more than their share of the planet’s resources. A 2016 Oxfam report indicates that the combined wealth of the world’s 62 richest people equals that of 3.5 million others, the poorer half the world’s population. The gospel challenge is to find a way to redress the obscene imbalance represented by those figures because the global community has the resources to provide a home for everyone and the means for all to live in the dignity of the children of God.

Today’s gospel has Jesus under scrutiny as he dines in the home of a leading Pharisee. In Luke’s gospel, the Pharisees are generally depicted as hostile to Jesus. This portrait reflects the situation of the time the gospels are being written when Pharisaic Judaism and Christian Judaism had parted ways. At the time of Jesus’ ministry, the Pharisees were a minority group of well-respected experts in the Law. Despite the hostility from his host, Jesus is not deterred from expressing his opinion and as usual he does so in the form of a story that comes from the experience of his hearers. He first addresses the guests and then the host. The guests are clearly not from the lower echelons of society. They are people who receive invitations to wedding banquets where places of honour are reserved for the most distinguished guests. Jesus appeals to their fairly normal fear of being shamed before others. He also reminds them of the principle of reversal that operates in God’s kin-dom where those who seek the first places find themselves last and the last are first.

Jesus’ advice for his host is more removed from first century Palestinian experience than is his advice for the guests: do not invite friends, family and wealthy neighbours; invite the destitute and those with disabilities. In other words, invite those considered unclean by observant Jews rather than those who have the capacity to return your hospitality. This was a confronting suggestion in that culture. It embodied the inclusive values of the kin-dom vision that Jesus had preached from the outset. It is confronting for us in our times. It is easy to welcome like-minded people into our land and our homes. It is not so easy to be open to those who see the world differently from us. We are invited to look on them with love rather than hostility and to secure a place for them in our hearts and in our common home.

BULLETIN for THE 22nd 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, 29th AUGUST 2016

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:	Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10.00 am

NEXT WEEKEND’S MASSES

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

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

READINGS -	First:	Wisdom 9:13-18
	Second:	Philemon 9-10, 12-17
	Gospel:	Luke 14:25-33

RECENT DEATHS: Tess Forbes, Archie Perussich.

ANNIVERSARIES: Leo Dodd.

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, Peter McDonald (Ocean Grove), Gerard Molloy, Peter Clohesy, Kaye Tuddenham.

COUNTING TEAMS:

This Week: **Team 4:** C. Tarquino ©, M. Tarquino.

Next Week: **Team 5:** J. Moran ©, B. Forbes, C. Napoli.



COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

PARISH:	Envelopes:	\$ 2,460.50
	Loose money:	\$ 300.00
	Credit cards:	\$ 3,749.00
	Direct debits:	\$ <u>325.00</u>
		\$ 6,809.50
PRESBYTERY:		\$ 1,057.00

CARING GROUP MEETING

Friday, 2nd September at 10.00 am in St Alipius Hall.

ST ALIPIUS PARISH SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, 10th September from 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start.

\$10.00 per person.

BYO drinks and nibbles inc alcohol..

Tickets to be purchased from the school office prior to the night.

DAMASCUS COLLEGE ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING

Information Evening: Wednesday, 7th September at 5.00 pm. Please arrive at 4.45 pm for registration.

Students of all ages are welcome to attend.

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE YEAR 7 INFORMATION NIGHT

The College will conduct the **2018 Year 7 Information Night on Wednesday, 26th October from 7.30 pm in the College Chapel.**

To receive a 2018 Enrolment Package please contact Mrs Caitlin Bennett on 5331 1688 or cbennet@stpats.vic.edu.au

LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY PROGRAM UPDATE

The Lay Pastoral Ministry Program offers low-cost opportunities for online study and formation for lay workers in the diocese, both employees and volunteers. You can commence in either late August or in October (or next year). If you are interested, please first check out the details on the diocesan website (link at bottom right of front page), then contact Amanda Smith, ph: 5337 7125, email: amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests—next weekend

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Eighteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation.

The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly \$1.7 million since it began in 1991, including nearly \$54,000 last year to support our sick and retired priests.

Envelopes will be available next weekend.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

FR. SHANE MACKINLAY'S SILVER JUBILEE

Fr. Shane Mackinlay will celebrate his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on 6th September this year. The Bungaree and Gordon parishes will celebrate this event with Fr. Shane at 10.30 am Mass on Sunday, 11th September, at St. Michael's, Bungaree, followed by lunch in the Parish Centre; and at 10.30 am Mass on Sunday, 18th September, at St. Brigid's, Ballan. All welcome.

ST VINCENT de PAUL BREAD RUN

Each Monday we have a team of volunteers who deliver donated bread to 40 families within our Parish. For this service to continue we need at least two additional volunteers. The bread is packed and delivered between 7.30 and 8.30 pm. For further information please contact Geoff Clarkson on 5340 0782.

POP UP SHOP FOR THE HOMELESS AND THOSE IN NEED

The response to the sock collection has been amazing.

Over 200 pairs of socks have been distributed through the Pop Up Shop, Peplow House and the Soup Bus.

A small temporary, inadequate box has been replaced with a larger, sturdier and hopefully permanent box.

The NEED is not temporary.

Please continue to support organisations such as Vinnies with your donations.

But when you are shopping perhaps pop in one extra item...socks, toiletries or non-perishable food.

“WARM HEARTS FOR WARM FEET”

More information on the pop Up Shop is on the box.