



St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sunday 9th October 2016

Reflection: John Thurnill sm

Today's gospel reading follows immediately after last Sunday's reading. This linkage is important, because it helps us appreciate Luke's presentation of this incident, as expanding the teaching on 'faith' in last Sunday's gospel. The miracles of Jesus were, before all else, signs pointing to what was to be expected from the Saviour's presence among us. In this miracle, the interaction between Jesus and the Samaritan who returns to give thanks leads us deeper into an understanding of the faith that is God's gift.

Jesus tells the Samaritan that it is 'faith' that has saved him. His companions, too, we may presume, also had faith – evidenced in their common plea with him, and the fact that they too have been healed – because Jesus is surprised that they have not returned. But, unlike the one who returns, they do not have the gratitude that is the expression of a lively faith. If faith is a trusting readiness to receive the great things God does for us, it is also a grateful recognition of what God has done and is doing in our lives. The Samaritan helps us understand what this awareness involves. He 'turned back praising God at the top of his voice'. Our relationship with our God is quite unique; the other relationships that shape our lives cannot be compared with it. Our awareness of our indebtedness to God should deepen more and more this unique relationship, as we grow in wonder at the blessings of each day. It is not by chance that we call our principal act of worship, our 'Eucharist', our 'Thanksgiving'.

Shouting his praises, the healed man 'throws himself at the feet of Jesus'. His faith is a readiness to receive what only God can give; but he recognises that it is through Jesus that God's blessing comes to him – through the one whose teaching and ministry led him and his desperate companions to appeal to the 'pity' they recognised in Jesus; through the one whose authoritative word they accepted immediately, not yet healed, but ready to do what he commanded. The whole sequence presents Jesus as the Saviour. He sends the band to 'show themselves to the priests' – in accordance with the accepted custom: that the authority to allow those with contagious diseases rejoin the community was given by Israel's Law to the priests. Now, in the case of the Samaritan, Jesus himself assumes this authority, 'Go on your way!' The gift of God given by God to those who have faith is universal – it excludes nobody. It is not surprising that Luke, the Gentile convert, is especially conscious of this. His care to include reference in his writings to the Samaritans – the renegade group, hated by the Jews as half-pagan – reflects this awareness, pointing to the conversions that were to be so important in the first Christian communities. He alone brings us the story of the Good Samaritan; he devotes a chapter (ch 8) of the Acts of the Apostles to the preaching of the gospel to the Samaritans; and now he alone holds up this Samaritan as an example of lively faith.

Recent Deaths: Iris Burgess, Maria Daniele, Giesela Gotthold, Maria Merzvinskis, Marian Ward (Dunn)

Anniversaries: Mark Bourke, Leo Casey, Pat Cashin (Ararat), Robert Conaughton, Thomas Cullinan, Frank Jacobus Geurts, Michael Moloney

Next week's readings: Sunday 16th October 2016

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Exodus 17:8-13

Ps 120. R. v.2 2

Timothy 3:14-3:2

Luke 18:1-8

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Ivy Rose Bennett daughter of Lee and Emma

Noah William Thomas son of Dean and Natasha

Eliza Lucy Vallance daughter of Cameron and Stefanie



May they grow in faith in their loving families and our Catholic Community.

Public Square Rosary

Come and join us in honouring Mary by praying the Rosary and asking our Blessed Mother's intercession to pray for Australia and the world. Saturday October 15th at 11.00am at the rotunda in Sturt St between Dawson & Doveton Streets, Contact Roslyn 5332 2342.

Beyond the Year of Mercy

A retreat afternoon, which is open to all adults, is to be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, on Sunday, October 30th from 1.30pm concluding with 5.00pm Mass. The afternoon will be led by Sr Veronica Lawson, a Sister of Mercy from Ballarat, biblical scholar and author of "*The Blessing of Mercy.*" Register through the Cathedral Office ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au or 5331 2933.

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

You are invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving for the blessings of the Holy Year of Mercy to be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR on Sunday, November 13, 2016 at 10.30am.

October: Month of Prayer and Fasting for the Family

The Australian Catholic Marriage & Family Council, a Council of the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference, has proposed particular prayer intentions in support of families this month. For more information visit www.acmfc.org.au. Today and throughout this week we pray for all families in distress.

Heavenly Father, grant healing to all families in distress, especially those burdened with strained relationships. Draw close to all families who have experienced violence, upheaval, illness or division: May all who have been wounded find ready comfort and healing.

Refugee Concert – Boundless Plains

Fr Andrew Presents Boundless Plains – The Spoken Word

Andrew Hayes is the Catholic parish priest of St Mary's Ararat. Andrew's most recent fundraiser was a concert of his own music which raised funds to build a new mosque in Ararat. This series of fundraisers, for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, based in Footscray, will be a recital of Andrew's favourite poetry, featuring the works of Banjo Paterson among others. The recital promises to be high octane, to be poetry as you may not have heard it before. The concert will finish with the sublimely talented Joyce Clery. If you've not seen Joyce in concert you've missed something astonishing. Preshow drinks and nibbles will feature the award winning wines of Best's of Great Western. Donations at the Door \$10 and beyond. Primary Children Free Andrew does ask that you let him know you're coming. Locals can add their names to a list in the church foyers.

Others can email frandrewboundlessplains@gmail.com

Hamilton	Tuesday October 25 @ 7pm	St Mary's Church
Warrnambool	Sunday October 30 @ 4.30pm	St Joseph's Church
Wendouree	Thursday November 3 @ 7pm	OLHC Church
Ararat	Sunday Nov 6 2016 @ 4.30pm	St Mary's Church Ararat

Loreto College Ballarat 2018 Year & Parent Information Evening

Monday, October 24 from 7.00pm – 8.30pm at Mary's Mount Centre.

Applications for Year 7 2018 Scholarships close: Friday, February 10, 2017

Applications for Year 7 2018 Enrolments close: Friday, February 17, 2017

Open Mornings (including College Tours): Tuesday, October 11 and Monday, October 17 from 9.30am – 11.30am.

College Tours: Thursday, October 6, Thursday, November 3 and Thursday, December 1 at 9.30am.

Please register for Open Mornings and College Tours on the Loreto website www.loreto.vic.edu.au

St Patrick's College 2018 Year 7 Information Evening

When: Wednesday October 26, 2016 **Where:** College Chapel 1431 Sturt Street, Ballarat

Time: Commences at 7.30pm All families are invited to attend the 2018 Year 7 Information evening to hear from the Headmaster, Mr. John Crowley and Director of Junior School, Mr. John Richards on the fantastic educational experiences awaiting your son at St Patrick's College. The evening will be followed by a College Tour as well as Supper and Question time with teaching staff.

Please register for this event at the following link for your

attendance: www.trybooking.com/MZJN

This is a very informative evening and will benefit all families seeking a Catholic education for their son.

For further enquiries please contact the Registrar, Caitlin Bennett at cbennett@stpats.vic.edu.au

