

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
Sunday 16th October 2016

Reflection: Sr Veronica Lawson RSM

Today's gospel begins with a reference to prayer, a favourite theme in Luke, and ends with a question about faith. If the parable were about prayer as the narrator suggests, then the unjust judge would image a God who has no respect for anyone and is slow to hear the cry of the poor! There are clearly problems with this, and scholars are divided on how to explain it. The most likely explanation is that, in the editorial process, the gospel writer has made three key additions to the story: the introduction about prayer; the final instruction to pay attention to the judge's words; and the three questions at the end. The original parable probably ended with the words of the judge. What difference might this make for us as 21st century readers? The story almost certainly took on different meanings as it shifted from an oral to a written context. Luke fits the parable rather awkwardly to the issues he wants to address with his communities.

The scene for the verses representing the original parable is "a certain city", possibly suggesting that it is a story for any and every city. There are two main human characters, the judge and the widow. There is another non-speaking character in the wings, namely the widow's opponent. The hearer or reader is invited to fill the gaps. Who is this opponent? What sort of injustice is the widow experiencing? Since the judge clearly recognises the validity of the widow's claim, why does he refuse to hear her plea? Is it because he is accepting bribes from the woman's adversary? What sort of judge would admit to having no respect for anyone, even to himself?

A vital clue to understanding the parable lies in the translation of the final words of the judge. It literally reads: "so that she won't finish up giving me a black eye". Translators have consistently softened the impact of this with a metaphorical reading. Is Jesus drawing attention to the plight of widows in that society who can only get justice from a corrupt judiciary if they resort to violence? The widow in this story is one feisty woman: without the support of a husband or the benefit of social security payments, she has only her own personal resources to rely upon. The judge operates from the assumption that she is prepared to use her fists. A system that provides no other recourse for the vulnerable simply has to change. Jesus tells his hearers to pay attention to what the "unjust judge" has to say. It is not at all clear what the reader is meant to take from this story. One possibility is that even those who seem to have little power can win out in the end.

Recent Deaths: Mary Cooper, Gerard Molloy, Kevin Molloy

Anniversaries: Bob Conaughton, Maree Conaughton, Clara Conlan, Anne Fabris, Bill Flynn, Heather Hatcher, Marie Hermans, Frank Kennedy, Eileen Power

Next week's readings: *Sunday 23rd October 2016*

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-18 Ps 32:2-3. 17-19. 23. R. v.7 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Finnley John Hughes

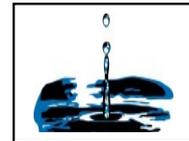
son of Scott & Madison

Max Graeme Loader

son of Michael & Nicole

Zavier James Naber

son of Willem & Laura



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

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 Renewal

The Cathedral Liturgy Committee invites you to attend the introduction and second practice for *Mass of Renewal* on Sunday 16th October at 2.00 pm in the Church. As this Mass will be used during Advent and Christmas, it is important for all Leaders of Music/Singing to attend.

Young Men Interested in Knowing About the Priesthood?

St Patrick's College Ballarat are hosting a pilgrimage for those interested in a vocation to the Priesthood on Saturday 12th November. Bus will leave 10.30 am from St Patrick's College to Scarsdale for a 13km walk to Linton followed by Mass with Fr James Kerr and lunch concluding at 3.00 pm. please contact Fr Ed Moloney Vocations Director Edward.Moloney@cam.org.au

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 13th at 10.30am with morning tea to follow in the Cathedral Hall. This occasion will also be an opportunity to celebrate 25 years since the Family Groups were established in the Cathedral Parish. Marica and Michael Hingston continue to be the coordinators for the Family Groups in the Cathedral Parish and have recently met with those who have expressed interest in joining a Parish Family which is a great way of belonging, getting to know other parishioners & gathering regularly for social events.

Our Parish Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – RCIA.

Over the past few months ten adult Inquirers have been meeting fortnightly in our Parish. During the period in the Pre-Catechumenate the Inquirers received an informal introduction to the Catholic community, a period of discussion, prayer and discernment designed to help an individual make a decision to further explore the Catholic Faith. Last Sunday evening at the 5.00pm Mass we celebrated the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens and the Welcoming of Candidates. This celebration was the first time our Inquirers had made their intention public and accompanied by their sponsors they stood before the gathered assembly. Our catechumens who ask to be baptised into the Catholic Faith are Daska Saleeba, Elsie Stoel, Jade Martin-Lench, Kate Godfrey and Vasudha Gill. Those already baptised candidates seeking reception into full communion within the Catholic Church are Andrea Romeo, Bradely Harris, Bronwyn Illingworth, Kellie Constable and Kris Scott.

Journeying with and supporting our catechumens and candidates are their Parish Sponsors: Brenda Robertson, Tanya Kehoe, Kathryn Taylor, Heather Myles, Liz Bingham, Sonia Walker, Ali Pickles, Kathleen Hayes and Thomas Isaac.

The RCIA Rite 47 states 'From the time of celebrating this Rite the Church embraces the catechumens and candidates as its own with a mother's love and concern. Joined to the Church they are now part of the household of Christ.'

Cathedral Parish All Souls Day Mass

7.00 pm Mass in the Cathedral on Wednesday November 2nd followed by supper in the Cathedral Hall. This Mass will be organised by the Funeral Ministry Team who have invited the families of those whose funerals have been celebrated through the Cathedral Parish over the past year. All parishioners are invited to the Mass to pray for our faithful departed – *may they rest in peace.*

The Annual Loreto 'Golden Girls' High Tea Invitation

Alumni of Loreto College Ballarat are invited to High Tea on Wednesday, November 2nd College Tour 2.00 pm, High Tea in the Mary's Mount Centre 3.00 pm. Annual Mass of Remembrance in the Loreto Chapel at 5.00 pm and the AGM of the Past Pupils' Association, including a light supper at 6.00 pm in the Loreto Café. AGM & supper tickets \$15.00. To register phone the Loreto Development Office, 5329 6137.

Ballarat Catholic Secondary Colleges Information Evenings for 2018

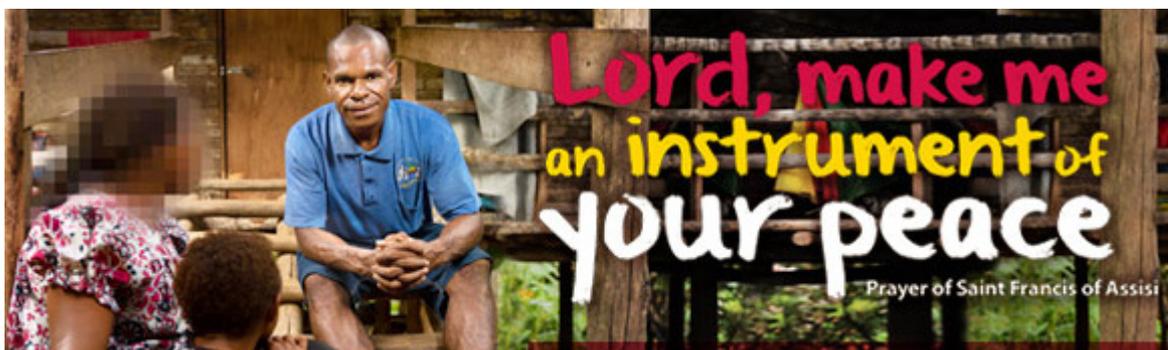
Loreto College 7.00 pm – 8.30pm Monday October 24th Mary's Mount Centre.

www.loreto.vic.edu.au

St Patrick's College 7.30 pm Wednesday October 26th, College Chapel

Please register for this event at www.trybooking.com/MZJN

Damascus College 6.30 pm Wednesday November 2nd Please arrive at 6.15 pm for registration
Students of all ages are welcome to attend



Mission Sunday - next Weekend October 22nd – 23rd

The 2016 Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal is inspired by the Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi, 'Lord, make me an instrument of your peace'. This appeal invites parishioners to reach out through their financial gifts and prayers to support the work of Mercy Works that, thanks to its partnership with Catholic Mission, is raising awareness of the issue of domestic violence in Papua New Guinea. Violence, and in particular domestic violence, is sadly not uncommon in families around the world. In recent years, in Australia, significant campaigns have raised awareness of domestic violence and tried to bring out into the open this often sensitive and stigmatised issue. In Papua New Guinea domestic violence is just as real as it is in our country. Coupled with poverty and isolation, and the fact that it has yet to become as public as it is in Australia, its effects are especially dire. With your support of Catholic Mission, you can help Mercy Works train inspirational local community leaders like Steven Dude, so they can engage with communities experiencing family and domestic violence by listening, caring and advocating, and allow them to find peace through mercy. Envelopes for contributions to support Catholic Mission are available this weekend.

Counters 16th October Team 3 Next week Team 4

Masses during the coming week

Monday	12.05 pm Cathedral		
Tuesday	No Mass Redan	12.05 pm Cathedral	5.30 pm Loreto Sisters
Wednesday	No Mass Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral	
Thursday	9.30am Redan	11.30 am St John of God	12.05pm Cathedral
Friday	9.30am Sebastopol	12.05 pm Cathedral	1.30pm Benediction
Saturday	10.00am Cathedral		

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00 am, Saturday 11.30 am

Morning Prayer of the Church 8.00 am Tuesday – Friday in the Cathedral

Cathedral Parish Masses	October 22nd/23rd	Snake Valley	Beaufort	Skipton
6.30 pm Vigil, 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.00 pm		6.30 pm Vigil	8.30am	10.30 am

Parish Office hours Monday - Friday 10.00 am – 5.00 pm Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au