

Reflection on the Gospel-33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time C

(Luke 21:5-19) -Veronica Lawson RSM

Sixty years ago there was no Sydney Opera House. A hundred years ago there was no Harbour Bridge. It is hard to imagine a time when they did not exist or a time when they will cease to be, such is the status these monuments have acquired over a very short span of history. They are a source of wonder for tourists and locals alike. They have their counterparts elsewhere in our contemporary world. A few years ago, New York's World Trade Centre was another such icon, seemingly indestructible and holding the pride of an economically and politically dominant nation, even if less aesthetically engaging than Sydney's monuments.

In first century Palestine, the newly refurbished Jerusalem Temple was both aesthetically stunning and symbolically charged. It functioned primarily as the centre of religious worship. It was also an important locus of financial and political power. Its significance can hardly be exaggerated and its destruction at the hands of the Romans in 70CE was a devastating blow for the Jewish people. Luke is writing some twenty years after this event. He wants to tell his communities that the destruction of the Temple did not signal the end of the world, though that is how it might have seemed at the time. There is life to be lived and there are struggles to be endured before God's final judgment. Luke wants to offer hope and encouragement in the face of conflict and persecution and family division. He wants to offer his readers a caution not to listen to everyone who claims to know the time (*kairos*) of God's visitation.

Like Jesus, disciples can expect to be "handed over" and brought before political authorities. They are to find in this an opportunity to give witness or "to testify". In his second volume, Luke has Jesus commissioning the disciples to be his witnesses "in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). They don't have to worry about what to say in their own defence: "I will give you words and wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict." Endurance or patience is the way to life. The Greek term used here evokes the parable of the sower: "as for that [the seed] in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance" (Luke 8:15). In our own troubled times, we are called to witness to a gospel way of life, to hold the word of God fast in honest and good hearts, and to trust that we are not alone in the everyday struggles of life, even when the world seems to be collapsing around us.

BULLETIN FOR THE 33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C



ST ALIPIUS PARISH, BALLARAT EAST

Including St Peter & Paul's, Buninyong

Parish Address: 84 Victoria Street, Ballarat East. 3350

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MASS TIMETABLE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, 14th NOVEMBER 2016

MONDAY:	No Mass
TUESDAY:	No Mass
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

Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE

READINGS -	First:	2 Samuel 5:1-3
	Second:	Colossians 1:12-20
	Gospel:	Luke 23:35-43

ANNIVERSARIES: James Simpson, Bob Harty, Pat Towns, Kevin Howlett, Honoria Callahal, Margaret Maddighan, Lawrence Galvin, Eris Blood, Pahay Dhay, James Roach, Tom Torpy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Nell McGettigan, Pamela Hayes, Nathan Cambell, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Barbara Keirl, Mick Kent, Terry McGarry, Kevin Walsh, Peter McDonald (Ocean Grove), Peter Clohesy, Kaye Tuddenham, Frank Nolan (Buninyong), Andrew Cartledge.

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:	\$ 1,148.50
	Loose money:	\$ 300.00
	Direct debits:	\$ <u>1,175.00</u>
		\$ 2,623.50
PRESBYTERY:		\$ 766.00



NAZARETH HOUSE AUXILIARY FETE

Saturday, 19th November at 10.00 am.

Stalls galore, photo booth, B.B.Q., devonshire tea, spinning wheel, face painting etc

“GOSPEL IN THE GARDEN”

Sunday, 20th November at 2.00 pm. Funds raised will assist local asylum seekers and their families. Fun, music singing and entertainment for all. Entrance \$20.00. Children free.

Enquiries to Carmel 0401 175 045 or email annekav123@yahoo.co.uk.

2017 HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

An information evening for those interested in undertaking a two week pilgrimage to the Holy land (Israel and Jordan) with Fr Justin in June 2017 are invited to gather in the smaller hall at the Cathedral on Thursday 24th November from 5.30—7.00 pm. The pilgrimage is being conducted in conjunction with Leonie Spencer from Lifestyle Travel, Ballarat. Expressions of interest can be directed to Lifestyle Travel, 11 Armstrong St Nth. Ph 5331 8277 or info@lifestyletravel.com.au

VISITATION TO THE HOMES

As there is a need for visitation to the homebound with Holy Communion, anyone who is prepared to undertake this important ministry is asked to contact Jim at the Parish Office on 5332 6611.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM—MIDWAY REVIEW

We are now half way through our 3 year program cycle of Stewardship and have reviewed our progress. To everyone who has supported, and continues to support the Parish, we say “Thank You”.

Your commitment to the Parish enables us to cover all the necessary costs, and build Capital Reserves to support the Capital Works program.

Through your generosity we are in a strong financial position.

This weekend you are invited to fill in a Mid Way Pledge Card. You have the opportunity to reflect and assess your current giving.

If you are currently giving, you are still asked to complete a card, to confirm your pledge.

There is provision for your pledge to be the Same, to increase, or to Decrease.

If you are new to the Parish, or are not currently giving, or if you weren't in a position to do so at renewal, you are also invited to join you fellow Parishioners.

Your valuable contribution allows us to fund our wonderful Parish.

POP UP SHOP

The next Pop Up Shop will be early in December so planning is well under way. We are looking for donations of linen and bedding which can be popped under the table. Toiletries...men and women, non-perishable food. The only clothing required is socks and undies.

Thank you to those who continue to pop something in the box...there has been something in the box each week. More information with the box or on the notice board.

Contact Colleen if you would like to become involved—0419 504 029.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Study Tour or Pilgrimage: “The Experiences of Catholic Culture”
21st September—21st October 2017 of Ireland and England, Germany and Italy.

Tour Leaders: Rev Dr Max Vodola, Dr Frances Baker rsm and
Rev Prof Austin Cooper omi AM

Details on College website at www.ctc.edu.au/studytours

Information Session: Thursday 24th November 4.00—6.00 pm

R.S.V.P. Tuesday 22nd November to:

Jenny Delahunt T: 9412 3314 E: jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

PARISH RECORDS

If you are new to the Parish and/or have not provided details you are invited to complete a Census Card and return to the Parish Office. The cards are located in the church foyer.