

**Reflection on the Gospel-10th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
(Mark 3:20-35)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Name calling is an age old device used to discredit enemies. Politicians are adept at finding labels with which to discredit their opponents. Sometimes the labels stick and often have the effect of destroying good people. In today's gospel, Jesus is subjected to the worst of all imaginable taunts or labels: he is said to be possessed by Beelzebub, the prince of demons. The story belongs within a trajectory of growing hostility towards him from the authorities.

Mark has presented Jesus as the Christ or Messiah, as God's Son who is authorised to usher in God's empire of reconciliation and peace. Jesus is the "stronger one" (1:7) who will destroy the powers of evil. He invites others to join him in his mission of healing, of proclaiming God's reign and of driving out demons. Those on the edge of Palestinian society flock to him for healing. The religious authorities, on the other hand, find themselves challenged, even threatened, by Jesus' growing popularity and his perceived challenge to their strict interpretation of aspects of the Mosaic Law. Such practices as dining with those considered to be "sinners" and permitting his hungry disciples to pluck grain on the Sabbath, for instance, are met with hostile responses from the religious authorities.

For Jesus, always the faithful Jew, the Law was established for humans, not humans for the Law and he is not afraid to say so. Early in his ministry, opposition has built to a point that traditional enemies, the Pharisees and the Herodians, join forces to find a way of destroying him. The surprise is that members of Jesus' biological family now get involved in the attempts to put a halt to his mission, even if their motives differ from those of the Jerusalem "scribes" who bring the charge of demon-possession. One factor to consider is that the family's honour is at stake. Another factor is the family's concern that Jesus and his disciples were failing to take care of themselves. The demands were such that "they could not even eat". Even if well-motivated, they want "to seize him" because they consider him to be "out of his mind". Jesus' biological family thus falls into the trap of taking responsibility for him instead of supporting him to pursue his dream.

Mark often places a story within a story. In this instance, the story within is the challenge from the scribes and of Jesus' powerful counter-challenge. The outer frame consists of the efforts of Jesus' biological family to save their honour by saving him from a crazy lifestyle and by his redefining of his "family" as those "who do the will of God". This complex story invites us to refrain from labelling those who threaten our status or authority. They may just happen to be agents of God's transforming grace for us and for our world.

10TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR B



ST ALIPIUS PARISH, BALLARAT EAST

Including St Peter & Paul's, Buninyong
(The Parish of St Alipius, the communities of Ballarat East and Buninyong are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.)

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 9.30 am—1.30 pm
Parish Address: 84 Victoria Street, Ballarat East 3350
Telephone: 5332 6611
Email: ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Parish Website: <http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au>

**MASS TIMETABLE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING
MONDAY, 11 JUNE 2018**

MONDAY: No Mass
TUESDAY: 5.00 pm in Mercy Centre
WEDNESDAY: 11.00 am in Mercy Centre
THURSDAY: 9.30 am in Parish Church
FRIDAY: 9.30 am in Parish Church

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

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

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B

READINGS First: Ezekiel 17:22-24
Second: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10
Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

RECENT DEATHS: John Kirby.

ANNIVERSARIES: Ernie Auchettl, Albert Culvenor, Bill Murphy, Leo Tuddenham.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Nathan Cambell, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Terry McGarry, Kevin Walsh, Peter Clohesy, Frank Nolan (Buninyong), Mary Barnett, Fiona Dickinson, Carmel Doherty, Pauline Murphy, Maria Wilson, Aurora Ferrer, Patricia Harman, Leonie Sinnott, John Darroch.

COUNTING TEAMS:

This Week: Team 6: M. Stewart ©, M. Anderson, R. Reynolds.
Next Week: Team 7: K. Cummins©, J. O'Meara, B. Hood, G. Duck.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

PARISH:	Envelopes:	\$ 777.20
	Loose:	\$ 125.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 902.20
PRESBYTERY:		\$ 863.00



BETTY BOADLE

After over 50 years of playing the organ to help the St Alipius Community to join in singing at Mass, Betty has retired. We thank Betty for her generosity in using her talents for us, and we wish her every blessing and joy in the years ahead.

MARY BARNETT

In this last week Mary Barnett celebrated 102 years of life! We join with Mary and her family in thanking God for all she has contributed to St Alipius Parish and we wish her continuing good health and every blessing for the years to come.

ST ALIPIUS LITURGY ROSTERS

Rosters are available for collection near the Piety Stall this weekend.

SOCIAL AFTERNOON

The monthly Social Afternoon will be held on Wednesday, 13th June in the Mercy Centre at 2.00 pm. Please enter via Gent Street. All welcome.

PLANNED GIVING RENEWAL 2019

The parishes of Ballarat are negotiating with Parish Development Melbourne to run a combined Planned Giving Renewal Programme in early 2019. Members of the Parish Finance Group and interested parishioners are invited to an information evening at Cathedral Hall, Lyons Street, Ballarat at 6.00 pm on Wednesday, 13th June. All welcome.

PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT EMMAUS MT CLEAR

The School Governors, Sr Mary Nutall and Fr Peter have announced the appointment of Ms Jo-Anne Bond as Principal of Emmaus Catholic Primary School Mt Clear to commence in January 2019. Jo-Anne comes to Emmaus after 10 years as Principal at St Mary's Hamilton. We wish her well, and keep in our prayers the work of Catholic Education in our parish.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ST ALIPIUS PARISH INFO SESSION

Parents, parishioners, volunteers—Thinking about helping out with Children's Liturgy or just interested to learn more? Join us to learn more about the new Children's Liturgy program commencing in term 3 at St Alipius Church. Thursday, 21st June, 6.30 pm in St Alipius Church Hall. For more information or to RSVP, please email Liz: lmccartin@saballarath.catholic.edu.au or phone St Alipius School Office 5331 1816.

PRE-LOVED CHILDREN'S BOOKS

St Alipius is seeking donations of children's books for children to use during weekend church services. If you have books that your children have grown out of, please consider donating them to the children of our parish. We are particularly looking for children's prayer books, picture bibles, bible stories, or other books that have themes of respect, compassion, justice, or Christianity. There will be a donations box in the St Alipius School Office, and another box in the St Alipius Church Foyer. Thanks in anticipation!

CORPUS CHRISTI SEMINARY RAFFLE—CAN YOU HELP?

Each year the Corpus Christi Parents & Friends Association holds a raffle to raise funds to assist students, staff and seminary in general. Would there be a parishioner or two who would be a contact person to receive the raffle books, make the tickets available for sale, collect money and return the butts, etc? If you are able to assist, please phone Lucy in the Parish Office on 5332 6611. Raffle Prizes: Travel \$15,000; Gift Cards—Good Guys \$500, \$200, & \$100. Tickets \$10.

THE SWAG

A few copies of *The Swag* are available at the back of the church for perusal and return. This is the quarterly magazine of the National Council of Priests of Australia. Anyone interested is welcome to read.

REFUGEE WEEK JUNE 16-24

Soup and Sandwich Luncheon: 12.30 pm Wednesday, 20 June 2018 at Nazareth House Hall, Miller Street Ballarat. Entry \$20. Performances by Namarilly Bagarook Dancers, Australian Irish Dance Co Ballarat, South Sudanese Cultural Group. Presentation: "Caroline Chisholm—The Immigrants Friend". Stalls and competitions. All funds raised will assist local asylum seekers and their families. See Notice Board for full details.

Evening with Sr Brigid Arthur: Wednesday, 20 June; 7 pm for 7:30 pm start, at the "Green Room", Welcome Centre, 145 Victoria St, Ballarat East. Admission Free. Donation to BASP welcome. Supper provided. See Notice Board for full details

ContainArt Mobile Gallery *See My Humanity*—Dreams of a Life Beyond Detention. 2-27 June, Pearce Park, Barkly Street, Golden Point. An *All Welcome Community Gathering* is to be held on Sat, 16 June 2 pm to 4 pm with special guest Tom Ballard.