

**Reflection on the Gospel-29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
(Mark 10:35-45)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

In the kingdom of God movement established by Jesus, there is no place for domination or for any exercise of power over others. In today's gospel story, this is a lesson that James and John, the sons of Zebedee, clearly need to learn. They seem to think that the structures of power operating in the Roman world are going to be replicated when Jesus conquers the forces of opposition and comes into his "glory". The two brothers, James and John, put in a bid for shared deputy leadership positions. They seem to be blind and deaf to what Jesus has been trying to tell them throughout their journey from Caesarea Philippi to Jerusalem. They seek his patronage without reference to the rest of the leadership group who, incidentally, are not well pleased with their presumptuous companions.

James and John do not yet realise that Jesus' way is not the way of status or entitlement and that their call as disciples and as leaders of the emerging movement has nothing to do with privilege. They need to understand that it has more to do with enduring the suffering associated with commitment to one's mission, and with setting others free to be their best selves. To demonstrate this, Jesus offers them an unpalatable alternative: to "be slave of all". He sustains the slavery metaphor and goes on to summarise his own mission with an image that comes out of the world of his time: "not to be served but to serve and give life as a ransom for many". A ransom was the payment made to free someone from slavery. To substitute oneself for a slave was to give one's life as a ransom for that slave. Reading the gospel from beginning to end helps us to understand the ultimate self-giving of Jesus in death as the climax of a lifetime's outpouring of love, a love that draws forth loving and liberating action in others.

There are multiple ways of enslaving others, of dominating and of trying to control them in order to achieve one's own personal or corporate ends, good or bad. The request of James and John reminds us that we can all lose sight of the liberating vision of the gospel and get caught up in destructive power struggles. As 21st century disciples, we hear the words of Jesus, "It is not to happen with you". We might turn our attention to those in our world who are literally enslaved. We might join with ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious against the Trafficking in Humans) or with others working to obtain freedom and justice for those trapped into sexual and other forms of slavery in our own cities. We might hear today's gospel as a call to do something about this tragic phenomenon.

29TH 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, 22nd OCTOBER 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	10.30 AM
BUNINYONG	SUN	9.00 AM

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B

READINGS First: Jeremiah 31:7-9
Second: Hebrews 5:1-6
Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

ANNIVERSARIES: Nora Herrera.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Nathan Cambell, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Kevin Walsh, Frank Nolan (Buninyong), Fiona Dickinson, Carmel Doherty, Aurora Ferrer, Patricia Harman, Leonie Sinnott, John Darroch, Maggie Brown, Margaret Meerbach, Eleanor Keating, Terry Foran, Lucille Hogsett, Cathy Jones.

COUNTING TEAMS:

This Week: **Team 1:** L. Noonan©, G. Clarkson, L. Mullane.
Next Week: **Team 2:** B. Perkins©, F. Nolan.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

PARISH:	Envelopes:	\$ 1,127.00
	Loose:	\$ 150.00
	Direct Debits:	\$ 350.00
		\$ 1,627.00
PRESBYTERY:		\$ 963.00



WELCOME BACK FATHER PETER!

A warm welcome back to Fr Peter who returns home this week from his study leave and holiday in Belgium and Vietnam respectively. We look forward to catching up with him over the weekend Masses and hearing all his news.

THANK YOU BISHOP CONNORS, FR ARUNDELL & FR BROPHY

Special thanks to Bishop Peter Connors, Fr Kevin Arundell and Fr Tom Brophy who kindly made themselves available to celebrate Masses with us during Fr Peter's absence, it was much appreciated.

SOCIAL AFTERNOON

A social afternoon will be held on Wednesday 24th October in the Mercy Centre at 2.00pm. Please enter via Gent Street. All welcome.

PHOTOS OF PARISH LIFE BEING TAKEN

Kristen Murray will kindly be taking photos over the next couple of weeks that capture images of our current parish life as we prepare for our upcoming Stewardship Program. Thank you for your understanding.

DAMASCUS COLLEGE INFO SESSIONS FOR 2020 ENROLMENT

Damascus College warmly invites all interested families and students to attend our upcoming Information Sessions: The Information Evening on Thursday 25th October at 6.30pm will include a tour of the College, activities for students and an information session for parents. An Open Morning will be held on Thursday 1st November 9am-10.30am with tours leaving every 15 mins. Students of all ages are welcome to attend. Please register your attendance online via the Damascus College website www.damascus.vic.edu.au.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

2019 Study Tour: 'Footsteps of Faith': Encountering the Christian Tradition. 19 September – 15 October 2019. Ireland England, and Italy.
Details on College website at www.ctc.edu.au/studytours
Information Sessions: Wednesday 24 October 4.00 – 6.00 pm
Saturday 24 November 11.00 – 1.00 pm
RSVP: Jenny Delahunt T: 9412 3314, E: jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

"A MISSION FOR LIFE" PRESENTED BY FR RICHARD LEONARD

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Wendouree is hosting "A Mission for Life" presented by Fr Richard Leonard SJ from October 29-31, 2008. Topics are "Going out into the world we need all the help we can get", "Nine steps to making better choices for my life" and "Where the hell is God - Holding on to Faith through the tough times". Richard Leonard, SJ, is a writer and film critic who has written and spoken about cinema, culture, and faith on four continents. An Australian Jesuit with advanced degrees in theology and film, Fr Leonard is the director of the Australian Catholic Film Office. See flyer at back of church.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, "ASSIST A STUDENT" PROGRAM

Bishop Paul has approved the promotion of the St Vincent de Paul "Assist a Student" Program for parishes during October. The program involves a \$70.00 sponsorship of a student from a poorer country to assist with attendance at school and is aimed at breaking the poverty cycle and encapsulates the Vincentian message of "a hand up, not a hand out". Brochures outlining sponsorship details are available in the foyer. Thank you for your support.

MASS AT POOTILLA CEMETERY

Mass will be celebrated at Pootilla Cemetery (Bungaree) on Sunday 11th November, 9.30am. All welcome. Some chairs provided; BYO if possible. Info: ph. 5334 0450.

ANNUAL NAZARETH HOUSE FETE

The Annual Nazareth House Fete is a fun family day and a great chance to buy up on homemade goodies, grab a bargain and win a prize on the very popular spinning wheel. Saturday 17 Nov – 10am. We are continuing to collect donations of items for our spinning wheel or other homemade wares and food for selling at our stall. If any student, staff or families have a donation it can be collected by contacting Margaret on 0419 003 415 or left at Nazareth House Reception.

2018 CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH APPEAL FOR CHILDREN IN MYANMAR

The theme for world Mission Month 2018 is *Healing a Nation through Education* -- a project to help children in Myanmar through programs aimed to improve education for children, specifically through teacher training and the implementation of alternative child-centred education around the country. Ballarat Diocesan Catholic Education is working in partnership with Catholic Mission and the Myanmar Catholic Church to support the teachers in Myanmar where a quarter of the population lives below the poverty line. Contributions via envelopes may be placed with the collection plate or dropped into the parish office.

FUNDRAISER TO AID ASYLUM SEEKERS & REFUGEES

House of Welcome Ballarat invites you to music and dancing in the gardens at 30 Waller Avenue, Newington on **Sunday November 18th at 2pm**. Cakes, plants, lucky dips, face painting, mini auction and drawing of Holiday for 3 people for 6 nights in Victor Harbour, SA at 4pm. Tickets \$2 available now and on the day and proceeds to aid asylum seekers/refugees and other vulnerable people. Guest speaker relaying news from refugees living on Nauru. Inquiries and competition tickets - Carmel 0401175045, email annekav123@yahoo.co.uk