

**Reflection on the Gospel -Easter 5C  
(John 13:31-35)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The literary context for today's gospel reading is Jesus' final meal with his disciples. Jesus has washed the feet of his foot-weary table companions, and has thus provided an example of what it means to love. What he has done for them, they are to do for one another. In other words, no form of service is too menial for a Christian disciple, and privileged exemption from service of others has no place in gospel living or in gospel leadership. Pope Francis has witnessed powerfully to this from the beginning of his papacy and in diverse ways over the past three years.

Jesus is troubled in spirit (v. 21) at this meal. There is a sense of foreboding in this statement. He knows that membership of the group is no guarantee of fidelity or of sustained goodness. All are capable of betrayal and Judas, who has been one of his closest companions, is about to hand him over to the authorities and ultimately to death. Another, Simon Peter, after protesting undying loyalty will proceed to deny him three times (vv. 37-38). Though troubled and no doubt disappointed by the failure of his friends and the dire consequences for himself, Jesus continues to teach the way of discipleship.

The betrayer's departure from the meal, Jesus informs them, signals the imminent arrival of the moment of glorification. Events have been set in train that will culminate in God's victory over evil and death. But this is not the end of their association with him. He will leave them very soon and they are to continue on the way of discipleship. His legacy to them is "a new commandment" – to love one another just as he has loved them. If they do that, everyone will know they are his disciples. To love as Jesus loved, however, is no small thing: it is to be willing to give one's life for the sake of "the other".

This new commandment to love one another is also Jesus' legacy to us, the successors of those early disciples. Loving care of the broken-hearted, of the war-ravaged and displaced, of the sick and the weary; providing shelter for the homeless; attentiveness to those grieving the loss of loved ones or of livelihood; a restorative gesture or word; a change in lifestyle or a tree planted in the interests of planetary survival - these are some of the ways of love and of discipleship. In our times, we have come to realise that "the other" embraces the more-than-human and that love of all God's creation is part of the new commandment.

**5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER — YEAR C**

*Our parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity  
of all children and vulnerable adults.*

**ST ALIPIUS PARISH — BALLARAT EAST**

**St Alipius' Parish Church**

84 Victoria Street, BALLARAT EAST 3350

**Ss Peter & Paul's Church**

701 Fiskens St, BUNINYONG 3357

**Telephone:** 5332 6611

**Email:** ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**Office Hours:** 9.30am—1.30am Tue, Thu & Fri

**Parish Website:** www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

**CLERGY & STAFF**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Peter Sherman

**Administrator:** Fr Kevin Maloney VG

**Parish Coordinator:** Lucy O'Beirne

**Child Safety Officer:** Roxanne Leed

**Parish Bereavement Coordinators:**

Carmel Flynn & Kathy Curran

**WEEKDAY MASSES COMMENCING MONDAY, 20th MAY 2019**

**MONDAY:** No Mass

**TUESDAY:** No Mass

**WEDNESDAY:** 9.30 am Mercy Convent (Victoria St)

**THURSDAY:** 9.30 am St Alipius' Church

11.00 am Mercy Place (Corbett St)

**FRIDAY:** 9.30 am St Alipius' Church

**NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES**

**ST. ALIPIUS** SAT 25th May 6.00 PM

SUN 26th May 10.30 AM

**BUNINYONG** SUN 26th May 9.00 AM

**5th SUNDAY OF EASTER — YEAR C**

**READINGS** **First:** Acts 15:1-2, 22-29  
**Second:** Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23  
**Gospel:** John 14:23-29

**BAPTISMS:**

**RECENT DEATHS:** Margaret Sherman (Fr. Peter's mother, Colac)

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mary Dowling

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Nathan Cambell, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Fiona Dickinson, Carmel Doherty, Aurora Ferrer, Leonie Sinnot, John Darroch, Eleanor Keating, Terry Foran, Cathy Jones, Alison Rice, Pauline Stapleton, Fred Marouff.

### COUNTING TEAMS:

**This Week: Team 8:** B. McKeegan©, M. Ridsdale, K. McKeegan  
**Next Week: Team 9:** J. Patton ©, B. Brisbane, J. O'Brien

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

**PARISH:** Envelopes: \$ 753.40  
Loose: \$ 150.00  
Direct Debits: \$ 490.00  
\$ 1393.40

**PRESBYTERY** \$ 1042.00



### DAMASCUS STUDENTS PREPARING FOR TIMOR LESTE VISIT

The parish warmly extends its prayers and support to the Damascus College Year 11 students preparing for an immersion experience to Timor Leste in July. Welcome to the students at our Sunday 9am mass who will proudly be wearing their colourful handwoven Indonesian Tais.

### EVENTS

A social afternoon will be held on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** in the Mercy Centre at **2.00pm**. Please enter via Gent St. All welcome.

### COMMUNITY IDEAS SOUGHT FOR USE OF NEW HALL

At the morning tea after the **10:30 Mass on 2nd June at Buninyong**, community members of Ss Peter & Paul's are invited to discuss what sort of community/parish activities of a social nature could be held in the hall that parishioners would like to see on a regular basis.

### GOSPEL MEDITATION BALLARAT GROUP GATHERING

Gospel Meditation Ballarat Group will gather at the Ss Peter and Paul's Buninyong prayer room on **Monday 27th May 2-3pm**. Reading will be Luke 24:46-53. All welcome. For more information contact Pauline McKenzie 0498704381

### ASYLUM SEEKER FUNDRAISER

A Refugee Week Soup and Sandwich Luncheon will be held on **Wednesday June 19th** at Nazareth House Hall, Mill Street, Ballarat. Entry \$20. Speakers and Entertainment. Stall and Competition. Inquiries 0401175045 [annekav1234@gmail.com](mailto:annekav1234@gmail.com) Facebook: House of Welcome-Ballarat.

### NEW DIOCESAN APPOINTMENT

Bishop Paul has announced that Carole Gan is the newly appointed Diocesan Pastoral Development Coordinator, following Amanda Smith's conclusion in the role.

### HEART WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

This conference is being held on **15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at the Waverley RSL**. A time to come together as women to be refreshed and renewed in our busy lives. Spoil yourself. Dream again. Feel loved, honoured and cared for. Invite your daughters, mothers, sisters and friends! Men, what women in your life can you spoil by sending them to *Heart 2019?* Phone: 1300 734 880. Register: [www.Heart.TheCatholicGuy.com](http://www.Heart.TheCatholicGuy.com)  
Email: [heart@TheCatholicGuy.com](mailto:heart@TheCatholicGuy.com)

### CELEBRATIONS OF CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST

Celebrations of these sacraments will continue this weekend for the children from SFX Primary School. We congratulate them and offer our prayers, support and welcome to all the children and their families. Upcoming celebrations are:

| DATE                      | TIME     | CHURCH            | HOST SCHOOL        |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Sat. 25 <sup>th</sup> May | 6.00 pm  | St Alipius        | St Alipius Primary |
| Sun. 26 <sup>th</sup> May | 10.30 am | St Alipius        | St Alipius Primary |
| Sat. 1 <sup>st</sup> June | 6.00 pm  | St Alipius        | Emmaus Catholic PS |
| Sun. 2 <sup>nd</sup> June | 9.00 am  | St Alipius        | Emmaus Catholic PS |
| Sun. 2 <sup>nd</sup> June | 10.30 am | Ss Peter & Paul's | Emmaus Catholic PS |

### NEW LITURGY ROSTERS NOW AVAILABLE

Paper copies for those who need them are now available near the piety stall. Any queries or updates can be made through the [sapliturgy.net.au](http://sapliturgy.net.au) website by going to 'Contact' and following the prompts. For people without access to a computer or who would like some assistance please contact Lucy in the parish office.

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

You are invited to join 'The Life in the Spirit Prayer Group' for a Catholic Bible seminar beginning on Tuesday June 25th. This will be held over a period of 5 weeks on Tuesday nights from 7pm till 9pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral. To indicate your interest phone Maree on 0429 965999.

### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR THE APMN CONFERENCE "LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT AND SING"

The Ballarat Diocesan Liturgical Commission is offering sponsorship for six people from across the diocese to attend the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network, Inc (APMN) Conference *Listen to the Spirit and Sing* to be held in Melbourne from October 1 – 3, 2019 at the Catholic Leadership Centre. APMN promotes the art of Religious Music in the service of the Church in Australia through education, support, networking and advocacy, with a special focus on supporting the use of Australian compositions. The APMN aims to actively assist parishes, schools and other Church agencies to have educated, skilled musicians and composers available for the vital ministry of providing suitable quality music for worship, church life and religious education. The conference intends to provide the knowledge, resources, encouragement and motivation for lay people to be ministers of music in their parishes. It is an opportunity to broaden networks and meet people who are also trying to make their parishes vibrant places of worship through the appropriate use of Liturgical, Catechetical and Religious music. From the six people selected, we would anticipate that two from each zone would attend. **Those interested in attending are invited to complete the application form attached by June 3, 2019.**

### BALLARAT DIOCESE LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY PROGRAM – NOW OPEN FOR NEW PARTICIPANTS

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries, employed or volunteers. Sacraments, scripture, social justice, youth ministry, liturgy and many other subjects available – a subject is completed in 5 weeks. Next study cycle starts June 2. **Registration is now open. Contact us by May 21.** Info: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or [amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:amanda.smith@ballarat.catholic.org.au) ph. 5337 7125.