

**Reflection on the Gospel-The Body and Blood of Christ Year C
(Luke 9:11-17)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The gospel for today brings together elements that have traditionally formed part of Christian worship. In the first part of the story, Jesus welcomes those who follow him. He then speaks to them of God's kin-dom and heals those in need of healing. In the second part, he takes the loaves, blesses them, breaks them and puts them before the disciples who distribute the bread to the assembled people. All eat and are satisfied.

The second part of the story is full of eucharistic symbolism. The setting is a "desert" place, recalling the wanderings of the Israelites in the desert of Sinai. The hunger of the people recalls God's care of Israel in the wilderness. God feeds God's people in the deserts of life, but only if those called to be disciples recognise their responsibility to be the hands of God. "Send them away" is one solution, clearly not the one preferred by Jesus. Rather, he says, "You give them something to eat". When the people sit down in circles and share their food, they find there is more than enough for everyone. They gather up the broken pieces, just as we must remember to gather up the pieces that so often go to waste.

Jesus' actions and words over the bread [and the fish] are echoed in the account of his final meal with the disciples: the bread broken and shared becomes his body broken and "given" for them. In the celebration of Eucharist, bread broken and wine poured out change their meaning. While all analogies fall short, we might begin to understand this mystery by thinking of the Eureka flag. The flag is constructed of fabric and thread, but it is no longer simply the sum of its material parts, precious as they are. The restored flag is housed in a special place and protected with the utmost care. Because of its associations with the Eureka rebellion and what that stands for in Australian history, it has taken on a meaning other than the goodness of the materiality of fabric and thread. In the celebration of Eucharist, the God-given gifts of bread and wine likewise become more than their material parts. They are life for us, the shared life of the Risen Christ. Eucharistic life is covenanted life. Recognition of another level of meaning does not discount the integrity and goodness of the underlying material reality, but rather affirms it.

Sharing in Eucharist means giving life for the sake of the many, sometimes to the point of heroism, sometimes simply by sharing our resources or our left-over pieces with others in need. Finally, it is important to remember that the healing is the prelude to the sharing of the bread. We are called to ensure there is a place at the table for those so often excluded from community by disability, ill-health or any kind of prejudice.

**ST ALIPIUS PARISH—BALLARAT EAST
THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST — YEAR C**

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

St Alipius' Parish Church
84 Victoria Street, BALLARAT EAST 3350

SS Peter & Paul's Church
701 Fiskens St, BUNINYONG 3357

CONTACT DETAILS

Office Hours: 9.30am—1.30pm Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays

Telephone: 5332 6611

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

Email: ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

SAP Liturgy website: www.sapliturgy.net.au

CLERGY AND STAFF

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Sherman

Administrator: Fr Kevin Maloney VG

Parish Coordinator: Lucy O'Beirne

Child Safety Officer: Roxanne Leed

Finance Officer: Kerrie McTigue

Bereavement: Carmel Flynn & Kathy Curran

WEEKDAY MASSES COMMENCING MONDAY, 24th JUNE 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

12.00 pm Emmaus School Mass, Buninyong

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

ST. ALIPIUS SAT 29th June 6.00 PM

SUN 30th June 9.00 AM

BUNINYONG SUN 30th June 10.30 AM

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR C

READINGS **First:** 1 Kgs 19:16, 19-21

Second: Gal 5:1, 13-18

Gospel: Lk 9:51-62

BAPTISMS: Edward Hughes, Sophie Pearce

RECENT DEATHS: Brian Mahoney (WA, brother of Pam Mullane)

ANNIVERSARIES: Frank Dodd, Jack Dodd, William Quinn, Elsie Quinn

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Nathan Cambell, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Alison Rice, Fiona Dickinson, Carmel Doherty, Aurora Ferrer, Leonie Sinnot, John Darroch, Eleanor Keating, Terry Foran, Cathy Jones, Pauline Stapleton, Fred Marouff, Lena Macklin.

COUNTING TEAMS:

This Week: **Team 2:** M. O'Donnell ©, L. O'Donnell
Next Week: **Team 4:** J. Moran ©, B. Forbes, S. Harvey

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

PARISH:	Envelopes:	\$	838.20
	Loose:	\$	300.00
	Direct Debits:	\$	615.00
		\$	1753.20
PRESBYTERY		\$	539.00



EVENTS

A social afternoon will be held on Wednesday 26th June in the Mercy Centre at 2.00 pm.

MERCY ASSOCIATES' FUNDRAISER

Please save the date for the **Mercy Associates' fundraiser for McAuley Community Services for Women**. On **Tuesday 23rd July** at 10 am at the Regent Theatre, we will be hosting **High Tea and a Film**. The cost for this will be \$25 which includes a remake of "THE LION KING" and High Tea at which sandwiches, hot/cold savouries, scones with jam/cream, slices, cream sponge and tea/coffee will be served. There will be **raffle tickets** for sale (3 tickets for \$5) with 10 draws - lovely prizes. There will be door prizes as well.

Tickets for film/luncheon and raffle tickets are available from Ursula Diamond-Keith on 0407717626 or from The Mercy Office- 151 Victoria St., 53317774 or on the day. Please come along and support our fundraiser for this great cause. Please have correct money when buying tickets.



LEADERSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY BREAKFAST

You are invited to the Leadership and Spirituality Breakfast on Wednesday 11th September at the Mercure Hotel and Convention Centre, 613 Main Road, Ballarat. The presenter at this breakfast will be Chris Lowney who is a noted author and speaker on Leadership and Ignatian Spirituality. For more information see the poster on the noticeboard in the back of the church.

BISHOP PAUL BIRD'S 70TH BIRTHDAY

Mass to celebrate Bishop Paul's 70th birthday will be celebrated on Friday, July 19, 2019 at 12.05pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat. All are welcome to attend.

PLENARY COUNCIL – NATIONAL THEMES FOR DISCERNMENT

The six National Themes for Discernment invite people to reflect, to pray and to consider how God is calling the People of God to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia. The themes are: Missionary and Evangelising; Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal; Prayerful and Eucharistic; Humble, Healing and Merciful; A Joyful, Hope-Filled and Servant Community; Open to conversion, Renewal and Reform. For more information go to www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au. Please also see the notice-board display at the back of the church (St Alipius) & foyer (Ss Peter & Paul's).

LITURGY

Volunteers Needed

At St Alipius church, we have a need for more people to help out with the data projector, especially on the following Sunday morning Masses: July 7 - 9am, July 14—10.30 am and July 21—9.00 am. The powerpoint is prepared by the parish and training in the use of the computer and setting up is provided. If you're able to become involved & help out on these dates, please contact the parish office or leave a message on the sapliturgy.net.au website using the contact form.

St. Alipius Parish Liturgy Website

<https://sapliturgy.net.au>

All parishioners are welcome to visit the St Alipius Parish Liturgy website so you can prepare yourself before coming, or reflect on your experience. You can view the Readings, sing along with your favourite hymns, read a reflection for the week, view the liturgy roster and catch up on any news regarding the liturgy for Sunday Mass at your convenience. You can also leave a comment or volunteer to be involved in any of the liturgical ministries. The website is an unlisted site, so you will not be able to search for it. So please type the address as noted into your web browser. **This address can also be found on the front page of the weekly notice sheet.**

David Santamaria (St Alipius Parish Liturgy Convener)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WINTER APPEAL

We invite you to be part of our annual Winter Appeal. This year, to date, the Society has distributed support to the value of \$260,911 across the Ballarat area. This is a weekly average of \$12,600. To date we have received 3,185 calls which gives us a weekly figure of approximately 177 calls. We are most grateful for the support we receive from our parish as it enables us to continue our support for those in need. **If anyone is interested in joining our group please contact Helen on ph. 0419 875 349 for information. Envelopes are available at the Piety Stall.** All donations are used in the Ballarat area. Donations of over \$2.00 are tax deductible, receipts will be issued.

MERCY CONNECT PROJECT

Mercy Works recruits volunteers to support students from a refugee/asylum seeker background in Ballarat schools through their Mercy Connect Project. The project aims to provide mentoring for young people to optimize their literacy development, academic and social learning. Mercy Connect volunteers work with students during school hours and the volunteer commitment is for approximately three hours per week. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred, but volunteers receive on-going training and support. Obtaining a current Working with Children Check is part of the Application Process. For more information contact Donna Stewart, ph. 0417 624 330 or email: mercyconnectb@gmail.com

JOY SPREADING IS BACK!

A social event for young Catholic adults (18-30) featuring an inspiring talk, some free food & drink, and the chance to connect with other young Catholics in the area. The next gathering will be held in 'The Aviary' at the Golden City Hotel on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 from 6.30pm. The Vicar General, Fr Kevin Maloney, will be presenting a short talk entitled 'Good and Evil in the Creation Narratives'. For more information, visit the Youth & Young Adult Ministry page of the Diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or contact Patrick, ph. 5337 7160.