

**Reflection on the Gospel-22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time C  
(Luke 14:1, 7-14)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

For the past four years, Catholics have accepted the invitation of Pope Francis to join with other Christians across the planet in celebrating the Season of Creation. This extended celebration of creation was launched in 1989 by the Orthodox Patriarch of Constantinople and joined progressively by other Christian communities. It begins with the World Day of Prayer for Creation on September 1 and concludes on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. Over this period, we might reflect on what is happening to our planet and pay particular attention to the eighth work of mercy, "care of our common home". As a spiritual work, care of our common home calls us to "grateful contemplation of God's world". As a corporal work, it calls us to "simple daily gestures" that create a more sustainable and equitable world.

Today's gospel calls us to redress imbalances in the human community, imbalances that have ultimately affected the earth itself. Jesus is under scrutiny as he dines in the home of a leading Pharisee. In Luke's gospel, the Pharisees are generally depicted as hostile to Jesus. This portrait reflects the situation of the time the gospels are being written when Pharisaic Judaism and Christian Judaism had parted ways. At the time of Jesus' ministry, the Pharisees were a minority group of well-respected experts in the Law. Despite the hostility from his host, Jesus is not deterred from expressing his opinion and as usual he does so in the form of a story that comes from the experience of his hearers. He first addresses the guests and then the host. The guests are clearly not from the lower echelons of society. They are people who receive invitations to wedding banquets where places of honour are reserved for the most distinguished guests. Jesus appeals to their fairly normal fear of being shamed before others. He also reminds them of the principle of reversal that operates in God's kin-dom where those who seek the first places find themselves last and the last are first.

Jesus' advice for his host is more removed from first century Palestinian experience than is his advice for the guests: do not invite friends, family and wealthy neighbours; invite the destitute and those with disabilities. In other words, invite those considered unclean by observant Jews rather than those who have the capacity to return your hospitality. This was a confronting suggestion in that culture. It embodied the inclusive values of the kin-dom vision that Jesus had preached from the outset. It is confronting for us in our times. It is easy to welcome like-minded people into our land and our homes. It is not so easy to be open to those who see the world differently from us. We are invited to look on them with love rather than hostility and to secure a place for them in our hearts and in our common home.

**ST ALIPIUS PARISH—BALLARAT EAST**

**22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — 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 Fisken St, BUNINYONG 3357

**CONTACT DETAILS**

**Office Hours:** 9.30am - 1.30pm Tues, Thurs, Fri  
**Telephone:** 5332 6611  
**email:** ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

**SAP Liturgy email:** sapliturgy@gmail.com  
**SAP Liturgy website:** www.sapliturgy.net.au  
**Parish Website:** www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

**CLERGY AND STAFF**

**Administrator:** Rev. Justin Driscoll  
**Parish Coordinator:** Lucy O'Beirne  
**Finance Officer:** Kerrie McTigue

**Assistant Priest:** Rev. Jorge De Chavez OSJ  
**Child Safety Officer:** Roxanne Leed  
**Bereavement Team:** Carmel Flynn & Kathy Curran

**WEEKDAY MASSES COMMENCING MONDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER 2019**

**WEDNESDAY:** 1.00 pm Funeral Mass for Eileen O'Meara  
St. Alipius' Church

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

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

**NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES**

<b>ST. ALIPIUS</b>	SAT 7th September	6.00 PM
	SUN 8th September	10.30 AM
<b>BUNINYONG</b>	SUN 8th September	9.00 AM

**23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR C**

<b>READINGS</b>	<b>First:</b> Wisdom	9:13-18
	<b>Second:</b> St Paul to Philemon	9-10, 12-17
	<b>Gospel:</b> Luke	14:25-33

**BAPTISMS:** Eddie Foley

**RECENT DEATHS:** Sr Barbara Lemke RSM, Theresa Hayes, Eileen O'Meara, Joan Callinan

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Tony Kirby, Mollie Dodd

**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, Peter Martin

### COUNTING TEAMS

**This Week:** Team 3: C. Tarquinio ©, M. Tarquinio  
**Next Week:** Team 4: J. Moran ©, B. Forbes, S. Harvey

### COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND

<b>PARISH:</b>	Envelopes:	\$ 744.20
	Loose:	\$ 300.00
	Direct Debits:	\$ 160.00
		\$ 1204.20
<b>PRESBYTERY</b>		\$ 507.00



### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK LIST

Please contact the parish office if you, or a family member, would like your name kept on or removed from our list for prayers. We shall be refreshing our list soon. Many thanks.

### FATHERS' DAY

Blessings and good wishes are extended to all the fathers, grandfathers and special men who care for family, friends and others this Sunday on Fathers' Day.

### CARING GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of the Caring Group will be held on Friday 6th September at 10 am in the St. Alipius Hall. All welcome.

### COLUMBAN CALENDARS

2020 Columban Calendars are now available at the St Alipius' piety stall. Cost \$9.00. Make lovely Christmas gifts for overseas friends and relatives.

### MERCY PLACE BALLARAT OPEN DAY

An Open Day is being held at Mercy Place Ballarat, 60 Corbett St, Ballarat East to celebrate its first birthday since opening! Enjoy a tour, BBQ, live music, free cuppa and meet our friendly staff on **Saturday 14th September, 11am—2pm**. Please register via 5327 1888 or online (Google *Mercy Place Ballarat*) .

### DAMASCUS COLLEGE INFORMATION EVENING THIS WEEK

The first information evening for families considering enrolment in 2020 will be held **this Wednesday, September 4 at 5.00pm**. Please register via the school website or [www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us](http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us) . The next information evening will be offered on Tuesday, October 22 at 6.30pm. **Open Mornings:** Thursday, September 12, 9.00am – 10.30am and Tuesday October 29, 9.00am – 10.30am. Enrolment applications for Year 7 2021 close on Friday 14th February 2020.

### WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

#### Volunteer Food Van Collection Driver(s) for the Salvation Army

Driver(s) required during the week to collect SecondBite food collections for emergency relief from major supermarkets. Good driving record, light lifting required and volunteer role suitable to fulfil Centrelink requirements. Interested? Contact John 0478770598

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CREATION — 1ST SEPTEMBER

We heed the call of Pope Francis who has asked us to celebrate 1<sup>st</sup> September each year as the World Day of Prayer for Creation and to mark this day as the beginning of a six week period when we pay particular attention to the need to care for our common home.

### WORTHY WORDS TO PONDER

Some excerpts from Fr David Ranson's VG letter to the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay following the dismissal by the Victorian Court of Appeals of Cardinal George Pell's appeal:

*"Historic events, such as the ones which we are living through, stop us short. They disturb us. They anger us. They sadden us. In whichever way this extraordinary and historical set of events might continue to unfold, the lesson is twofold. Firstly, all of us have responsibility to keep our communities safe. This can never be left to a few. All of us need to be vigilant for any behaviour that we consider not to be safe, and that might be putting the safety of our young people especially, in jeopardy. We must be vigilant, and we must be active. We must be ready to speak up. Sadly, we cannot rely simply on our trust of others, whoever they might be – whether they might be priests, or even family members. If we see or hear of behaviour that concerns us, we must speak up and act. Practices and processes to protect the safety of our children must be paramount across every part of our life as a Diocese - our parishes, our schools, our agencies. They must be implemented and monitored with transparency, objectivity and accountability.*

*As we continue to be disturbed even in new unexpected ways by this wretched history of ours, our confidence is shaken; our trust is confused; our faith itself is rocked. Yet, even in the most painful of experiences of our life, an invitation awaits us. If we can but stay with such difficult experiences long enough to perceive that invitation, then the experience can become for us not something that works against us, leaving us in despair and isolation, but one that becomes for us something 'redemptive' – in other words, one from which a new possibility might emerge. To paraphrase TS Elliot, we cannot be those who have the experience and miss the meaning. It is the Lord of Life who calls us always to new possibility. This is the gift of the Resurrection to us – yes, even in the darkest moments of our life."*

### GOD IS NOT DEAD

You are invited to a Spring Social Afternoon with Guest Speakers, John and Margaret Millington- OAM whose faith helped transformed personal tragedy into work for their community. Wednesday Sept 4th - 1.30 pm. Mary Glowrey Room - St Patrick's Hall - Lyons Street entrance. Free Entry. Door prizes. Afternoon tea All welcome. Inquiries 0401175045

### "SUMMER IN THE FOREST"

Film about the work of Jean Vanier, founder of L'Arche community. Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> 6.00 pm, Showbiz Cinemas Ballarat. Book tickets by September 6<sup>th</sup> via Showbiz [www.fan-force.com/screenings/summer-in-the-forest-showbiz-cinema-ballarat/](http://www.fan-force.com/screenings/summer-in-the-forest-showbiz-cinema-ballarat/) .

All proceeds to Ballarat Specialist School and hosted by St Matthew's Anglican Community, Wendouree. *"Breathtakingly beautiful... the keynote is joy... It will make you laugh. It will make you cry. And it will remind you of what it really means to be strong"*.