



St Francis Xavier Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 9th October 2023
Term 4 Week 2

P.O. Box 2027
Ballarat East VIC 3354
Phone: 5331 6311
Fax: 5331 8337

Email: principal@sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

Term 4 (12 weeks)

Mon 2nd Oct - Wed 20th Dec

Monday 9th – Wed 11th Oct

Year 6 Urban Camp

Friday 13th October

12.40pm 6MM Assembly

2024 Foundation Transition

9.30-11am Group A

11.30am-1pm Group B

Wednesday 18th October

Division Golf at Mt Xavier
Golf Club

Friday 20th October

2.15pm in gym
Grandparents' and
Grandfriends' Day

2024 Foundation Transition

Monday 23rd October

Last day for Issue 7 Book
Club Orders

Friday 27th October

12.40pm 2CJ Assembly
Free Dress Day – raising
money for Mercy Works

2024 Foundation Transition

Wednesday 1st November

Division Cricket

Friday 3rd November

12.40pm 3NM Assembly
F-2 Junior Sports Day at
Russell Square

Monday 6th November

Reporting & Assessment
Day – Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 7th November

Melbourne Cup Public
Holiday – Pupil Free Day

Friday 10th November

12.40pm 4CP Assembly

Friday 17th November

12.40pm F MM Assembly
Yr 3-6 Athletics Day
at Llanberris

Tuesday 21st November

2024 Foundation
Information Night

In the Land of the Wadawurrung People

Dear families,

As we begin preparations to welcome our 2024 Foundation students to their Transition visits to school I thought it might be worth taking a moment to reflect with you about our school, and what it is that entices so many families to want to join our community each year.

We are immensely proud of our school. Our students and families experience a sense of welcome every day when we greet each other in the yard or encounter new friends and old in the classrooms and learning areas throughout the day. We know that learning transcends the classroom and that every interaction is an encounter with the sacred.

Our staff work tirelessly to meet the educational and social needs of all students. Our academic results are excellent, and of this we are very proud. We work with each other to foster a sense of pride in our work always. Beyond the learning agenda, our school embraces diversity and inclusion, where we work hard to build a tapestry of different cultures, perspectives and abilities.

We encourage all students to explore new encounters through sport, the arts and language programs with an emphasis on being open to new experiences and participation. Our focus on the Mercy values of Respect, Compassion, Excellence, Justice and Welcome are evident in all that we do. This ensures that we live out our school motto: *Omnia Cum Deo*, meaning "All with God". Our annual Mercy Mass last Friday was a highlight in the year as we acknowledged our forebears who have worked so tirelessly to build the great school that we have today.

As we continue to learn and work together this term, let's remember that all that we do helps to build a strong community. In this way we will always be known as the school that puts faith into action every day. No wonder we have so many families seeking Saint Francis Xavier as their school of first choice!

God bless,

Mark Hogbin



Wed 22nd – Friday 24th Nov
Year 5 Kangaroo Camp

Friday 24th November
12.40pm F GJ Assembly

Tuesday 28th November
2024 Foundation Transition

Thursday 30th November
6pm Community Christmas
Gathering

Friday 1st December
12.40pm 2GH Assembly
St Francis Xavier Feast Day
celebrations

Wednesday 6th December
Year 4 Camp

Monday 11th December
9.30am Mass in the Gym

Wednesday 13th December
6pm Year 6 Graduation
In the Gym

Friday 15th December
Last 2023 student day
Normal finish time.



Invitation to Prayer...

God of love, show us our place in this world
as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth,
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good, advance the weak,
and care for this world in which we live.
The poor and the earth are crying out.
O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom
of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you!



Amen.

Revised End of Day Procedures

Thanks to all families who have supported us through the changes to our end of day procedures which were instigated last term. When we made the changes we said that we would take on feedback and refine the process in time. With this in mind from next Monday 16 October we will move to the following procedure:

3.15pm bus bell will ring for bus students to move to the bus area

3.20pm end of day bell will ring and all classes including F-1 will move with their teachers to the undercover area for collection. Students will assemble in class lines. Students in Yrs. 4 – 6 will gather under the verandah at the rear of the gym and will join any remaining students in the undercover area at 3.30pm. Students may be collected from 3.20pm in either the undercover area or the gym verandah according to their year level.

Zooper-Dooper Mondays

What a Zooper way to start the week! Our fantastic Parent Club will be selling Zooper-Doopers each Monday this term for just 50 cents each. How exciting!

We are a little concerned that our freezer might be nearing the end of its working life so if anyone has a large freezer looking for a new home, we would love to hear from you.



Summer School Uniform

It's time to dig out the school sun hats as we prepare for summer uniform this term. Please be mindful that our uniform policy also asks that students observe safety regulations regarding jewelry at all times. Your help with this will be appreciated.

Class Groupings 2024

This week teachers will be working on formulating class groupings for 2024. In doing this, academic, social and emotional considerations will be taken into account to inform decisions. We are fortunate at St. Francis Xavier to have

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Through the mission of Jesus within the Mercy tradition, we are called to action in pursuing fullness of life for all.

our teachers plan learning activities that often allow our children to mix across the year group where they are working alongside. Next year all our classes will be straight classes again. Prior to teachers working on the construction of 2024 class groups, all children will be asked to nominate children who they know they can work well with and would like to be considered to be in a room with in 2024.

If you would like any requests to be considered, please contact Mark in writing or by email by Friday 13th October. While all correspondence will be considered, the final decision will be made by the classroom teachers.

Class Structure for St. Francis Xavier Primary School 2024

Foundation x 4 Year 1 x 3 Year 2 x 3 Year 3 x 3 Year 4 x 3 Year 5 x 3 Year 6 x 3

Please find at the end of this newsletter: Parish Bulletin; Help your child overcome the fear of making mistakes.

Religious Education News

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL- Sunday October 8, 2023 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

"Listen to another parable," Jesus said. "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a hole for the winepress, and built a watchtower. Then he let out the vineyard to tenants and went on a journey. When the time came to gather the grapes, he sent his slaves to the tenants to receive his share of the harvest. The tenants seized his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again the man sent other slaves, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all he sent his son to them. 'Surely they will respect my son,' he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the owner's son. Come on, let's kill him, and we will get his property!' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

"Now, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" Jesus asked.

"He will certainly kill those evil men," they answered, "and let the vineyard out to other tenants, who will give him his share of the harvest at the right time."

Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read what the Scriptures say?

'The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all.

This was done by the Lord; what a wonderful sight it is!'

"And so I tell you," added Jesus, "the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce the proper fruits." *(Gospel passage taken from Good News Translation®)*

Gospel reflection: Jesus told this story so that people could understand more about God and what Jesus had come to do on earth.

Like the man who gave the vineyard to his tenants to look after, God has given us the earth and all that is in it. God also sent Jesus to show us how to live.

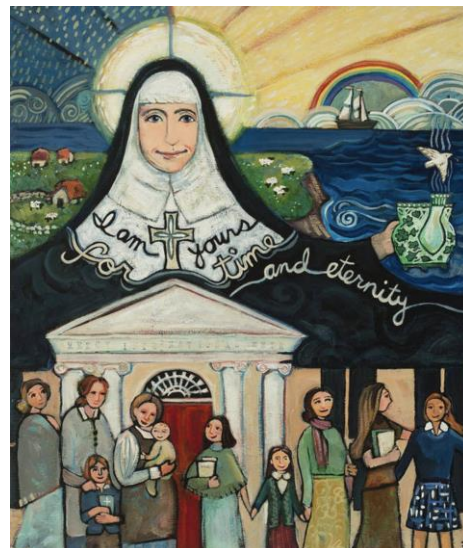
We are responsible for looking after the earth and all the animals, people and plants that are in it. Can you think of ways that we sometimes don't take as good care of the earth as we should? What happens when we don't look after the earth?

When we don't look after the earth, it becomes damaged. We have seen how there are more floods, droughts, storms and heatwaves in our world. This extreme weather often affects people who are poorest the most.

The bad tenants in the gospel story thought only about themselves. Jesus asks us to think about other people too, to use the resources of the earth wisely so that everyone can have their fair share, to care for and protect the earth, and enjoy the wonders of God's creation now and in the future.

Our Challenge: What will you do to take care of the earth now and in the future? *(Adapted from CAFOD website)*

Thank you to our Parish Priest Fr Jorge for celebrating Mass with us at St Alipius Church last Friday. We welcomed several of the local Sisters of Mercy-their presence and support are a reminder of the wonderful history and the values of Catherine McAuley that our school holds dear. Thank you to all the families, friends and parish members who joined us and to the students, who were so interested, reverent and curious and who participated beautifully.



Grand Plans for Grandparents and Grandfriends!

We invite all Grandparents and Grandfriends to join us for a special liturgy on Friday October 20 beginning at 2.15 pm.

We will gather in the Gym for our liturgy and afterwards the children will invite their visitors to tour their classroom and the school. The children love the opportunity to show special people where they learn and play; and to have the chance to showcase their learning!

If your special person has any specific needs, please let us know so we can try and accommodate them. We know a lot of families like to make this an afternoon of fun, so children will be able to leave with their Grandparent

or Grandfriend- please just let your child's teacher know if this is your intention. Bus travellers- if you are leaving school with your Grandparent or Grandfriend please ensure you are taken off the bus list.

We look forward to sharing this memorable time together!



Christine Meneely, **Religious Education Leader**

Welcome to Week Two of Term Four - Term Four is always a busy, productive and celebratory time of the year.



Inquiry

Throughout Term Four all children will continue to engage in their termly Inquiry units. Our Inquiry learning sequences aim to provide opportunities for children to explore content and skills through real-life scenarios. The concept-based learning sequences for this term are:

- **FOUNDATION– ANIMALS Great and Small:** Children will learn about different features of animals and use their imagination to design an animal
- **YEAR ONE– Through Generations:** Children will integrate their Inquiry learning with their Religious Education learning, as they explore traditions and stories from different cultures
- **YEAR TWO– Celebrating Differences:** Children will be immersed in the rich traditions and cultures of many lands, so they can develop a deeper understanding of differences.
- **YEAR THREE- Our Island Home:** Children will build on their understanding of the geography of Australia. They will also learn about Australia's neighbouring countries and contribute to conversations about what life may be like in these places.
- **YEAR FOUR- Someone Else's Shoes:** Children will journey with Social justice issues experienced by people with disabilities. They will learn about the role that rules and laws play in our community as they share their opinions about existing laws.
- **YEAR FIVE- Data and Decisions:** Children will be engaged in economics and business as they work in groups to develop a business plan that they will present to younger students in the school.
- **YEAR SIX- Bizarre Bazaar:** Children will gain a real life understanding of the design and production process when creating a brand new product. The product will be marketed.

Throughout the term it would be great if your child was able to share with you some of their learnings in this area of our curriculum.

Enjoy the week ahead,



Jane Clark, **Deputy Principal – Learning Enhancement**

Wellbeing News

I found this great article from **Alexandra of Big Life Journal** that I thought I'd share in this week's newsletter about helping your children realise that making mistakes is part of learning. I hope you enjoy this positive language and the shift of mindset from one of negativity to growth

I'll never forget the day my son brought home a spelling test with some empty spaces.

"Hey, buddy," I asked, "if you're not sure about an answer next time, what might you try?" He gave a small shrug.

"How about just taking a wild guess?" I gently offered.

His eyes widened, "But what if I get it wrong?"

For some kids, worrying about making mistakes can feel as real as being scared of those imaginary monsters under the bed.

Here's the problem.

This fear can sometimes hold our children back from diving into new adventures or taking on challenges. So, the big question - how do we encourage our kids to give things a go, even if it might lead to a mistake or two?

Here's a fun approach:

Introduce "marvellous mistakes" into your family's language. Celebrate them, laugh about them, and show that they're just stepping stones on the path to learning and growing. Every new mistake is proof that we had the courage to step out and try.

Here's how we use "marvellous mistakes" in our family:

When my son gets a new spelling list, I excitedly say, "Wow, these are all new words! This is a challenge for sure. So

I'm expecting some marvellous mistakes from you!"

And if he happens to spell something incorrectly during our practice, I cheer, "High five! That's learning in action!"

We then have a little chat on how to ace it the next time around.

This week's guide on, "**Overcoming the Fear of Making Mistakes,**" includes more information and ideas for learning to embrace mistakes instead of fearing them.

Kind regards,

Christine Meneely, **Wellbeing Leader**

Sport/Physical Education News

Regional Athletics:

St Francis Xavier was represented by 10 students at the Greater Western Regional Athletics at Llanberris Athletics Centre last Friday. All of the students gave their all in their events and produced some amazing results. A special mention to Jed Hynes, Mitch Kane, Archer Spackman, Felicity McGrath and Nate Toohey who finished in the top 2 in their event and have qualified for the Victorian State Championships later this term.

Golf Tournament

Following golf clinics in Term 2, Tony Collier has selected a group of students for the Term 4 tournament: These students will be notified on PAM very shortly

The tournament will be held at Mt Xavier Golf Club on Wednesday October 18th. For those selected please see note on PAM.

2023 Sports Dates

Term 4:

- Week 3 - Wednesday October 18th - Division Golf @ Mt Xavier GC
- Week 5 - Wednesday Nov 1st - Division Cricket

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- Week 5 - Wednesday Nov 1st - State Athletics @ Lakeside Stadium
- Week 5 - Friday Nov 3rd - F - 2 Junior Sports Day @ Russell Square
- Week 6 - Friday Nov 10th - Interschool Sport (Yr 5/6) v Emmaus @SFX
- Week 7 - Friday Nov 17th - SFX Yr 3 -6 Athletics Day @ Llanberris

If your child has achieved recent sporting success or a significant sporting achievement, please feel free to contact myself, Nev Down or your child's classroom teacher so that we can celebrate and commend their efforts.

SFX Football Jumpers, Singlets & Netball dresses/bibs

If you have any SFX Football jumpers, singlets or netball dresses/bibs at home could you please return them to either Mr Down or Mr Carroll.

Have a wonderful week.



Shaun Carroll, **SFX Sport Coordinator**



▶ **SS PETER & PAULS**
701 FISKEN ST
BUNINYONG 3357



▶ **ST ALIPIUS**
82 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350



▶ **PARISH OFFICE**
84 VICTORIA ST
BALLARAT EAST 3350
PH 5332 6611
OPEN TUE – FRI
10.00 AM – 1.00 PM

8 October 2023

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The God of peace will be with you

St Alipius

parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarat-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Weekday masses back in the church

Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30 AM

Saturday 9.30 AM, 6.00 PM

Sunday 9.00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

10.30 AM (2nd & 4th)

Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2nd & 4th)

10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 3 this week – 9:30 AM

Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed: Shirley Mitchell

Anniversaries: John Barnett, Mary Cooper, Vera Gittings, Timothy McKeegan

Unwell: Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Patricia Murry, Carole Simmons, Brian (Jack) Patton, Shelley Pawang

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest
Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Visiting Priest
Fr Barry Ryan

Sacramental and Parish Coordinator
Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant
Natalie Shannon

Finance Officer
Bernadette Prestwood

Child Safety Officer
Emily Clarke

PARISH VISION

The combined communities of St Alipius Parish reach out in the spirit of faith, hope, love, and acceptance, as God calls us to in the gospels.

PARISH MISSION

Our mission in the Parish of St Alipius is to actively engage and serve our combined communities, embodying the teachings of the Gospel. Strengthened in the spirit of faith, hope, love acceptance and Mercy, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment. Guided by God's call to service, we aim to build strong connections, provide spiritual nourishment, promote social justice, and offer support to individuals and families in their journey of faith. Through our dedicated interactions, we seek to deepen our relationships with God, inspire transformation, and make a positive impact in the lives of those we encounter, spreading God's love and compassion to all.



MORNING TEA

Morning tea will be on in the St Alipius Hall after the 10:30 AM mass this Sunday 8 October.

WELCOME FATHER CON

Our new parish priest next year will be Fr Concord "Con" Bagaoisan, who like Fr Jorge is a member of the Oblates of St Joseph and who has been living and working in Western Australia for the past sixteen years. Fr Con will be joining us for masses this weekend.

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

After the great success and fun that was had at last year's Melbourne Cup Luncheon, we have decided to hold the event again. You are invited to join us for a luncheon to celebrate the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday 7 November from 11 AM in St Alipius Hall. Tickets are \$20 per person. Lunch of chicken, salad and dessert will be supplied. BYO alcohol. Soft drinks will be supplied. Please confirm numbers with the parish office by 31 October. Prizes for the best male and female fascinators. Sweeps will be available. If anyone can bring a salad or a dessert, please let the office know.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Morning tea at St Alipius
After 10:30 AM, Sunday 8 October, Parish Hall

Melbourne Cup Luncheon
11:00 AM, Tuesday 7 November, Parish Hall

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your generosity is appreciated.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Supporting our parish priests | \$775 |
| Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc. | \$268 |

We invite anybody who would like to join the program to please contact the parish office.

VINNIES BREAD RUN

Each Monday night between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM, Vinnies volunteers can be found in the St. Alipius Church Hall providing bread to those in need. If this would benefit you, or someone you know, please call into the hall, and bring a bag to put the bread in.

LITURGY ROSTER

The new liturgy roster for St Alipius for the next two months has been emailed to volunteers. There are paper copies in the church foyer. If you didn't receive the roster via email and would like to, please provide the office with your email address.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Please contact the office if you would like any family members or friends who passed away in the past twelve months to be remembered in the mass of remembrance in November. Remembrance books will be placed in the foyers of both churches for parishioners to record the names of loved ones who have passed away.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS PRAYER

The Vatican is asking all baptised people, regardless of whether they will be in Rome, to participate in October's assembly of the Synod of Bishops with their prayers. More information is available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

We stand before you, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in your name. With you alone to guide us, make yourself at home in our hearts; teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in you our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of you, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

SYNOD SOCIAL MEDIA

You can follow the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on social media: Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550920686593, Instagram: www.instagram.com/16ordinarygs/, Twitter: https://twitter.com/flow/login?redirect_after_login=%2F16SynodAssembly

SVDP NATIONAL CONGRESS

In late October, the St Vincent de Paul Society will hold a three-day National Congress in Sydney. As part of the preparations for this event, all conferences have been asked to share their stories and mission with their local community. Please check out the Ballarat East Conference display – "The Hands Behind the Help" in the St Alipius foyer.

NATIVITY SCENE EXHIBITION

The Diocesan archive is presenting an exhibition of Nativity scenes from 20 November until late January 2024 and would like to include pieces from different parishes within the Diocese. If you have a Nativity scene you would like to put on display either in the archives or via the online display, please contact Samantha Fabry at archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au

SACRED HEART REUNION

A reunion of the Sacred Heart College Ballarat East class of 1965, plus anyone who attended SHC, will be held on Sunday, 15 October at GC's Ballarat from 11.00 AM – 3.00 PM. To attend phone 0419 902 538 or email loisknights345@hotmail.com.

BAPTISMS

Lucy June Hughes
Child of Brennan and Ashleigh Hughes

Delilah Leanne Reus
Child of Michael and Emily Reus

The church gives faith to your children through Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.
Pope Francis

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission has released presentations for the diocesan launch of the Social Justice Statement 2023: Listen Learn Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. This event is pre-recorded and in digital format so that parish and school communities along with individuals can access these resources at their convenience. Visit this link for more information: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement/

WINTER APPEAL THANKS

The Ballarat East Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is most grateful for the generosity shown by both parishioners and school communities to our recent winter appeal.

This year, in addition to the regular financial contributions via the envelopes, we have received a very large number of toiletry items. These donations have increased our capacity to help those most in need in our community in these particularly challenging economic times.

WORLD MISSION MONTH

In his World Mission Day message for October 2023, Pope Francis reminds us through Luke 24:13-35, "hearts on fire, feet on the move", that the missionary journey of all disciples is that upon encountering Jesus, our hearts burn within, our eyes are opened and ultimately, our feet are set out on the way.

Catholic Mission has launched the World Mission Month 2023 Appeal, highlighting the Work of Salesian Sisters in Timor-Leste. Sr Carolina, who is the face of the awareness and fundraising campaign, is a great example of the devotion of missionaries, dedicating herself to providing critical healthcare services to the rural community of Venilale in Timor-Leste. After decades of journeying with the Venilale community, Sr Carolina can summarise her understanding of Mission in a sentence: "Mission is where many people need you." Through Catholic Mission, you are invited you to journey with Sr Carolina, and walk alongside the Salesian Sisters and the resilient community of Venilale. Parishes, schools, and supporters across Australia will be encouraged to provide resources for the clinic to continue to provide life-giving services to the local community. You can contribute today by scanning or clicking on the QR code.



REFERENDUM PRAYER EVENT

An online prayer service for the referendum: Moments of healing this country, "One Journey, Together" will be held on Friday, 13 October from 8.30 AM – 9.30 AM. This will be an opportunity to pause and to reflect on our hopes for the referendum, reconciliation more broadly, and for what will follow. Scan or click the QR code to register.



PRAYING WITH THE POPE

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope, and calling us to loving service. 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – www.thepopevideo.org.

Pope's intention for October – For the Synod: We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit toward the peripheries of the world. Lord, hear us.

A Case of Systemic Injustice

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 21:33–43

The 2021-2024 Synod on Synodality, presently in session in Rome, is concerned with the call to integral ecology, to environmental as well as social justice. In other words, it is concerned with our hearing and responding to the cry of the Earth and the cry of those rendered poor.

Among the most abandoned of Earth's "poor" are those who are still enslaved. While the international community has long since outlawed slavery, we have become increasingly aware of the persistence of a lucrative global industry structured around the sexual and labour enslavement of vulnerable people and exacerbated by the recent experience of pandemic.

Today's gospel features a parable about an absentee landowner with slaves to do his bidding.

Commentators focus on almost every aspect of this parable, particularly the judgement on the religious authorities who have rejected God's messengers. Few consider the fate of the slaves as slaves in the parable.

Our contemporary sensibilities in relation to slavery invite a new reading of such texts, a reading that critiques the power that some in the Earth community exercise over other humans and over the natural world that has for so long been treated as the property of humans to manipulate at will.

The frequent translation of the Greek *doulos* (m.) and *doulē* (f.) as "servant" rather than as "slave" masks the underlying reality that some members of the community, even within the circle of believers gathered at the Eucharistic table, were actually the property of others in the community.

The son receives the same treatment as the slaves

The fact is that nobody in the ancient world, not even Jesus of Nazareth, questioned this situation. The injustice was systemic. It is not surprising, therefore, that the slaves in today's parable are considered by the "tenants" to be dispensable. Their role is to collect the fruit from the harvest on behalf of the absentee landowner.

The "tenants" clearly have no intention of parting with any portion of the produce, presumably the tax imposed on them as a condition of their tenancy. They react violently when confronted by the three slaves who are the landowner's emissaries. They beat one slave, kill another and stone yet another.

The slaves represent the landowner whose demands the tenants refuse to meet.



The landowner risks the lives of other slaves by sending yet another and bigger delegation. This second group of emissaries meets the same fate as their predecessors.

Finally, the landowner sends his own son in the expectation that the tenants will show him the respect they have denied the slaves, his property.

In fact, the son receives the same treatment as the slaves. He too is dispensable from the perspective of those wanting to seize "the inheritance", those wishing to take control of the vineyard for their own purposes.

As we reflect on gospel stories that take slavery for granted, we might commit ourselves to eliminating all exercise of power over others or over any "vineyard" entrusted to our care and to addressing issues of systemic injustice.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ISAIAH 5:1–7
PHILIPPIANS 4:6–9
MATTHEW 21:33–43

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ISAIAH 25:6–10
PHILIPPIANS 4:12–14, 19–20
MATTHEW 22:1–10

Help Your Child Overcome the Fear of Making Mistakes

Is your child afraid of trying new things because they fear making mistakes?

Here's a practical approach to change their perspective:

✿ Set Expectations

When your child is about to tackle something new, take a moment to talk to them. Say, "This is a new challenge, a chance to stretch your abilities. So, I'm anticipating some marvelous mistakes from you!" Setting this expectation lets them know that making mistakes is a natural part of learning.

✿ Normalise Mistakes

Reinforce the idea that mistakes are an essential part of the learning process. Emphasise that everyone makes them, and they are nothing to be ashamed of. Share stories of your mistakes to show that it's a universal experience.

✿ Celebrate Progress

As your child encounters mistakes, be there to support and correct them without judgment. Encourage them to see mistakes as opportunities for growth and improvement. Celebrate their efforts and progress, no matter how small.

✿ Family Motto

Establish a family motto to reinforce this positive attitude towards mistakes. For example, "In our home, mistakes are expected, respected, and corrected." Make it a part of your family's daily conversations and interactions.

Following these steps can help your child shift their perspective on mistakes. They'll begin to see them as stepping stones to improvement rather than something to fear. This approach can foster resilience and a healthier attitude toward new challenges in your child's life.



Basketball Ballarat Term 4 Community Programs

Basketball Ballarat provide children with a fun and safe basketball experience that will serve as an introduction to a lifetime involvement in the game. A wide variety of introduction to basketball programs are ran by Basketball Ballarat, allowing children to start learning basketball as young as 2 years old.

Basketball Ballarat's introduction to basketball programs:

- Aussie Hoops – perfect for children aged 4 – 7 years
- Rookie Hoops – perfect for children aged 8 – 11 years
- All Abilities Rookie Hoops – perfect for children aged 5 – 18 years whom are living with a Disability
- Mini Miners – perfect for kindergarten aged children, 2 – 4 years
- Next Level – suited for domestic players 2011-2013 born

Registrations are now open for all community hoops programs, with the programs starting the week beginning October 9th.

For more information and to register: Community – Ballarat Basketball

For further details please contact Zack Cummins via email programs@ballaratbasketball.com
or call reception on (03) 5338 1220