



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER 2023

REFLECTION By Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Three milestones in our journey of faith coalesce on Wednesday of this week: the final day of the Season of Creation 2023 with its call to “let justice and peace flow”; the release of Pope Francis’ new exhortation on integral ecology; and the opening in Rome of the Synod on Synodality. The plight of our planetary community impels us to ponder, in light of these separate but related events, the ways in which Earth cares for us.

Vineyards have provided nourishment in the ancient Mediterranean world since about 10,000 BCE. It is not surprising then that the biblical record frequently references vines and vineyards and that the vineyard becomes a metaphor for God’s “workplace”. In today’s gospel, Jesus tells the story of a father who sends his sons to work in the vineyard. One refuses and then reconsiders: he has the courage to change his mind. The second son agrees and then fails to do as his father requests: he is not prepared to make his contribution to family life and wellbeing. These siblings find their counterparts in every age. There are those who make an art form of saying yes and failing to follow through with action: such people can seriously undermine the best of projects or plans. And then there are the slow starters, those who take time but eventually come on board.

Jesus’ parable is a response to the Temple authorities who are angered by the “amazing things” he does and by the public recognition he receives. Like the second son, the chief priests and elders profess to do the will of God, but their actions belie their words. Jesus spells out the meaning of the parable as it relates to the disjunction between what they say and what they do. They have rejected the prophet John who came to them “in the way of righteousness”. The tax collectors and prostitutes, “sinners” from the perspective of the authorities, accepted John’s message, albeit belatedly like the first son, and are making their way into God’s empire ahead of the guardians of the religious institutions.

Changing one’s mind is seen as a sign of weakness in our society. For evidence of this, one has only to listen to the taunts when a political leader changes course. Changing one’s mind or one’s course of action can be an act of great courage and humility, even heroism. This is particularly so if it involves abandoning a self-serving direction for the sake of justice or compassion for the common good. Voluntary changes in behaviour come from a change of heart, from what the gospel calls “metanoia”. There is always a cost in the pursuit of justice, including the cost to those who challenge the refusal to act on the climate crisis. Today’s parable invites us to bring our actions into line with what we profess, no matter the cost. That is what it means to accept today’s invitation to work in the vineyard, God’s workplace.

DAYLIGHT SAVING BEGINS

This is a reminder to turn your clocks FORWARD one hour for the start of 2023-2024 daylight saving period on Sunday 1 October 2023.

Clocks are moved clockwise one hour from 2am to 3am.



World Mission Sunday – celebrate across Australia and the world on the weekend of 21st/22nd October.

This year, Pope Francis writes in his Message for World Mission Day 2023,

“...it should be remembered that breaking our material bread with the hungry in the name of Christ is already a work of Christian mission. How much more so is the breaking of the Eucharistic bread, which is Christ himself, a work of mission par excellence, since the Eucharist is the source and summit of the life and mission of the Church.”

It is in this spirit that Catholic Mission invites parishioners in every diocese in Australia to join with them again and support their brothers and sisters in Timor-Leste.

Caritas Australia’s Emergency Appeals – Morocco / Libya

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia’s emergency appeals.

Donate at www.caritas.org.au



Entrance Antiphon

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Entrance Hymn CWB II 500 v1,2,3

God, whose purpose is to kindle;
now ignite us with your fire;
while the earth awaits your burning,
with your passion us inspire.
Overcome our sinful calmness,
stir us with your saving name;
baptise with your fiery Spirit,
crown our lives with tongues of flame.

God, who in your holy gospel
wills that all should truly live,
make us sense our share of failure,
our tranquillity forgive.
Teach us courage as we struggle
in all liberating strife;
lift the smallness of our vision
by your own abundant life.

God, who still a sword delivers
rather than a placid peace,
with your sharpened word disturb us,
from complacency release!
Save us now from satisfaction,
when we privately are free,
yet are undisturbed in spirit
by our neighbour's misery.


Text: based on Luke 12:49; David E. Trueblood, 1900-1994, alt; © 1967, David Elton Trueblood
Tune: IN BABILONE 87.87D; oude en Nieuwe Hollanste Boerenlietjes c.1970

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-9



Re - mem - ber your mer - cies, O — Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

R

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

R

3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.

R

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, “My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not go,” but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, “Certainly, sir,” but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
*and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.*
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Save us, Saviour of the world, who by your Cross
and Resurrection you have set us free.

Amen, amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Refrain: *The Lord hears the cry of the poor.
Blessed be the Lord.*

I will bless the Lord at all times,
with praise ever in my mouth.
Let my soul glory in the Lord,
who will hear the cry of the poor.

Let the lowly hear and be glad:
the Lord listens to their pleas;
and to hearts broken God is near,
who will hear the cry of the poor.

Refrain

Every spirit crushed God will save;
will be ransom for their lives;
will be safe shelter for their fears,
and will hear the cry of the poor.

We proclaim your greatness, O God,
your praise ever on our lips;
every face brighten in your light,
for you hear the cry of the poor

CWB II 613 v1,2,3,5

The Church of Christ in every age
beset by change but Spirit led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live until they die.

Then let the servant Church arise,
a caring Church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.

We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord;
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread his liberating word.

6.30pm: Nun danket alle Gott – Knecht

Rebecca Lobianco & Daniel Stebbing



Engaging Your Faith Online Series

Engaging Your Faith is a series of short, online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world.

Experienced lecturers from Catholic Theological

College present on a variety of topics such as Philosophy, Spirituality, Biblical Studies, Christian Meditation, Theology, Interfaith Relations, and issues in Science and Religion. These sessions are eligible for maintaining accreditation for teaching in Catholic schools in all Victorian and Queensland dioceses. In other dioceses, teachers should check with their education office.

For a full description of the sessions please go to - <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

Cost

- \$25 per session: for people NOT seeking teaching accreditation
- \$40 per session: teachers seeking accreditation

DATES

Monday 16 October 2023 - Thursday 2 November 2023 (UTC+10)



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

Aid to the Church in Need is running an emergency campaign for Pakistan. Recently up to 24 churches, hundreds of Christian homes and a Christian cemetery were targeted in an attack in

Pakistan which was sparked by reports of blasphemy allegations against two Christians accused of desecrating the Qur'an.

ACN is working with project partners on the ground to aid the current needs of the Christian people. To learn more and to make an offering visit www.aidtochurch.org/pakistanappeal or scan the QR code.



Waiting at the Well - 4x Thu, 5, 12, 19 & 26 Oct,
10am - 12.30pm (in-person event)
Carole Carmody rsm, Julie Adam



This series offers an opportunity for those waiting to have their thirst quenched at the Well of Life to explore the depths of wisdom in their own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another, and to dwell in the Heart of Contemplation. Places limited.

Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/waiting-at-the-well-series/> or email info@heartoflife.melbourne. Cost \$100 for the series or \$30 per session.

EXTRAORDINARY FORM LATIN MASS

In the Sacred Heart Chapel at
St Patrick's Cathedral every
Wednesday at 5.30pm

HOLY HOUR HELD IN THE CATHEDRAL EVERY THURSDAY AT 6.30PM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Each Friday at the conclusion of the
1.00pm Mass,
in the Sacred Heart Chapel.
Exposition until 2.15pm.

CATHEDRAL MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 7.00am and 1.00pm
(1.00pm live streamed - Link: www.youtube.com/user/archmelb) Saturday 8.00am and 6.00pm.
(Vigil)

Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.30pm.
(11.00am televised on C31. and live streamed on
CAM) Link: www.youtube.com/user/archmelb

Reconciliation will be held Tuesday to Friday at
12pm and on Saturday mornings at 8.30am.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

**We pray for the sick and for all
who have asked for our prayers.**

**We pray for all those who have
died recently and those whose
anniversaries we remember at
this time, especially**

**Danuta Eva Hogan,
Pauline Henry Lopez and
Sarjit Singh**

Archbishop

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Dean of

St Patrick's Cathedral

Monsignor Stuart Hall

Master of Ceremonies

Rev. Michael Buck

Assistant Priest

Rev. Jaycee Napoles

Priest in Residence

Rev. Philip Mathew

Chaplain: St Vincent's Hospital

Director of Music

Dr. Philip Matthias

Cathedral Organist

Dion Henman

Cathedral Singers

Christopher Mason

Director

Thomas Grubb

Organist

St Patrick's Cathedral Choir

in partnership with

St Kevin's College, Toorak

Cathedral Parish

Office Coordinator

Julie Allan

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Cathedral Administration

Assistant

Huong Nguyen

SAFEGUARDING.

Child Protection Officer:

Rev Jaycee Napoles

Please refer to the two new posters
'Rights and Responsibilities' and
'Feel safe and be Safe at Our Church'
at the entrances of the Cathedral
<https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding>.

St Patrick's Cathedral Young Adult Ministry (SPCYAM)

(age 18 to 40 yrs old)

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at
Cathedral Room, CKC Centre,
383 Albert St, East Melbourne

Last Saturday of each month;
6pm mass, followed by meal.

Contact Fr. Jaycee Napoles
(Jaycee.Napoles@cam.org.au)