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Reflection by Richard Leonard SJ

argaret Thatcher once claimed that the Parable of Good the Samaritan showed Jesus' endorsement of the benefits of capitalism! The Baroness' logic ran that the hero of this famous story is the one who could afford to pay for the victim's care. She surmised that the reason the Samaritan had the wherewithal to do such a charitable act was because he worked hard and saved his money wisely. Her Ladyship said this central Christian parable was a justification of her government's policies demanding that unemployed people work for social security and be educated about saving their pennies.

Politicians should stay away from biblical interpretation and theology. It has a habit of saying the opposite of what they think or want it too. Like many people, Lady Thatcher reads this parable in terms of charity and even then she is not really right. Jesus, however, says it is a lesson in mercy. The difference matters.

It is not by accident that the phrase 'as cold as charity' is still current. Deciding on whom we will be kind to, just based on our 'warm fuzzies' and the glow of our purses, may make us feel good; but it will result in a very wintry experience for the not-so-lucky recipient. When we 'do' charitable things, we can often remain powerful and untouched by the situation of those our money helps.

St Thomas Aquinas, however, calls charity the mother of all virtues. He argues it is more concerned with the feelings of the heart than external action. Aquinas maintains that charity enables us to sort through our desires, to see what we really want – whom we actually love; it helps us use the other virtues to act accordingly. Christian charity is not a feel-good moment; it is a lifechanging experience. Understood this way, the Good Samaritan can be a great example of charity, but quite differently from that outlined in the Gospel according to Margaret!

For Jesus, nonetheless, he is a model of mercy. The Good Samaritan is not 'good' because he has the money to act on what he sees. His greatness is that he has eyes to see it at all. To really see it. The priest and the morality-teaching levite pretend it's not happening and walk on the other side of the road. But the most unlikely, the least liked person in Israel – a Samaritan – has the view of mercy. */Cont'd P4...*

- 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Year C - July 14, 2019)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: Gen 18:1-10 2nd Reading: Col 1:24-28 Gospel: Lk 10:38-42



PARISH PRAYER:

God our Father, bless this parish so that we may love you more. Help the parents to be a good example to the children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow, joy. May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Heavenly Father, help us to respond to and live out our mission in the Church, and in the world.

Help all your people to know their vocation in life and assist them to live it well.

For your greater glory and for the service of your people, call many to be priests and religious.

Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Michael's Parish at Prayer



WEEKEND MASSES: Holy Family, Bell Park:

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

11am Sundav

Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West: 5.00pm Saturdav

English... 8am and 9.30am Sunday Croatian... 11am Sunday Slovenian.. 12.15pm every 2nd Sunday of the month

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Tues (followed by Novena to St Anthony), 9.15am Thurs 9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am 1st Sat. Reconciliation after Saturday Mass McKellar Centre: 10.15am - 1st Tuesday (3rd & 5th Communion Service) Multicultural Centre: 1.30pm - 1st Friday; Elstoft House (formerly Vincentian Village): 3.00pm 1st & 3rd Tuesday, (2nd & 4th Communion Service)

St John of God Hospital: 11.30am every Thursday in SJOG Chapel

BAPTISMS:

Holy Spirit:

1st & 3rd Sundays 12noon at Holy Spirit, 2nd & 4th Sundays 12.30pm at Ss P&P, 3rd Sunday 2pm at Holy Family

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Mon... Holy Family Women's Prayer Group Tues... Meditation Group Wed... Prayer of the Church Holy Family Women's Prayer Group Wed... Thurs... Italian Prayer Group Fri... Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Fri... Divine Mercv Rosary Sat...

10.00am 5.30pm Before 9am Mass 10.00am 10.00am After 11am Mass 3.00pm After 9am Mass

Holy Family Community Centre Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

July 2-16: Romios family, 85 Sunderland St

If anyone would like to have Our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help, ph Tina Montalto on 5278 9314.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS:	Sr Helen Parker CSB, Anica Pavicic and Carmelo Nesci
ANNIVERSARIES:	Sr Brigid Lourey RSM, William Vickers, Lucy Murphy, Hilda Smith, Tindara Rao, Anibal Correia and 1 month since death of Amalia Zaino
BAPTISMS:	Alexander Cairns, Lawson Miller, Brian O'Donnell, Max Pell, Darcy Lanigan, Van Millar, Ava Taylor and Coco & Felix Santilli
PRAY FOR THE SICK:	Colleen Laffy, Allan Ansell, Alexander, Sandra Klinge, Cheryl Lambert, Erin Kinch, Veronica Werzak, Cassie McColl, Margaret Barry, Martin Simic

Roster for Next Sunday

(3rd Sunday of the Month)

Ss PETER & PAUL'S - 5.00PM

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist Co-Ordinator

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors **Special Ministers** Welcomers Projectionist Co-Ordinator

K Maddalena K Maddalena

D Whelan M Gifford, 5229 1656

8.00AM

M Howard P. Carvalho Sr Concepta, P Ruggeri, R Culo P Ruggeri, R Culo R Allum L. Kelly, 0409 291 138

HOLY SPIRIT - 11AM

M Kroger J McKenzie L Stalio L Fossev F Kearney

9.30AM

A Scaddan H Verdnik, T McMahon M Fiorillo, M. Perera E Dalton C Resciniti J Mann, 0488 784 802

Recurring Activities in St Michael's:

Rosary...

St Michael's Luncheon... Holy Family Luncheon.. Holy Family Women's Group... St Vincent de Paul...

Legion of Mary... Baptism Preps Holy Family Choir Practice... Manifold CWL... Italian Mass... Catholic Diners' Club... The Rosary is recited at 8.45am Tues and Thurs in Holy Family Church prior to the 9.15am Masses First Sunday of each month at the Holy Spirit Hall from 12noon. BYO food and drink to share. Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. **BYO casserole & drink to share**. First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 6.30pm Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre 7pm. Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 5.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall Every Friday 9.30am in the Holy Family Community Centre 4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre Every Wednesday night at Holy Family Church 7pm Holy Spirit Hall, 1st Wednesdays in the month First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel 2nd Tues of each month, 6.15pm at Capri Receptions. Dinner/Guest Speaker - ph 0431 959 584 **ese groups as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools our**

If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our Baptism and Wedding procedures, our Partnership with the Columbans in the Philippines and so on, please visit our webpage:

www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

St Michael's News:

"COME AND LISTEN TO THE GOOD NEWS"

Christ is calling for you to Listen!

A series of Catechesis will be given at St Michael's Community Centre, 147 Separation St Bell Park **Monday and Thursday evenings from 7-8pm**

Each evening gives an opportunity to pray, to encounter and experience the Church in a deep and enriching way.

- WELCOME SR KATE O'NEILL: Fr Prakash and parishioners of St Michael's extend a warm welcome to Sr Kate on her three yearly visit to Geelong. In the coming weeks Sr Kate will speak at our weekend Masses and visit our three Primary Schools. Fundraising ideas to support the Philippines Partnership are in the pipeline further details to follow.
- PARISH LEADERSHIP MEETING: Wednesday July 17, 7pm at the Parish Community Centre.
- CUP OF TEA AND COFFEE AFTER THE 9.30AM HOLY FAMILY MASS: An invitation is extended to all parishioners to join us after the 9.30am Mass each Sunday at Holy Family Church for a Cuppa. All are most welcome!
- PLENARY COUNCIL 2020: National Theme for Discernment How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is a Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community? This National theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a yearning for the Church to be a sign of God's kingdom for all people in Australia - to be able to see the Catholic Church in action, and to recognise Jesus. Find out more at plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The lawyer asked a self-serving question: 'Who is my neighbour?' He could then set the limits, the boundaries of those close enough to merit his concern. Jesus replies with a story to show that the better question is: 'To whom should I be neighbourly?'

The answer is: To any person who is wounded in any way – physically, psychologically, socially, economically. And we have to do so overcoming the labelling, even bigotry, which can conveniently put a person outside the range of our concern. When we act like the Samaritan, we deserve the title 'Catholic' which means universal.

Pope Francis says that Christ is constantly inviting us, as he invited Thomas, to touch His wounds which are to be found in the wounded of our own time.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that we live in an age of technology which can enable us to be truly Catholic global citizens practising Mercy Without Borders. 'Do this and you will live.'

Community News:

- July 14... REMEMBERING ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, NORTH GEELONG: All former pupils of St John's North Geelong and their family members are warmly invited to attend the launch of *"Remembering St John's North Geelong 1923-1966"* at Celie's Bistro, Sacred Heart College Newtown, at 2.30pm. The book of 206 pages contains contributions from more than 40 former pupils.
- July 16... KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Annual District Meeting next Tuesday 7.30pm in St Bernard's Church Foyer Area. Very important to attend. Bring a plate of supper please.
- July 28... MUSIC AT THE BASILICA 'SEASONS' SERIES: *Brazilian Adventures* Windfire Chamber Choir with rarely performed choral gems, music of Villa Lobos. 3pm St Mary's Basilica, tickets \$50/45/40 at the door or trybooking.com/BABCY
- Aug 11... MUSIC AT THE BASILICA 'SEASONS' SERIES: *Terra Australis* Australian Chamber Choir links great choral works with voyages in search of Terra Australis, the fabled Great Southern Land. 3pm St Mary's Basilica, tickets \$50/45/40 at the door or <u>www.auschoir.org</u>
- Sept 15... MUSIC AT THE BASILICA 'SEASONS' SERIES: Lauridsen the Mystic Turod Choristers present contemporary settings of breath-taking music imbued with Greek modes and Gregorian plainchant. Tickets \$35/30 at the door or ww.trybooking.com/BABDA

VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RELIEF INTAKE WORKERS REQUIRED:

In Geelong and Norlane locations, commencing July 2019. CatholicCare's new Emergency Relief Program is looking for three volunteers to commit to a morning or afternoon a week at either of our Geelong or Norlane branches. Geelong - Tuesday 12-4pm or Friday 9am-1pm and Norlane - Wednesday 12-4pm, commencing as early as possible. Contact Details from Matt Walton 9926 5699 or email <u>Matthew.Walton@ccam.org.au</u> You will need good interpersonal skills, interview and assessment skills, customer service, data entry and confidential recording, supported referrals.

GEELONG FAITH AND LIGHT FUNDRAISER:

Summer in the Forest - Wednesday 31 July, 6pm at Pivotonian Cinema, cnr Moorabool & Verner Sts South Geelong. This is a special screening of a beautiful new documentary on the work of Jean Vanier and the worldwide L'Arche communities, showing the value of friendship with those with a disability. Funds raised will assist the formation of the new Geelong Faith & Light Friendship and Prayer community for those who have disability and their families and friends, which is being hosted by St Mary's Parish. *Please book ASAP to ensure the screening can go ahead*. Further information or to book offline or enquire about Faith and Light, please call Tricia O'Keeffe on 0414 672 267.

MUSIC AT THE BASILICA - A COUNTRY RAMBLE:

Saturday 9 November - Leave from outside the Basilica at 9am, return 4.30pm. Only \$50 tickets available so early bookings essential. Travel by luxury coach through lovely country to three charming country and coastal churches in Torquay, Inverleigh and Winchelsea for three varied and beautiful concerts. Morning tea at Bellbrae Chocolaterie and lunch at Winchelsea Tavern included in the ticket price of \$95 full, \$85 concession with \$20 refundable deposit on booking. Balance by October 25. More details on www.musicatthebasilica.org.au



KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS:

Are looking for active, mature Catholic men to become part of our organisation. Enquiries to Ray Henry 0418 350 679.

/Cont'd from P1...

Christian tradition teaches us that mercy and justice are intertwined. Thomas Aquinas says that mercy helps us hear, and justice calls for us to do something. The Samaritan does what he can at the scene of the crime and then he takes the victim with him. He not only sees, but judges and acts. In doing so, he breaks nearly every religious and social law in the book; but it doesn't matter. The virtues of mercy and justice enable us to see all sorts of things more clearly, even civil and religious laws that inhibit the justice of God.

This entire episode in Luke's Gospel is about the movement from an individualised faith, which can think that it is just 'me and Jesus against the world', to a faith that goes out to the world acting mercifully and justly. This parable is about what we see, whom we love, and what we want to do about it.

The example of the Good Samaritan should enliven our charity, mercy and justice; and it should challenge us to see clearly who needs to be carried with us on the Gospel road.