#### 21 August, 21st Sunday, Year C

# TEMORA MISSION AREA

#### Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Ariah Park

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In our Prayers: Robyn Richards, Barry Carroll, Neville Caldow, Ray Fairman, Kashaya Kuemmel,

**For our Deceased:** Dulcie Ridley, *(Shirley's sister)* Hamilton Lucas, Dinah Wood, Jim O'Dwyer, Richard Beaumont, Jim Tuckett. *(anna,,sary)* Iney Lynch

August 27—28Ariah Park 6.00 p.m.MassTemora 10.00 a.m.MassArdlethan 9.00 a.m. Barellan 10.00 a.m.

## Reflection

*Entering God's Kingdom.* It is frustrating to arrive at a shop a few minutes after it has closed, or at an event only to discover that all tickets have been sold. There is nothing we can do about it. We have no automatic right of entry. The same applies to God's kingdom. To join the many people from east and west at the heavenly banquet we must strive to follow Jesus along the narrow and sometimes difficult path of love.

#### World Water Week (23 August-1 September)

World Water Week is the leading conference on global water issues, held every year since 1991. The Week attracts a diverse mix of participants from many professional backgrounds and every corner of the world. Through discussions and seminars it is hoped that solutions to the planet's greatest water-related challenges, such as poverty, the climate crisis, and biodiversity loss can be developed. The theme for 2022 is *Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water*. Let us pray that World Water Week may open our eyes to the priceless value of water for all earth's creatures.

#### **First Reconciliation**



Next Saturday four children, Annabelle, Ella, Fletcher and Scarlett will celebrate their First Reconciliation before Mass at Ariah Park. May we hold each of them and their family in our prayer that they may know a little more deeply the reality of God's merciful love and care for them.

#### Reflections

"The Second Vatican Council reflected on the Church's experience of working side by side with religious people and secular humanists throughout the world who were as committed as we are to justice, love and freedom. In the **'Declaration on the relationship of the Church to non-Christian religions'**, the bishops thought more generously about how God has a relationship with all people who in turn relate to God, even if they do not name it in the same way we are able to. The Council did not resile from believing that Jesus is the way to the Father, but they also affirmed that God can work in an infinite number of ways to assist people to salvation. It is Church teaching now that our relationship to all people who share the best of our values must be characterised by acceptance, collaboration, dialogue and charity.

This does not make salvation any less important. It just clarifies for us that it is God, not us, who does the saving and the judging. Christian salvation marks us out as people who know who we are following, where we are going, how we are getting there and why this world, and the next, matters to us. Salvation gives our lives meaning, direction and purpose. The way we live out this salvation should be irresistible to others. As the folk hymn sings, '*They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.'* Fr Richard Leonard sj

#### "Jesus explains that the saved will be the people known by the master. Salvation becomes the equivalent of being known by Christ. It is the experience of the people who have walked his way. Being known by Christ requires more than the gestures and rituals of worship. It implies listening so deeply that Christ's word lives in us. Jesus intimates that he really knows only those who have allowed him into their lives so completely that they reflect and actually represent him in their own context. This is Luke's version of "I know mine and mine know me." Understood from this perspective, we see how Jesus' reply to the question "Will many be saved?" flips the focus back on the questioner. In essence, Jesus is asking, "Are you seeking my way of life or prestigious status?" Those who seek rank will find it, and find it shallow. Those who follow Jesus down his road and through his gate will find that they are the least made first, the lowly who will shine with God's own glory. Sr Mary McGlone csj

## The Hope of Loving

What keeps us alive, what allows us to endure? I think it is the hope of loving, or being loved. I heard a fable once about the sun going on a journey to find its source and how the moon wept without her lover's warm gaze. We weep when light does not reach our hearts. We wither like fields if someone close does not rain their kindness upon us. Meister Eckhart

Roster 28 August	Leader: Linda

Reader: Ian

Minister: John