

Parish Newsletter

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 8 SEPTEMBER 2019
CYCLE C | ISSUE 41

It is great to find a reliable plumber, electrician, hairdresser, or somebody else who provides prompt, efficient and competent service. They know what they are about and they instil confidence in the people availing of their services.

Jesus attracted huge crowds wherever he went and many professed a desire to follow him. He saw that some of these had no idea of what it would mean to become a disciple. They had not weighed up the cost and could not be relied upon to stay the course, like a builder who started to build a house without seeing if he had the resources to finish the project.

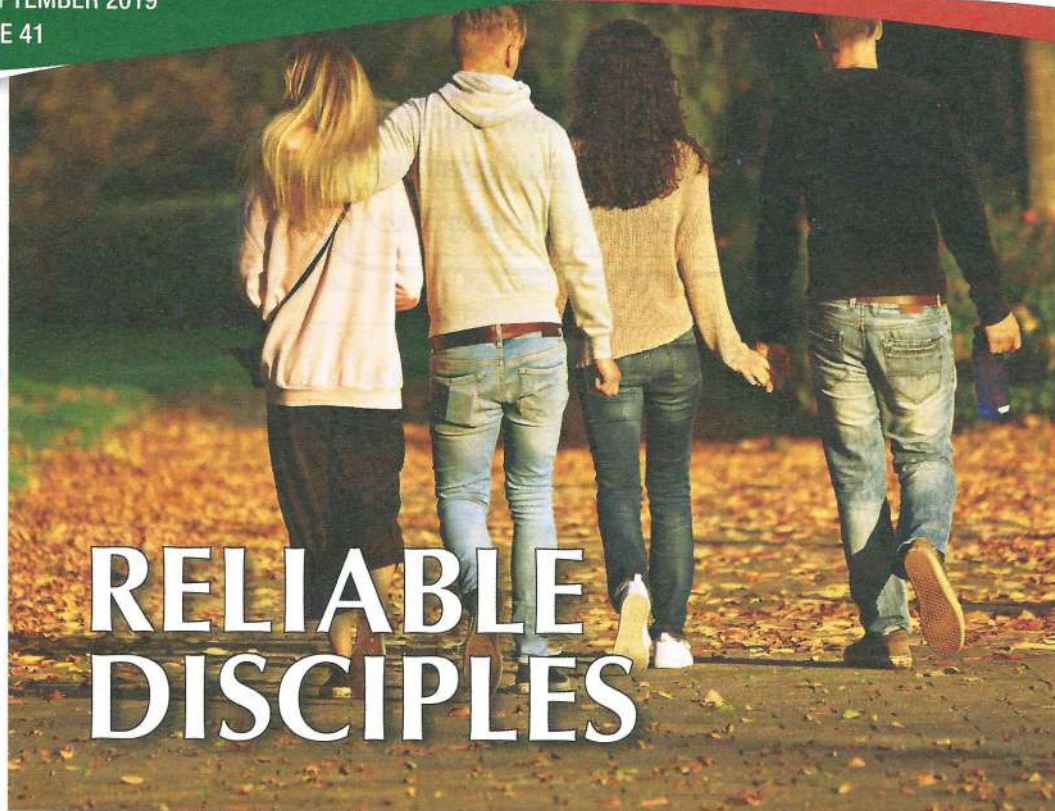
It is a great privilege to be a follower of Jesus but it is a challenge to be a reliable follower of Jesus and an effective witness to the Good News that he revealed.

Being a follower of Jesus means taking on the attitudes of Jesus as our own. It means

- trusting God as Jesus did,
- making his project of teaching people to live in right relationships with themselves and with one another our own
- being a compassionate presence in the world as he was

That's a tall order!

Developing a belief that God is always with us is something that will not happen overnight. It is the fruit of time spent in prayer, reflecting on the word of God and meditating on the lessons life teaches us. It needs what



might be called a 'contemplative' approach to life. Do we give ourselves the time and the space to acquire this?

Jesus promoted the reign of God, a social project to make the world a better place. We are here to make a difference. In making our own contribution to a better world we also bring out the best in ourselves. As Pope Francis said: 'We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves!' (The Joy of the Gospel). And again: 'Those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of

communicating life to others.' (ibid) One way in which we do this is when we view others with the same compassion that Jesus showed in his life, reaching out to the hurt, forgiving those who have offended us or encouraging those who are afraid. As Christ put a human face on God's love for us, we also can do this for others whom we meet.

Becoming Christ-like is the task of a lifetime and there is no project more worthy of a Christian.

— John Byrne, OSA

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS



Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
Psalm 50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-32



THIS WEEK (9-15 SEPTEMBER)

- 9 Mon** St Ciaran, abbot; St Peter Claver, priest
- 10 Tue** St Nicholas of Tolentino, monk
- 11 Wed** St Deiniol, bishop
- 12 Thur** The Most Holy Name of Mary
- 13 Fri** St John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor
- 14 Sat** THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
- 15 Sun** 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Reflection

When have you been inspired by the perseverance in helping others that you have seen in another?



Lesson

If we want to grow physically, mentally, or spiritually we will plan how this can be done.



Prayer

'Make us know the shortness of our life, that we may gain wisdom of heart.' (Ps 90)