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|  | * **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 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | 13th October 2024  Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time  ‘Go and sell whatever you have and come follow me.’ | |
| [ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au)  [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarat-east/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarat-east/) | |
| MASS TIMES | | we pray for **Faithfully departed:** Sheila White  **Anniversaries:** Sandra Van – Kempen, Vera Gittings, Eileen Power  **Unwell:** Socorro De Chavez, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Carole Simmons, Kevin Cummins Parish Team **Parish Priest**  Fr Justin Driscoll  **Assistant Priest**  Fr Matthew Restall  **Parish Coordinator**  Cathy Prunty  **Administrative Assistant**  Natalie Shannon  **Finance Officer**  TBA  **Child Safety Officer**  Emily Clarke  Principal – St. Alipius School  Phone: 5331 1816 | 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.  A white background with black text  Description automatically generated  **World Mission Month** |
| **St Alipius**  Tue 5:30 PM  Wed 11:00 am Mercy Place – parishioners welcome  Thurs & Fri 9:30 AM  Sat 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM Vigil  Sun 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](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)  Counting team 2 | |
| Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.  We acknowledge this land's traditional owners and custodians and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging. | |

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| BaptismS |
| **Oakleigh Grace Gorman**  Child of Timothy Garman and Stephanie Vassallo |
| ***“I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”*** |

### SISTERS OF MERCY CELEBRATE

This weekend a number of our Sisters of Mercy are celebrating the anniversary of their profession. We are grateful for the work of the following sisters and congratulate each of them. Please keep them in your prayers.

**70 years**

Sr. Leslie Dickinson

**60 years**

Sr. Maryanne Dwyer, Sr. Gerardine Cooney and

Sr. Maureen Molloy

**50 years**

Sr. Monique Nyland

### Melbourne Cup Lunch

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 5 November from 11 AM in St Alipius Hall. Tickets are $25 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 contact the parish office.

Planned Giving Program

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our planned giving program. Your generosity is appreciated*.*

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| Supporting our parish priests | $838 |
| Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc. | $453.20 |

If you have any queries about your Planned Giving, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office and we would be very happy to help out where we can.

communion to the homebound

Do you find yourself with an hour or two to spare every couple of weeks? If so have you given any thought to taking communion to those who cannot, for whatever reason, gather with us at masses. This is a rewarding role which brings great comfort to many. If this is something you think you might have some time for,

please contact the parish office for more information.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT MASS**

Next weekend at our 6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Alipius, as we prepare for our December anniversaries, we will remember and acknowledge the impact of sexual abuse in our Parish. We recommit to truth, justice and healing for all and the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Natalie Shannon and Russell Gleeson who will be married in our parish next Saturday, October 19th at 1.45 pm. Natalie has been known to this parish since she was very young and we are excited that she is taking this next step in her life. All are welcome to come along to St. Alipius on Saturday to witness the marriage of Nat and Russell.

**VIT REGISTRATION**

Teachers who participate in various roles in our parish are reminded that VIT registrations should have been renewed at the end of September. Please provide a copy of your updated registration for the coming 12 months to the parish office as soon as possible.

### Mass of Remembrance

Our annual Remembrance Mass, **celebrating the lives of those who have passed away in the last 12 months** will be at 6:00 PM on Saturday 2 November at St Alipius. These people will be remembered at all masses that weekend. If you have lost a loved one in the past twelve months, but they weren’t buried from our parish, please contact the parish office to have them remembered at this mass. A cuppa will follow the 6:00 PM mass at St. Alipius and a cuppa will follow the 10:30 AM mass at Buninyong. Please spread the word.

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| **UPCOMING DATES** |
| **Anniversary Planning Meeting**  October 13th @ 3 pm – Hall  **Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**  October 31st @ 6.30 pm - Presbytery  **Remembrance Mass**  November 2nd @ 6pm – St. Alipius Church  **Melbourne Cup Luncheon**  November 5th @ 11 am – Parish Hall  **Anniversary Mass & Picnic**  December 14th @ 6pm – Church and Grounds |

**PARISH ANNIVERSARY – DEC 14TH**

We hope that by now you have marked December 14th as an important date in your diary. The anniversary committee have been busy making plans for this special day and are able to share some of the details with you. On the day we hope that many will be able to gather to take time viewing the displays which have been prepared. These displays will take help you to remember the many groups and people who have been part of the history of the parish. There will also be interviews with parishioners who have taken time to share their memories of their time at St. Alipius. Mass will be celebrated at the usual time of 6pm with a liturgy and will then be followed by a picnic in the grounds of the church/presbytery. During this time people are invited to bring a picnic tea or take advantage of the sausage sizzle which will be happening in the grounds. More information will be available in coming weeks. A big thank you to the many parishioners who have been meeting and put time in to ensure that this occasion is a memorable one. If you know of people who are no longer in the parish, but would be keen to attend, please don’t hesitate to share the information with them.

**VOLUNTEER AT MERCY PLACE**

Mercy Place is welcoming new volunteers to our team. Join us for an informative session on Monday 21st, October from 10am -- 11.30am where you can enjoy some morning tea while discovering how you can contribute to your community.

60 Corbett Street, Ballarat East.

For more information, phone Olivia on 5327 1888

**OFFICE HOURS**

Please note that for the coming three weeks, the office will only be open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Please ensure that anything for the bulletin is submitted by 11am on Thursday.

**THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY**

The assembly is taking place Oct. 2-27 in Rome with a focus on *“How to Be a Missionary Synodal Church.”* Pope Francis, opened the Synod, which is meant to deepen the missionary perspective of the Church, said *“Let us be careful not to see our contributions as points to defend at all costs or agendas to be imposed…Ours is not a parliamentary assembly but rather a place of listening in communion.”* Pope Francis says the Catholic Church must first acknowledge its sins and ask for forgiveness before it can be credible in carrying out the mission Jesus Christ entrusted to the Church. The day before the synod began, at a public vigil, “some of the sins that cause the most pain and shame were called by name, invoking God’s mercy.” During the prayer service, people spoke about their experiences of being harmed by sexual abuse, war, and indifference toward migrants. Attendees requested forgiveness “in the name of all the baptized” for “sin against peace, sin against creation, against Indigenous populations, against migrants; sin of abuse; sin against women, family, youth; sin of using doctrine as stones to be hurled; sin against poverty; sin against synodality/lack of listening, communion, and participation of all.”

The overall format for the Synod includes daily prayer, theological reflections, and [**“conversation in the Spirit”**](https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/255793/examining-the-synod-on-synodality-s-conversation-in-the-spirit) in small working groups . The tone of the opening days of the Synod’s final assembly signals that those hoping for sweeping change may be disappointed. This assembly will bring to a close a remarkable three-year ecclesial event aimed at bringing the yeast of synodality into the Church’s daily bread. The Synod has been turned from “an occasional event to an ecclesial process that extends in space and time”. It has become a mechanism of ecclesial discernment that begins with consultations and gatherings of the People of God and concludes with bishops’ assemblies that include plenty of non-bishops, which finally makes proposals to the Pope. And thus, presumably, it will now continue to be. The Synod journey has recovered ancient habits of listening, participation and discernment, and found new structures and methods to encourage these in the ordinary life of the Church. Accountability, transparency, discernment – all these belong “to the oldest of the Church’s traditions”, and “found in the very nature of the Church as a mystery of communion”.

Earlier this week Bishop of Sandhurst Shane Mackinlay was elected as the Oceania representative on a commission charged with overseeing the drafting of the final Synod document. He is one of 14 Australians taking part in the Second Assembly of the Synod.

#### “Taking the Risk of Sharing

#### our Goods”

#### Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Not too many of us commit murder or adultery. Not too many take hostages or give false testimony in a court of law. Most are ready to honour and care for their parents in their old age. In other words, most of us are basically decent and honest and could make the same claim as does the wealthy man who runs up to Jesus, namely that we have kept the commandments from our youth. The man’s question is actually a strange one. He wants to know what he must *do* in order to inherit eternal life. He seems unaware that inheritance depends, not on what one does, but on who one is. Jesus responds to the greeting, “Good Teacher”, with a reminder that God is the source of all goodness, and then lets his questioner know that keeping the commandments is not enough. Interestingly, Jesus adds a commandment that is not actually numbered among the “ten” but is to be found in an Essene document from Qumran: “You shall not defraud”. This prepares the way for what follows.

First-century Mediterranean societies were “limited goods” societies. If a person acquired wealth, it was invariably understood to be at the expense of others. The wealthy were therefore looked upon with suspicion. Although Jesus looks at the man lovingly, he may nonetheless be hinting that this person’s wealth has been acquired fraudulently.

Jesus offers a challenge that the man is unable to meet: to sell what he has, give the proceeds to the poor, have “treasure in heaven”, and “follow” him. The man retains his possessions and acquires a burden, the burden of sorrow. Jesus admits that sharing one’s goods with those in need is too hard for some, but not for those who are open to the power of God at work in their lives.

The concluding verses are puzzling. In declaring that those who have left everything and followed him are to have an abundance of this world’s goods as well as eternal life, is Jesus modifying his earlier position? Is he reverting to a tradition that saw wealth as God’s reward for righteous living? Is he suggesting that those who share their goods find they have more than enough? It is hard to know. The twist in the tale is that they will do it hard: “not without persecution”. It is likely that Mark is describing his own experience within a persecuted community of believers some forty years after the death of Jesus. The happy ones were doubtless those who took the risk of sharing their goods with those in need. Our privileged country has still to learn that lesson, even with respect to ensuring a roof over every head. In our society, shareholders’ gains generally come before societal justice. Welcoming the stranger and sharing our wealth with the dispossessed may demand of us a simpler way of life. Who knows what blessings might come to the many if we dare to take up the challenge?

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

29TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Isaiah 53:10-11

Hebrews 4:14-16

Mark 10:35-45

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

28TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Wisdom 7:7-11

Hebrews 4:12-13

Mark 10:17-27