

16 April 2023

Second Sunday of Easter

*Jesus came and stood among them*

# St Alipius parish



▶ **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  
10.00 AM – 1.00 PM

[ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/)

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Mon (No Mass)

Tues 2 PM Funeral Mass (Frank Nolan)

Wed 9.30 AM

Thurs (No Mass)

Fri 9:30 AM, Sat 9.30 AM & 6:00 PM

Sunday 9.00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

10.30 AM (2nd & 4th)

### Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)

10:30 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>)

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

**Mass and prayer resources**

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Counting team 5 this week – 9:30 AM

## PARISH VISION STATEMENT

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.

## WE PRAY FOR

**Faithfully departed:** Barry  
Orchard, Frank Nolan

**Anniversaries:** Neil Hanrahan,  
Barry McNamara, Veronica  
McNamara, Mary Murphy

**Unwell:** Mary Hall, Peter  
McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan

*Our parish is committed to the  
safety, well-being, and dignity of  
all children and vulnerable adults.*

*We acknowledge this land's  
traditional owners and custodians  
and pay our respects to Elders  
past, present, and emerging.*



### Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

### Sacramental and Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

### Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

### Parish Pastoral Council Chair

David Morrison

### Finance Officer

Kerrie McTigue

### Finance Chair

Paul O'Beirne

### Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

### Liturgy Coordinator

TBC

[www.sapliturgy.net.au](http://www.sapliturgy.net.au)

### Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn

[stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com](mailto:stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com)

HE IS  RISEN



## CONGRATULATIONS FR. JORGE

On Thursday, Fr. Jorge celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Fr. Jorge was ordained to the Order of the Oblates of St. Joseph, in Batangas, Philippines in 1998. Since his ordination he has worked in many places and in a number of roles. Coming to us at St. Alipius Parish in January of 2020, it took us some time to learn much about Fr. Jorge as Covid struck and weekly masses in the church were not possible. However, since weekly masses have returned we have experienced the care he shows to his parishioners and are very grateful for all that he has provided in our parish community. We congratulate Fr. Jorge on this wonderful achievement and give thanks for all his work.

## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

Collection basket – **\$2,283**

*Presbytery and priest support.*

Envelopes, credit cards and direct debits – **\$411.20**

*Parish – buildings, office, administration, grounds maintenance.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 27<sup>th</sup> Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**  
6.30 pm Presbytery

**April 27<sup>th</sup> Information Sessions – First Eucharist**  
10.30 am & 6.00 pm St. Alipius Church

**May 2<sup>nd</sup> Parish Finance Committee Meeting**  
5.30 pm Presbytery

## PLANNED GIVING RENEWAL

The Parish Finance Committee discussed the need for a renewal of the parish's planned-giving program at its recent meeting.

We are seeking volunteers to join a planned giving program committee. Our goal is to renew and revitalise our parish's planned giving efforts and ensure the long-term sustainability of our community.

If you are interested in joining the planned giving program committee, please contact the parish office and leave your details. You will then be invited to an information session to discuss the role further before committing. We look forward to hearing from you!

## VINNIE'S SCHOOL APPEAL

More than 1 million Victorian students headed back to or started school this year. For a rising number of their families, it is getting harder to find the funds to ensure that their children have everything they need to learn and grow. The Vinnies Education (Back-to-School) Appeal, which launched on 1 February, is needed more than ever. Visit <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/back-to-school-appeal-vic-2023> to donate.

## VOLUNTEER PASTORAL CARE

Grampians Health Ballarat is seeking expressions of interest for volunteers Pastoral Care Workers to provide regular pastoral care support to patients and visitors of all faiths and beliefs. If you are willing to commit to 2.5 hours per week and provide a listening ear, then Grampians Health Ballarat would like to hear from you. Contact Paul Ryan 5320 8634 or [paul.ryan@bhs.org.au](mailto:paul.ryan@bhs.org.au)

## THANK YOU KERRIE

For a number of years Kerrie McTigue has worked as the Finance Officer in our parish, as well as other local parishes in the City of Ballarat. Kerrie will finish up in this role during the coming week as she is taking up a role at St. Francis Xavier Primary School. We thank Kerrie for her work and wish her well in her new position.

## LOST AND FOUND

A pair of prescription glasses were found at Ss Peter and Paul's Church after the World Day of Prayer. If you, or someone you know has lost a pair of glasses, please contact the parish office.

### BAPTISMS

**Essie Maeve & Poppy Ivy Thomas**  
Children of Luke Thomas & Michaela Kelly

**Lola Eve Troon**  
Child of Damian and Leona Troon

*The church gives faith to your children through Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.*  
Pope Francis

## PASTORAL FORMATION DAY

### PREPARING AND CELEBRATING THE

#### SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

What do Catholics believe about Sacraments of Healing? How do Catholics celebrate reconciliation and forgiveness? How do priests, deacons and lay ministers care for the sick? What is Viaticum and how is Communion ministered to the sick? These questions and more will be investigated by the ACU Centre for Liturgy team during a pastoral formation day called, "Be not afraid: preparing and celebrating sacraments of healing." Open to the public, this formation day is for pastoral care workers, clergy, hospital chaplains, lay ministers, parishioners and all those who care for the sick and will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at the Glowrey Room, St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat, 3 Lyons Street South from 9.30am – 5.00pm (registration from 9.00am). Cost is \$20.00 and registration (including lunch) is essential at

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/pastoral-formation-day-in-ballarat/>. For more information phone 02-9701 4751. All are welcome.

## ACRATH ONLINE NATIONAL GATHERING

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) invites you to join their national gathering (online) on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 "Hearts stirred to action - The Call of the Human face of trafficking." Details of the event available at <https://acrath.org.au/hearts-stirred-to-action/will>

## PROJECT COMPASSION THANK YOU



Thank you for supporting Project Compassion 2023. Through the generosity of parishes across Australia

during Project Compassion, together we have helped build a movement to create lasting change for our global community. Being part of the second largest humanitarian organisation in the world and most importantly with your support, Caritas Australia already has partners on the ground who are ready to reach out to those most in need. Together, your parish has helped make a difference now, and **For All Future Generations**. Please feel free to leave your Project Compassion donations on a collection plate or drop them into the parish during office hours.

## EASTER CANDLE

At our Easter Masses last weekend, we witnessed the blessing of the Easter Candles. While the Buninyong Candle was updated, the St. Alipius Church received a new candle, which was beautifully decorated by Dominique Jans. Dom, we say thanks to you for all the time and effort you put into this beautiful candle to be used in our church during the coming year.

## MEMORIAL MASS FOR

### SR SHEILA BELLEVILLE RSM

A Memorial Mass for Sr Sheila Belleville will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at St Mary's Church, Birchip at 10.00am. Following Mass there will be a cup of tea in the Belleville Room (across from the church). All are welcome to attend.

# Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

*Second Sunday of Easter: John 20:19–31*

Not so long ago we used to speak of the Sundays “after” Easter. The terminology has changed and we now speak of the Sundays “of” Easter. In other words, we now recognise that the liturgical readings and prayers for each Sunday between Easter and Pentecost invite us into different movements of the one great symphony of resurrection faith. Today’s gospel tells of fear and joy and blessing. We bring our present experience of climate crisis and ongoing pandemic into dialogue with all of this.

The first scene in today’s gospel has the disciples hiding behind closed doors “for fear” of those who had handed Jesus over to be executed by the Roman authorities. As supporters of someone executed on a political charge, they had reason to be fearful. Jesus appears among them, offers a greeting of peace, and tells them that he has been sent by God, his “Father”. They receive from him the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends them in turn to bring peace and to mediate the forgiveness of God through the power of the Spirit. The story invites us as believers to place ourselves in the shoes of the

earliest disciples. It invites us to be open to receive the gift of the Spirit, to emerge from behind the doors that close us in on ourselves and that prevent us from rising above the fear of reprisals in the pursuit of justice and peace.

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*Blessed are those who have not  
seen and yet believe*

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The second and third scenes in today’s gospel focus on Thomas who was not with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared in their midst. Thomas seems to trust only his own experience. We all know people like Thomas. They test our patience because they seem to lack imagination. Then they make big statements when they come around to understanding what everyone else has known for a while. If we think, however, that those who hear in the first place are any better than Thomas, we need to note that the doors are still closed eight days later! The simple fact of knowing has not dispelled the fears. Even those who do believe and trust often need time to take the gospel message on board.



All three readings this Sunday affirm those who believe without “seeing”. In the reading from Acts, many who had not seen the resurrected Jesus are drawn to the community of faith-filled believers. The community addressed in 1 Peter have “never seen him [the Christ]” and yet they love him and are filled with inexpressible joy. In the gospel, we too are declared blessed: “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe”,

As we continue to celebrate Easter, we join with the global community in celebrating the 53rd annual Earth Day next Saturday. The theme for 2023 is “Invest in our Planet”. We have listened to the science on Coronavirus and, for the most part, taken courageous action. We might pray for the same courageous action to save our planetary home.

## THIS WEEK’S READINGS SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 2:42–47  
1 PETER 1:3–9  
JOHN 20:19–31

## NEXT WEEK’S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 2:14,22–33  
1 PETER 1:17–21  
LUKE 24:13–35