



▶ **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

22 January 2023

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The people have seen a great light

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Monday 10:00 AM (funeral)

Tuesday – Friday 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM and 6.00 PM

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

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

Counting team 7 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: Charlie
Mifsud.

Unwell: Remy Bourke, Anne
D'Cruz, Sr Joan Dalglish, Waffa
Ghali, Ray Gregory, Noreen
Griffin, Heather Healy, John
Healy, Peter Martin, Betty
McGarry, Peter McLachlan, Sarah
McLachlan, Trish O'Donohue,
Letitia Simmons, Margie Wilmott.

*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

David Santamaria

www.sapliturgy.net.au

Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn

stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

Fr Jorge and Fr Eladio wish to thank parishioners who reached out to them over the Christmas period. They are grateful for the many cards and gifts they received and wish you all well for 2023.

WELCOME BACK

We welcome staff back to our parish schools, with the hope that they have had a restful break and wish them well in 2023 as they continue to provide education for our students. They will begin their year with a mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, where they will gather with all staff from the Ballarat area. A particular welcome to Mr Mark Hogbin who will begin his role as principal of St. Francis Xavier and any other staff who is new to our schools. We look forward to meeting them throughout the year. Students will return to classes the following week.

BACK TO MASS WEEKEND

For a variety of reasons, many parishioners stopped attending mass over the past few years, with many not having the chance to meet Fr Jorge yet. Let us invite those who have stopped coming to mass to re-join us for the following masses with a social gathering afterwards:

- Saturday 18 February, 6:00 PM mass at St Alipius, followed by a BBQ dinner in the parish hall
- Sunday 19 February, 10:30 AM mass at Ss Peter and Paul's in Buninyong, with morning tea

A flyer for you to share with those whom you would like to invite to mass that week is being prepared. Hopefully, we can encourage many people to join us then, and going forward, to celebrate mass together each week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Back to Mass weekend

6:00 PM, 18 Feb St Alipius, followed by a BBQ
10:30 AM, 19 Feb at Buninyong, then morning tea

RCIA RITE OF WELCOME

At the 10.30 AM mass this weekend, we are pleased to be able to witness the Rite of Welcome for Michael Mitchell who is currently discovering more about the Catholic faith through his journey in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Michael will participate in this rite with his family, sponsors and members of our community. We welcome Michael and thank the members of the RCIA team who are working with him.

RCIC AT ST ALIPIUS

We are currently working with 14 children within our parish who have expressed a wish to become full members of the Catholic Church. To prepare them for this we are following the guidelines of the RCIA for Children of Catechetical age. It is a delight to work with these children and their families and share stories of our faith while answering their many questions. These children met late last year and will begin to meet again in early February. They will continue to meet fortnightly until Easter time at which time a date will be organised for them to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. Please keep these children in your prayers and make them welcome at masses they can attend.

THANK YOU FROM ST VINNIES

The Ballarat East Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is most grateful for the generosity demonstrated by both the local school communities and parishioners to our Christmas appeal.

The money raised will help those most in need across Ballarat. Once again, the true meaning of Christmas has been demonstrated by our parish.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Collection basket – **\$1,228**

Presbytery and Priest support.

Envelopes, credit cards and direct debits – **\$301.20**

Parish – buildings, office, administration, grounds maintenance.

For any queries or concerns, or should you wish to join our stewardship program to support our parish, please phone our Finance Officer Kerrie on 5331 2933 or email ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY

The Ballarat Interfaith Network invites you to join their flag-raising event in celebration of United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week on Wednesday, 1 February from 11.00 AM to 12.00 noon at St Peter's Anglican Church, 1307 Sturt Street, Ballarat. After the raising of our own unique Ballarat Interfaith Network flag, we will adjourn into the church for a keynote address from a member of the local Muslim community, prayers for peace offered by representatives of other faiths, and one or two musical performances. Welcome – Mayor of Ballarat, Cr Hudson. Muslim Keynote Speaker – Obaid Noor. Refreshments provided. Contact 0400 650 234.

MASS OF THE OILS 2023

Each year, the Mass of the Oils is celebrated on Monday in Holy Week at St Patrick's Cathedral for all parishes within the Ballarat Diocese. Representatives from each parish come forward to receive the oils which will be used during sacraments in the coming year. There is an opportunity to come together with the priests and people of other parishes with the supper in the cathedral hall following mass. This year's mass will be on Monday, 3 April at 6.30 PM.

BAPTISMS

Emmeline Primrose Bertschik

Child of James Bertschik and Annie Tayleur–Bertschik

Bridget Claire Rice

Child of Trent and Toni Rice

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

Pope Francis

RITE OF ELECTION 2023

The Rite of Election is an important part of the process of an adult who has undertaken formation on their journey to full membership in the Catholic Church community and one which is greatly appreciated by all who participate. The Rite of Election for catechumens and candidates will take place at 12:00 PM, on Saturday 25 February at St Patrick's Cathedral, with Bishop Paul Bird CSsR presiding. At the conclusion, all are invited to join the bishop in the cathedral hall for a light lunch.

PRAYING WITH POPE FRANCIS

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope, and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org. The Pope's intention for January is for educators: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

LITURGY ROSTER

The Liturgy Roster for February – April 2023 is currently being built.

We ask all who are currently involved to check their emails for instructions to complete your availability.

People can also complete their details on the paper version available in the Church foyer and return them to the Presbytery.

We always welcome all who would like to start being involved and will be providing training through February/March.

It would be appreciated if all responses could please be completed by Thursday, 26 January.

ONE HEART, MANY VOICES

The Mission: One Heart Many Voices conference, "Lead, Act, Now" will be held from 3–5 May 2023 face-to-face in Sydney and online. Registration and information are available at <https://2023.mohmv.com.au/>. Early bird full registration before 28 February is \$550.00. Full registration from 1 March is \$649.00. The concession rate is \$539.00. Single day rate is \$209.00.

2023 HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Expressions of interest are invited to join a fully escorted, all-inclusive pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 11–24 June 2023. Arranged through Lifestyle Travel Ballarat and accompanied by Fr Justin Driscoll. Visit Jordan, Petra, the Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Mt of Olives, Jericho, and Qumran. For further information, phone Fr Justin on 0448 220 685 or email info@lifestyletravel.com.au.

NLC AND APMN CONFERENCE

The Australian Pastoral Musicians Network and the National Liturgical Council are pleased to announce a combined liturgy and music conference to be held at the Brisbane Hilton from 28–30 September called "Mystery and Mission: The Art of Liturgical Celebration." The international keynote speakers are well-known British liturgical composer Bernadette Farrell and US liturgist and author Timothy O'Malley (Notre Dame). There will be many local expert workshop presenters and facilitators with 42 workshops on offer across the three days. In addition to the high-quality keynotes and workshops, there will also be opportunities to engage in facilitated discussions and to build networks with liturgists, musicians, and educators from around the country. The registration page will be opened soon, but to assist with your budgeting and planning, the full registration price for the conference is \$480.00.

Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 4:12–23

In this liturgical year, most of the gospel readings will be from the gospel of Matthew. As with any story, it is probably best to read Matthew's story of Jesus from beginning to end over a few days, entering into the drama and attending to all the elements in the story. Sr. Elaine Wainwright's eco-rhetorical commentary on Matthew's gospel invites us to read with attention to habitat as well as to the human and the holy. We need to realise that what we bring to the text will inform our reading of the text. What we notice will depend on our own social and cultural contexts and on our capacity to bring our particular interpretive stance into dialogue with the worlds that inhabit the text. While the main character in the story is Jesus, there are other characters and character groups, including other-than-human characters.

In the passage selected for today, Matthew's Jesus hears the news of John the Baptist's arrest and "withdraws" to the safety of Capernaum in Galilee. Matthew thus grounds him in a familiar locale. He then presents him as a great light for a people who have lived in darkness and the shadow

of death and oppression. In the context of Roman imperial rule, Jesus offers the hope of an alternative reign. We might focus for a moment on the gift of light. Without an appreciation of natural light and of the sun as the main source of light on Earth, we cannot hope to understand this symbol.

Jesus invites his hearers to expand their horizons.

Jesus invites his hearers to expand their horizons, for the all-embracing empire or kin-dom "of the heavens" has come near. He then calls four fishermen to follow him, to join him on his mission of proclaiming the empire or reign "of the heavens". The verb "to follow" is an invitation to live out in their lives/in our lives the pattern of Jesus' life. They "immediately" leave their boat and their father and follow him. Later in the story, we find they still have their boat, an indication that, at some levels, the story is to be read symbolically. At times we need to distance ourselves from family expectations for the sake of the gospel. At times we have to decentre our material possessions even while we affirm the goodness



of their materiality and their significance for the work of the mission.

One might get the impression that the alternative community that Jesus forms around him is all male. This impression is dispelled a few verses later when we learn that "great crowds followed him" (4:25). In Matthew 18, there is specific mention of children, and, towards the end of the gospel, we find that women have "followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him" (27:55). There is a far more extended group around Jesus than today's reading might suggest. Women, men, and children, we are all invited to turn our lives around and to live out in our lives the pattern of Jesus' life.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 8:23–9:3
1 CORINTHIANS 1:10–13, 17
MATTHEW 4:12–23

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ZEPHANIAH 2:3, 3:12–13
1 CORINTHIANS 1:26–31
MATTHEW 5:1–12