

24 March 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
He humbled himself to become like us

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
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tues – Anointing mass 9:30 AM

Wednesday 9:30 AM

Saturday 6:00 PM

Sunday 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

Counting team 2

Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed:

Kathleen Delaney, Julie Wilkinson

Anniversaries:

Molly Forbes

Unwell:

Socorro De Chavez, Luka Fletcher-Leskarac, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Shelley Pawang, Carole Simmons

PARISH TEAM

Parish Administrator

Fr Concord Bagaioisan, OSJ

Visiting Priest

Fr Barry Ryan

Sacramental and Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

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.

PALM
SUNDAY



HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

Palm Sunday Vigil – 23 March

6:00 PM – Weather permitting, the mass will commence outside the church and process inside.

Palm Sunday – 24 March

9:00 AM – Mass at Ss Peter and Paul's, Buninyong.

10:30 AM – Mass at St Alipius.

Holy Thursday – 28 March

7:00 PM – Mass of the Last Supper at St Alipius, including the ceremonial Washing of the Feet, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose in Parish Hall until 10:00 PM.

Good Friday – 29 March

10:00 AM – Stations of the Cross at St Alipius.

3:00 PM – Passion of the Lord, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil – 30 March

6:00 PM – Weather permitting, the vigil will commence on the lawn on the eastern side of St Alipius where the fire and Easter Candle will be blessed, followed by a candlelit procession into the church. Several children who have been preparing for their sacraments through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for Children of Catechetical Age will be baptised and some will also be Confirmed and receive their First Eucharist.

Easter Sunday – 31 March

9:00 AM – Mass St Alipius.

10:30 AM – Mass at Ss Peter and Paul's.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mass of the Oils

11:00 AM, Mon 25 March, St Patrick's Cathedral

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your generosity is appreciated.

Supporting our parish priests	\$995
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$323.20

We invite anybody who would like to join the program to please contact the parish office.

ANOINTING MASS

The 9.30 AM Mass on Tuesday will be an anointing Mass. Please alert anyone you know who may wish to attend. If you or someone you know requires transport, please contact the parish office and we will organise it.

PARISH BBQ

Our parish BBQ on the weekend was a very social occasion, with people gathering under the trees between the church and the presbytery on a beautiful evening. Good food and good conversation are always the highlight of our social events, and this was no exception. In addition to socialising, we were also pleased to raise \$100 for Project Compassion which goes halfway to providing the construction of toilets in houses in the Philippines. Thanks to all who attended on the evening.



SAFETRAC ONLINE COURSE

The email addresses of all volunteers required to do the Safetrac course on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults will be sent to the diocese this week. An email from the diocese will be sent containing your username and password. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call the parish office and we will provide whatever support we can. We are assured that this version of Safetrac is more accessible than the previous one.

RCIC

At our Easter Vigil this year we have several children receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. These children and their families have been a lovely group to work with. We have had some great conversations and have heard some very thoughtful answers. It is lovely to sit with these children and experience their inquisitive nature about the Catholic Church. We ask you to continue to pray for Ruby, Joe, Luka, Conor, Ella, Ruby, and James in their final days of preparation.

UPDATING YOUR WWCC

There are several parishioners whose Working with Children Checks (WWCC) will expire in 2024. Please check the date of yours to ensure that it is still current. Please provide a copy of your new WWCC to the parish office. Anybody needing to renew or apply for a WWCC is very welcome to book a time to come into the office where we can help you through the process. Teachers are asked to please provide copies of their current VIT registration card. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions. We appreciate your efforts to ensure that our parish is complying with child safety guidelines.

PALM SUNDAY RALLY & WALK

At 2:00 PM on Sunday 24 March, a 90-minute Palm Sunday Rally and Walk will commence at the McDonald Bandstand, opposite the floral clock, between Pipers and the playground at Lake Wendouree. Guest speakers include Sr Brigid Arthur, co-founder of the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project, and a person who was a refugee. The talks will be followed by a short, loop walk to and from the Olympic Rings with a stop at the Peace Mile marker to reflect upon world peace.

MASS OF THE OILS

The Mass of the Oils will be held at 11:30 AM on Monday 25 March at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch, displays and music afterwards in the Hall. All welcome. This year the Mass of the Oils will be live-streamed at <https://youtube.com/live/SdivllKiHSs?feature=share>

BUNINYONG "WAY OF THE CROSS"

Meet at the Town Hall steps at 8.30am.

A great opportunity for the Churches of Buninyong to get together, and be a witness to the wider community of our faith in Jesus. For young and old alike. It goes for about 30 minutes and covers less than one km. More details from Reverend Mark Schnerring of Buninyong Anglican Church (0401 022 107)

HOLY LAND COLLECTION

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday. For 800 years, the Franciscan Friars have shared the difficult lives of Christians in the countries that make up the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land: Israel and Palestine, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Rhodes, and Cyprus. The people of these countries face many difficulties, particularly Christians due to their minority status. Among them, the friars have never ceased offering their pastoral care. Two years ago, the pandemic was causing havoc for the people in the Holy Land (as it was in the rest of the world), but now there is a new and more dangerous threat through the ongoing conflict which may last for quite some time. Just when pilgrims were starting to return, the Sacred Places of our Christian Faith are once again closed to pilgrims. Pilgrims are vital because they generate income that allows the friars and the local Church to fulfil their mission of caring for the Holy Places, which also giving work to local people, as well as running parishes, schools and caring for orphans, refugees, the homeless, and more.

EASTER CHOCOLATE

Catholic Earthcare asks us to purchase brands that use sustainably sourced cocoa.

Look for logos like these on the packaging.



CDF COMMUNITY FUND

By opening a personal account with CDF Community Fund, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, but your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities.



With competitive interest rates available across a range of accounts, including 5.55% p.a.* on a 12-month Term Investment, it's a way to save while doing good. To find out more, email the CDF Team at csg@melbcdf.org.au or phone 1800 134 135, or visit: www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer. *Interest rates are subject to change. View current rates here - www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/.

MERCY PLACE VOLUNTEERS

Mercy Place is seeking volunteers for a range of roles. Volunteers might spend time one-on-one with residents, taking them for walks in the garden, going on bus trips, reading a book or newspaper, helping them in the garden, or just having a chat. The hours are organised to suit the volunteer. If interested, please see the flyer in the church foyer for more information.

She Has Done What She Could

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Passion/Palm Sunday: Mark 11:1–10; 14:1–15:47

Mark 11:1-10

Mark's account of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is more restrained and less victorious in tone than the other gospel accounts.

In keeping with Mark's gospel as a whole, it forms part of the relentless journey of Jesus the suffering Messiah towards Jerusalem, the place of his death.

The longed-for liberation will come about in Jerusalem, through powerlessness, suffering and death rather than through the exercise of might and power.

Mark 14:1-15:47

The gospel account of the suffering and death of Jesus opens with the story of an insightful but unnamed woman who pours out healing ointment on the head of Jesus.

We might reflect on the Eucharistic character of her actions of breaking and pouring and of Jesus' assurance that what she has done will be told in memory of her. She did "what she could".

The story of her support for Jesus is sandwiched between two stories of opposition: an assassination plot on the part of the religious authorities, and the foreshadowing of Jesus' betrayal at the hands of a close

follower. Status does not guarantee goodness or insight.

As the story unfolds, we hear that despite his earlier instruction to "stay awake", Jesus' closest followers fall asleep when he most needs them. Worse than that, they betray, deny, and abandon him.

Some Galilean women remain faithful

Some Galilean women remain faithful. They have followed him and looked after him on the long journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. They become witnesses to his death and burial.

These women will also discover the empty tomb and take the message of the resurrection to the male disciples.

A foreign passer-by, Simon, whose sons are known to Mark's community, shoulders part of the burden. An ordinary Roman soldier realises and proclaims that Jesus is of God.

The story has come full circle: the first verse of the gospel announced the beginning of the good news of Jesus, the Christ, and the Son of God. Now the reader understands what it means to make such a proclamation.



The final chapter is to be celebrated next weekend. The mystery is to be lived every day of every week.

As we enter into the holiest week of the liturgical year, we might consider our call to bring the power of Christ's redeeming love to those who suffer crucifixion in our own times: those enduring the ravages of war; the more-than-human Earth community affected by climate change; asylum seekers and refugees who look for justice.

For stories of hope in the face of despair, you may like to visit the Mercy Works website mercyworks.org.au.

It is all too easy to deny, betray, and abandon the suffering others. Like the woman who poured out the healing ointment on the head of Jesus, we also must do what we can.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION
ISAIAH 50:4–7
PHILIPPIANS 2:6–11
MARK 14:1–15:47

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION
ACTS 10:34, 37–43
CORINTHIANS 5:6–8
MARK 16:1–7