

28 July 2024

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

'There is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.'

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/ballar-at-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tue 5:30 PM,

Wed – Fri 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM, 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 6

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.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed:

Andrew McBride,
Rosemary Ryan (Fr. Barry's sister),
Therese O'Loughlin.

Anniversaries:

Rohan Cosgriff

Unwell: Rose Davis,
Socorro De Chavez Shelley
Pawang, Peter McLachlan,
Sarah McLachlan, Carole
Simmons

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

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.



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2024

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Our thanks to Fr. Peter Murphy who has offered the Christian meditation sessions in the parish during his time in the Ministry District. The desire to continue has been expressed by those who have participated, and these sessions will continue each Wednesday at 5:15pm and Saturday morning at 10:30am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Baptism Preparation

1 August, 10 am or 5.30 pm
McKillop & Glowrey Rooms at the Cathedral

Leadership Formation Session

10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, 4 August, Buninyong

Trivia Night

6:30PM for 7PM start, 30 August, Parish Hall

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Plans are in place for another trivia night in our parish. It will be held on August 30th, doors open from 6:30 PM for a 7:00 PM start. If anyone has or knows of someone who may be in a position to donate an item for a raffle to be held on the night, please contact the parish office. Tables of 8 can be booked through the parish office. Tickets are \$15 per person. BYO drinks and nibbles.

CARING GROUP

The Caring Group will meet in the parish hall at 2:00PM on Friday 2nd August. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring a plate to share.

BISHOP PAUL VISITING

As part of the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat, Bishop Paul is visiting each of the 29 parishes of the Diocese. He will celebrate the Masses in our Parish on the weekend of September 14th – 15th with 6.00pm Vigil Mass at St Alipius and 9.00am Sunday Mass at Ballarat East and 10.30am Mass at Buninyong. How might we recognise this visit of Bishop Paul to our Parish? Please forward your suggestions to the Parish Office in the coming weeks.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

In December 2024 the 170th anniversary of Eureka and the 150th of the opening of the current St Alipius Church will be acknowledged. As a parish we will celebrate these anniversaries on Saturday December 14th with the 6.00pm Vigil Mass followed by a byo picnic in the Church grounds. Do you have photos, stories or both which might be of interest to fellow parishioners? If so remember that we are looking to collect these as we plan an event to recognise 150 years of our church. Whether from Ballarat East, Buninyong or Clarendon we are keen to gather as many stories and photos as we can to share with those who attend this function, but we cannot do it without your help.

PREPARING FOR THE DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

Next Sunday, August 4th following the 10.30AM Mass there will be a formation opportunity at Buninyong in preparation for the Diocesan Assembly. Members of the Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Council and Liturgy Team have all been invited to attend. Parishioners are also welcome to attend this formation gathering that is one of seven that are being offered around the Ballarat Diocese. The focus of the Assembly is **Leadership and Governance for a Synodal Church**. To register contact jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au
The Diocesan Assembly will be held at Federation University Mt Clear on November 15th -16th 2024.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Following the gatherings of parents seeking to enrol their children to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation, over 120 children have commenced their preparation. Over the coming weeks these children will prepare to celebrate the Sacrament in our Parish Coordinated, Family based and Catholic school supported program. The celebrations of Confirmation will occur in St Alipius' Church on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday September 3rd, 4th and 5th at 6.00pm with Fr Justin.

CELEBRATIONS FOR FR. MATT

Fr Matt's second anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood and his 35th birthday have occurred this week. Unfortunately, he hasn't been well enough to celebrate these two special occasions, so if you see him you might like to wish him well!

BAPTISMS

Piper May Swayn

Child of Ryan and Hayley Swayn

Cohen Jack Homberg

Child of Jason and Tamina Homberg

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

Pope Francis

SAVE THE DATE

Diocesan Social Justice Commission

Reflection Day

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all to a Reflection Day, in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2024-2025, "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World" on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 10.00am - 2.30pm at Ss Michael and John's Horsham Parish Centre. Facilitator for the day is writer and educator, Michael McGirr. Further details to come. Registration will be required to attend. Save the date flyer available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/ballarat-diocesan-social-justice-commission-reflection-day-with-michael-mcgirr-saturday-september-7-2024/>

PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Catholic Social Services Victoria has published a brochure, "Let's build respectful communities" for parishes across Victoria that provides information about recognising, responding to, and preventing domestic violence, as well as further resources for those seeking help. The brochure forms part of CSSV's ongoing work within the Catholic community to build capacity for the prevention of family and domestic violence. For more information and to download the brochure, go to the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/prevention-of-domestic-violence-against-women/>

THANK YOU

The parish would like to express its thanks to Frs. Ed and Alex who joined us last weekend to say masses when Fr. Matt was unwell. We are very grateful that they were able to celebrate these Masses.

BREAD DISTRIBUTION

Each Monday evening from 7.15 pm until 7.45 pm bread is distributed from St. Alipius Hall to those who need it. Any bread which is leftover on Monday night is distributed from the hall again on Tuesday morning. If you know of anyone who would appreciate some bread, please let them know to call into the hall between 7.30 am to collect some or come along and collect some for them. The bread will be available until 10 am unless it's gone before hand.

PRAYER FOR WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Lord, faithful God,
You who created us in Your image,
You who never leaves us alone
and who accompanies us through every season of
life,
Do not abandon us, take care of us,
And grant us, once again,
The ability to discover ourselves
and recognise that we are Your children.
Renew our hearts with your Word
And do not allow anyone to be cast aside.
May your Spirit of love fill us with Your tenderness
And teach us to say:
"I will not abandon you!"
To those we meet on our journey.
With the help of your beloved Son,
may we not lose the taste for fraternity
And may we not conform to the sadness of
loneliness.
Help us to look to the future with renewed hope,
And make the World Day for Grandparents and the
Elderly
a day without loneliness, and a day abundant
with the first-fruits of Your peace.
Amen.

On Being a Eucharistic People

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The gospel readings for the next two weeks are taken from John 6, a section of the gospel that focuses on food and related themes: on hungry people; on the need for food/bread; on food/bread as metaphors for life. To be without bread was to lack the very basics of existence, and that is how it still is for so many in our world. Even the impoverished in the so-called “first world” know what it is like to be without the means of subsistence in a world of plenty. The present cycle of readings confronts us with questions about our own lifestyle, our exploitation of earth’s precious resources, and our capacity to make a positive change in the lives of those whose access to the fruits of our earth is severely limited.

In John’s account of the feeding of the 5000, the crowds keep following Jesus because they see the “signs” he works among the sick. The Johannine Jesus consistently tries to lead the people beyond a form of discipleship that is simply based on seeing the signs that he works. The inadequacy of the crowd’s response on this occasion becomes clear towards the end of the reading.

Both place and time function powerfully in the story. The “mountain” place evokes the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt Sinai. For the crowds, Jesus is the prophet like Moses who points to a way of satisfying hunger in the wilderness of life. The time is Passover, drawing into the narrative the passing over of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to the freedom of the desert and ultimately of the land where they could worship their God. This story is about the liberation that God brings through the agency of Jesus.

Jesus demonstrates that the answer to the suffering of the people is to be found in their care for each other. If they take the time to sit down together, discover the riches in their midst, give thanks, and distribute what they have, they may find they have more than they need. They must gather up the fragments, the “more-than-enough”, so that nothing is lost and others might benefit from their sharing. Again, we are reminded of those in our world who have access to health care and vaccines and those who do not, of those who have enough food at this time and those who do not. Although the people partially understand Jesus’ identity and teaching, their ultimate response is misdirected, even violent: they want to take him by force and make him king. He leaves them and returns to the mountain alone. We so often seek spectacular solutions to our problems. It may be that we too need to sit down together, on the grass or wherever, and discover the wealth we have at our disposal to satisfy the hunger in our world. That is what it means to be a Eucharistic people.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2 KINGS 4:42-44

EPHESIANS 4:1-6

JOHN 6:1-15

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXODUS 16:2-4, 12-15

EPHESIANS 4:17, 20-24

JOHN 6:24-35