

2 April 2023

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Hail, the King of the Jews!

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

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

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tue 9:30am, Wed 9:30am
Thurs 7.00 PM, Fri 3:00 PM
Sat 7.00 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 3 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: Beryl Naus

Anniversaries:

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

David Santamaria
www.sapliturgy.net.au

Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn
stalpiusfuneral@gmail.com

PALM SUNDAY



HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday masses next weekend. Other liturgies during the week leading up to Easter will be as follows:

Mass of the Oils (Cathedral)	3 April	6.30 PM
Holy Thursday	6 April	7.00 PM
Good Friday	7 April	3.00 PM
Easter Vigil	8 April	7.00 PM
Easter Sunday	Regular masses	

During the mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, we will have the Washing of the Feet, and following mass, the Parish Hall will be open for the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight. At the Good Friday ceremony, our community will gather for the Reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion. Our Holy Week Ceremonies will culminate with our Easter Vigil on Saturday evening where we will welcome Michael Marshall to full communion with the Catholic Church along with a number of children who have been preparing for the sacraments of Initiation through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for Children of Catechetical Age. Mass will begin on the east side of the church with the Blessing of the Fire and be followed by the Liturgy of the Word. Candidates will receive the sacraments throughout the Mass. We encourage parishioners to join us at each of these ceremonies.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mass of the Oils

6.30 PM, Monday 3 April
St. Patrick's Cathedral

Finance Committee meeting

5:30PM, Tuesday 11 April
Presbytery

Fr Jorge's Silver Jubilee celebrations

Saturday 15 April

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next preparation session for baptism will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall at 10.00 AM on Thursday 6 April. There will not be a 5:30 PM session because it is Holy Thursday.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION – GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2023

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 7. The ongoing effects of the pandemic have created enormous challenges for the people of the Holy Land in terms of health and a catastrophic loss of income due to the absence of pilgrims. Pilgrims are vital because they generate income that allows the Friars and local Church to fulfil their mission of caring for the Holy Places (that also gives work to the local people), as well as running parishes, schools and caring for orphans, refugees, the homeless and more. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection will continue to support the works of the Holy Land through the generosity of the Australian Church. Your donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of people who are keeping alive the Christian presence in the land of Jesus, often in the face of great odds and in recent years, made all the more difficult by the pandemic.

CATERING - FR. JORGE'S ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTHOOD

We plan to come together on Saturday 15 April to celebrate with Fr. Jorge the occasion of his 25th anniversary of priesthood. Following the 6:00 PM mass, we will gather to share a meal in the hall. Meat will be provided, but we are asking parishioners to provide a salad/side dish. If you are able to do this, please contact the parish office during office hours to let us know what you plan on bringing, so that we can avoid double-ups, and can cater for everyone. If you have any queries, please reach out to Cathy or Natalie.

FAITH AND REASON

St. Augustine and the early Church Fathers

This talk at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Friday 21 April at 7 PM, will explore the relationship between philosophy and theology, beginning with Tertullian's acerbic comment, "What indeed has Athens to do with Jerusalem?" and ending with Augustine's conclusion that faith is the starting point of reason, not its end.

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 – **\$363.20**

Parish – buildings, office, administration, grounds maintenance.

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!

BAPTISMS

Samuel Michael Dunbar

Child of Gregory and Erin Dunbar

Elsie Jean O'Loughlin

Child of Kane and Josie O'Loughlin

Skyler Frankie Fitter

Child of Simon and Carrie Fitter

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

Pope Francis

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

PROJECT COMPASSION

This year met Laxmi, Priscilla, Thu and the Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group who are creating a better world for their families, their communities and for all future generations. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023 by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion> or by calling 1800 024 413.

PALM SUNDAY JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES WALK

Gather at **View Point** Lake Wendouree **2pm Sunday April 2nd** to hear speakers including a refugee with lived experience, a support worker from Ballarat Community Health, and the Ballarat Council Multicultural Sector. **For those who wish to walk it will finish in front of Loreto College at the viewing area for the rowing. For more information, see the brochure in the church foyer.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthday wishes to Fr. Jorge who celebrated his birthday on Wednesday. He had a very busy day on Wednesday, but we hope he got the chance to enjoy it. Happy birthday Jorge!

THANK YOU DAVID

At last week's meeting of the Liturgy Committee David Santamaria tendered his resignation as chair of the thank you to David for the countless hours he has put into this role in recent years. David has been extremely generous with his contribution to liturgy at St. Alipius and during Covid ensured that people had the opportunity to continue celebrating Mass from their homes when gathering together was not possible. All who have attended Mass within our parish will have been witness to David's many innovations. David we wish you well.

Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord: Matthew 26:14–27:66

This year we hear Matthew's passion narrative through the lens of armed conflict and death from deprivation. The prospect of untimely death is a reality for many. Even more abhorrent is the ongoing practice of capital punishment in so many places, particularly when a just person is put to death for specious reasons or to political ends. That's what confronts us in today's gospel, although the gospel writers pay little attention to the details of the suffering and death of Jesus: they are more interested in the meaning of these events.

The Romans execute Jesus outside Jerusalem when the city is filled with Jewish pilgrims, there for the Passover festival. For Jesus' friends and followers, every subsequent Passover is celebrated in the light of his death by crucifixion. They share their memories and reflect on the meaning of his death in the light of their sacred traditions. Every element of the Passover story, the ancient story of God's deliverance of their ancestors, resonates with echoes of the experience of Jesus who is now present to them in a new way. Little wonder, then, that the final events of Jesus' life were

probably the first part of his story to be committed to writing.

Though Matthew draws much of his material from Mark, he fashions the tradition into a new narrative and adds several distinctive features. "To fulfil all righteousness" is Jesus' stated mission (3:15). He has declared "blessed" those who suffer for the sake of righteousness (justice or right relationship)" (5:10). He now embodies his own teaching as the just or righteous one, the one in right relationship with God. The prayer on his lips as he faces death (Psalm 22) is that of the suffering just Israelite who is utterly faithful to his mission and whose trust in God never fails.

There are hints that Jesus' death is not the end

There are hints that Jesus' death is not the end, but is rather the inauguration of the new age of God's empire, a compassionate alternative to the brutality of Rome. In response to the high priest Caiaphas, Jesus points beyond death to his resurrected life "at the right hand of power...." Extraordinary signs follow his death: the tearing of the temple



curtain; the trembling of the earth; the recognition by the Roman centurion and his companions that this man is of God; and finally, the opening of the graves and appearance of the dead in anticipation of the resurrection of those who accept him as the Christ. These signs offer the hope of reversal to all who have witnessed the events surrounding Jesus' death. They offer hope to the women who have followed him all the way from Galilee and "ministered to him". They offer hope to the male disciples who have deserted or denied him, to faithful disciples like Joseph of Arimathea, and even to his Roman executioners. They have the potential to bring hope to us all at this time, especially to those who put their lives on the line for others.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

ISAIAH 50:4–7

PHILIPPIANS 2:6–11

MATTHEW 26:14–27:66

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

ACTS 10:34,37–43

1 CORINTHIANS 5:6–8

MATTHEW 28:1–10