



▶ **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

3 September 2023

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

My soul is thirsting for you

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri 9.30 AM in
the Parish Hall

Saturday 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 (2nd & 4th)
10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 5 this week – 9:30 AM

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:

Anniversaries:

Unwell: Peter McLachlan,
Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor
McMahon, Colin McKenzie,
Patricia Murry, Carole
Simmons, Shelley Pawang

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, 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.



SOCIAL GATHERING

Do you enjoy a night out? Do you like a nice meal with good company? If your answer to these questions is yes, then join us at 6:00 PM on Wednesday 13 September at the Golden Point Hotel in Main Road. The Parish has booked a space and invites everyone to come together on this night. Names will need to be to the office by no later than Monday 4 September to allow for an accurate booking. Anyone who would like to attend, but needs transport, please don't hesitate to contact the parish office as we will organise the transport for you. Looking forward to another great gathering.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish dinner at Golden Point Hotel

6:00 PM, Wednesday 13 September, 639 Main Road

CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

This weekend is the annual Ballarat Clergy Support Fund: Collection for Sick and Retired Priests. Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Seventeen retired priests are currently supported by this fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, and others live in supported accommodation. Contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. Caring for those who care for us is the Church community's responsibility.



STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$942
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$433.20

Thanks to all who participate in the stewardship program for your contributions. We invite anybody who would like to join the program to please contact the parish office.

PIETY STALL

The piety stall has a range of cards and gifts suitable for Confirmation all at very affordable prices.

LITURGY ROSTER

The St Alpius liturgy roster for the October and November is being prepared. If you would like to volunteer for any of the following roles, please contact the Parish office: Altar servers, Special ministers, Readers, Welcomers, Sacristans, PowerPoint Operators, and/or taking up the Offertory gifts. If you're already on the roster and will be unavailable for any weeks during October and November, please let the office know.

CONFIRMATION

Several children are currently preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. These children have been welcomed to masses on recent weekends and are preparing at home with their families. Please pray for these children as they prepare to be confirmed at liturgies this week.

MERCY CHAPTER GATHERING

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea Chapter would be grateful for your prayer, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, during the coming weeks as they gather for their Chapter – a time of evaluating the past and planning for the future. Venerable Catherine McAuley, pray for us.

SEASON OF CREATION

Every year from 1 September – 4 October, Catholic Earthcare Australia (Caritas and the Australian Bishops Conference) joins with Christian communities globally to celebrate the Season of Creation, to celebrate the gift of our common home. The theme for 2023 is "Let Justice and Peace Flow", drawing on the river imagery of in Amos 5:24. It challenges us to act for ecological justice, creating change and speaking out with communities most impacted by rising sea levels, biodiversity loss and other consequences of climate change. Resources for the Season of Creation are available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2023/

ONLINE LAUNCH



Caritas Australia will host an online launch of the Season of Creation on Monday, 4 September from 6.00 PM – 7.00 PM offering participants an enriching and informative experience through its

Catholic Earthcare program. Scan the QR code or visit www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1086036 for details and registration information.

TOILETRIES COLLECTION

Our local Vinnies are collecting toiletries for people in need. Please donate soap, toothpaste, or other toiletries, in the box on the Vinnies' stall. Anything you can give will be provided to someone who will greatly appreciate it.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

St Vincent de Paul, Ballarat East needs your help. Can you spare a few hours a week to assist those in need? If so, please leave your details with the Parish Office.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS

The latest edition of 'Australian Catholics' is available now in the foyers of our churches. Please take a copy to read and learn more about what's happening in various parts of our Diocese.

BAPTISMS

**Orion Claude, Byron Robert
& Sienna Jean Morton**
Children of Robert and Louise Morton

**Jackson Tyler, Austin Ronald,
Hughey Matthew & Cooper James Roberts**
Children of Greg Roberts and Louise Roberts

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

DIOCESAN ENEWS



The latest edition of e-News has been published. Scan or click the QR code to access. Subscribe to receive future e-News editions straight to your email via:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/

VOICE CONVERSATIONS

A kitchen table conversation is a wonderful opportunity to join with others and listen, learn, and reflect on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum that will be held in the coming months. Online sessions will be held on 29 August, 11 September, and 28 September from 3.30-4.45 PM via Zoom. More information and registration details are available from

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/aboriginal-catholic-ministry/

PRAYING WITH THE POPE

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 areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope, and calling us to loving service. 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – www.thepopevideo.org.

Pope's intention for September – **For people living on the margins:** We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions. May they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance. Lord, hear us.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

The Australian bishops' have launched the 2023-2024 Social Justice Statement, "Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples". Copies of the statement and resources are available from the diocesan website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement/.

PRAYER FOR FATHERS DAY

God of kindness and compassion, we are your children, and you are Father to us all. We pray for all men who reflect your fatherly example: Those who are dads and grandads; step-dads, foster dads, godfathers and fathers-in-law; those who embrace their role as father; those who struggle with being fathers; those who are distanced from their children; those who have passed from this world; those who are coaches, leaders and mentors; those who are elders and wisdom-men of our communities. Give them all strength, comfort and peace.

SYNOD WEBINAR



The Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform, Yarra Theological Union and Garratt Publishing present "Synod on Synodality: Room for everyone in our Church" to be held on Thursday, 14

September 14 at 7.00 PM via Zoom. Leading the discussion is one of the ACBC's representatives at the Synod, Shane Mackinlay, Bishop of Sandhurst. For more details and to register, scan or click the QR code. This a free event. The convocation will be recorded and made available the week following the event. You must be registered to receive the link to the video.

Embracing the Pain

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 16:21–27

Most of us know leaders who take themselves a bit too seriously. Some confuse their role or title with their significance in the scheme of things. Some look for privilege and an easy life, forgetting that leadership of anything worthwhile involves hard work, misunderstanding and opposition.

The first part of today's gospel story presents Peter, who has just been declared the foundation rock of the church and given the "keys" of the kingdom or empire of the heavens, refusing to accept that Jesus' mission will involve suffering, even death.

The reader is confronted in this story with the expansive rock face at Caesarea Philippi and invited to consider the friable properties of the seemingly indestructible rock. Even rocks can be reduced to sand or gravel and a humbler mode of being.

For all its seriousness, there is something quite comical about this gospel story. Peter actually reprimands Jesus. Jesus then sets him straight in no uncertain terms. The "rock" becomes the leader of the opposition, a serious obstacle to God's purposes, a stumbling block. He is ordered back to the place where disciples properly belong, namely "behind" Jesus, "following" him.

Matthew provides a striking contrast in this section of the gospel between Peter who "rebukes" Jesus and Justina, the Canaanite woman, who respectfully and persistently implores Jesus to see from a new perspective. Peter receives a decisive rebuttal, while the woman's plea is heard, and she is praised for her great faith.

*Jesus is the teacher, and
the disciples are the
students*

Peter's impetuous outburst provides the trigger for Jesus to invite his disciples to think about what they really want.

Jesus is the teacher, and the disciples are the students who have accepted the invitation to follow him. That means living out in their lives the pattern of his life. If they want to be his followers, then they have to embrace the pain involved in his relentless program of teaching and of healing the sick and broken hearted.

They will also share the "glory". If they choose to put their own interests first, then they will surely lose themselves. It is ultimately a question of choosing life.



Peter forgets this for a while and has to be reminded to be true to what he has previously professed.

He is not very different from the rest of us. We too need to rethink our choices and to reorder our priorities from time to time if we want to find life.

September 1 was the World Day of Prayer for Creation. Our church, along with other churches, celebrates September 1 to October 4 (Feast of St Francis of Assisi) as a Season of Creation.

At a time when life on our planet is seriously endangered, we might attend more closely to the urgent gospel challenge of living in ways that help to sustain the life of the Earth community. We bring into our celebration those affected by the climate crisis and we pray for the insight to live in right relationship with all that is.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JEREMIAH 20:7–9

ROMANS 12:1–2

MATTHEW 16:21–27

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EZEKIEL 33:7–9

ROMANS 13:8–10

MATTHEW 18:15–20