



▶ **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

7 May 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*I am the way, the truth and the life*

# St Alipius parish

[ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/)

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Monday to Friday 9.30 AM  
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 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)  
10:30 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>)  
Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

### Mass and prayer resources

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Counting team 2 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:

**Anniversaries:** Brian Blood, Joan Blood, Michael Ryan

**Unwell:** 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

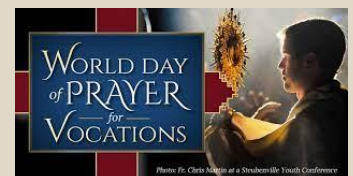
**Finance Officer**  
Bernadette Prestwood

**Finance Chair**  
Paul O'Beirne

**Child Safety Officer**  
Emily Clarke

**Liturgy Coordinator**  
Fr Jorge De Chavez, OSJ  
[www.sapliturgy.net.au](http://www.sapliturgy.net.au)

**Funeral Ministry**  
Carmel Flynn  
[stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com](mailto:stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com)



## WELCOME FR ANTHONY

Fr Anthony Nagothu will join us for masses this weekend.

## TERM TWO

We wish all staff and students in our parish schools all the best for term two. We hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday and that the new term is successful and enjoyable for all.

## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Collection: *presbytery and priest support* – \$2,215  
Envelopes, credit cards and direct debits: *parish buildings, office, admin, grounds maintenance* – \$696.40

## VINNIES BREAD RUN

Vinnies volunteers provide bread to those in need each Monday between 7.30 and 8.00 PM. If this would benefit you or someone you know please visit the hall during this time. Please bring a bag to put the bread in.

## CAR PARKING

In recent weeks, concerns have been raised about traffic safety on our church grounds. To ensure that everyone and everything is safe, please only park in allocated car parks. Be mindful of parking for the disabled and the raised garden beds near St Alipius Hall.

## FIRST EUCHARIST

Preparation for the sacrament of First Eucharist has begun, with more than 100 children enrolled. As part of their preparation, the children will be presented at parish masses in the coming weeks. Please make them and their families feel welcome.

## VINNIES RAFFLE

Please support the St Vincent's raffle by buying tickets at St Alipius this weekend. The prize is a beautiful rug made by Sr Angela.

## OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

The first edition of Our Diocesan Community for 2023 is available in the church foyers. Please share copies with those who would be interested in knowing about things that are happening across the diocese.

## CORONATION PRAYER

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR offers the following prayer to mark the coronation of King Charles this coming weekend: *Let us pray for King Charles as he is anointed for his mission of service. May he serve with wisdom and courage. Loving God, hear us.*

## 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](http://www.thepopevideo.org). The Pope's intention for May - **For church movements and groups**: We pray for church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

## LAUDATO SI WEEK

From 21–28 May, Catholics are asked to celebrate the 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si': On the Care of Creation*. The 2023 theme is "Hope for the Earth, Hope for Humanity" and is a time to reflect on the progress we have made in protecting our common home. To respond to the Pope's call, the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, together with the Laudato Si' Movement and Catholic Earthcare Australia encourage people to view "The Letter: A Message for Our Earth". The documentary tells the stories of four representatives of those on the peripheries who are impacted by climate change and environmental destruction – the displaced, the youth, the indigenous communities and biodiversity – who are invited to speak with Pope Francis about their experiences and hopes for the future. The recipients of Pope Francis' invitation are a Muslim man from Senegal, a 13-year-old girl from India, an indigenous leader from Brazil and a husband/wife scientific team. Laudato Si' was an invitation not only to Catholics but to people of all faiths and the secular world to care for our world. This was demonstrated in the faith perspectives of those who were invited to speak to Pope Francis. The film and other resources can be accessed here: <https://laudatosiweek.org/>

## PASTORAL PRACTITIONER

St John of God Hospital Ballarat is seeking a dedicated and committed Pastoral Practitioner to join their Pastoral Services Team in promoting and providing holistic pastoral services to patients and clients. Will require being on call 24 hours and weekends. For details, please visit <https://careers.sjog.org.au/jobs/pastoral-practitioner-ballarat-vic-australia-06dc0a14-9700-4e43-ae10-94850a1adcdf> or call Margaux Chant on 03 5329 2503.

## COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

The Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, in collaboration with Evangelisation Brisbane, has released its newsletter in a new format at <http://cjpbrisbane.com/>  
The purpose is the research, analyse, reflect upon and respond to issues related to justice, peace and the environment, in light of the gospel and Catholic social teaching.

### BAPTISMS

#### Sonny Jones

Child of Ashlea and Jacob Jones

#### Isla Eliannah Moloney

Child of Andrew Moloney and Ronafel Rico

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

Pope Francis

## PONDERING GRIEF WORKSHOP

Linda Espie, an experienced loss, grief and bereavement counsellor, is facilitating a workshop from 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM on Saturday, 20 May at the Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual and Pastoral Formation. Participants will reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. The cost is \$80 including the book *Pondering Grief*. BYO lunch. Visit [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or call 9890 1101.

## VISITING PRIEST

Father Robert McCulloch will be in Ballarat on Monday 8 May and will offer mass at the Cathedral at midday. Fr McCulloch will give a presentation in the Mary Glowrey room immediately after mass and will provide an update on current events in Pakistan and beyond. A light lunch will be provided. Donation envelopes will be available. Entry – by donation. For enquiries call 0401 175 045.

## CATHOLIC EARTHCARE

Catholic Earthcare Australia is hosting an online action event from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM on Wednesday, 17 May. Participants will engage in ten actions, inspired by *Laudato Si'*, that they can do from home, to bring forth integral ecology and care for creation. Bookings via <https://www.trybooking.com/CHVPE>

## MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE

Visit the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre in East Melbourne during the Australian Heritage Festival Open Day, on Saturday 13 May. Explore the museum, take a guided tour, and enjoy a cuppa with a Sister of St Joseph. For more information or to book a tour, visit [www.mmhc.org.au/australian-heritage-festival-open-day/](http://www.mmhc.org.au/australian-heritage-festival-open-day/)

## BENDIGO REUNION

Past students at St Vincent's College Bendigo and their partners are invited to attend our 65th Anniversary and Sports Hall of Fame Dinner on Saturday, 20 May, followed by Mass and BBQ at Catherine McAuley College on Sunday, 21 May. Contact Tim Coates at 0407 403 574 or [timothycoates@gmail.com](mailto:timothycoates@gmail.com) or visit the website [www.cmc.vic.edu.au/st-vincent-college-hall-of-fame-2021/?\\_ppp=53d418e120](http://www.cmc.vic.edu.au/st-vincent-college-hall-of-fame-2021/?_ppp=53d418e120)

## CWL REFLECTION DAY

The Catholic Women's League Ballarat Diocese Committee invites you to a reflection day at St Mary's Warracknabeal on Wednesday 24 May starting with 10:30 AM mass, followed by lunch and a guest speaker. For enquiries, please contact Frances on 0458 317 815 or Carmel on 0401 175 045.

## ACU ONLINE COURSE

The Australian Catholic University is offering a four-week online training program to foster and develop the skills of new and existing Ministers of the Word. Open to all community members, the program features quality liturgical content and practical exercises. For info, visit: [www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/pastoral-training](http://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/pastoral-training)

## CENSUS DATA

A new National Centre for Pastoral Research report provides a comprehensive snapshot of the millions of people who identified as Catholic in the 2021 Australia Census. Read more at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog <https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/new-report-reveals-makeup-of-australian-catholic-population/#more-9486>

# Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

*Fifth Sunday of Easter: John 14:1–14*

“Take from my heart all painful anxiety” is a gospel inspired prayer. It is the prayer of Catherine McAuley, the first Sister of Mercy. Like Jesus, Catherine knew in her being that a troubled heart is always a possibility. When we don’t have any serious concerns in the present, we are often anxious about the future. There is a difference, of course, between having concerns and having a troubled heart. The difference lies in how we deal with the inevitable problems and challenges that come our way. If ever there was a time with potential for troubled hearts, it is right now as we deal with extreme weather events, with the divisions in the community over justice for First Nations Peoples, with increasing wealth disparity, with the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and with the impact of long Covid.

Freedom from anxiety is the constant message of the gospels. “Do not let your hearts be troubled” is Jesus’ word to his friends in John’s gospel. The verb, here in passive mood (“be troubled”), is used of Jesus’ spirit when he finds his friend Mary and her companions weeping over the

death of Lazarus (11:33). It means literally to shake or to stir up. Jesus is really shaken by grief in that situation. As he faces his own death, he does not want his friends to be troubled of heart or spirit. He speaks here from his own experience.

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*Let us not underestimate the power of prayer at this time of distress*

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Jesus shows the way to an untroubled heart: “Believe into God, believe also into me.” The faith of the disciples is to be grounded in his care for them both in the present and into the future: “I go to prepare a place for you... I will come again and will take you to myself”. In this context, Jesus makes three claims: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” The prologue to the gospel, which functions as an overture to the gospel, has introduced the notion of the Incarnate Word as “full of grace and truth” and the bringer of “grace and truth” (1:14, 17). The Word is the life that is the light of all (1:4), the bread of life, even the resurrection and the life. Jesus’



claim to be “the way” is foreshadowed in the parable of the gate: “I am the gate for the sheep (10:7).”

If the disciples know Jesus, then they also know the way to God whom Jesus images in tender parental terms as “Father”. If Philip does not believe in their mutual indwelling, then maybe he can believe on account of the “works” of Jesus, works that are also the works of God. Those who believe have the power to do these and even greater works. This seems extraordinary but is really a matter of believing with untroubled hearts that the power comes from God. Let us not underestimate the power of prayer at this time of distress and the power of action, no matter how small, to help those whose hearts are troubled.

## THIS WEEK’S READINGS FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 6:1–7  
1 PETER 2:4–9  
JOHN 14:1–12

## NEXT WEEK’S READINGS SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 8:5–8, 14–17  
1 PETER 3:15–18  
JOHN 14:15–21