



▶ **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

9 July 2023

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Come to me and I will give you rest*

# St Alipius parish

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

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

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Wed, Fri 9.30 AM in the Parish Hall  
Saturday 9.30 AM, 6.00 PM  
Sunday 9.00 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>)  
10.30 AM (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)

### 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 4 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:** Patricia  
Parry, Jackie Wright

**Anniversaries:** Linda Gregory,  
Edward John Duck, Silvia  
Vasquez, Alina Miranda

**Unwell:** Peter McLachlan, Sarah  
McLachlan, Carole Simmons,  
Shelley Pawang

*Our parish is committed to all  
children, young people, and  
vulnerable adults' safety, well-  
being, and dignity.*

*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

### Visiting Priest

Fr Barry Ryan

### 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 Coordination

[www.sapliturgy.net.au](http://www.sapliturgy.net.au)

### Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn

[stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com](mailto:stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com)



Sea  
Sunday

9 July 2023

## MORNING TEA AT ST ALIPIUS

The Parish Pastoral Council invites all to stay for morning tea in the St Alipius Hall after the 10:30 AM mass on Sunday 9 July. Please bring a plate of food to share.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Morning Tea after 10:30 AM Mass

11:30 AM, Sunday 9 July, St Alipius Hall

#### Confirmation Information Sessions

10:30 AM or 6:00 PM, Thursday 13 July

#### Parish Master Plan Discussions

After 10:30 AM masses on 16 July at Ss Peter and Paul's and 23 July at St Alipius

#### Parish Trivia Night

7:00 PM, Friday 4 August, St Alipius Hall

## PARISH MASTER PLAN

The Parish Finance Committee is embarking on a process to establish a parish master plan to maximise the potential of our buildings and land. By generating income through these assets, we can better support the upkeep of our churches, our various ministries, programs, and ongoing pastoral initiatives, thereby serving our community more effectively.

We seek your insights, suggestions, and creative ideas. Together, we can envision new possibilities and identify sustainable income streams that align with the mission and vision of our parish. If you have expertise in real estate, business, or finance or simply possess a passion for our parish's wellbeing, your input is invaluable.

Please join us after the 10:30 AM masses on 16 July at St Peter's & Paul's and 23 July at St Alipius to discuss the parish's asset holdings and ideas for their future use.

## CONFIRMATIONS

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin with parent information sessions at 10:30 AM or 6:00 PM on Thursday 13 July. If you or anyone you know has a child in Year 3 or older who would like to be confirmed, please contact the parish office, or refer to the parish website. Confirmation is the second Sacrament of Initiation and will be celebrated in September.

## PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

We are holding a Trivia Night at 7:00 PM on Friday 4 August. Tickets are \$10 per person with tables of up to 8 people. BYO nibbles and drinks. Tea and coffee will be supplied. Please contact the office for tickets and if you can help with donating prizes for the evening.

## COLLECTION FOR THE POPE

Thank you to everyone who supported the Pope's collection last weekend. We raised \$935.75.

## DRAFT MISSION STATEMENT

Our Parish Vision Statement is printed on the front of this notice sheet. At our most recent Parish Pastoral Council meeting, the following Mission Statement was drafted:

Our mission at the Parish of St. Alipius is to actively engage and serve our combined communities, embodying the teachings of the Gospel. Rooted 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 relationship with God, inspire transformation, and make a positive impact in the lives of those we encounter, spreading God's love and compassion to all.

We invite and encourage all parishioners to consider the contents of the Mission statement and welcome your feedback.

## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$1,104
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$3088.20

Planned giving envelopes for the new financial year are available for collection at the back of the churches. 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.

## VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

The St Vincent de Paul Society's annual Winter Appeal will focus on older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Appeal envelopes are located at the ends of the pews. People wishing to support the work of SVdP through our local conference can place their donation in an envelope and return it via the collection plate. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and can be made at [www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal](http://www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal), at Vinnies shops, or by calling 13 18 12.

## FR JORGE ON LEAVE

From 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Fr Jorge is returning home to be with family. He will return on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023. Fr Jorge is asking for prayers for him and his family during this time. During this time we welcome Fr Barry, Fr Ed and Fr Jim who are happy to fill in during the absence of Fr Jorge.

### BAPTISMS

**Vivetta Mia and Oliver Gordon Stewart**

Children of Daniel Stewart and Rachael Leoncini

**Arabella Goldie Leoncini**

Child of Jason and Kelly Leoncini

**Fletcher Kenneth Boadle**

Child of Teagan Boadle and Laura Jago

**Harry Otto Boadle**

Child of Nicholas and Amy Boadle

**Levi James Boadle**

Child of Scott and Karen Boadle

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

Pope Francis

## SEA SUNDAY – 9 JULY

Today is Sea Sunday when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living. The Appeal today is for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. To assist this Catholic ministry, please send your donations to <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/>

## PIETY STALL

During a recent stocktake, many slow-to-move articles were identified. These have been placed on tables near the piety stall and are either free or \$2 each.

## DIOCESAN E-NEWS

Read about news and events of the diocese in the latest edition of e-News [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/)

## 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 July – **for a Eucharistic life**: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and be opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

## GOOD OIL WRITERS' AWARD

Entries are invited for The Good Oil 2023 Writers' Award, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. The theme for this year's award is "Finding My Voice". Entry is free and open to both emerging and published writers. For more information: [www.goodsams.org.au/article/the-good-oil-2023-writers-award-finding-my-voice](http://www.goodsams.org.au/article/the-good-oil-2023-writers-award-finding-my-voice)

## SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

On Tuesday, 20 June, the Secretariat of the Synod published the *Instrumentum Laboris*, or working document, for the first session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops – commonly referred to as the Synod on Synodality. Read more at the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/)

## CATHOLIC CARE APPEAL

CatholicCare Victoria helps individuals, families and communities access the care and support they need when they need it most. They believe that everyone deserves the safety and comfort a home can provide. This winter, you can support people who need a home. [www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/16/winter-appeal](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/campaign/donate/16/winter-appeal)

# Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

*Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 11:25–30*

Today's gospel begins with Jesus' prayer of thanksgiving to God. The verb "to thank" in this instance has connotations of blessing. In this prayer, Jesus contrasts those who consider themselves wise and intelligent with the truly wise ones, the "little ones" who know the daily struggle to survive, those to whom the secrets of God's empire have been revealed. The prosperity gospel that affirms the acquisition of wealth is far removed from the words proclaimed by Jesus. God's ways turn human expectations upside down.

The final verses of today's gospel are among the best known and best loved in all of the gospel tradition. "Come to me...and I will give you rest" is a lovely invitation. It is issued to those who are weary and burdened and that includes most of us at some time or another. We might hear it as addressed to the First Peoples of Australia and to African Americans who are weary and burdened by waiting for justice. We might equally hear it spoken to those in war-torn countries like Yemen and Syria and Afghanistan. The "rest" that Jesus offers is God's rest. It is not just relief from drudgery and hard

work. In the biblical tradition, rest is *shabbat*. It is freedom from any sort of enslavement. It is freedom to remember God's goodness in creation. Rest time or *shabbat* is about making a space to contemplate the wonder of the galaxies, the wonder of life in all its forms and all its potentialities. God's rest restores life to our wearied spirits. It frees us to open ourselves to ever new possibilities and to be there for others. Spending a little time each day with a poem or a beautiful painting can be an experience of entering into God's rest.

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*Learn of me, for I am gentle and  
humble of heart*

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"Take my yoke upon you..." is Jesus' further invitation. The same verb will be used when Jesus tells his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them ... take up their cross and follow me." The "yoke" of Jesus, the cross that he will take up, and the cross that his disciples are invited to bear, are all of a piece. A yoke is a cross-beam or cross-bar. Jesus will carry his cross-beam to execution.



Disciples, in their turn, will carry their cross-beams, figuratively if not literally. They will not be weighed down or burdened by this prospect for the "yoke" of which Jesus speaks is "easy". How can this be? The answer lies in the final invitation: "Learn of me, for I am gentle and humble of heart..." In Matthew's beatitudes, the gentle are said to be blessed. There is nothing weak about the gentle ("meek" is not a helpful translation). The non-violent methods of the gentle are infinitely more effective in restoring creation than the violence of so many who present themselves as "wise and intelligent". God's "rest" is the source of their power – and of ours.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

### FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ZECHARIAH 9:9–10

ROMANS 8:9, 11–13

MATTHEW 11:25–30

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 55:10–11

ROMANS 8:18–23

MATTHEW 13:1–23