

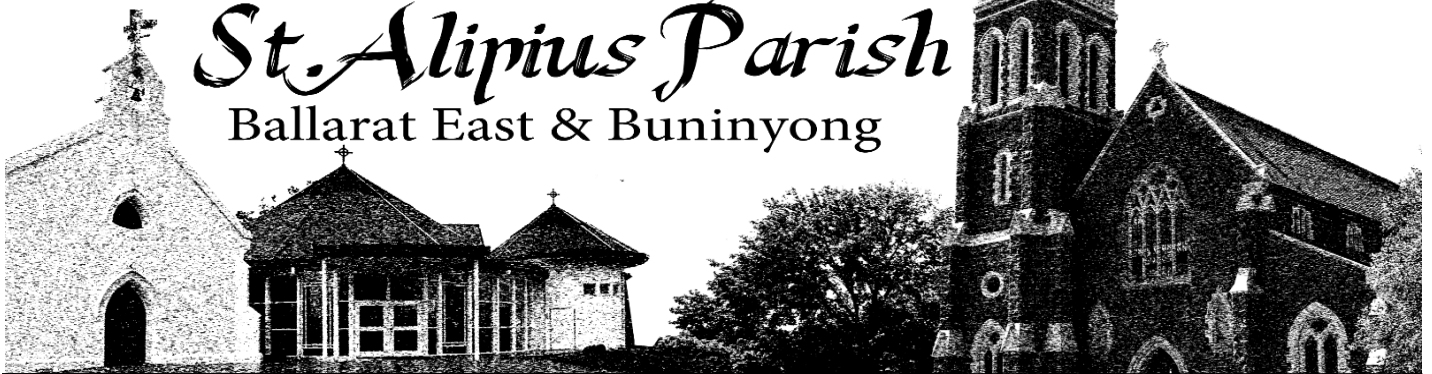


CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BALLARAT |

Oblates of St. Joseph

# St. Alipius Parish

Ballarat East & Buninyong



**SS Peter & Paul's Church**

701 Fiskens St., Buninyong 3357

**St Alipius' Parish Church**

82 Victoria St., Ballarat East 3350

**TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2020**

*Our parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.*



*St Alipius' Parish acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of this land and we pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.*

### Parish Office & Presbytery:

#### Office Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

✉ 84 Victoria Street

Ballarat East 3350

☎ 5332 6611

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

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

#### Liturgy Online:

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

✉ [sapliturgy@gmail.com](mailto:sapliturgy@gmail.com)

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Jorge De Chavez, OSJ

**Liturgy Coordinator:** David Santamaria

**Funeral Ministry:** Carmel Flynn, Kathy Curran

**Child Safety Officer:** Roxanne Leed

**Finance Officer:** Kerrie McTigue

**Finance Com. Chair:** Paul Jans

### **Our Church is closed until further notice**

#### Mass Options and Resources for Prayer

Ballarat Diocese: <http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/>

Daily Mass: 11.30am St John of God Hospital Chapel can be viewed via

<https://www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9> or

<http://stpatscathedral.weebly.com/>

Masses with Bishop Shane Mackinlay:

<https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/>

St. Alipius' Parish Liturgy Website: [www.sapliturgy.net.au](http://www.sapliturgy.net.au)

#### Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

*"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart ... I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You."*

### Prayer Intentions:

#### Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries: Lawrie McCartin, Bill Maguire, Tess Maguire, Eileen O'Meara

Unwell: We pray for Carmel Doherty, Heather Healy, Pat Hogan, Cathy Jones, Peter Martin, Letitia Simmons, Margie Wilmott, Christopher Calimbas, Isabelita Dimaano, and all who are unwell.



## *Cancellation of Chrism Mass for 2020*

Bishop Paul has advised parishes by email this morning that the Chrism Mass has been cancelled for 2020 due to the coronavirus restrictions, which do not allow for large gatherings. We look forward to celebrating this mass on the Monday of Holy Week in 2021

## *Plenary Council Update*

The journey to the Plenary Council 2020 continues. While it's in a context more different than we could have ever expected, the need to pray, discern and listen to the Holy Spirit and each other is more important than ever.

Discernment Papers: The six discernment papers have been released and are available to be read. The National Plenary Facilitation Team will soon release resources to assist parishes and communities to explore each of the papers. Here in the diocese, we will endeavour to look at one paper for a month. For the month of August we will look at HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO BE A CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA THAT IS Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal? The Church, founded by Jesus Christ, is a forum of welcome to "the great multitude from every tribe, tongue and nation". This biblical image invites us to imagine anew the ways in which the diversity of unique gifts can contribute to an organic and authentic common building of the Church. This is especially crucial in Australia, where the Church is manifest in the great multitude of ecclesial expressions from East and West. The words that St John Paul II spoke particularly to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples may be applied to all Catholics in Australia: "the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others." Have a read of the discernment paper, think about your parish and the diocese in general. We welcome any comments. Please send through to [jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au). Read the discernment paper at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/PC2020-thematic-papers-2.pdf>. Visit the Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal theme's page at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/themes/inclusive/>.

## *Child Protection Sunday - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020*

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and vulnerable adults. You can find out more at: [www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)

## *Planned Giving*

Envelopes may be left in the mailbox at the Presbytery. Any queries regarding Planned Giving, please contact our Finance Officer, Kerrie McTigue on 53 312 933 or via email:

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

### *St Alipius Parish collections last weekend:*

Envelopes	\$213	Direct Debit	\$780
Credit Card	\$2,502	Presbytery	\$55

*Thank  
you*





## SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Due to Government restrictions around Covid-19, we won't be celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism at the time. Preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation have also been suspended for the remainder of the year. Any queries or concerns, or for further information, please contact the Parish Office.

### St Vincent de Paul Society Bread Run

Free fresh bread is available to people on Centrelink benefits and to all experiencing job loss, shorter hours etc. Pick up on each Monday night between 7.40pm and 8.20pm in the Parish Hall adjacent to the St Alipius Church. Parking is via Hopetoun Street entrance. Bring your own bags as no bags are supplied. Please pass this information to any families experiencing difficulties at this time. Please call Gavin 53 347 221 or Geoff 0413 840 835 with any queries. St Vincent de Paul Call Centre — 5334 2844 lines open 24/7

### St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal

Now more than ever, the funds raised during this appeal are critical in ensuring that Vinnies can continue to be there for people when they need us most. Therefore, this year's appeal will focus on addressing the needs of Victorians who have been impacted by COVID-19.

Vinnies, like everyone, has been impacted by COVID-19. We have had to adapt our traditional ways of providing help to those who seek our assistance to meet both the government and St Vincent de Paul directives. (receipts available on request)

Donations may be made via envelopes which are available from the Cathedral Parish Office. These may be left at the office for collection by Vinnies. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

\*Please write your name and address on the envelope so receipts can be issued. Once completed envelopes can be left at the parish office.

### National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon

In response to the horrific explosion in Beirut on the 4th of August, the Australian office of the international Catholic Charity, Aid to the Church in Need, has launched a national emergency appeal to raise funds to support the people of Lebanon. For more information about the appeal, and to make a donation go to: [www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon](http://www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon) or ph: 1800 101 201.

### Damascus College Information Webinars & Virtual Tours for 2022

#### Commencement

Damascus College warmly invites all families to attend our upcoming Information Webinars on Wednesday, September 9 at 5.00pm and Tuesday, October 20 at 6.30pm. The Information Webinars are a great way for prospective families to learn more about Damascus College. Guided Virtual Tours are held fortnightly on a Thursday at 9.00am. To register, please go to <https://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us> You will be sent an online link the day prior to the event.



### Gospel Reflection

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A (Matthew 16:13-19)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

“Be yourself. Everybody else is taken”, sings Melinda Schneider. The lyrics of this song, composed for Melinda’s dying father, affirm some fairly obvious truths. Even though we know that “everybody else is taken”, most of us spend energy trying to measure up to other peoples’ expectations and fail to be truly ourselves. In our self-absorption, we can also misread others and fail to know them as they are. Being accepted as we are is among the most precious of gifts. Jesus knew this. He was utterly true to himself and he allowed others time to discover for themselves his real identity and the nature of his mission. If the mission was to succeed, then his followers needed to look beyond their preconceptions about him and accept him as God’s anointed one, as the revelation of the living God.

Jesus’ true identity is a key issue for Matthew’s community as it is for us. From the outset, he is presented as the anointed one of God, the Messiah or Christ. Before his birth, the reader knows him as “Emmanuel”, God with us. What the narrator asserts at the outset, certain characters in the story come to understand. Jesus’ fearless teaching and his healing ministry bring the crowd to recognise him as a prophet in the tradition of Elijah or Jeremiah or John the Baptist, and as the incarnate Wisdom of God. The power of God at work in Peter leads him to a deeper understanding of Jesus’ identity. Peter has faltered in the past and will falter again, even to the point of denying any knowledge of or association with Jesus. He finally arrives at deep insight, however, and proclaims his faith in Jesus as both Christ or Messiah and son of the living God. Insight is a gift, and God can work wherever there is openness and goodwill. Peter has both in abundance. He is declared “blessed” on account of this gift of insight, and entrusted with the “keys” of God’s empire.

The specific power of binding and loosing that is given to Peter is subsequently given to the community of disciples (18:18) where the saying is framed on the one hand by instructions about dealing with transgressors and on the other by the assertion that where two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus, he is there in their midst. “Binding and loosing” belongs to all who gather in the name of Jesus whom Matthew presents as God-with-us, as prophet and Wisdom, as the Christ and as the revelation of the living God. The exercise of the power “to bind and to loose” demands the same wisdom and insight as does the capacity to recognise and affirm the true identity of Jesus. Gathering in the name of Jesus is a challenge right now as we face the restrictions required to deal with pandemic. We pray for the wisdom to find new ways of being church and of truly dealing with transgression.



Readings for this week: Twenty First Sunday Ordinary Time

**First:** Isaiah 22:19-23    **Second:** Romans 11:33-36    **Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-20

Readings for next week: Twenty Second Sunday Ordinary Time

**First:** Jeremiah 20:7-9    **Second:** Romans 12:1-2    **Gospel:** Matthew 16:21-27