



▶ **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

15 January 2023

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Here I am Lord

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Monday – Wednesday, Friday 9:30 AM

Thurs 11:00 AM (Sr Marie Louise)

Saturday 9:30 AM and 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 6 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: Sr Marie
Louise Foley RSM, Cardinal
George Pell, June Smith

Unwell: Remy Bourke, Anne
D'Cruz, Sr Joan Dalglish, Waffa
Ghali, Ray Gregory, Noreen
Griffin, Heather Healy, John
Healy, Peter Martin, Betty
McGarry, Peter McLachlan, Sarah
McLachlan, Trish O'Donohue,
Letitia Simmons, Margie Wilmott.

*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.*



St Alipius
Parish Community

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



RITE OF ELECTION 2023

The Rite of Election is an important part of the process of an adult who has undertaken formation on their journey to full membership in the Catholic Church community and one which is greatly appreciated by all who participate. The Rite of Election for catechumens and candidates will take place at 12:00 PM, on Saturday 25 February at St Patrick's Cathedral, with Bishop Paul Bird CSsR presiding. At the conclusion, all are invited to join the bishop in the cathedral hall for a light lunch.

MASS OF THE OILS 2023

The Mass of Oils will take place at 6:30 PM, on Monday 3 April at St Patrick's Cathedral with supper to follow in the cathedral hall.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields Recital
8:00 PM Monday 16 January at St Alipius

Rite of Welcome RCIA
10:30 AM mass, Sunday 22 January at St Alipius

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Collection basket – **\$2,813 (25 Dec – 8 Jan)**

Presbytery and Priest support.

Envelopes, credit cards and direct debits – **\$1,251.40**

Parish – buildings, office, administration, grounds maintenance.

For any queries or concerns, or should you wish to join our stewardship program to support our parish, please phone our Finance Officer Kerrie on 5331 2933 or email ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au



CARDINAL GEORGE PELL

Cardinal George Pell died on Wednesday aged 81. Cardinal Pell was born in Ballarat and went to school at St Patrick's, where he was a notable football player, leading to him playing for the Richmond reserves in the VFL. Pell was ordained in 1966 in Rome, where he had been studying. He later completed a PhD in church history at Oxford University and a Master of Education at Monash University. From 1973 until 1983, Fr Pell served as a priest in the Ballarat East Parish here at St Alipius. He was actively involved in the establishment of the Australian Catholic University. Fr Pell was appointed an auxiliary bishop in 1987, Archbishop of Melbourne in 1996, Archbishop of Sydney in 2001 and a cardinal in 2003. Cardinal Pell was appointed to the Vatican in 2007. We pray for all of those who are distressed or saddened by the news of his passing.

2023 HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Expressions of interest are invited to join a fully escorted, all-inclusive pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 11–24 June 2023. Arranged through Lifestyle Travel Ballarat and accompanied by Fr Justin Driscoll. Visit Jordan, Petra, the Dead Sea, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Mt of Olives, Jericho, and Qumran. For further information, phone Fr Justin on 0448 220 685 or email info@lifestyletravel.com.au.



POPE'S PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

"I ask you to pray the Our Father for peace in Ukraine, now and throughout this day. Let us ask the Lord to grant that the country may grow in the spirit of brotherhood and that all hurts, fears, and divisions will be overcome."

We have spoken about the Holocaust. But let us think too that [in Ukraine] millions of people were killed [1932-1933]. They are a people who have suffered; they have suffered from hunger, suffered from much brutality and they deserve peace.

May the prayers and supplications that today rise up to heaven touch the minds and hearts of world leaders, so that dialogue may prevail and the common good be placed ahead of partisan interests. Please, no more war."

BAPTISMS

Isabelle Elizabeth Scilini
Child of Lauren and Jacob Scilini

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

Pope Francis

CARITAS AUSTRALIA APPEAL

The new year is a time of hope and renewal. Throughout rural Vietnam, children and families living with disabilities, like Mrs Lan and her children Quan and Loah, are less likely to be employed, and children are less likely to go to school. Mrs Lan's dreams for her children are simple. She wants them to "live like every other child, going to school, playing, having a happy life, and growing and learning like other children." Through the generosity of Caritas supporters, Quan and Loah joined a community-based classroom, learned to socialise with other children, and found confidence in themselves. They found more joy from having fun with others, learned to tell jokes, and found themselves smiling more. This year, you can help create opportunities for children and adults with disabilities and to enable more families like Mrs Lan's to access resources to improve their income and living status. Please join Caritas Australia's wonderful community of generous supporters this year in giving loving parents of children with disabilities the incredible gift of seeing their children smile. Call 1800 024 413 toll-free or visit www.caritas.org.au/christmas.

AID TO CHURCH IN NEED (ACN)

ACN Australia is asking for support to aid our brothers and sisters who are suffering so deeply in Syria and Lebanon through our Christmas appeal "Sharing Hope with Christians in Syria and Lebanon this Christmas." The support we are pledging to them is very much emergency relief to sustain the Christian population in hope. The projects we are supporting are projects such as medical aid, community help and gifts for children in Lebanon, as well as support for lay faithful and accommodation for families in Syria. With your help, ACN can support Christians in Lebanon and Syria this Christmas! To watch videos and read stories of the projects we are supporting visit www.aidtochurch.org/christmas2022

For details, visit www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/ or email [djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:djurджа.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or ph. 5337 7121.

MADE FOR EACH OTHER 2023

The Archdiocese of Hobart is hosting the fifth annual "Made for Each Other Summer School" with the theme 'Him & Her: Vive La Difference', which celebrates and explores the differences and complementarity of the sexes. The event is an overnight retreat with engaging speakers, the opportunity for prayer, reflection, and social interaction on 27 – 28 January in Launceston, Tasmania and is for adults who are discerning marriage and forming relationships. Register at www.himandher.eventbrite.com.au For more information email rachel.bradley@aohtas.org.au

PRAYING WITH POPE FRANCIS

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 sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope, and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org. The Pope's intention for January is for educators: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: John 1:29–34

To provide a reference for someone is a serious responsibility as well as a privilege because, more often than not, a good deal depends on the testimony provided in the reference. John the Baptist took it upon himself to provide testimony for Jesus of Nazareth. His testimony reverberates across the centuries, offering an introduction to Jesus for those who seek to understand this Jewish prophet and teacher who is more than a prophet or teacher. John wants his disciples to understand that the whole purpose of his water baptism is that Jesus “might be revealed”. He wants them to know that Jesus is “of God”. He is the “lamb of God”, the “chosen One of God”. He is the one on whom God’s Spirit descends and remains. Jesus comes before the Baptist and so ranks before him.

Is the author of this gospel using the character of the Baptist as a vehicle for his particular Christology or presentation of Jesus? That’s what many scholars think, although some of the images in the Baptist’s testimony are firmly grounded in Jewish tradition and could well have been uttered by a prophetic figure like John the

Baptist. Maybe the answer to the question is “yes, but not exclusively”.

*The work of God’s Lamb,
is never done.*

Whether the images have their origin with John the Baptist or with John the gospel writer, we might reasonably wonder what it means to say that Jesus is “God’s lamb”. Does the expression refer to the Passover lamb whose blood signifies liberation or deliverance? The imagery in John’s gospel in relation to the death of Jesus might point in this direction. Is “God’s lamb” the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53 who assumes the sins of the many? Is it an image of the lamb that God provides for Abraham’s sacrifice in Genesis 22? Is it evoking the apocalyptic lamb of Jewish literature of the time, the powerful conquering lamb that destroys evil in the world? Is it intended to suggest vulnerability as in the prophecy of Jeremiah 11:19 (“I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter”)?

There is never a simple explanation when it comes to John’s gospel, but it seems to me



that the symbol of strength in vulnerability has potential for understanding the characterisation of Jesus in this gospel. The Lamb of God of John 1:29 “takes away” the sinful condition of the world. Twenty-one centuries down the track there is still violence and hunger and exploitation on a massive scale, exacerbated now by the climate crisis. The work of the one strong enough to risk vulnerability so that others may have life, the work of God’s Lamb, is never done. Witness to that is part of the gift that Pope Francis is offering to the world. Despite opposition, even among those closest to him, he never wavers in his response to the distress of God’s people and the distress of God’s Earth. He invites us to “walk together” as siblings on the gospel journey.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 49:3, 5–6
1 CORINTHIANS 1:1–3
JOHN 1:29–34

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 8:23–9:3
1 CORINTHIANS 1:10–13, 17
MATTHEW 4:12–17