

14 July 2024

## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

‘He called the Twelve, and began to send them out.’

# St Alipius parish



▶ **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  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

[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

Tue 5:30 PM, Wed – Fri 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> weeks)

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

Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge this land's traditional owners and custodians and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

### WE PRAY FOR

#### Faithfully departed:

Danko Skrokov, Rizaldy Lizada (Fr. Eladio's brother), Michael Cullinan, Jaclyn O'Loughlin

#### Anniversaries:

Peter Saunders

#### Unwell: Socorro De Chavez

Shelley Pawang, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Carole Simmons

### PARISH TEAM

#### Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

#### Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

#### 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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Anniversary Planning**  
3 PM, 14 July, Parish Hall

**Parish Finance Council Meeting**  
7.30 AM, 18 July, Presbytery

**Confirmation Preparation**  
10.30 AM or 6 PM, 18 July, Parish Hall

**Leadership Formation Session**  
10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, 4 August, Buninyong

**Trivia Night**  
6:30PM for 7PM start, 30 August, Parish Hall

## COMMUNION TO THE HOME

We currently have a number of parishioners who are receiving communion at home and others who would like to. These parishioners are unable to attend Mass for various reasons and it is our wish to be able to have people visit them at home and give them communion on a regular basis. If you would like to contribute in this way please contact the parish office for more information.

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

A Marriage Encounter weekend will be held on **4 - 6 October 2024** at St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South. This starts on Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm.

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au) Website: [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au)

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$938
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$268.90

**Planned Giving envelopes are now available in the rear of each church.** Please collect yours as soon as possible to save on postage.

## PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

Planned Giving receipts are now available. If you wish to receive a statement for your contribution to the Planned Giving program, please contact the parish office. The statements will not be sent out automatically this year.

## MEDITATION SESSIONS

Following the success of recent meditation sessions with Fr. Peter Murphy, there will be a trial period of Christian Meditation for those interested.

It will take place on Wednesdays at the St. Alipius Church hall at 5pm. Sessions will run for approximately 45 minutes. After the four week trial, a decision will be made as to the future of these sessions.

## SVDP WINTER APPEAL

The theme of this year's St Vincent de Paul winter appeal is the 'Working Homeless', which focuses on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. Donation envelopes are available at the piety stand, at the end of each pew at St Alipius, and near Ss Peter and Paul's entrance. Envelopes can be placed in the offertory collections during mass. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Please write your name and address on the envelope if you need a receipt.

## ST VINCENT VOLUNTEERS

Between May 2023 – May 2024, SVdP provided \$730,000 worth of aid across greater Ballarat, which was an increase of 33% on the previous year. The gratefully received support from our parish enables SVdP to continue to assist those in need. If anyone is interested in joining the Society, please contact the parish office. SVdP needs volunteers for their Wednesday and Friday sessions held between 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM, at the Ballarat Assistance Centre, 4 Dawson Street, Ballarat.

## ANNIVERSARY MEETING

The next meeting for anniversary planning will be held this Sunday 14 July at 3pm in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Come along and share your memories and ideas for how we can recognise this anniversary in our parish.

## BAPTISMS

**Marley Jane and Archie David Martin**  
Children of Lachie and Nikita Martin

**Ted Geoffrey and Lenny George Baldwin**  
Children of Grant and Jodie Baldwin

**Olive Ivey Pollard**  
Child of Tess Pollard

**Anderson Evan Sutterby**  
Nicholas and Jessica Sutterby

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

## DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY PREPARATION

In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. In 2023, Bishop Paul asked parishes to focus on leadership in their local communities, either by forming or developing further a parish council or leadership team according to local circumstances. The Diocesan Assembly will bring together clergy, representatives of the leadership teams in parishes, schools and Catholic organisations to consider how we might develop leadership and governance in our communities in the future. The formation opportunity is for Clergy in parishes, Parish Leadership Team/Parish Councils, School Leadership Teams/School Advisory Councils, Catholic Organisations Leaders. An invitation is also extended to people who have leadership potential and who would like to participate. Leadership teams are invited to nominate others who might benefit from this experience. Ballarat dates are: August 4, 10.30am – 4.00pm, Ss Peter and Paul's Church, Buninyong, August 13, 5.00pm – 8.30pm, OLHC Church, Wendouree.

## SAFETRAC TRAINING OVERDUE

Have you completed your training? Clergy, staff and volunteers including Parish Safeguarding Officers are required to complete this training. If you are receiving a reminder email each week please go to the link to complete training. If you have any queries please contact the parish office, we are very happy to help.

## PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Plans are in place for another trivia night in our parish. Please keep August 30 free so that you can join us and share your wealth of knowledge. If anyone has, or knows of someone who may be in a position to donate an item for a raffle to be held on the night, please contact the parish office. Tables of 8 can be booked through the parish office. Tickets are \$15 per person. BYO drinks and nibbles.

## SPORT CAN LEAD THE WAY TO CHRIST

Like many other countries, Australia is passionate about sport. But how are the Church, faith and sport connected and why should they be? Whether competing, supporting or encouraging play for health, sport is part of our family and social life. In sport we experience community and teamwork, sacrifice and dedication, the benefits of rules and fair play, the highs of success and the learnings that come with defeat. We learn from coaches, parents and friends as we put in the extra effort to train or to attend games. Sport forms us not only in the skills of play or competition, but in life experiences that form our personal human development. The Church and sport can learn from each other in many ways. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has published a new document that explains how sport is a gift that can draw people closer to Christ. More information available from the diocesan website.

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/sport-can-lead-the-way-to-christ/>

## LAUDATO SI

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us that everything is connected. Our relationship with nature is not separate from our relationship with God and others. This concept of integral ecology encourages us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action. The Diocesan Social Justice Commission, in collaboration with Caritas (Diocese of Ballarat), Earthcare Ballarat and the Pastoral Ministry Office offer the following:

**Save energy at home:** Much of our electricity and heat are powered by coal, oil and gas. Use less energy by reducing your heating and cooling use, switching to LED light bulbs and energy-efficient electric appliances, washing your laundry with cold water or hanging things to dry instead of using a dryer. Improving your home's energy efficiency, through better insulation for instance, or replacing your oil or gas furnace with an electric heat pump, can reduce your carbon footprint by up to 900 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year.

# The Value of Travelling Light

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

To be a disciple of Jesus is to experience a call. It is also to be sent on a mission in partnership with others, a mission invariably expressed in terms of preaching, teaching, healing, and/or driving out of demons or unclean spirits. In other words, it is to be authorised to do what Jesus did and to proclaim what he proclaimed. When we hear of Jesus casting out demons and telling his disciples to do likewise, we tend to think that whatever they did is something that belongs to another time and has little to do with our contemporary society. In the cosmology of the time, there was a realm between the divine and the human that was inhabited by good and evil spirits (angels and demons). The divide between these realms was conceptualised as porous so that humans could be protected by the angels or “possessed” by the demons. While the cosmology of the twenty-first century has no “place” for such beings, the contemporary imagination allows space for a metaphorical engagement with the angelic and demonic. When we speak of “demons” now, we are talking about something recognisable in human experience, even if somewhat removed from the “demons” that beset the poor in the Roman imperial provinces of the first century.

Today’s parents spend much of their time metaphorically “casting out the demons” that beset their children, as do our friends when they sit and listen to the pain in our hearts and help us to let go of the “demons” that so often inhabit our psyches. Many health professionals are paid to heal the hurts as well as the cuts and burns. They drive out the demons of fear and hate and prejudice and of paralysing mental illness.

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*‘Mutual respect, community-mindedness, an eagerness to share, reverence for nature, thankfulness and love of life...’*

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Educators also, aware that learning occurs only when students are relatively free from fear and anxiety, know what it means to drive out the demons. The recent experience of pandemic and of violence in its many forms has unleashed new “demons” of fear and distrust.



We are called to be attentive to the pain in the hearts of those affected in these ways.

It is significant that Jesus instructs the disciples to travel light. They need the basics to live and to do their job, but if their mission is to be effective, they must be free from the anxiety that comes from excess. Psychologist and social critic John F. Schumacher suggests that societies with the most material goods tend to be the most anxious. “Mutual respect, community-mindedness, an eagerness to share, reverence for nature, thankfulness and love of life”, it seems, are the major ingredients for a stress- or “demon”-free personal and community life. There would be no need to shake the dust from our feet for want of hospitality if that were the way we all chose to live. What’s more, if we travelled light there would be enough for all on our planet, the human and other-and-human, to live in dignity and peace.

## THIS WEEK’S READINGS

### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AMOS 7:12-15

EPHESIANS 1:3-14

MARK 6:7-13

## NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JEREMIAH 23:1-6

EPHESIANS 2:13-18

MARK 6:30-34