



Welcome to St. Alipius Parish

Ballarat East & Buninyong

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.

February 20, 2022
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
"The Lord is kind and merciful"

SS Peter & Paul's Church
701 Fischen St. Buninyong 3357

St Alipius' Parish Church
82 Victoria St, Ballarat East 3350

Parish Office & Presbytery:

- 84 Victoria Street
Ballarat East 3350
- 5332 6611
- ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office Hours:

The Parish Office will open on the following:
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
10.00am to 3.30pm

Liturgy Online:

- www.sapliturgy.net.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Parish Coordinator: Bronwyn Ballesty

PPC Chair: Cathy Prunty

Child Safety Officer: Bronwyn Ballesty

Finance Officer: Kerrie McTigue

Finance Com. Chair: TBA

Liturgy Coordinator: David Santamaria
ballarateastliturgy@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Funeral Ministry: Carmel Flynn
stalipiusfunerals@gmail.com

Masses during the week

Weekday Mass Times will change due to the Clergy retreat.

Mass Times are

Friday 1.00pm (Funeral Mass for Sr Anne Forbes)

Saturday Morning 9.30am

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 9:00 am (1st, 3rd and 5th)

10:30 am (2nd and 4th)

Rosary and Divine Mercy will be said each morning after the 9.30am mass. Please join us on the left of the church.

Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong

Sunday 9:00 am (2nd and 4th)

10:30 am, (1st, 3rd and 5th)

Mass Options and Resources for Prayer

Ballarat Diocese Website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting Team No .3 will be on this week.
Stewart, Anderson and Reynolds

In our prayers we remember.....

Recent Deaths: Sr Anne Forbes (RMS) Flora Cabungcal Panaligan (P), Justina Argente (P)

Anniversaries: Fr Vicente Visintainer OSJ, Fr Antonio Fanchini OSJ, Fr Raymund De La Cruz OSJ, Fr Mario Cueto OSJ

Unwell: We pray for Jacinta Wilson, Joan O'Beirne, Waffa Ghali, Mary Hall, Peter Kelly, Betty McGarry, Valerie Reilly (UK), Anne D'Cruz (Singapore), Peter Saunders, Agnes Peters, Brian (Jack) Patton, Ray, Heather Healy, Peter Martin, Margie Wilmott, Letitia Simmons, and all who are unwell.



This weekend we welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

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

(Pope Francis)



Oliver Mason
Son of Emily and Tristan

*May these
children grow
in Love and
Faith with
the support
of their family
and their
Catholic
Community*

Clergy Retreat

This week all Priests within the Diocese will be on their Clergy Retreat. The Parish Office will remain open throughout this time. We ask all in our community to keep all of our Priests in your thoughts and prayers.

St Alipius Parish School 2023 Foundation Enrolments

St Alipius Parish School is a Catholic primary school in the Parish of Ballarat East. We invite applications for the 40 prep places available for the 2023 school year.

Enrolment Applications open Wednesday 9th February.

School Tours/Information Sessions

10am Tuesday March 1st, 8th and 22nd

4pm Wednesday March 16th

7pm Thursday March 31st (Q&A via Zoom)

Parents and children are invited to come and learn about our school, view classes in operation and meet our staff and student leaders. Enrolment information will be available at these sessions.

Synod of Bishops

Have you taken up Pope Francis' invitation to participate in a global conversation about the Catholic Church? You still have three weeks to make a submission to your local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality, calling the People of God to walk together in our mission as Christians. Submissions close on February 27. Find out more at

<https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>



Job Vacancies within the Diocese

St Columba's Catholic Church Parish Coordinator

The Parish of St Columba's Ballarat North are seeking a Parish Coordinator to ensure the efficient operation of the Parish Office, part time 16 hours (0.4) per week. Duties will include reception and administration as well as coordinating Sacramental Programs for Confirmation, Reconciliation (Junior and Senior), First Eucharist and Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC). An understanding of the practices and values of the Catholic Church is essential to this role. Please contact the Parish Office on 03 5331 1012 for a position description. Applications close on Friday, March 4, 2022 and should be addressed to Fr Marcello Colasante, St Columba's, 306 Gregory Street Ballarat North Vic 3350, email: ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Position Vacant: Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission with responsibility for the Dioceses of Ballarat and Sandhurst (West Victoria)

For a position description and short video on what it is like to work at Catholic Mission, go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/jobs-at-catholic-mission>. If you are interested, please submit a cover letter of 1 page and a resume no longer than 3 pages to employment@catholicmission.org.au.

Upcoming Dates in the Parish Community



February

21 st	Clergy Retreat		
22 nd	First Eucharist Parent Information Night	7.00pm	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East
26 th	Rite of Election	12.30pm	St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat
27 th	Project Compassion Sunday		All Mass Times and all Churches

March

4 th	World Day of Prayer	7.00pm	Ss Peter & Pauls, Buninyong
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World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical movement led by Lay Christian women to pray for peace and justice in the issues that concern us all. This year the service has been prepared by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

It is the turn of Ss Peter & Paul to host the Buninyong Service and Akua Ed-Nignpense a nurse from Ghana, who has lived and worked in London, has kindly agree to speak to us. Please join us for this special service (men too!!) standing in solidarity with the women of the world.

RCIA Process

Our RCIA program recommences this weekend after a summer break. Our Dismissal sessions run during Sunday masses and assist our catechumen and candidates in learning to reflect and internalise the Gospel readings of the week.

Please keep our 8 catechumen and candidates in your prayers and look out for them after mass and introduce yourselves - welcome them into our parish community.

We are always looking for additional Dismissal catechists to assist with these Sunday sessions. Training and support will be provided. This is a wonderful way to share your faith and faith journey with others. Please contact the parish office if you feel you would like to contribute to this important ministry.

Sacramental Program



The Parish is now enrolling for First Eucharist. If your child has been confirmed, celebrated Reconciliation and is in Year 5, please contact the Parish Office to enrol. Further details can also be found on our Parish Website.

Planned Giving



Should you wish to continue our Planned Giving or contribute to the First Collection, please place your offering in an envelope into the mailbox near the front door of the Presbytery. Any queries regarding Planned Giving, please phone our Finance Officer Kerrie McTigue, on 53 312 933 or via email: ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Presbytery \$ 981.00

Parish \$ 878.20

Direct Debit \$ 290

We thank you for your continued support

Reflection on the Gospel-7th Sunday in Ordinary Time C (Luke 6:27-38)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The classic message of today's gospel is addressed to those who listen. To hear and respond to the heart of the message that follows, namely to love your enemies and to do good to those who hate you, calls for an extraordinary expansiveness of spirit only possible in those who are totally open to the power of God's Spirit working in their lives. It is not easy to love one's enemy particularly when the enemy, the one subtly undermining or manipulating you, comes in the guise of friend. Yet, even in the face of subtle enmity, the message is clear: do not respond in kind, respond instead with love, compassion and unreserved forgiveness. It is also important to rise above the pettiness of the other and refuse to be a victim. To the one who takes away your coat, you offer your shirt as well. In this way, the real power remains with the one who is too expansive to retaliate.

Luke's late first century communities were well acquainted with the Jewish traditions that informed their faith, even if many were not themselves Jewish. The Jewish Christians in the community as well as the "God-fearers" who accepted Jesus of Nazareth as Saviour and Christos or Messiah had been introduced to the God of steadfast love (*hesed*) and womb-compassion (*rah-amim*). They believed that God was concerned about justice in the legal system (*mishpat*) and right relationship (*sedeqah*) between people and nations, ever ready to forgive those who turn away from injustice and wrongdoing. The songs and prayers of the Jewish heritage reminded them constantly of the compassionate ways of God in their history and in their personal lives. When the Lukan Jesus tells these people to be merciful or compassionate as God is compassionate, they know what he means. They also know the cost of compassion in situations where retaliation is the more spontaneous instinct. God-like compassion remains the stance required of Christian disciples in the face of opposition and hatred, even the opposition that comes in the guise of friendship.

Compassion, forgiveness and love of enemies are rare commodities in international politics and in the resolution of global conflicts as well as in personal relationships. Sadly, the major trouble spots on our globe witness to constant retaliation and face-saving measures that harden positions and exacerbate division. There is ample evidence that hatred, fuelled by injustice, is begetting violence in many parts of the world. And yet the only way to break the cycles of violence that perpetuate death and destruction is the way of compassion and love. God-like compassion requires that we, as nations and as individuals, let go of past hurts, examine our tenaciously held opinions, try to see the world from the perspective of those we mistrust and work for peace that is grounded in love. Refugees who have suffered the indignity of life in detention on Manus Island or Nauru continue to yearn for such God-like compassion.

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First: 1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Second: 1 Cor 15: 45-49 **Gospel:** Lk 6:27-38

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First: Sirach, 27:4-7

Second: 1 Cor 15: 54-58 **Gospel:** Lk 6:39-45

