

23 June 2024

## Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Who can this be? Even the wind and sea obey him.*

# 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/ballarata-east/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-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 1

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:** Alan Mason

**Anniversaries:** Leo Tuddenham, Danny Roche

**Unwell:** Socorro De Chavez, Max Green, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Shelley Pawang, Fr Barry Ryan, Carole Simmons

### PARISH TEAM

#### Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

#### Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

#### Visiting Priest

Fr Barry Ryan

#### Sacramental and 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.



St Vincent de Paul Society  
*good works*

## ANNIVERSARY PLANNING

Last Sunday afternoon we held our second meeting to discuss the acknowledgement of 170 years of our parish. This meeting was very well attended and a great discussion was held as to how such an acknowledgement might look. This acknowledgement will be held on Saturday 14 December, so keep this date free. Now is the time for you to start thinking about stories you might have, photos you can share etc. Keep your eye on the bulletin for more information. The next meeting will be held on Sunday 14 July at 3pm in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Baptism Preparation

10 AM or 5.30 PM, 4 July,  
MacKillop & Glowrey Rooms, Ballarat Cathedral Hall

#### Confirmation Preparation

10.30 AM or 6 PM, 18 July, Parish Hall

#### Leadership Formation Session

10:30 AM – 4:00 PM, 4 August, Buninyong

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$1209
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$978

To indicate your desire to join the planned giving program, please complete the form on the next page.

## 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.

## FIRST EUCHARIST

This weekend we welcome the last of the children who are receiving the sacrament of Eucharist for the first time. They will be joined by their families who we thank as they have spent the past few weeks working at home to prepare them. Thank you to the staff of each of our Catholic Schools who have supported these children throughout this term and helped to prepare weekend Masses which the children have attended. Thank you to Jason Fletcher who has prepared PPT's for each of the Masses. Last but not least, thank you to Frs. Justin and Matt who visit the children in their schools and say the beautiful Masses for them. The preparation for this sacrament was a wonderful team effort.

## UPDATING UNWELL LIST

Our notice sheet's unwell list will be reset soon. Please contact the parish office if you have someone currently listed who you would like to stay on the list.

## CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Notification of confirmation preparation sessions has been provided to Catholic schools in the parish. The preparation sessions will be held on Thursday 18 July at 10.30 AM or 6 PM. If you know anyone who wishes to have their child confirmed, refer them to the parish office.

## 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.

## THANK YOU

Two years ago Jason Fletcher took on the task of updating the look of our Parish Bulletin and having done this he then continued to produce our bulletin every weekend. Jason has decided that this is the time to hand this job back to the office, so we would like to say a big thank you to Jason for all of his hard work. Everyone would agree that we have a great looking bulletin and this is due to the significant amount of time Jason has spent working on the bulletin each week and we are very grateful for his efforts and commitment to this task. Jason is not going anywhere and will continue to chair the liturgy committee.

## PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Plans are in place for another trivia night in our parish. Please keep August 30<sup>th</sup> free so that you can join us and share your wealth of knowledge. More information to follow.

## COMMITTEE THANKS

In recent times we have had some changes to membership on our Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Councils. Maria Jones has resigned from the Parish Pastoral Council as she is returning to the St. James' Parish. We thank Maria for her contribution over a number of months. Greg O'Beirne has also resigned from the Parish Pastoral Council, but is doing this to move to the Parish Finance Council. We thank Greg for his contribution to the Parish Pastoral Council since it's inception and look forward to his work with the Parish Finance Council. After many years, Arnoud Goossens has decided to finish up on the Finance Council. Arnoud has been a great representative on this council and has provided excellent insights into the finances of the parish. We wish him well. The contributions that all parishioners make in various teams throughout the parish are greatly appreciated.

## SPIRITUAL HERITAGE PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND

On Sunday, Fr Justin will lead 16 DOBCEL (Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited) Principals and Leaders from across the Diocese to Dublin to commence a 15 day spiritual heritage pilgrimage. The pilgrimage, part of the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat, provides an opportunity for the leaders to recognise, celebrate and understand more deeply the profound influence of the Irish on the Australian Catholic Church. *"By 1871 the population of Victoria had reached 700,000, of whom 170,000 were Catholics. 100,000 of them had migrated from Ireland in the 2 decades following the discovery of gold."* (Jill Blee, From the Murray to the Sea). It was to Ireland that the Church in Australia turned to staff its Catholic schools when state aid was withdrawn in 1872. Of the 63 Catholic Primary and Secondary schools in the Diocese, 49 schools have a heritage linked to these religious congregations that came to the Diocese from Ireland to staff our Catholic schools. The charisms of these religious congregations have formed the foundations of the distinctively Catholic education that we have today.

## BAPTISMS

**Noah Christopher Huw Steenhuis**  
Children of Jacob Steenhuis and Elena Jones

**Jake William Smith**  
Child of Andrew and Megan Smith

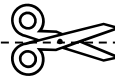
*The church gives faith to your children through  
Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.*  
Pope Francis

## CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM

Couple for Christ (Ballarat) invite all married couples to join them for 'talks and fellowship' as part of their Christian Life Program. This will be held at St. James Parish Sebastopol, beginning 13 July. Sessions will be held between 1:30 pm and 4:30 pm. For more information please call Rose on 0401 437 158.

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

The Parish Planned Giving Program commences 1 July. Contributions can be made via envelopes or direct debit and are the parish's only source of income. To join the program, please complete and return the following form.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to contribute to the financial costs of  
St Alipius and Ss Peter and Paul's via (tick one):

Envelope  Direct Debit

Please return this form to the parish office or place it  
in the collection at mass.

# Our hope is grounded in God who moves us to action

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Mark 4:35-41

Today's gospel story looks back to the parables of Mark 4:1-34 and to the crowds that heard them. The story also looks forward as it marks the beginning of the second major section of Mark's gospel (4:35-8:21), a section that seems to be structured around a number of crossings of the lake or Sea of Galilee. Jesus' decision to move with his disciples out of familiar territory is deliberate: "Let us go across to the other side." The crossing itself is difficult, as is the challenge that confronts them on the other side of the lake. From the disciples' perspective, the seeming indifference of the sleeping Jesus is even more disturbing than the storm that threatens their safe crossing: "Do you not care that we are perishing?" Jesus demonstrates that he does indeed care. From his perspective, the problem is with the fear in their hearts, a fear that is grounded in their lack of faith: "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" In the context of this Markan story, Jesus is like the sower in the parable (4:27-28) who goes to sleep and trusts that the seed will sprout and grow and

bear fruit-which it does. Within a first-century Jewish context, Jesus' ability to "rebuke" the storm is a sign of divine power. In the Psalms, for instance, the God of Israel is the one who stills the roaring of the seas (Psalm 65:5) and controls the creatures that inhabit the waters (Psalm 89:9). Today's first reading has insisted that God commands the sea and all of its moods.

In the Book of Job, God the Birthing Mother presents Job with a series of rhetorical questions, reminding him and us that, while the sea may be threatening, it is God's new born infant, wrapped in God's swaddling clothes of darkness and cloud (Job 38).

We read Mark's little story against the backdrop of the Hebrew Scriptures.

We might also read it in light of contemporary science and find within

*As nations begin to embrace more ambitious climate action, we have some reason to hope.*



it a call to consider how our species respects or fails to respect and to nurture the fruit of God's womb, the cosmos. The story of the storm at sea is most certainly not an invitation to be complacent about the extreme weather events on our planet, trusting in God that all will be well. While such terrifying events can derive from the movement of tectonic plates over which we have no control, they can also derive from or be exacerbated by excessive carbon and methane emissions. We pollute the atmosphere and make the seas to rise at our peril. Trust in God may involve relinquishing vested interests and engaging the processes that are designed to reverse the effects of the human-induced climate catastrophe. As nations begin to embrace more ambitious climate action, we have some reason to hope. Our hope is grounded in God who moves us to action.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JOB 38:1, 8-11  
2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-17  
MARK 4:35-41

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WISDOM 1:13-15  
2 CORINTHIANS 8:7,9, 13-15  
MARK 5:21-24, 35-43