

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.

28th November 2021 First Sunday of Advent



Special thanks to
Fr Eladio
Fr Barry Ryan
Bishop Peter Connors
For supporting our Parish
Community whilst Fr Jorge is on
leave.

Parish Office & Presbytery:

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday 10.00am to 3.30pm

Wednesday through Friday 10.00am till 1.00pm

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

Funeral Ministry: Carmel Flynn, Kathy Curran

Masses during the week

St Alipius' Church at 9.00am

Weekday masses will be held Wednesday Friday and Saturday. Maximum of 50 people.

Vaccination Status is not required.

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 .5 will be on this week.

McKeegan, Ridsdale, McKeegan

In our prayers we remember.....

Recent Deaths: Kevin Hanrahan (Bungaree)

Anniversaries: Tracey Howard

Unwell: We pray for Mary Hall, Perla Manguiat, Peter Begbie, Peter Kelly, Betty McGarry, Valerie Reilly (UK), Anne D'Cruz (Singapore), Peter Saunders, Agnes Peters, Brian (Jack) Patton, Ray, Ann Coswello, 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)



Lachlan Findlay

Son of Ashley and Christine

Cooper, Ella and Sophie Crumpton

Children of Rebecca and Lindsay

Parker Mullane

Daughter of Troy and Kylee

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



Anyone for Counting?

As the parish has begun opening up we are looking for more volunteers to join our ministries, especially our counting roster. If you are curious about what is involved and would like more information, please contact the Parish Office on 53326611


Year of St Joseph Monthly Reflection



Each month during the year of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will publish a reflection on the various aspects of St Joseph's life and character. Fr Paul Nulley is a priest of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and has been parish priest of St Joseph's, O'Connor since 2017. He also serves as archdiocesan vocations director and chaplain of Australian Catholic University's Canberra campus. Fr Paul reflects on, "St Joseph – A Powerful Intercessor" <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

Synod of Bishops

Catholics across Australia are invited to participate in a period of local consultation for the next international Synod of Bishops, which has the theme, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission". The People of God are invited to use a guided, prayerful reflection method to consider a series of questions and make submissions via an online portal. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

 **THE BRIDGE MARKET**

presents

MAKING A SCENE AT CHRISTMAS

at BRIDGE MALL
December 4 – 5 and
December 11 - 20, 2021

MAKING A SCENE AT CHRISTMAS

is a display of over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries.

You can - see and smell real frankincense and myrrh;

- see coins minted around the time the census was called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem; and
- see cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America, & Europe (and one that went to Antarctica)
- Nativities that prize social justice and the environment

Entry is a gold coin donation. Every one welcome.

Simbang Gabi

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition and it is also the spiritual preparation for Christmas and commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a series of Nine Evenings of Masses leading up to Christmas. It will be held in St Alipius Church, from December 15th to the December 23th at 7.00pm.

On the 24th mass will be at midnight.



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 \$ 1243.00 Envelopes \$ 643.20 Loose \$ 400.00

We thank you for your continued Support

Upcoming Dates in the Parish Community



December

2nd	Liturgy Meeting	5.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong
15 th	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	6.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong
15-23	Simbang Gabi	7.00pm	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East
24 th	Christmas Eve Mass	TBA	All Churches
25 th	Christmas Day		



**Do you have a welcoming Smile?
Are you happy to welcome people into the Church?**

Well then the parish needs YOU !!

As we open the church doors to more people to come and celebrate Mass the parish is looking for parishioners to help greet people as they arrive. This is a team position with lots of support.

Interested? Please contact the Office.

We look forward to hearing from you ☺

Working Bee



The parish will be holding a Working Bee in the coming weeks.

This will involve bringing pews back into the church and some general cleaning and tidying.

The parish will provide a BBQ lunch for all.

Date to come.

St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal

The St Alipius' Conference is most grateful for the support we receive from the parish as it enables us to continue assistance to those in need in the local area. This year the theme of our appeal is, **"EVERY BABY SHOULD BE BORN WITH HOPE FOR THE FUTURE."** and we invite you to join us in our challenge to *"help provide food and financial aid to families at breaking point"*.

You can donate to our appeal via:

1. **Envelopes** that are available at the end of each pew and at the piety stall.
2. *Envelopes can be put in the collection plate or posted in the Christmas Appeal Box at the Piety Stall. Please write your name and address if you require a receipt.*
3. The **online links** below. The first link will take you to the Ballarat East donation page

<https://my.fundraiseforvinniesvic.org.au/vinnies-christmas-appeal-2021/svdp-ballarat-east>

The second link below will take you to the general Vinnies page

vinnies.org.au (to ensure that your donation is used locally type in "Ballarat East" in the "Comments/Conference Name" section in the final box on the second page of the online

donation process.)

Comments/Conference Name (if applicable)

Please type your comment here

4. By **phone** 13 18 12



Reflection on the Gospel-1st Sunday of Advent Year C

(Luke 21:25-28, 34-36)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Today's gospel passage, with its vivid description of the end-time signs, may seem a strange choice of reading for Advent and the beginning of the Church year. Its depiction of global devastation has a particular resonance in a post-industrial world faced with climate crisis. Some may be tempted to interpret "apocalyptic" events of today as the judgement of an interventionist God. This is far from the truth. Our mindless exploitation of planetary resources has brought its own judgement and we must struggle together to save our planet from further destruction.

Advent and Christmas are about the coming "in power and great glory" of the One who brings the liberation of God. The earliest Christians believed that Jesus would soon return and bring everything to completion. Some decades after Jesus' death, Luke's community had come to realize that the "final" coming of Christ was not just as imminent as they had expected. They needed to be reminded that a delayed return was no excuse for lack of vigilance. Luke warns against activities and attitudes that de-sensitize the heart or the human spirit. For Luke, an attentive heart and constant prayer for the strength to withstand whatever comes is the proper stance for the Christian believer. An attentive heart will be attuned to the cry of the earth and the cry of those rendered poor by those who exploit the goods of the earth. The image of Jesus coming on the clouds belongs within an ancient understanding of the structure of the world in which God and God's heavenly court are located in the heavens above. It might function in our times as a reminder that the Incarnation, "God's becoming material" (Karl Rahner), is an ongoing cosmic event, not just a once-off event limited to one place and one time.

We might do well to read this gospel passage against the backdrop of today's first reading from Jeremiah that looks to the fulfillment of God's promise of the "virtuous branch for David". The organic metaphor of the branch reminds us of the interconnectedness of God's people and of all being across the ages. The virtue of the expected descendant of David finds expression in honesty and integrity, literally "justice and righteousness/right relationship". Justice in the Hebrew tradition is about redress in the law courts for the most vulnerable. Righteousness is about right relationships as well as the equitable sharing and proper use of Earth's resources. Justice and righteousness are two sides of the one coin. Where they are absent, there is no liberation. Our prayer and practical action this Advent might embrace the plight of the earth itself and the concerns of those who yearn for liberation from various forms of oppression. We might remember those seeking asylum among us and those who have been granted refugee status yet still await the justice of resettlement in our country. Our Advent could make a difference to their Christmas.

First Sunday in Advent

First: Jer 33:14-16

Second: 1 Thess 3:12-4:2 **Gospel:** Lk 21:25-28.24-36

Second Sunday in Advent

First: Baruch 5:1-9

Second: Phil 1:4-6 **Gospel:** Lk 3:1-6

