

27th October 2024

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

'The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy.'

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

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tues 1.30 pm Funeral Mass – Kevin Cummins

Wed 11:00 am Mercy Place
(All welcome)

Thurs 10.30 am - Ballan

Fri 9:30 am (All Saints Day)

Fri 6:30 pm (Vigil Mass All Souls Day)

Sat 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM Vigil

Sun 9:00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)
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

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: Kevin Cummins

Anniversaries: Phillip Devereux

Unwell: Socorro De Chavez, 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 Gleeson

Finance Officer

Jackie Wrigglesworth

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

Principal – St. Alipius School

Phone: 5331 1816

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.



World Mission Month

UPCOMING DATES

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
October 31st @ 6.30 pm – Presbytery

Caring Group
November 1st @ 2pm – Church Hall

Remembrance Mass
November 2nd @ 6pm – St. Alipius Church

Melbourne Cup Luncheon
November 5th @ 11 am – Parish Hall

Liturgy Committee Meeting
November 7th @ 5pm - Presbytery

Anniversary Mass & Picnic
December 14th @ 6pm – Church and Grounds

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH

The Melbourne Cup Lunch is only a week away. You are invited to join us for a luncheon to celebrate the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday 5 November from 11 AM in St Alipius Hall. Tickets are \$25 per person. Lunch of chicken, salad and dessert will be supplied. BYO alcohol. Soft drinks will be supplied. Please confirm numbers with the parish office by 31 October. Prizes for the best male and female fascinators. Sweeps will be available. If you can bring a salad or a dessert, please contact the parish office.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$1096
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$1058.70

If you have any queries about your Planned Giving, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office and we would be very happy to help out where we can.

This week: No counting

OFFICE HOURS



Please note that for the coming week, the office will only be open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Please ensure that anything for the bulletin is submitted by 11am on Thursday.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Our annual Remembrance Mass, celebrating the lives of those who have passed away in the last 12 months will be at 6:00 PM on Saturday 2 November at St Alipius. These people will be remembered at all masses that weekend. A cuppa will follow the 6:00 PM mass at St. Alipius and a cuppa will follow the 10:30 AM mass at Buninyong. Please bring a plate if you are in a position to do so.

ST BRENDAN'S PROGRAM @ DUNNSTOWN

Damascus College presented their plans to a well-attended community forum during the past week. Commencing in term 2 2025, groups of 75 Damascus College Year 8 students will attend school at the St Brendan's Campus in Dunnstown, travelling out from the Mt Clear Campus each day. Damascus is keen to engage the Dunnstown community to ensure the legacy of the community is carried forward.

BAPTISMS

Zoe Michelle and Rowynn Louise Nightingale
Children of Nathan and Tenielle

Maggie Anne McCarthy
Child of Troy and Carla

"You are precious in my sight ... and I love you."
Isaiah 43:4

PARISH ANNIVERSARY – DEC 14TH

December 14th is fast approaching and plans to acknowledge the various parish anniversaries are progressing well. Please join us at the 6pm Mass on the Saturday evening and stay with us following mass to share a meal and enjoy the displays. The bbq will be sizzling, tables and chairs set up and music playing in the background as you reminisce and catch up with people you may not have seen for a while. A coffee van will be available as will an ice-cream in a cone. BYO picnic and if you would like more than a sausage. Spread the word please to anyone who may be interested in joining us. For more information please contact the parish office. The next meeting will be on November 17th at 3pm in the Parish Hall. There will be a working bee or two in the week prior to this, but more information regarding this will be made available closer to the date.

PREPARATION OF NATIVITY SCENE

On Thursday November 28th, we plan to hold a working bee at 5pm to prepare the outdoor Nativity Scene for the season of Advent which begins on December 1st. This is a big job and the figures which make up the scene are heavy, so we are hoping that a number of people might like to volunteer to come along and help out. With a number of helpers, this will not take more than an hour. If you are in a position to help, please contact the parish office.

LET'S BUILDING RESPECTFUL CHURCH COMMUNITIES

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) has developed a brochure and poster as resources for parishes and the wider Catholic community to raise awareness and work to prevent family violence. Parishioners are invited to join the launch on Thursday, October 31, 2024 from 1.45pm – 3.00pm via zoom. RSVP by 30 October 2024 at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1294275>.

Enquiries to Kate Stilwell, email office@css.org.au

THE SYNOD

Synod preacher: Even if delegates are disappointed by results, God is at work through the synod.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) Even if some members of the Synod of Bishops end up feeling disappointed by the results of the synod, “God’s providence is at work in this assembly, bringing us to the Kingdom in ways that God alone knows,” the spiritual adviser to the synod on synodality told them.

“The triumph of the good cannot be frustrated,” and “we may be at peace whatever the result” of the synod’s monthlong second session, said Cardinal-designate Timothy Radcliffe, offering his morning reflection in the Vatican’s Paul VI Audience Hall Oct. 21

He also cautioned people, especially the media, against trying to look for “startling decisions, headlines” to come out of the final text, saying, at a Vatican briefing with reporters, that that would be a mistake.

The document will need to be read as something seeking to bring deep renewal of the church not “through dramatic decisions, but it evokes new ways of being a church in which we relate to each other much more profoundly in Christ and to Christ much more profoundly with each other,” he said at the afternoon briefing.

“I think many people in the synod, out of the synod, in the church, still struggle to understand the nature of the synod.

They still tend to see it as a parliamentary body which will make big administrative, structural changes. I think it’s natural because that’s the model that dominates our world,” he told reporters. “But we’ve seen and it’s been repeated endlessly that is not the sort of body it is.”

The world is experiencing growing “violence and war, social disintegration. You’ve only to look at the election process in the United States to see how there is a danger of social collapse,” he said.

“In this perilous difficult moment, I think the church has a very particular vocation to be a sign of Christ’s peace and Christ’s communion and that means all sorts of steps which will not make headlines.”

“Christ has set us free,” he said, and “our mission is to preach and embody this freedom.”

This freedom, however, has two features: “It is the freedom to say what we believe and to listen without fear to what others say, in mutual respect,” he said, and it is the freedom of knowing that God always works for the good of those who love God.

“God’s providence is gently, silently at work even when things seem to go wrong,” Cardinal-designate Radcliffe said.

“If we have only the freedom to argue for our positions, we shall be tempted by the arrogance of those who, in the words of (Jesuit Father Henri) de Lubac, see themselves as ‘the incarnate norm of orthodoxy.’ We shall end up beating the drums of ideology, whether of the left or the right,” he said.

“If we have only the freedom of those who trust in God’s providence but dare not wade into the debate with our own convictions, we shall be irresponsible and never grow up,” he added. “God’s freedom works in the core of our own freedom, welling up inside us.”

CLERGY JUBILARIANS MASS 2024 – CHOIR

Mass to celebrate the 2024 Clergy Jubilarians will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at St Patrick’s Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm. The 2024 clergy Jubilarians are: 50 years – Frs Eric Bryant, Paddy Mugavin & Michael O’Toole, 25 years – Fr Ed Moloney. All are welcome to attend. Members of the Diocese of Ballarat are invited to join the choir for this Mass. Choir practice will be held on Sunday, November 10, 2024 at 6.15pm (following 5.00pm Mass) in the Cathedral.

CARING GROUP

The Caring Group will meet on Friday November 1st at 2pm in St. Alipius Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring a small plate to share.

“What are we failing to see?”

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Today's gospel reading brings to closure a long section of Mark's gospel that focuses on the journey of Jesus and his disciples from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Jericho in the south. Jericho is the final staging point in the journey to Jerusalem where the final act of the gospel drama will be played out. This section of the gospel (8:27-10:52) is prefaced by the story of a blind man who comes to sight in stages. It ends with the story of another blind man, Bartimaeus, who comes from blindness to sight, from insight to greater insight, and who joins Jesus on the journey to Jerusalem. On the intervening journey, Jesus endeavours to lead the Twelve out of their metaphorical blindness into an understanding of what it means to follow a suffering messiah. They remain for some time in their blindness, as subsequent events will demonstrate. The narrator creates an impression of urgency at this point in Mark's gospel. "They" come to Jericho and then leave. The intervention of Bartimaeus, who tries to attract the attention of Jesus by calling out from the roadside, threatens to delay the journey.

When he cries out for "mercy", many try without success to silence him. The "many" are people in the crowd who neither share the depth of Bartimaeus' faith nor grasp the nature of Jesus' mission of gathering in "the remnant of Israel, among them the blind and the lame" (Jeremiah 31:8). Those who try to silence Bartimaeus are a bit like the family of Jesus who tried to protect him from himself (Mark 3:31).

"Having heard the 'call' he follows Jesus 'on the way', the journey of faith."

When it is clear that the perception of the "many" is not shared by Jesus who tells them to "call him", we have an almost comical scene in which they do a complete about-face. It seems they want to please the authority figure no matter what. Bartimaeus offers a stark contrast to these people. He knows that Jesus has the power to bring the mercy of God into his life and the lives of those who wait by the roadside with faith in their hearts.

He receives the assurance from Jesus that his faith has made him well or, more literally, has "saved him". Having heard the "call", he follows Jesus "on the way", the journey of faith. At times we, like Bartimaeus, are aware of our blindness and wait desperately by the roadside for the right person or circumstances to come along and give us the heart to rise up and live the journey of faith. At times, we are like the "many" who think we know what is best for others and who try to silence the voices of those who interfere with our plans. At other times, we, like Jesus of Nazareth, respond to the cries for mercy and stretch out our hands to gather in those whose disabilities might otherwise leave them by the side of the road in the journey of life.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
30TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR
Jeremiah 31:7-9
Hebrews 5:1-6
Mark 10:46-52

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
31ST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR
Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Hebrews 7:P23-28
Mark 12:28-3