



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.

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

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

12TH SEPTEMBER 2021

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Welcome Back

We welcome the change to the guidelines allowing people to come back to celebrate mass together. Whilst the numbers remain small this gives hope for more in the coming weeks.

Mass will be recorded for you and available for viewing from Sunday morning.

We look forward to celebrate with you all very soon.

Parish Office & Presbytery:

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

Office Hours:

The Office is being managed offsite during lockdown

Liturgy Online:

- www.sapliturgy.net.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Parish Coordinator: Bronwyn Ballesty

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 for 20 people

Weekday mass will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday this week.

Preregistration is compulsory.

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 9:00 am (1st, 3rd and 5th)
10:30 am (2nd and 4th)

Wednesday prayer to St Joseph (after mass)

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

Ss Peter & Paul's Church,

Buninyong for 20 people

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

In our prayers we remember.....

Recent Deaths: Zorka Frka, Sr Anne McMillan, John Walsh, Angelita Nob (P), Elena Alcancia (P), Francisco Fortaleza (P), Juana Ebite (P)

Anniversaries: Janette Pearse, Robert Stevenson, Damien van der Linden

Unwell: We pray for Bev Dawson, Valerie Reilly (UK), Anne D'Cruz (Singapore), Angie De Run (Malaysia), Peter Saunders, Juanita Rickard, Seamus McGettigan, Pat Hogan, Agnes Peters, Leticia Tanes, Brian (Jack) Patton, Ray, Kateri Byrnes, 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)



Jamison Stewart
Child of Tiffany and Jaeden

Joey Pearce
Child of Courtney and Ashley

Robert Eldridge
Child of Gregory and Carmel

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



Parish Updates

Parish Office

The Office shall be managed off site for the coming week in line with Covid regulations. All phone calls and emails will be supported. Please don't hesitate to ask for assistance if needed.

Covid Updates

Currently the Parish is able to celebrate mass with 20 people. We are asking all people to preregister through www.sapliturgy.net.au We will be unable to welcome people at the door until the restrictions allow higher numbers. We thank you for your support and understanding with this.

Communion to the Sick

We ask our Parishioners to pray for those that usually receive communion in their homes. Whilst we can distribute Bulletins to their Letterbox we are unable to visit them at this stage. We pray that this may change soon.

WWCC

We are currently reviewing and updating its Child Safety Documentation and Police Checks. If you are aware that your WWCC needs renewal we ask that you look into this as soon as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact Bron in the Parish office if you require some support with this.

First Eucharist

We pray for all children who have prepared for their First Eucharist and are waiting to receive this Sacrament. The Parish, Schools and families will continue to work together in finding a path forward.



House for Rent

We currently have a long term parishioner looking for a 2 bedroom house or unit with garage to rent. Would need to be single level. If you can be of any assistance with this please contact the Parish Office. Thank you

Planned Giving

Should you wish 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

No figures are available this week.

We thank you for your continued Support





BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund provides for retired priests who have spent a lifetime selflessly caring for others, and who deserve a happy and peaceful retirement. The Fund is currently supporting and caring for seventeen retired priests. Over the next few years a number of priests currently in parish ministry will be moving into retirement, and will also need to be supported by the fund.

This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy. Please give as generously as you can, and help us continue *'caring for those who cared for us'*. Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up today. You may also return your envelope next week.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARED FOR US – THE CHURCH COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Safeguarding Sunday – September 12

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday this Sunday - the conclusion of National Child Protection Week. Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk, including by priests, religious and lay people within Catholic contexts. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

Plenary Council – Continuing the Journey

- The last twelve or so months of our Plenary Council Journey has required many unplanned changes due to the impact of COVID-19 and the restrictions which do not allow people to gather. With the publication of the Plenary Council agenda, we can however reflect and pray with the sixteen questions that form the agenda. With this in mind, we extend to people in the diocese an invitation, another opportunity, to engage in the process and to listen deeply to the voice of the Spirit. **PLEASE SEE ATTACHED HANDOUT. Please feel free to complete this individually or after lockdown as part of a small group depending on COVID restrictions.** It can be printed out, then emailed or posted back in or you can just send answers via email to pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au. Any submissions will be forwarded to the Diocesan Members to the Plenary Council.

As we are not able to gather as a community at this time due to COVID restrictions, this opportunity to respond may be a way for you to spend some quiet time in reflection, thinking about the agenda of the Council and the future of the Church, on your life and prayer life. It may be of comfort to know that others from your faith community may be reflecting on this at a similar time.

- Another way of "Continuing the Journey" is taking part in the national prayer campaign and in a special way support the Plenary Council. As the first Assembly in October 2021 draws nearer, all people are invited to become 'Prayer Partners' to accompany the Members and invoke the Holy Spirit on this historic gathering for the Church in Australia. The "**Fan the Flame**" resources have been designed so they can be used by individuals or by parishes with groups of any size and in any setting. They include material for each week as well as material that can be used at any time to support prayerful preparation for the Plenary Council. Resources can be accessed at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/>
- Fan the Flame: *'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me.'* Mark 8:27-35
There can be no shortcuts, no bypassing the cross or the tomb, to encounter the resurrection. For new life and new hope to emerge, we need to acknowledge that we are a broken, hurt and traumatised Church... by standing in solidarity and compassion with each other, particularly the wounded, the poor and the traumatised. (Humble, Healing and Merciful – Discernment Paper pp. 12 and 18)

Reflection on the Gospel-24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

(Mark 8:27-35)

-Veronica M. Lawson RSM

Today's gospel reading leads us into a section of Mark's gospel that explores challenges confronting all disciples on their journey of faith. The first challenge is to clarify the nature of our commitment as disciples of Jesus. If we fail to understand who Jesus is, then we have little chance of understanding the nature of our own call to follow him. Two questions ("Who do *people* say that I am?" and "Who do *you* say that I am?") are addressed to our forbears in faith communities of the latter part of the first century and to Christians across the millennia. We are invited to hear these questions anew. Do we simply share what "the people" say about Jesus? Are we like Peter who has the right language but only partial insight? Or do we have the wisdom to seek a deeper understanding of the identity of Jesus?

In response to Jesus' second question ("Who do you say that I am?"), Peter gets the words right: Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ, God's anointed messenger. It becomes clear, however, that Peter has a very different notion from Jesus of what it means to be the Messiah or the Christ. This is understandable since there were diverse messianic expectations within first-century Judaism. Many expected a royal militaristic figure who would drive out the Roman occupiers and restore Israel's status as an independent nation. Jesus, as God's Messiah, refuses the way of violent action. His way is to be true to his mission of bringing God's empire, even if it brings the most intense personal suffering. Peter refuses to accept a suffering Messiah. He is severely reprimanded for his refusal and instructed to get out of the way, to get back to where a disciple should be, namely behind Jesus, following him, and not in front obstructing the path to wisdom and life.

Our experience of global conflicts should make us wary of accepting militaristic messiahs. We have learnt from bitter experience that war does little to bring peace and justice. In our times, to know and follow Jesus as the Christos or Messiah is to seek and support more moderate and lasting responses to both perceived and real injustice. It is to listen to the wisdom of those with insight and experience, to calculate with the utmost care the consequences of violent reactions to the problems in our world, in contemporary society, and in our homes. That may well involve hard work, personal misunderstanding, physical and emotional trauma or, in other words, it may mean "losing one's life" for the sake of the gospel. It may call us to ensure that all have access to a more equitable share of earth resources. It certainly calls for profound trust in the saving power of God. In this Season of Creation, the gospel calls us into the ways of respect, of commitment, and of peaceful negotiation, to ever deeper insight into the ways of Jesus the Christ, the anointed agent of God's empire.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First: Is 50:5-9

Second: James 2:14-18 **Gospel:** Mk 8:27-35

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First: Wis 2:12, 17-20

Second: James 3:16-4:3 **Gospel:** Mk 9: 30-37

