



▶ **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

15<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Faith without good works is dead.”

# St Alipius parish

[ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballar-at-east/)

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Tue 5:30 PM

Wed 11:00 am Mercy Place –  
parishioners welcome

Thurs & Fri 9:30 AM

Thurs 2pm – Funeral Mass (Kevin  
Cooper)

Sat 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM Vigil

Sun 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 6

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:** Paul Dodd, Kevin Cooper, Joan Rhodes

### Anniversaries:

**Unwell:** Socorro De Chavez Shelley Pawang, 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 Shannon

### Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

### 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.



**TO HOPE AND ACT  
WITH CREATION**

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

## WELCOME BISHOP PAUL

This weekend we are please to welcome Bishop Paul Bird to the parish of Ballarat East. As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat Bishop Paul is visiting each of the 29 parishes of the Diocese 'from the Murray to the Sea.' Bishop Paul has said that *"Our 150th anniversary will be an opportunity for each community throughout our diocese to remember those who have gone before us, those who have laid the foundations of our parish and school communities and the social services and health care that are provided in our diocese today. The anniversary will be an opportunity to review our history, acknowledging both strengths and weaknesses, celebrating the achievements and recognising the failures to live our Christian faith to the full. It will be a chance to take stock of where we are now and look ahead to how we can live as a truly Christian community, sharing the good news of Christ, in the years to come."*

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Council met during the past week with members of the Council - Teresa Fletcher, Martin McGettigan (chair), Dianne McKeegan, Claire Stewart, together with ex-officio members Frs Justin and Matt, Mark Hogbin (representing the Principals and Catholic Schools in the Parish) and Cathy Prunty (Parish Coordinator). Judith Glaubitz was welcomed to the meeting and will join the Council as a Buninyong community member.

From the parishioners nominated to be our Parish delegates to the Diocesan Assembly (November 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>) the Council discerned Rachel Allan and Cathy Prunty. We thank Cathy and Rachel for their willingness to participate in the Assembly that will focus on Leadership and Governance for a Synodal Church. They will join Dianne Reynolds and Damian Ryan from the Bungaree Parish and Mark Conlan and Sue Daly from the Gordon Parish. As the delegates from our Ministry District.

Safeguarding is a continuing agenda item at the Council meetings with the deadline of October 31<sup>st</sup> for completion of the Safetrac online training noted. Of those parishioners required to complete the Safetrac training, only those who have done so will be able to continue in their ministries after October 31<sup>st</sup>. If you need assistance to complete Safetrac or are unsure if you are required to do so please contact the Parish Office.

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

The Council met during the week with the members of the Council - Teresa Fletcher, Brett Holloway, Lauren Morris, Paul O'Beirne (chair), Greg O'Beirne and John White with ex-officio members Frs Justin and Matt, Cathy Prunty (Parish Coordinator) and Matt, Bernadette Prestwood (Finance Officer). Resignations were received from Susan Begbie as a member of the Council and Bernadette Prestwood has also resigned from her position as Finance Officer for the six Parishes of Ballarat. The recruitment of a new Finance Officer is underway. The Council continues its strategic and master planning of the Ballarat East site, continuing dialogue with ECKA and Catholic Education for the future of the St Alipius Kindergarten. Very early conversations are taking place with ACU exploring the possibilities for some of the existing buildings being leased to accommodate tertiary students.

## BECOMING A SYNODAL CHURCH

**What does 'becoming a synodal church' mean in our region of Oceania?**

### WEBINAR

Wednesday 18 September 2024 **5:30 pm AEST**

The opportunities and challenges in our region, with its diverse cultures, social structures and histories, not least of which is the impact of climate change on our unique environment, are critical issues for us all.

In the lead up to the second session on *Synodality in October 2024*, we will hear from four people from our region – one from each of the four *Bishops' Conferences of Oceania* – on how they envisage synodality happening in their region. Two are official delegates to the *Synod on Synodality*, and all have been closely involved in the writing of documents collating responses from our areas. The panel of speakers – who will make for a stimulating and informative synodal forum – will include: Fr Victor Roche SVD, Kelly Paget, Susan Sela, Manuel Beazley. Christina Reymer will moderate the event.

## FAREWELL BERN PRESTWOOD

We offer our thanks and best wishes to Bernadette Prestwood who has been the Finance Officer for the parish for the past two years. Bern has resigned from this role due to family commitments and will be missed.

## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$878
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$393.50

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.

## SPIRITUAL HERITAGE PILGRIMAGE

This week Fr Justin will accompany the next cohort of DOBCEL principals to Ireland including Emily Clarke (St Alipius), Ethan Corfee (Emmaus), Mark Hogbin (St Francis Xavier) and Clare Scanlon (St Mary's Clarkes Hill) and others. The pilgrims will explore the spiritual heritage of the Diocese of Ballarat and the founders of the Religious Congregations that were missioned from Ireland to Australia and have contributed so significantly to Catholic education and the life of the Australian Church. Across our ministry district these include Catherine McAuley (Sisters of Mercy) in Baggott St Dublin, Nano Nagle (Presentation Sisters), Cork and Edmund Rice (Christian Brothers) Waterford.

*"Pilgrimages are as old as time itself and of almost universal significance. They were very much part of the Celtic tradition. It is said that all pilgrimages spring from a deep yearning for an encounter with the Divine. This yearning draws people to special places associated with the Divine, whatever their faith. To be a pilgrim is to invite change, conversion, new perspectives, a deeper life."*

## BAPTISMS

**Frederic Wayne Claude David Detragiache**  
Child of Dorian and Gemma Detragiache

*"I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"*

## WISDOM AT THE CATHEDRAL

All are welcome to hear Fr Shawn Murphy ibp present *From Paris to Chartres to Eternity* at the next Wisdom at the Cathedral event on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 7.00pm. Father Murphy, an experienced pilgrim of the famous Paris-Chartres pilgrimage, which attracts tens of thousands of people each year in Holy Week, will share his experiences and reflections on pilgrimage as an enriching journey not only for the body but for the mind and soul. The talk and discussion time will go for an hour and will be followed by a cup of tea. Entry by donation. For all enquiries, please contact Fiona Bradley at [fionalouisebradley@gmail.com](mailto:fionalouisebradley@gmail.com)

## ANNIVERSARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to all who have contributed to information for our Parish anniversary on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Next Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, people will gather again to plan the next stages of this anniversary. If you would like to join us to help out, you would be more than welcome. We will meet in the hall at 3pm.

## WEEK OF PRAYER AND ACTION CASPA's - National Week of Prayer and Action: September 16 – 20, 2024

Each year, the Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum (CAPSA) holds a National Week of Prayer and Action and celebrates World Day of Migrants and Refugees. This National Week of Prayer and Action will focus on "Journeying together with Refugees and People Seeking Asylum." There will be an online webinar on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 from 7.00pm – 8.30pm with a panel of speakers to explore further what "Journeying together with refugees and people seeking asylum" entails. Panel speakers will provide different perspectives and expertise within the sector: David Manne (Human rights lawyer and Executive Director, Refugee Legal) and Sharon Sherwood (Chief of Mental Health and Cabrini Outreach). Chair of CAPSA and Jesuit Social Services CEO, Julie Edwards, will chair the discussion. Register at

<https://events.humanitix.com/capsa-webinar-national-week-of-prayer-and-action-journeying-together-with-refugees-and-people-seeking-asylum>

# “The Wisdom to Seek a Deeper Understanding”

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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. If we fail to understand who Jesus is, we have little chance of understanding the nature of our own call to follow. 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 late first century as well as 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 out 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 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 Sunday gospels call us into the ways of respect, of commitment, and of peaceful negotiation, to ever deeper insight into the ways of the Christ, the anointed agent of God's empire.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS  
24<sup>TH</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9  
James 2:14-18  
Mark 8:27-35

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS  
25<sup>TH</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20  
James 3:16 – 4:3  
Mark 9:30-37