



WEEKLY BULLETIN

CATHOLIC PARISH OF BALLARAT EAST

Serving the Church Communities of

✚ **ST ALIPIUS (Ballarat East) and ✚ SS PETER & PAUL's (Buninyong)**
(84 Victoria Street) (701 Fiskin Street)



SUNDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2019 – FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

Who We Are

The Parish of Ballarat East encompasses the worshipping communities of St Alipius in Ballarat East and SS Peter and Paul's in Buninyong, Sisters of Mercy, St Alipius Kindergarten, St Alipius Parish School, Emmaus Catholic Primary School, St Francis Xavier Primary School, and Damascus College. Each community contributes towards the richness of our parish life in its own unique way.

Our Mission/Vision

At Ballarat East Parish we believe that we all share in the call to proclaim the Word of God. We believe that although called to various ministries, by virtue of our common baptism, we share equally in the commission to announce that Word and to embody it by the way we live our lives.

Every community within the parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

Parish Contact Details

Clergy & Staff:

Parish Priest – Fr Peter Sherman
Parish Coordinator – Lucy O'Beirne
Bereavement Coords – Carmel Flynn & Kathy Curran
Child Safety Officer – Roxanne Leed

Office Hours:

Tue, Thu & Fri
9.30 am—1.30 pm

Address:

84 Victoria Street
Ballarat East 3350

Telephone:

5332 6611

Email:

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Website:

<http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au>

WORLD PEACE AND LIVING TOGETHER

Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Ahmed el-Tayeb, sign a Document on *Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together*, during a Global Conference on the topic in Abu Dhabi. Please see Notice Board for official English – language text which makes for very interesting reading.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2019

Welcome to the first weekend of our Parish Stewardship Program.

The Program recognises that 'Parishes are the Heartbeat of the Church' and will challenge us to reflect on what it means to be a member of our Ballarat East community.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE



We encourage you to be actively involved – read the materials, listen to the speakers and follow the Program. Reflect, pray about and discuss the themes and topics with your family, friends and fellow parishioners.

This weekend we will hear from Bernadette Tolan, Jason Fletcher and Matthew Byrne who have kindly accepted to be part of the Program Leadership Team. Bernadette, Jason and Matthew will also introduce a special message of welcome from the Vicar General of the Ballarat Diocese, Fr Kevin Maloney.

Members of the Program Leadership Team will be distributing copies of the Program brochure and Groups & Ministry Forms at all Masses – you may have already received your copies by email.

Parish 'Our Future' Forum

A reminder that all parishioners are warmly invited to a special event as part of the Program – the *Our Future Forum* on **Tuesday 26 February at either 2.00 pm or 7.00 pm** in the Parish Hall. It will be a great opportunity to contribute to the discussion on our priorities for the future.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Parish *Plenary Council 2020* consultations are to be held at the Parish Hall on **Tue, 19 Feb at 2.00 pm and 7.00 pm**, and at **SS Peter & Paul's Buninyong on Wed, 20 Feb at 2.00 pm**.

You are asked to consider the following two questions:

*What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?
What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?*

Submissions to the Council will soon be closing so this may be your last opportunity to have a say!



PlenaryCouncil2020
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

We Remember in Prayer



Baptisms:

William Green, Mille Ryan.

Recent Deaths:

Anniversaries:

Martin Moran.

The Sick:

Nathan Cambell, Denise Learmonth, Cath Wheelahan, Kevin Walsh, Fiona Dickinson, Carmel Doherty, Aurora Ferrer, Leonie Sinnott, John Darroch, Margaret Meerbach, Eleanor Keating, Terry Foran, Cathy Jones, Alison Rice.

Prayer of the Week

Stewardship Program Prayer

Lord, we thank you for calling us to be your Church.

Through our Baptism we are called to service and to witness.

In the Eucharist we sustain and strengthen that call.

By serving others we follow your example and proclaim our beliefs.

By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our love and care.

Lord, help us always to worship you as you deserve,

to grow in faith and service and to give without counting the cost.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Parish & Diocesan News & Events

SEEKING HELPERS

We are seeking people who would be willing to assist in the near future with the daily opening and closing of the church. We will also need help to launder the purifier cloths used with communion and hand-towels used for baptisms. If you feel you could assist with these tasks, please contact Lucy in the parish office. Many thanks.

LITURGY SUPPORT FOR LENT - CAN YOU ASSIST?

Would you be able to assist in some way to mark the journey of Lent in the parish? In the past Sr Joan has generously done these works but is no longer available to organize these for Lent. Things like:

- Assist with Caritas Project Compassion promotion; **or**
- Church décor (*ie*, the purple, ashes or other symbols); **or**
- Preparing the Prayers of Intercession; **or**
- Ideas for Prayer opportunities for parishioners (*ie*, reflection cards, Stations of the Cross, Lenten faith sharing, Community celebration of Reconciliation).

There will be guidance and assistance offered. Please advise Lucy at the parish office. A gathering date to plan for Lent will be held on **Tue, 12th Feb at 7.00 pm**. All welcome!

RCIC INFORMATION EVENING

Please note the parent information session for the RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Children) process is taking place as follows:

Date: Thursday, 14th February 2019

Time: 7.00pm

Location: MacKillop/Glowrey Rooms in the St Patrick's Cathedral Hall precinct.

The RCIC process is for children aged 7 years and above who are seeking to receive the Sacrament of Baptism. Please phone Lucy in the parish office to register your interest.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – 1 MARCH 2019

For 92 years Australia has enthusiastically shared in this inspirational, international, intercultural and inter-denominational tsunami of prayer around our planet within 24 hours. This year, Slovenia has prepared the prayer service for the whole world with the theme: "**Come – Everything is ready.**" You are invited to join with them, and three million Christians around the world, at a service near you. For our Parish this service will be on **1st March at 7.00 pm in SS Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong**. Please see Notice Board for full details and other venues.

THE CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST

Men of all ages are invited to a Catholic Man Breakfast to be held on **Thursday, February 21, 2019** at Craig's Royal Hotel in Ballarat. The Breakfast will be hosted by Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and will feature former leading Radio Executive, Shane Healy, as guest speaker. Shane has walked a fascinating path to the top of the highly competitive radio industry in Australia and has connected with high profile performers such as Brian Taylor, Neil Mitchell and Rex Hunt. Further information from Chris Liston. Phone 0437-318-251 or email chris.listo2@gmail.com or Vincent Scully – phone 0407-310-115 or email vcjdh.sully@gmail.com.

School News

Damascus College Open Mornings

Damascus College Open Mornings will be held on Thursday 14th February, 9am – 10.30am. To register please go to www.damascus.vic.edu.au/prospective-visit-us .

St Francis Xavier PS Open Days

SFX Primary School will be conducting Open Days on February 19th and 27th, and March 14th. Please see flyer on Notice Board for further details.

Emmaus 2019 Opening Mass

Opening Mass for Emmaus Primary School is to be held at St Alipius church on Thursday, 21st February at 12 noon.

Damascus College 2019 Class Reunions

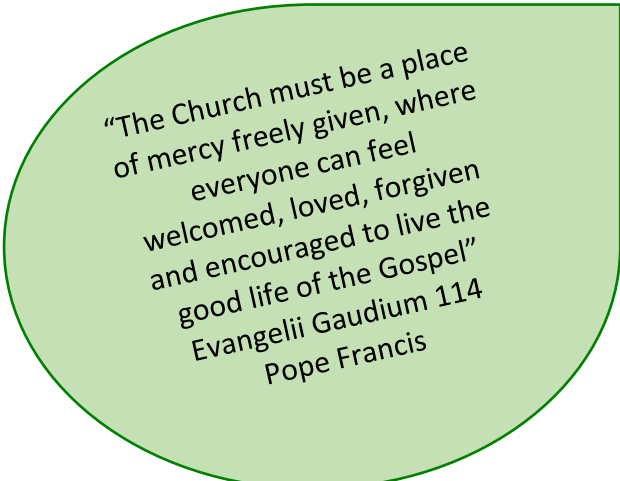
Damascus College is attempting to contact as many members of their alumni as possible. Past students and staff of Damascus College and its foundation colleges, Sacred Heart, St Paul's and St Martin's in the Pines are invited to celebrate the Class reunions of 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2009. For dates, full details and booking information please go to www.damascus.vic.edu.au/past-students-reunions-events

DIOCESAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

The Ballarat Diocesan Historical Commission is a voluntary advisory body headed by the Bishop. The Commission is responsible for assisting with the historical and heritage collection housed as part of the Diocesan Archives. Commission members support the Diocesan Archivist and meet four times a year at Ballarat. Currently there are four vacancies on the Commission and this call is for nominations.

Expressions of interest can be sent to Michael Taffe, The Archivist, Catholic Diocese of Ballarat, PO Box 121, Ballarat 3353 or email archives@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Words of Wisdom



Mass Time Table for Week Beginning 11th February 2019

- Mon:** No Mass
- Tue:** 5.00 pm Mercy Convent
- Wed:** 9.30 am Mercy Convent
- Thu:** 9.30 am St Alipius
11.00 am Mercy Place
- Fri:** 9.30 am St Alipius
- Sat:** 6.00 pm St Alipius
- Sun:** 9.00 am St Alipius
10.30 am SS Peter & Paul's

Finance



COLLECTIONS FOR LAST WEEK

Parish:			
	Envelopes	\$	911.20
	Loose	\$	150.00
	Credit Cards (mthly)	\$	0.00
	Direct Debits	\$	1271.20
		\$	2332.40
Presbytery:		\$	816.00

COUNTING TEAMS

- Team 5:**
J. Moran ©, B. Forbes.
- Team 6:**
M. Stewart ©, M. Anderson,
R. Reynolds.

Appreciation Corner

Many thanks to our staff, the various community groups, and volunteers who generously give of their time and talent each week -- the parish couldn't function without you!



As you can see from our bulletin, there's always plenty to do in the parish, so if you have some time to spare and can assist, please contact Lucy at the parish office.

Scripture Readings & Reflections

GOSPEL REFLECTION

by Veronica Lawson RSM

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C (Luke 5:1-11)

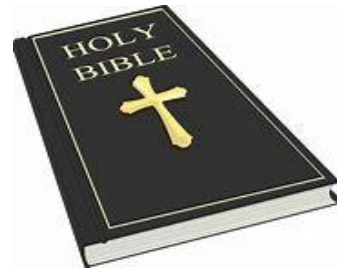
The gospel reading opens with Jesus by the lake shore looking for a little space from the people who are pressing around him to hear “the word of God”. For the gospel writer, the word of Jesus is the word of God. The listener/reader has been gradually prepared, in the baptism scene and in the episode in the Nazareth synagogue, to receive this momentous truth. Jesus is the anointed of God who brings good news/God’s word to the destitute,. The gospel narrative assumes that the crowd by the lake receives his teaching as God’s word.

Jesus sees two empty boats and gets into the one that belongs to Simon Peter. The implication is that Jesus knows Peter since he feels free to get into Peter’s boat and ask him to move the boat out from the shore. Having gained the distance he needs, Jesus sits down and teaches the crowd from the boat. God’s word thus comes to the people from the potentially regenerative waters of the lake. Simon no doubt has one ear on Jesus’ teaching as he and his despondent business partners clean the nets and pack up ready to go home without any fish. They have fished all night without a single catch.

Evoking the creation story of Genesis where God’s spirit moves over the face of the deep, Jesus invites Simon and his companions to put out into deep water and lower the nets for a catch, even though there is little likelihood of a catch. Simon Peter hesitates, noting that they have laboured without success all night. He nonetheless follows Jesus’ instructions. The dramatic result of his attending to Jesus’ word brings Simon to his knees: he acknowledges his limitations, his “sinfulness” in gospel terms. Jesus then commissions him to engage fearlessly in a new mission of reaching out beyond his present business enterprise in order to “catch people”. This commission is not to be understood as a recruitment drive for the reign of God movement. As the gospel story unfolds we discover that it is, rather, a mission to bring the vulnerable safely to shore where they can know the compassion and justice and the “hospitality” of God.

While Peter and his companions are said to “leave everything” and “follow” Jesus, the subsequent narrative makes it clear that they do not abandon their fishing activities. They simply re-centre their lives on the following of Jesus. In other words, they undertake to live out in their lives the pattern of Jesus’ life amid the ordinary concerns of daily life. The previous chapter has provided glimpses of that pattern: bringing good news to the destitute, release to the shattered, healing to the sick and the broken. In our times, we are beginning to realise that the “shattered”

includes the despoiled Earth and its often polluted waters



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Second Reading: Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Gospel (Luke 6:17, 20-26)

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

‘How happy are you who are poor; yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.’

‘Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.’

‘But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.’

‘Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.’

Question of the Week

When have you felt inadequate to a task or role you were given?
How did you respond?

(Source: Pastoral Centre.com)