

Faith communities of Ballan, Ballarat East, Bungaree, Buninyong, Clarkes Hill, Dunnstown, Gordon and Springbank

# Ministry District Newsletter

**Priests** Frs Justin Driscoll & Shaiju Mathew

**Ballarat East Parish**

Cathy Prunty and Natalie Gleeson  
0437 505 517  
ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Tuesday – Friday 9:00 AM – 12:00PM

**Bungaree and Gordon Parishes**

Aileen Toohey  
0492 903 409  
bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
Tuesday – Thursday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Our parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults

**Child Safety Officers: Ballarat East Parish – Emily Clarke; Bungaree & Gordon Parishes – Aileen Toohey**

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 27<sup>th</sup> July 2025

MINISTRY DISTRICT MASS TIMES			
Weekday Masses			
Tuesday July 29 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 pm	Funeral mass for Noelene Hager	
Wednesday July 30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Mercy Place (All Welcome)	
Thursday July 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	St Brigid’s Ballan	
Friday August 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 am	St Alipius Ballarat East	
Saturday August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 am	St. Alipius’ Ballarat East	
Weekend Masses			
Saturday August 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Sunday August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	
5.00 pm	Ballarat East	9.00 am	Ballarat East Gordon
6.30 pm	Dunnstown	10.30 am	Buninyong Ballan

### WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS FOR:

**THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

Mary Gilmartin, Noelene Hagar, Kielely Magri

**THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME**

Rohan Cosgriff, Margaret Dunn, Mike Brady, Tony Driscoll, Marie McEldrew

**THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL**

Kathy Towns, Troy Watson (Steenhuis family), Elaine Conlan, Joan Egan, Evelyn Farrugia, Patricia (Patty) Gannon, Michelle Hall, (baby) Mia Hanrahan, John Healy, Sarah McLachlan, Thelma Keating, Carole Simmons, Owen Widdison, Simon Murillo.

### PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAMS

**BALLARAT EAST PARISH:**

Rose Consignano, Judith Glaubitz, Martin McGettigan, Dianne McKeegan, Claire Stewart.

**BUNGAREE PARISH:**

Damian Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree), Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown), Dom Prendergast, Maurice Mahar & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill).

**GORDON PARISH:**

Sue Daly & Brendan Maher (Springbank), Joan Bourke & Shane Carey (Gordon), Mark Conlan & Jim Leahy (Ballan).

*We acknowledge this land's traditional owners and custodians and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.*

## REST IN PEACE MARY

On Monday afternoon, July 21<sup>st</sup> following the Funeral Mass of Frances Fitzpatrick, the last surviving member of the 1993 editorial team of *Windows into St Alipius: A History of St Alipius Parish*, our Parish has been greatly saddened by the sudden death of Mary Gilmartin – RIP. Mary had attended the 2.00pm Funeral Mass of Frances and had returned to open the Parish Hall to receive those gathering at 4.00pm for Christian Meditation. On their arrival, Mary had died and was then surrounded with great care and reverence as the Police and Paramedics were called. We thanked these first responders as we prayed for Mary and blessed her with the Holy Oil that she had received from Bishop Paul at the Mass of the Oils on behalf of our Parish. May she rest in peace – *Well done good and faithful servant!*



## PREPARING TO CELEBRATE CONFIRMATION

During the past week we welcome approximately one hundred families to the parish hall, where they gathered to learn more about what is involved in preparing their children for the sacrament of Confirmation which they will receive in September. As part of the preparation, parents have been asked to bring their child along to Mass where they will be welcomed and introduced to those present. We hope that we will be able to welcome the majority of these families to Masses in our parish next weekend. Please keep these families in your prayers and if you know any of them it would be great if you could reach out to them along the way and ask how the preparation is going, they would love to know that you are interested.

## SUNDAY, JULY 27<sup>TH</sup> WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERS

This year's theme chosen by Pope Francis, 'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (cf. Sir 14:2), fits into the context of the Jubilee of Hope and invites us to recognise in our elders not only recipients of pastoral attention, but witnesses of hope and active protagonists of ecclesial life. Their life and faith experience is a valuable heritage, capable of enriching new generations and strengthening the community fabric. Within our Ministry District we have seven Aged Care communities with many Catholic residents. As parish, we are blessed to have parishioners who accompany these residents with pastoral support and communion. We acknowledge and thank the following who minister at our Aged Care communities:

Ballan Mecwacare - Lorraine De Spirit, Lloyd Lamb and Colleen Rylie

Canadian Mecwacare – Paschal Somers

Ballarat East Eureka Village and Geoffrey Cutter – Sr Margaret Kelly RSM

Ballarat East Calvary Kirralee – Margaret Ridsdale  
Mercy Place Ballarat East – Lucy O'Beirne

Mt Clear Estia – Monica McKeegan and Maria Jones who will soon begin her ministry here.

We also thank those who offer pastoral support and Holy Communion to those unable gather with us in our churches but who are grateful to parishioners who visit them in their homes, ensuring that they remain connected to our faith communities.

### Prayer for the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

**'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (Sir 14:2)**

How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord! Help us to continue our pilgrimage through time, animated by the hope that comes from You!

Help us in this divisive world, to bring the hope of communion.

Help us in this world, wounded by wars, to bring the hope of peace.

Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing, to bring the beauty of an ancient smile.

Help us to be, for our grandchildren, for our loved ones and for everyone we meet, the memory of your tenderness.

Help us to bring, in a world distracted from You, the Hope of a new life that only You can give!

For in You, Lord, nothing is lost. For in You, Lord, everything begins again! Amen

## VINNIES WINTER APPEAL 2025

The theme of this year's appeal is "Homelessness is Never a Choice".

Over the past six months, SVdP Ballarat has given over \$253,000 in material assistance, including food, clothing and furniture, to families and households in need in Greater Ballarat. With the current homelessness crisis, the assistance we provide for people experiencing hardship this Winter will be needed more than ever. We are most grateful for the support we receive from our parish as it enables us to continue to assist those in need.

### How To Donate

Envelopes are available at the end of each pew and at the piety stall. Envelopes can be placed on the collection plate. Please write your name and address if you require a receipt.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

### BAPTISMS

**Addison and Zaiden Dolling**  
Children of Stephen Dolling & Emma Shanahan

**Lily Ena Hoy**  
Daughter of Toby & Justina Hoy

**Harvey Francis Coppick**  
Son of Mitchell Coppick and Jessica Burns

## COLLECTIONS

Supporting our priests: \$1018  
Supporting our parish: \$ 373.20

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our parish. Your generosity is appreciated.

## MAINTENANCE AT SS.PETER & PAUL'S

It has been reported that there is water coming in under the door which opens into the chapel from outside. This water is causing the carpet to become damp. If you are someone who may be able to look at this with the aim of solving the problem, we would be grateful and would ask that you contact the parish office during the week.

## CARING GROUP

The Caring Group will meet in the parish hall this coming Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 2pm. Everyone is most welcome to come along for a cuppa. Please bring a small plate.

## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL (ACYF) – MELBOURNE 2025

ACYF will take place in Melbourne from Sunday, November 30 - Tuesday, December 2, 2025. This national event brings together young Catholics (Year 9–25 years) for three days of faith, fun, and community. The Festival includes prayer, Mass, talks, concerts, workshops, games, and more. Bishop Paul will be attending. If you're interested in going, contact your school or local parish office. Learn more at: [ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://ballarat.catholic.org.au).

## PARISH CENSUS

Thank you to all those parishioners who took the time to complete a census card at Masses last weekend. If you were not in the parish last weekend, you will have another opportunity this weekend, where cards will once again be available. Please take time to complete this census and return it. If you are new to the parish, this is an excellent opportunity for you to share your details with us. Please note that all personal information collected through the census is for parish use only. The parish will not release information shared by you to anyone. There will be two options for people allowing them to complete the census using IT or pen and paper. The parish Privacy Policy is available if you have any concerns about the use of your personal information. If you would like to use the QR code below to complete the census, that is another option for you.



### UPCOMING DATES

**Caring Group Cuppa**  
Friday August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2pm  
Parish Hall

**Baptism Preparation**  
Thursday August 7<sup>th</sup>, 10 am or 5.30 pm  
Mary Glowrey Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral

# Three Little Cameos on Prayer

Reflection on the Gospel-17<sup>th</sup> Sunday on Ordinary Time C  
(Luke 11:1-13)

Veronica M. Lawson RSM

This Sunday's gospel offers three little cameos about praying and about God's generous giving. There are two teachings on prayer forming a frame around an enigmatic parable. In the first cameo, Jesus has finished praying and one of the disciples asks him to teach them to pray. Jesus responds as any devout first century Jew might respond. He evokes the words of the Jewish blessing prayer: "May the great name of God be exalted and sanctified, throughout the world. May God's kingship be established in your lifetime." Jesus calls God "father", a metaphor or image denoting the power of God over against the potentially destructive power of the Roman emperor.

The prayer continues with an acknowledgement that bread, fruit of the earth, is the gift of God: "Keep giving us each day the bread we need." This is not a prayer for more than we need, but for just as much as we need. The final petitions in the prayer that Jesus teaches are for forgiveness of sin "as we forgive each who is in debt to us" and for freedom from testing. We cannot live without "bread" just as we cannot live without the peace of mind that comes from forgiveness and from the knowledge that God is with us in times of trial such as the present global crisis with all its demands for radical change.

The parable that follows has raised questions for interpreters. Is this parable about persistence or about avoidance of shame? These are two very different concepts, but both have been suggested as the motive for the sleeping neighbour's response to the friend in need and as the proper rendering of the Greek word *anaideia*.



The literal meaning of *anaideia* is avoidance of shame. Avoidance of shame makes sense in a culture where one would be shamed by refusal to help a neighbour who is unable to meet the demands of hospitality, especially where one could well find oneself in similar need some time. No one would dream of refusing such a request for help, whether for the sake of friendship or to avoid being shamed, not even those who let it be known that they resent having to get out of bed in the middle of the night.

Persistence in prayer is a desirable quality but it has nothing to do with the parable of the friend in need who asks only once for "three loaves" and can expect to receive them. The translation "persistence" seems to derive from association with the repetition of seeking and searching and knocking, in other words with the sayings that form the third little cameo. Finally, Jesus draws on the experience of his listeners: if flawed disciples know how to give "good gifts" to their children, then they should not be surprised that those who ask for the Holy Spirit will receive this best of all gifts from God as they seek to renew the face of God's depleted and troubled Earth.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis: 18:20-32

Colossians: 2:12-14

Luke: 11: 1-13

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ecclesiastes: 1:2, 2:21-23

Colossians: 3:1-5, 9-11

Luke 12:13-21