



- ▶ **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
10.00 AM – 1.00 PM

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

1 October 2023

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Remember your mercies, O Lord

St Alipius parish

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tue – 2:00 PM funeral mass

Wed – Fri 9.30 AM back in the church

Saturday 9.30 AM, 6.00 PM

Sunday 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

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 2 this week – 9:30 AM

Our Parish is committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed:

Doreen Donne

Anniversaries: John Britt

Unwell: Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Patricia Murry, Carole Simmons, Shelley Pawang, Brian (Jack) Patton

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Visiting Priest

Fr Barry Ryan

Sacramental and Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

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.



**SEASON OF
CREATION**

FR JORGE NEWS

Fr. Jorge is sad to announce that his time at St. Alipius Parish is coming to an end. As a member of the Oblates of St. Joseph, Fr. Jorge has been approached by his superior with the news that he is required to move to Western Australia to take up the role of Parish Priest in a community there. Members of the Oblate community are generally contracted to a parish for four years, so Fr. Jorge's time with us will conclude at the end of 2023.

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

After the great success and fun that was had at last year's Melbourne Cup Luncheon, we have decided to hold the event again. You are invited to join us for a luncheon to celebrate the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday 7 November from 11 AM in St Alipius Hall. Tickets are \$20 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 anyone can bring a salad or a dessert, please let the office know.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Caring Group

2 PM Friday 6 October, Parish Hall

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

11:00 AM, Tuesday 7 November, Parish Hall

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$977
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$363.20

We invite anybody who would like to join the program to please contact the parish office.

CARING GROUP

The Caring Group will be gathering on Friday 6th October in the hall at 2pm. Anyone is welcome to join this gathering to enjoy a chat and a cuppa. Please bring a plate.

LITURGY ROSTER

The new liturgy roster for the next two months has been emailed this week. There are paper copies in the church foyer. If you didn't receive the roster via email and would like to, please provide the office with your email address.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Please contact the office if you would like any family members or friends who passed away in the past twelve months to be remembered in the mass of remembrance in November.

Remembrance books will be placed in the foyers of both churches for parishioners to record the names of loved ones who have passed away.

THANK YOU

David and his children, Dom, Erin, Luke, and Nick, along with their partners and children would like to thank the St Alipius Parish community for your support, love, and condolences on the passing of Maureen. Thank you to so many who came to her funeral to help us celebrate her life. It was wonderful to have your contribution through prayer, music, and participation in our Requiem Mass and then at our wake in the parish hall.

A tribute website for Maureen has been created and if anyone would like to share Maureen's stories, aspects from her funeral, or remember her in your prayers, please visit <https://mas-blogs.com/about-ma/> or scan or click this QR code.



SEASON OF CREATION

Every year from 1 September to 4 October, Catholic Earthcare Australia (Caritas and the Australian Bishops Conference) joins with Christian communities globally to celebrate the Season of Creation, to celebrate the gift of our common home. The theme for 2023 is "Let Justice and Peace Flow", drawing on the river imagery in Amos 5:24. It challenges us to act for ecological justice, creating change and speaking out with communities most impacted by rising sea levels, biodiversity loss and other consequences of climate change. Resources for the Season of Creation are available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2023/



Laudato Si'



Environmental education should facilitate making the leap towards the transcendent which gives ecological ethics its deepest meaning #210

reduce reuse recycle rethink repurpose

WINTER APPEAL THANKS

The Ballarat East Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is most grateful for the generosity shown by both parishioners and school communities to our recent winter appeal.

This year, in addition to the regular financial contributions via the envelopes, we have received a very large number of toiletry items. These donations have increased our capacity to help those most in need in our community in these particularly challenging economic times.

BAPTISMS

Hazel Elizabeth Peters

Child of Matthew Peters and Alicia O'Neill

Maeve Pip and Ailbe Hugh Davison

Children of John and Alex Davison

The church gives faith to your children through Baptism, and you have the task to make it grow.

Pope Francis

SYNOD OF BISHOPS PRAYER

The Vatican is asking all baptised people, regardless of whether they will be in Rome, to participate in October's assembly of the Synod of Bishops with their prayers. More information is available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/

PRAYING WITH THE POPE

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope, and calling us to loving service. 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – www.thepopevideo.org.

Pope's intention for September – **For people living on the margins**: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions. May they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance. Lord, hear us.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission has released presentations for the diocesan launch of the Social Justice Statement 2023: **Listen Learn Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples**. This event is pre-recorded and in digital format so that parish and school communities along with individuals can access these resources at their convenience. Visit this link for more information: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/social-justice-statement/

DIOCESAN E-NEWS



The latest edition of e-News has been published. Scan or click the QR code to access. Subscribe to receive future e-News editions straight to your email via:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/

SVDP NATIONAL CONGRESS

In late October, the St Vincent de Paul Society will hold a three-day National Congress in Sydney. As part of the preparations for this event, all conferences have been asked to share their stories and mission with their local community. Please check out the Ballarat East Conference display – "The Hands Behind the Help" in the St Alipius foyer.

MOROCCO/LIBYA APPEAL

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died, and many others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water, and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals. To donate visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/morocco-earthquake/ or use the QR code.



AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Aid to the Church in Need is running an emergency campaign for Pakistan where recently up to 24 churches, hundreds of Christian homes and a Christian cemetery were targeted in an attack which was sparked by reports of blasphemy allegations against two Christians accused of desecrating the Qur'an. ACN is working with project partners on the ground to aid the current needs of the Christian people. To learn more and to make an offering, scan or click on the QR code.



Waiting in Line

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 21:28–32

Three milestones in our journey of faith coalesce on Wednesday of this week: the final day of the Season of Creation 2023 with its call to “let justice and peace flow”; the release of Pope Francis’ new exhortation on integral ecology; and the opening in Rome of the Synod on Synodality.

The plight of our planetary community impels us to ponder, in light of these separate but related events, the ways in which Earth cares for us.

Vineyards have provided nourishment in the ancient Mediterranean world since about 10,000 BCE. It is not surprising then that the biblical record frequently references vines and vineyards, and that the vineyard becomes a metaphor for God’s “workplace”.

In today’s gospel, Jesus tells the story of a father who sends his sons to work in the vineyard. One refuses and then reconsiders: he has the courage to change his mind. The second son agrees and then fails to do as his father requests: he is not prepared to make his contribution to family life and well-being.

These siblings find their counterparts in every age. There are those who make an art form of saying yes and failing to follow through with action: such people can seriously undermine the best of projects or plans. And then

there are the slow starters, those who take time but eventually come on board.

Jesus’ parable is a response to the Temple authorities who are angered by the “amazing things” he does and by the public recognition he receives.

Changing one’s mind or one’s course of action can be an act of great courage and humility

Like the second son, the chief priests and elders profess to do the will of God, but their actions belie their words. Jesus spells out the meaning of the parable as it relates to the disjunction between what they say and what they do. They have rejected the prophet John who came to them “in the way of righteousness”.

The tax collectors and prostitutes, “sinners” from the perspective of the authorities, accepted John’s message, albeit belatedly like the first son, and are making their way into God’s empire ahead of the guardians of the religious institutions.

Changing one’s mind is seen as a sign of weakness in our society. For evidence of this, one has only to listen



to the taunts when a political leader changes course.

Changing one’s mind or one’s course of action can be an act of great courage and humility, even heroism. This is particularly so if it involves abandoning a self-serving direction for the sake of justice or compassion for the common good.

Voluntary changes in behaviour come from a change of heart, from what the gospel calls “metanoia”.

There is always a cost in the pursuit of justice, including the cost to those who challenge the refusal to act on the climate crisis.

Today’s parable invites us to bring our actions into line with what we profess, no matter the cost. That is what it means to accept today’s invitation to work in the vineyard, God’s workplace.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS
26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
EZEKIEL 18:25–28
PHILIPPIANS 2:1–11
MATTHEW 21:28–32

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS
27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ISAIAH 5:1–7
PHILIPPIANS 4:6–9
MATTHEW 21:33–43