



▶ **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

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

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

31 March 2024

Sunday of the Resurrection

*He has risen!*

# St Alipius parish

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Fri 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM

Sunday 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 3

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:**

**Anniversaries:** Noreen Griffin, Isabel Britt.

**Unwell:** Socorro De Chavez, Luka Fletcher-Leskarac, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Shelley Pawang, Carole Simmons

## PARISH TEAM

**Parish Administrator**  
Fr Concord Bagoaisan, 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.



## JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN!



The Bible proclamation for Easter recalls to us the saving and victorious acts of God: the creation of the world, the abundant blessing of descendants for the longtime childless Abraham, the liberation of Israel from the slavery of Egypt and the restoration of Israel. In the light of these, the Resurrection of Jesus is presented as the climax of the proclamation that God indeed is “not the God of the dead but of the living.” The resurrection of Jesus is not an empty memory. It is a call to life. It must be lived forward. The best thing we could do is to share with others that God is not dead, that nothing can put God to death, and that God is more than the darkness of death. Today is then the best kept as a time to renew our faith and hope in God’s gift of renewal and restoration. HAPPY EASTER – Fr Concord Bagaoisan.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Fr Con’s final weekend as Parish Administrator**  
Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 April

**Fr Justin Driscoll & Fr Matthew Restall  
commence in our parish**  
Wednesday 10 April

### RCIC

At our Easter Vigil this weekend, we welcome Ruby M, Joe, Luka, Conor, Ella, Ruby R, and James. The Easter Vigil sees them begin/complete their journey of initiation into the Catholic Church. Ruby R, Conor and Joe will begin their journey with baptism, while James will receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Ruby M, Luka and Ella will receive all the sacraments. We look forward to welcoming them, their families and their sponsors on this very special occasion and ask God’s blessing on them. Please continue to keep these families in your prayers.

## BISHOP’S EASTER MESSAGE

You can read Bishop Paul’s Easter message, “An Easter with a Special Anniversary” on the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-easter-message-3/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-easter-message-3/) or scan or click the QR code .



## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$1163
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$408.20

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

## PROJECT COMPASSION

As the end of Project Compassion 2024, Caritas extends its heartfelt gratitude to our parish community for our support throughout this Lenten Season. Caritas hopes the inspiring stories of Ronita, Leaia and Memory have touched our hearts and ignited a spirit of reflection on the impact of our support. Please remember to return your Project Compassion boxes and envelopes to the parish office or donate online [www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or via the QR code.



## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Our schools have now finished their first term and will be on holidays for the coming two weeks. We wish all staff and students a very safe and happy holiday.

## LITURGY ROSTER

The liturgy roster for St Alipius for April and May will be emailed to volunteers this week. Hard copies will be made available in the sacristy. Please remember to diarise when you are rostered on and arrange a swap or fill if you are unable to make it for a week that you are rostered on. Thank you for helping make our weekend masses possible.

## SAFETRAC ONLINE COURSE

The email addresses of all volunteers required to do the Safetrac course on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults will be sent to the diocese this week. An email from the diocese will be sent containing your username and password. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to call the parish office and we will provide whatever support we can. We are assured that this version of Safetrac is more accessible than the previous one.

## UPDATING YOUR WWCC

There are several parishioners whose Working with Children Checks (WWCC) will expire in 2024. Please check the date of yours to ensure that it is still current. Please provide a copy of your new WWCC to the parish office. Anybody needing to renew or apply for a WWCC is very welcome to book a time to come into the office where we can help you through the process. Teachers are asked to please provide copies of their current VIT registration card. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions. We appreciate your efforts to ensure that our parish is complying with child safety guidelines.

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Kevin and Dianne McKeegan who celebrate 50 years of marriage on Easter Saturday. We wish them both well on this very special occasion.

## MERCY PLACE VOLUNTEERS

Mercy Place is seeking volunteers for a range of roles. Volunteers might spend time one-on-one with residents, taking them for walks in the garden, going on bus trips, reading a book or newspaper, helping them in the garden, or just having a chat. The hours are organised to suit the volunteer. If interested, please see the flyer in the church foyer for more information.

## 150 ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

Copies of the anniversary prayer, written in acknowledgement of the 150 years of the Ballarat Diocese, are available in the church foyers.

## CDF COMMUNITY FUND

By opening a personal account with CDF Community Fund, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, but your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities.



With competitive interest rates available across a range of accounts, including 5.55% p.a.\* on a 12-month Term Investment, it's a way to save while doing good. To find out more, email the CDF Team at [csg@melbcdf.org.au](mailto:csg@melbcdf.org.au) or phone 1800 134 135, or visit: [www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/off](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/off)er. \*Interest rates are subject to change. View current rates here - [www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/).

## EVANGALISE+ SERIES

The new Evangelise+, 'Women's Leadership' series is available at <https://www.evangeliseplus.com.au/>. The series includes videos on the following five topics: Defining Leadership, Women's Gifts, Catholic Faith as Guide, Attributes for Leadership and Dealing with Challenges.

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Every relationship is a journey, and the grind of everyday life can easily cause you to lose touch with your spouse. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend gives married couples time to nurture their relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from the pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome. 12–14 April in Melbourne. Website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au). Information and bookings: phone Mercy & James at 0409 183 676 or email [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au).

## 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](http://www.thepopevideo.org).

Pope's intention for March – **For new martyrs**: Let us pray for those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

## LAUDATO SI'

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us that everything is connected. Our relationship with nature is not separate from our relationship with God and others. This concept of integral ecology encourages us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action.

The Diocesan Social Justice Commission, in collaboration with Caritas (Diocese of Ballarat), Earthcare Ballarat and the Pastoral Ministry Office, encourages us to **"Think before you buy."**

A great way to reduce waste is to think about whether you need something before you buy it. Buying from small local businesses is also a good way to reduce your environmental impact.

## MARY WARD FOR SAINT

Mary Ward supporters are seeking support for their cause for the canonisation of the foundress of the Loreto Sisters (IBVM). To sign the petition, scan or click the QR code.



## CARING GROUP

The Caring Group will meet in St Alipius Hall at 2:00 PM on Friday 5 April. All are welcome. Please bring a plate to share.

# Resurrection faith

## Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Easter Vigil: Mark 16:1–8

At the foot of Geboor (Mount Macedon), where I spent my whole childhood, stands the lovely Anglican Church of the Resurrection, built in the aftermath of the devastating 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires.

Members of both Catholic and Anglican communities had wanted to build one church for the two communities, but the respective insurance policies determined otherwise: two churches replaced the two that were destroyed in the fires.

The most striking feature of the Anglican Church is Leonard French's stained-glass depiction of the resurrection experience of a devastated community, a statement of hope in the face of death and seeming hopelessness. Geboor has risen from the ashes and is once again a vibrant community.

The Church of the Resurrection serves as a reminder of the community's faith and provides a context for "re-membering" events that united its members in unexpected ways.

In a particularly graphic way, it brings the lower-key experience of the local community into dialogue with its upper-key Story of the death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

We take time at Easter to re-member, re-enact, and re-tell the originating stories of our tradition.

We dramatise and celebrate in solemn ritual what we celebrate in lower key every Sunday of the year. In our faith-inspired re-telling, all the power and grace of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth are made present to us and to our world. Resurrection faith is a commitment to life.

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*Resurrection faith is a  
commitment to life.*

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In Mark's resurrection account the place of death, the tomb, lies empty and the message of life is proclaimed. God's messenger sends the women who have witnessed the death and burial of Jesus to proclaim the news of his resurrection to the male disciples.

Some interpret the silence of the women as failure; the male disciples have denied and abandoned Jesus and now the women fail to proclaim the news of the resurrection.

Others see the women's silence as the appropriate stance before the wonder of God's power.

The women's silence has particular resonance at a time when women are finding the courage to speak out against the abuse they have endured. Might the silence of the women in the gospel story be simply a first-century



male construct? The gospel narrative itself bears witness to a mission ultimately accomplished.

The global experience of war, of fire, of flood and of unequal access to planetary resources foregrounds the language of death and resurrection at this time.

As we enter into the Easter mysteries, we carry with us the chaos of broken communities. We mourn the deaths of thousands of innocent people, we pray for order out of the chaos, we ask questions about the plight of the other-than-human community, and we do all we can to ensure a real return to life for the bereaved, the struggling and the displaced.

We join with those who are sharing their resources and re-ordering their way of being in the Earth community in order to make this happen.

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

ACTS 10:34, 37–43  
CORINTHIANS 5:6–8  
MARK 16:1–7

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 4:32–25  
1 JOHN 5:1–6  
JOHN 20:19–31