



WEEKLY BULLETIN

CATHOLIC PARISH OF BALLARAT EAST

Serving the Church Communities of

✦ **ST ALIPIUS (Ballarat East) and ✦ STs PETER & PAUL's (Buninyong)**
(84 Victoria Street) (701 Fiskens Street)



SUNDAY 14TH APRIL 2019 – PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY, 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:

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Ballarat East 3350

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ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Website:

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

PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2019



Our Stewardship Program has been finalized and once again we wish to warmly thank everyone for their involvement and generous response. A special thank you goes to our Program

Leadership Team and to all the volunteers who offered their assistance.

Please collect your letter of thanks confirming your new commitment and where applicable, a new set of envelopes from the back of the church. The new commitments take effect from next week so please destroy any old envelopes that you may still have.

A reminder that all Groups & Ministries responses are currently being processed and all those who responded will be contacted in the very near future. Your support in this key area of parish life is very much appreciated.

THANK YOU ALL ONCE AGAIN!

(Fr Peter)

PROGRAM SOCIAL NIGHT

The Stewardship Program *Social Night* will be held on **Wednesday, 24 April at 7pm** in the Parish Hall. We would love to see you there!

LENT WEEK 6

The final week of Michael McGirr's Lenten Program focuses on being *Free from fear*. He says: 'you can't measure a journey in miles because there are times when a short walk to the local hospital or to the office of your boss can feel as long as a flight to the other side of the world.' He says that 'Holy Week is full of short journeys that weigh heavily, and we could ask ourselves who are the people in our lives who have metaphorically laid their cloaks across the road to make our journey through life a little easier.' To conclude his forty day activity list, here are the last six items that you may like to consider:



35. Think about Pontius Pilate and ask if honestly you would have done any better.
36. Same with St Peter who denied even knowing Jesus.
37. Turn your phone off at dinner time and leave it off till morning.
38. Go to bed early.
39. Buy Easter eggs that use only fair trade chocolate.
40. Look at the moon. Think that the next full moon means it will be Easter.

(Source: All I have is yours: Forty days to Freedom, Michael McGirr)

We Remember in Prayer



Baptisms:

Sophie Rinaldi, Audrey Giles,
Patrick Olechnowicz.

Recent Deaths:

Elaine Brennan.

Anniversaries:

Mary Murphy, Jim Murphy.

The Sick:

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

Prayer of the Week

Redeeming

Gracious God,
your love for us is never ending,
help us to share your love with
those we meet.

You bring life from death,
help us to share your life with
others.

You listen to our deepest
thoughts,
help us to listen to those we
meet with an open heart.

Through our good works,
may those we encounter
experience your unceasing mercy
and compassion.

Amen

*My God, my God, why have
you abandoned me?
(Psalm 22)*

Words of Wisdom

*The love of God cradles us
unceasingly. (Thomas Keating)*

Parish & Diocesan News & Events

FR PETER ON SABBATICAL LEAVE

I have applied to Bishop Paul for three months sabbatical leave and he has kindly given me the time. We have also made arrangements for Fr Kevin Maloney to administer the parish during that time. I will be starting sabbatical after Sunday Mass on 28th of April through to the end of July.

I am grateful to Bishop Paul for the opportunity and Fr Kevin and all those in the parish for whom this may mean some extra duties and responsibilities, but I also know that the Parish is up for it too - *bring on your gifts and talents.*

What is Sabbatical? Traditionally sabbatical is a period of paid leave granted to an employee for study or travel, usually one year for every seven years worked.

One interesting definition: "Sabbaticals are no longer defined by the absence of work - in fact they are defined by the presence of it. Sabbaticals aren't just another word for vacation. They're the new word for an active pursuit of purpose."

For me, I am hoping it will be an opportune time for reflection, destressing, discernment and renewal.

(Fr Peter)

HOLY WEEK INVITATION

The honour of your presence is requested for the Church's solemn commemoration of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Beginning with Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, then the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday) and concluding on Easter Sunday celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord

Holy Thursday <i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>	7.00 pm	St Alipius
Good Friday <i>Celebration of the Lord's Passion</i>	3.00 pm	St Alipius
Holy Saturday <i>The Easter Vigil</i>	7.00 pm	St Alipius
Easter Sunday <i>Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord</i>	9.00 am 10.30 am	St Alipius SS Peter & Paul's

BUNINYONG – GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS

On Good Friday the Combined Churches of Buninyong invite you to join in their annual commemoration of the Passion and Death of Jesus. The readings and procession commence from the front of the Buninyong Town Hall at 8.30 am, and conclude at the Labyrinth in the grounds of the Uniting Church shortly after 9.00 am.

EASTER VIGIL – CALLING SINGERS AND MUSICIANS!

The wonder of Holy Saturday night is enhanced with good music.

We're looking for singers and musicians to join David & Geoff to raise our hearts in song on this special night. Suitable for primary students, secondary students, young adults and all those young at heart!

The second rehearsal will be at St Alipius Church from 7.30pm - 8.30pm on Tuesday evening, 16th April.

Give David a call on 0427 310 564 to confirm your involvement or just turn up on Tuesday.

INVITATION TO PREPARATION RITES FOR RCIA ELECT

On Saturday April 20th at 10.30 am Bishop Paul Bird is celebrating the Preparation Rites for the RCIA Elect in St Patrick's Cathedral Hall. You are very welcome to join us for this Celebration.

RCIA EASTER VIGIL CELEBRATION

During the Easter Vigil Mass our RCIA Elect, Melissa, Anna, Wendy and Liz, will be received into our parish community. To celebrate this faith filled occasion, community members are invited to join our new members and their families for light refreshments in the Parish Hall following Mass. Parishioners are invited to bring a plate of nibbles to share. For enquiries please phone Kristen on 0448804745.

BISHOP PAUL'S EASTER MESSAGE 2019

Christchurch: the Call to Prayer and Compassion. Please see notice board for letter from Bishop Paul Bird. A few printed copies are also available for take home at the back of the church.

BUY CHOCOLATES MADE WITHOUT SLAVERY THIS EASTER

A wide range of slavery-free chocolate and Easter eggs are available, including a budget priced range of UTZ certified products in ALDI, Coles and a wide selection at Haighs. Check the labels on the wrappers.

FOR THE DIARY - BLESSING AND REOPENING OF SS PETER & PAUL'S CHURCH HALL, 5TH MAY

The reopening and blessing of the renovated old church hall at SS Peter & Paul's, Buninyong, will occur on Sunday 5th May after 10:30 Mass. Please bring a plate to share for a light lunch/refreshments etc., as our community celebrates the completion of this wonderful project!

JESUS THE FORGOTTEN FEMINIST

Last week Fr Peter mentioned that this book was a good read. Author, Chris Geraghty, delves into the scriptures and history showing how Jesus practised a radically inclusive approach to women that challenged the inequitable beliefs and practices of his own culture and community. The book is available from Garratt Publishing, Mulgrave, Vic 3170 or online from www.garrattpublishing.com.au

MASS OF THE OILS: MONDAY, APRIL 15

The Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat, at 6.30 pm on Monday, April 15. All members of the Diocese are invited to this celebration, which truly expresses the unity of the Diocesan Church.

MERCY CONNECT BALLARAT

Volunteer Mentors needed to support refugee and asylum seeker students in Ballarat Schools. Initial training provided. Contact Donna Stewart, Project Coordinator on 0417 624 330 or email: mercyconnectb@gmail.com for information and application form.

ANZAC DAY MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Mass will be held at 9.15am on ANZAC Day at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat.

Mass Time Table for Week Beginning 15th April 2019

Mon:	No Mass
Tue:	5.00 pm Mercy Convent
Wed:	9.30 am Mercy Convent
Thu:	11.00 am Mercy Place 7.00 pm St Alipius
Fri:	No Mass, 3 pm Good Friday service at St Alipius
Sat:	7.00 pm St Alipius
Sun:	9.00 am St Alipius 10.30 am SS Peter & Paul's

See Holy Week Invitation

Finance



COLLECTIONS FOR LAST WEEK

Parish:		
	Envelopes	\$ 1005.10
	Loose	\$ 150.00
	Credit Cards (mthly)	\$ 0.00
	Direct Debits	\$ 1025.00
		\$ 2180.10
Presbytery:		\$ 959.00

COUNTING TEAMS

Team 3:

M. O'Donnell ©, L. O'Donnell.

Team 4:

C. Tarquinio ©, M. Tarquinio.

Appreciation Corner



We say thank you to Fr Peter & staff, the various community groups, and volunteers who generously give of their time and talent each week -- the parish couldn't function without you!

This week we say a special *Thank You* to Therese Proy, members of the Parish Stewardship Program Team and volunteers who assisted, for completion of the huge task of getting the stewardship program up and running.

Scripture Readings & Reflections

GOSPEL REFLECTION

by Veronica Lawson RSM

Passion Sunday, Year C (Luke 22:14-23:56)

Jesus of Nazareth is executed in Jerusalem when the city is filled with pilgrims who are there to celebrate the Jewish festival of Passover. A year after his execution, when his friends and family gather once more for Passover, they find new meaning in the celebration of the feast. Every Passover from now on will mark the anniversary of the death of Jesus and will be celebrated through the lens of their experience of his life and death. They share their memories of the one they loved so deeply and reflect on the meaning of his life and death in the light of their wisdom traditions. Every element of the Passover story, the ancient story of God's deliverance of God's people from slavery, will echo with resonances of the life and death of Jesus who is now present to them in a new way. It is not surprising, then, that these final events of Jesus' life were probably the first part of the Jesus' story to be committed to writing. Neither is it surprising that each of the canonical gospels includes an account of Jesus' suffering and death and that each approaches the events from its own particular perspective.

There are several unique features in Luke's account. The most remarkable to my mind is Jesus' readiness to forgive his executioners even while they continue to mock him. Another is his capacity to reach out to others: to "turn towards" the women of Jerusalem, to receive their compassionate mourning, and to express his own concern for them. In line with his overall intention to demonstrate that Christianity is no threat to the Roman Empire, Luke repeatedly points to the innocence of Jesus. In Luke's gospel, Jesus is the rejected prophet who trusts utterly in God and into whose hands he entrusts his spirit. He dies with the same sort of dignity that has characterised his life.

It is easy to let our own hurt find expression in criticism or mistreatment of others whom we fail to understand. It is also easy to retaliate in the face of unjust accusation and insult. It takes more courage than most of us can muster to name unjust treatment for what it is, to truly forgive, to retain our peace of mind in such circumstances, and to trust in the power of God to break through the ignorance that engenders violence. Palestinian activist Lucy Nusseibeh, founder and director of Middle East Nonviolence and Democracy (MEND) and the members of the Israeli Coalition of Women for a Just Peace have learned that lesson and are showing others the way of non-violence. As

we enter into the mysteries of Holy Week, we might pray for the grace to act, like these Palestinian and Israeli women, with the dignity of the Lukan Jesus and thus circumvent the cycles of violence in our own contexts.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Easter Sunday, Resurrection of The Lord, Year C

First Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel (John 20:1-9)

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Question of the Week

When have you felt that you betrayed the confidence of another, as Peter did when he denied Jesus?

(Source: Pastoral Centre.com)