

Welcome to St. Alipius Parish

Ballarat East & Buninyong



St Alipius
Parish Community

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

21ST FEBRUARY 2021

Our parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity

of all children and vulnerable adults.

St Alipius' Parish acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of this land and we pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

St Alipius' Parish Church

82 Victoria St, Ballarat East 3350

SS Peter & Paul's Church

701 Fiskens St. Buninyong 3357

The church will be closed Tuesday thru Thursday as Fr Jorge is on retreat.

We ask all parishioners to pray for the Clergy of Ballarat during this week of reflection for them.

Parish Office & Presbytery:

- 84 Victoria Street
Ballarat East 3350
- 5332 6611
- ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Liturgy Online:

- www.sapliturgy.net.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Parish Coordinator: Bronwyn Ballesty

Child Safety Officer: Bronwyn Ballesty

Finance Officer: Kerrie McTigue

Finance Com. Chair: Paul Jans

Liturgy Coordinator: David Santamaria

Funeral Ministry: Carmel Flynn, Kathy Curran, Teresa Fletcher

MASKS ARE MANDATORY DURING MASS

Masses during the week

St Alipius' Church, Ballarat East for 180 attendees

Monday, Friday and Saturday 9.30 am

Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am (1st, 3rd and 5th)

10:30 am (2nd and 4th)

Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong for 150 attendees

Sunday 9:00 am (2nd and 4th)

10:30 am, (1st, 3rd and 5th)

(Please ring Margaret McCarty 0423 208 286)

Mass Options and Resources for Prayer

Ballarat Diocese Website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

St. Alipius' Parish Liturgy Website:

www.sapliturgy.net.au

**St. Alipius' Church is open from 9:30 am to
11:30 am Tuesday to Sunday**

In our prayers we remember.....

Recent Death: Sylvia Joyce Carroll, Maree Lamb, Cathy Jones

Anniversaries: Martin Moran, Michael Joseph Duck, Tom Shannon, Jack Gittings

Unwell: We pray for Waffa Ghali, Brian (Jack) Patton, Ray, Kateri Byrnes, Ann Coswello, Carmel Doherty, Pat Hogan, Heather Healy, Cathy Jones, Peter Martin, Margie Wilmott, John Beattie, Letitia Simmons, Anthony Holdsworth and all who are unwell.



This weekend we welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:

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

May these children

(Pope Francis.)

grow in Love and

Faith with the

support of their

family and their

Catholic

Community

Sunny Osian Fitter

son of Carrie and Simon

Evie and Maya Loader

Daughter of Matthew and Rebecca

Indi Scammell

daughter of Jeremy and Melinda



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Project Compassion Virtual Immersions

Each week during this Lenten season, Caritas Australia is holding Virtual Immersion opportunities for parishes via Zoom video conferencing. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff. Sessions will run Tuesdays and Thursdays for one hour across Australia. You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to <https://lent.caritas.org.au/virtualimmersions>

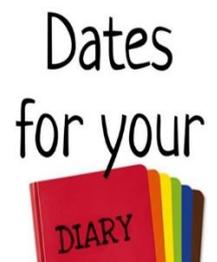


Upcoming Dates in the parish community

February

There are NO morning mass times next Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday this week.

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 26 th | Cheese & Wine Night | 7.00pm | Buninyong |
| | | <i>March</i> | |
| 2 nd | Liturgy Meeting | 5.30pm | St Alipius |
| | Reconciliation Info Night | 7.00pm | St Alipius Church |
| 3 rd | Reconciliation Info Night | 7.00pm | St Alipius Hall |
| 4 th | Baptism Preparation | 7.00pm | St Alipius Hall |



World Day of Prayer Services - Friday, March 5, 2021

- 10.00am at Patrick's Cathedral, corner Sturt & Dawson Streets, Ballarat.
- 2.00pm at St James' Parish Church, corner Albert & Vale Streets, Sebastopol.
- 7.00pm at Ballarat South Uniting Church, 305 Scott Street, Buninyong.
- 7.00pm at St John's Anglican Church, 103 Napier Street, Creswick.



Planned Giving

Due to the capped numbers for Mass, should you wish to continue your Planned Giving or contribution to the First Collection, please place your offering in an envelope into the mailbox near the front door of the Presbytery. Any queries regarding Planned Giving, please phone our Finance Officer Kerrie McTigue, on 53 312 933 or via email: ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

*Thank
you!*

St Alipius Parish collections last weekend:

Direct Debit \$ 690.00

We thank you for your continued support



Palms Donations

With Palm Sunday fast approaching any parishioner who may have any palms, or olive branches they wish to donate please contact the parish Office.

The Caring Group

The Caring Group will gather for a meeting and afternoon tea on Friday 5th march at 2pm. Please ring Margaret Tuddeham 53303379 or Kath Bevelander 53301519 if attending. Thank you.

RCIC / RCIA Support

As we welcome the children and their families into our parish community today through the Rite of Naming we reach out to our community. Any person who would like to help support these children and their families and those to come please contact the Parish Office.

Lenten Resources - Week 1:

The Sandhurst Diocese kindly shares their Lent 2021 leaflets which invite reflection on excerpts from Pope Francis' "Let us Dream", together with insights and suggestions for action from one of the Australian Plenary Council Thematic Discernment papers.

The leaflets are for individual reflection or small group reflection and discussion.

The theme for week 1 is, 'How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is humble, healing and merciful?'

These leaflets are available for download from the diocesan website Liturgy Resources page <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/liturgy-sacraments/liturgy-resources/>



National Mass Count of Attendance

The National Centre for Pastoral Research advise that the 2021 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count) will take place over the first four weekends in May (starting May 1, 2021). As in 2016, the data collected for the 2021 Count will need to be entered online. With the added advantage of mobile compatibility, data can be entered using most mobile devices. Attached is background information on the project.

Reflection on the Gospel-1st Sunday in Lent Year B

(Mark 1:12-15)



Lent comes around each year and presents us with its usual challenge to take stock of our lives, to see more clearly what is in our hearts and to discover what might be calling us out of our comfort zones. It is a time to consider how we might respond to the pain of the world and of its inhabitants. It is a time for personal as well as group reflection, a time for entering into “the wilderness” and for grappling with the mysteries of life.

It is a time of preparation for Easter when we will renew our baptismal vows and celebrate the greatest mysteries of our faith.

The gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus’ forty-day experience in “the wilderness”. Jesus is said to be “filled with the Holy Spirit” and, like so many human beings before and since, is “led by the Spirit” into the wilderness of life to be “tested” there. [“Tested” is a more accurate translation of the original Greek term than is “tempted”]. Forty is a symbolic number in Israel’s story: the great flood lasts forty days and forty nights; Moses spends forty days and forty nights on the mountain of God; Israel wanders for forty years in the wilderness; King David reigns for forty years; the prophet Elijah travels forty days and forty nights in the wilderness on his way to the mountain of God.

The wilderness of Judah, with its unique desert flora and fauna, its wadis and waterholes, is ever so real. At the same time it functions symbolically in the narrative. In Israel’s story, it is the place of testing for God’s people: “Remember the long way that your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness... testing you to know what was in your heart” (Deuteronomy 8:2). Jesus now passes the tests that Israel failed in the wilderness.

Jesus is “with the wild beasts”. This terse statement recalls the prophet Isaiah’s vision of a future time of reconciliation and harmony when “the wolf will lie down with the lamb” (Isaiah 11:6-9). Jesus is presented as the one who ushers in that age of peace and healing of division. God’s agents care for him in his time of testing: “angels minister to him”. In this context, Jesus announces the coming of God’s empire or reign. His message is to “repent” or to “think beyond” in a way that might turn lives around in God’s direction, and to “believe the good news” that he is set to proclaim in word and action. At a time of growing divide between the mega-rich and the desperately poor, we might look back to our symbolic tradition and forward to ways of bringing good news to those mostly deeply affected by the inequities in our world.

Veronica Lawson RSM

Readings for this week: First Sunday in Lent

First: Gen 9:8-15

Second: 1Pet 3:18-22 **Gospel:** Mk 1:12-15

Readings for next week: Second Sunday in Lent

First: Gen 22:1-2

Second: Rom 8:31-34 **Gospel:** Mk 9:2-10

