



Welcome to St. Alipius Parish

Ballarat East & Buninyong



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.

5th December 2021 Second Sunday of Advent



Stir up our hearts, O Lord to prepare the ways of Thine only – begotten Son, that through his coming we may be worthy to serve thee with purified minds. Who livest and reignest with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

Amen

Parish Office & Presbytery:

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday 10.00am to 3.30pm

Wednesday through Friday 10.00am till 1.00pm

Liturgy Online:

- www.sapliturgy.net.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Parish Coordinator: Bronwyn Ballesty

PPC Chair: Cathy Prunty

Child Safety Officer: Bronwyn Ballesty

Finance Officer: Kerrie McTigue

Finance Com. Chair: TBA

Liturgy Coordinator: David Santamaria

Funeral Ministry: Carmel Flynn

Masses during the week

St Alipius' Church at 9.00am

Weekday masses will be held Wednesday Friday and Saturday. Maximum of 50 people.

Vaccination Status is not required.

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

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

10:30 am (2nd and 4th)

Rosary and divine Mercy will be said each morning after the 9.30am mass. Please join us on the left of the church.

Ss Peter & Paul's Church,

Buninyong

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

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

Mass Options and Resources for Prayer

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

Counting Team No .6 will be on this week.

Moran, Brisbane, OBrien

In our prayers we remember.....

Recent Deaths: Peter Begbie

Unwell: We pray for Mary Hall, Perla Manguiat, Peter Begbie, Peter Kelly, Betty McGarry, Valerie Reilly (UK), Anne D'Cruz (Singapore), Peter Saunders, Agnes Peters, Brian (Jack) Patton, Ray, Ann Coswello, Heather Healy, Peter Martin, Margie Wilmott, Letitia Simmons, 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..."

(Pope Francis)



Holly Ratcliffe

Daughter of Adam and Sarah

Charli Ann Burns

Daughter of Jessica Burns

*May these
children grow
in Love and
Faith with
the support
of their family
and their
Catholic
Community*

 **THE BRIDGE**
 **MARKET**

presents

**MAKING A SCENE
AT CHRISTMAS**

at BRIDGE MALL

December 4 – 5 and

December 11 - 20, 2021



MAKING A SCENE AT CHRISTMAS

is a display of over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries.

You can - see and smell real frankincense and myrrh;

- see coins minted around the time the census was called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem; and
- see cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America, & Europe (and one that went to Antarctica)
- Nativities that prize social justice and the environment

Entry is a gold coin donation. Every one welcome.

Simbang Gabi

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition and it is also the spiritual preparation for Christmas and commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a series of Nine Evenings of Masses leading up to Christmas. It will be held in St Alipius Church, from December 15th to the December 23th at 7.00pm.

On the 24th mass will be at midnight.



**Do you have a welcoming Smile?
Are you happy to welcome people into the Church?**

Well then the parish needs YOU !!

As we open the church doors to more people to come and celebrate Mass the parish is looking for parishioners to help greet people as they arrive. This is a team position with lots of support.

Interested? Please complete the flyer on your seat and place this on the collection plate.

We look forward to hearing from you ☺

Planned Giving



Should you wish to continue our Planned Giving or contribute 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

Presbytery \$ 1161.00 Envelopes \$ 612.00 Loose \$ 200.00

We thank you for your continued Support



Upcoming Dates in the Parish Community

December

12 th	Working Bee	11.30am	St Alipius Grounds
15 th	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	6.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong
15-23	Simbang Gabi	7.00pm	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East
21 st	Penitential Rite	7.30pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong
24 th	Christmas Eve Mass	6.00pm	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East
		7.00pm	Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong
		9.00pm	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East
		Midnight	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East
25 th	Christmas Day	9.00am	Ss Peter & Paul's Church, Buninyong
		10.30am	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East
		6.00pm	St Alipius Church, Ballarat East

(pre-booking required)

Working Bee – Sunday 12th



The parish will be holding a Working Bee next Sunday. This will involve bringing pews back into the church and some general cleaning and tidying. The parish will provide a BBQ lunch for all. We look forward to seeing you all there.

St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal

The St Alipius' Conference is most grateful for the support we receive from the parish as it enables us to continue assistance to those in need in the local area. This year the theme of our appeal is, **"EVERY BABY SHOULD BE BORN WITH HOPE FOR THE FUTURE."** and we invite you to join us in our challenge to *"help provide food and financial aid to families at breaking point"*.

You can donate to our appeal via:

1. **Envelopes** that are available at the end of each pew and at the piety stall.
2. *Envelopes can be put in the collection plate or posted in the Christmas Appeal Box at the Piety Stall. Please write your name and address if you require a receipt.*
3. The **online links** below. The first link will take you to the Ballarat East donation page

<https://my.fundraiseforvinniesvic.org.au/vinnies-christmas-appeal-2021/svdp-ballarat-east>

The second link below will take you to the general Vinnies page vinnies.org.au (to ensure that your donation is used locally type in "Ballarat East" in the "Comments/Conference Name" section in the final box on the second page of the online

donation process.)

Comments/Conference Name (if applicable)
Please type your comment here

4. By **phone** 13 18 12

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



Year of St Joseph

The Year of St Joseph concludes on December 8, 2021. Prayer of St Joseph to conclude the year:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH
December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

Reflection on the Gospel-2nd Sunday of Advent Year C (Luke 3:1-6)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Since the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis has called us to look into our hearts and to bring the compassion and mercy of God to our troubled planetary home. Care of our common home and of all that inhabits our planet is both a gospel imperative and an urgent call to the whole human community. Our courageous pope gives extraordinary leadership in this respect.

Like Luke, author of the third gospel, Pope Francis recognises that the message is for the whole world and not simply for the Church community. Luke situates his gospel drama on a national and international stage and in relation to global events. He wants to insist that religion is no private affair and that the story of the movement around Jesus of Nazareth is no ordinary, everyday story. It is, rather, a story with momentous political and religious significance. His references to Herod Antipas and to Pilate foreshadow the imminent fate of John and the eventual fate of Jesus. Luke is strong on dramatic impact and less concerned about the facts. He situates events in the “pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas”, implying that there were two high priests at the same time. In fact, Caiaphas succeeded his father-in-law Annas as high priest, even if the influence of the latter persisted into Caiaphas’ pontificate.

Luke presents John the son of Zechariah as a prophet in the long line of prophets that culminates in the appearance of Jesus of Nazareth on the global stage. Jesus is the one who truly brings the salvation of our God. It is worth noting that prophecy in Luke is not reserved to the male characters. With the shift from private to public space in Luke 3, however, women prophets who featured prominently in the earlier chapters (Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna) now disappear from the narrative.

Luke 3:1-6 contains some of Luke’s favourite themes: prophecy and its fulfilment; the word of God; reversal of expectations; conversion or repentance; proclaiming the good news; forgiveness of sins; salvation. As in Israel’s past, the wilderness or desert is the locus of God’s revelation. The prophet John calls on the people of the region around the Jordan River to turn their hearts and their lives around, to accept “a baptism of *metanoia*/conversion for the forgiveness of sins’.

We listen to the Isaiah citation that follows (“Prepare the way...”) against the backdrop of the first reading from the prophet Baruch. While we might critique the violent metaphorical language that speaks of God’s salvation in terms of filling the valleys and levelling the hills, we yearn for a time when “all flesh”, human and other-than-human, will see the salvation of God. God’s way involves putting on the “cloak of integrity” or the “robe of righteousness” and allowing God to provide an escort of mercy and right relationship. If we take seriously the call to live the gospel, we shall surely search for ways to heal the broken relationships within our ailing planet.

Second Sunday in Advent

First: Baruch 5:1-9

Second: Phil 1:4-6 **Gospel:** Lk 3:1-6

Third Sunday in Advent

First: Zeph 3:14-18

Second: Phil 4:4-7 **Gospel:** Lk 3: 10-18

