

21 August 2022

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

I am the way, the truth, and the life

St Alipius parish



▶ **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/ballarata-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Wednesday and Friday 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM and 6.00 PM

Sunday 9.00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

10.30 AM (2nd & 4th)

Ss Peter and Paul's

Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Sunday 9:00 AM (2nd & 4th)

10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 1 this week
Counting begins at 9:30 AM

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

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.

WE PRAY FOR

Anniversaries: Jim Dawson.

Unwell: Remy Bourke, Anne D'Cruz (Singapore), Margaret Forster, Waffa Ghali, Mary Hall, Heather Healy, Peter Martin, Betty McGarry, Peter McLachlan, Letitia Simmons, Margie Wilmott, and all the unwell.

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

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



St Alipius
Parish Community

Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Parish Coordinator

(TBA)

Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Cathy Prunty

Finance Officer

Kerrie McTigue

Finance Chair

TBA

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

Liturgy Coordinator

David Santamaria

Liturgy Online

www.sapliturgy.net.au

Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn

stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com



osjphil.org

VISITOR TO PARISH

Next weekend, 27–28 August, we welcome Fr. Jorge back after his retreat. On his return, Fr. Jorge will be accompanied by the Provincial Superior of the Oblates of St. Joseph – Philippine Province, Fr. Jayson Endaya OSJ. Fr. Jayson will be staying in our parish for several days and to welcome him we will have a morning tea after the 10.30 AM Mass at St. Alipius on 28 August. We hope that many parishioners will be able to attend to meet Fr. Jayson, who is keen to learn more about the area in which Frs. Jorge and Eladio live and work. If you can join us, we ask that you bring a plate. Thank you.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

This weekend we are pleased to welcome some of the children who are currently preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. They will be introduced to the community during masses over the next few weekends. We ask you to pray for these children as they journey to full initiation within the Catholic Church.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

Collection basket – **\$1,694**

Presbytery and Priest support

Envelopes, credit cards and direct debits – **\$1,012.20**

Parish – buildings, office, administration, grounds maintenance.

For any queries or concerns, or should you wish to join our Stewardship Program to support our Parish, please phone our Finance Officer Kerrie on 5331 2933 or email ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au

ROUND TABLE ECOLOGICAL THEOLOGY SESSIONS

Those who sent submissions to the recent Plenary Council asked, among other things, for sound adult theological education. For some years now, Fr. Barry Ryan and Sr. Veronica Lawson have offered regular adult theology classes. A new series begins on Wednesday, 7 September (afternoon group 1–3 PM and evening group 7–9 PM) at the Mercy Centre, 16 Gent Street, Ballarat East. If you are interested, kindly send your name, mobile number, and email address to Sr. Veronica veronica.lawson@mercy.org.au and she will provide you with further information on the sessions.

DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

Planning for the next issue of Our Diocesan Community is underway and contributions are welcomed. Stories from communities, schools, parishes, and agencies from all around the diocese on the 2022 themes of the Plenary Council and International Year of Glass are especially welcomed. The ODC team plans to have the issue out in the week beginning 10 October, so the latest date for submissions is Friday, 2 September. Articles should be approximately 250 words maximum in length and accompanied by photos where possible. Photos should be sent as separate JPEG files, and not inserted into a Word document. When sending in photos, permission should be sought from those in the pictures. From time to time, these photos will also be used in other diocesan publications. Material can be emailed to odc@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fr Jorge is on leave and retreat

9 August – 26 August

Welcome Fr Jayson morning tea at St Alipius

After 10.30 AM Mass, 28 August

RCIA

Are you someone or do you know someone who...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptised?
- Was baptised Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in small groups to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of church and prepare individuals to become Catholics. There are separate sessions for children or youth.

Participants are welcome to engage in the process with their questions, insights, and faith story in a warm accepting setting.

For information, please contact the parish office to make an appointment with Fr. Jorge De Chavez, OSJ. Email: ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5332 6611.

RCIC PROCESS

The parish will be holding an information session for those interested in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC), in the final week of this term. The date will be made available in the coming weeks, but people who have older children looking to complete the sacraments of initiation are asked to attend. This meeting will outline the process which will be run in a similar manner to that of the RCIA. Those who elect to be involved in this process will receive their sacraments next Easter. We would warmly welcome anyone interested to come along to the meeting, where we would hope to be able to answer any questions you may have.

BAPTISMS

Mylee Luisa Hoyne

Child of Christopher and Julia Hoyne

Duke Klokeid Gordon & Otis Klokeid Gordon

Children of Casey and Nora Gordon

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

Pope Francis

ONLINE STUDY

The Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program has partnered with Dayton University to offer a low-cost (US\$50) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes. Study cycles are over 3 or 5 weeks. The next cycle begins on 5 September. There are 37 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. More information is available on the diocesan website: www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/pastoral/pastoral-ministry/lay-pastoral-ministry-program/, email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au, or phone 5337 7121.

LUMINOUS: JOHN ORVAL

An exhibition of the work of John Orval, whose beautiful stained glass work can be seen in some of our region's churches, will be held in Hamilton from 20 August until 30 October. Alongside this free exhibition, there will be an immersive bus tour to see Orval's work in Hamilton, Coleraine, Nareen, and Tahara on 30 September. The latest edition of "Our Diocesan Community" features an article on Orval's stained-glass windows in our diocesan churches www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/odc/. For more information on the exhibition go to www.hamiltongallery.org/events/john-orval/

175TH ANNIVERSARY

Next weekend (27-28 August), celebrations will be held for the 175th anniversary of All Saints Parish Portland, which is the oldest parish in the Diocese of Ballarat. For more information regarding the weekend celebrations, please contact the Portland parish office by email portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone 5523 1046.

150TH ANNIVERSARY

St Augustine's Church, Creswick, will celebrate its 150th anniversary over the weekend of 17–18 September. For details, visit: <https://staugustines150.weebly.com/>

AFRICA FOOD CRISIS

Drought and conflict in the Horn of Africa have left over 18 million people facing severe hunger. Four consecutive failed rainy seasons have devastated the crops of millions across the region. We must act now and "Make Hunger History." Your generous donation means our partners in countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, and Eritrea can respond quickly to support vulnerable communities during this crisis. Visit www.caritas.org.au/food-crisis or call 1800 024 413 toll-free to donate now.

ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING

An online reflection event titled *Assertiveness – Trusting Your Own Inner Voice*, will be held from 7:00 – 9.30 PM, on Tuesday 30 August via Zoom. Participants will explore assertiveness – what it is and what it is not; why being assertive is adult behaviour that builds up everyone's strength and capacity to love; finding within us that voice of God that echoes who I am as good in the eyes of God; what is it that distorts this perspective and how that influences my judgement and behaviour; being assertive with God; being with an assertive God. Led by Chris Chaplin MSC (MSCX, Dip Transpersonal & Experiential Psychotherapy, BTheol, Cert Spir Dir (Siloam)). Cost \$35. Book and pay by 26 August via www.heartoflife.melbourne Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Malvern VIC, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or phone 9890 1101.

APOSTOLIC LETTER

The Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi* from Pope Francis to the Bishops, Priests and Deacons, to consecrated men and women, and to the lay faithful on the liturgical formation of the People of God, is available to download from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/apostolic-letter-desiderio-desideravi-of-the-holy-father-francis/

Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

21 Sunday Ordinary Time Year C: Luke 13:22–30

Some people seem to have an ingrained sense of entitlement. They put themselves first without regard to the sensitivities or rights of others. Whether their behaviour derives from childhood experiences of over-indulgence or from some other source, it can be quite divisive and even destructive of family or workplace or community. Those who put themselves first will often find themselves last in that they are tolerated rather than welcomed into most circles. They need to show the “good heart” that is hidden behind their façade of entitlement.

As Jesus moves from town to town on his way to Jerusalem, “someone” puts a question to him. The question is about salvation: “Are only the few saved?” Jesus treats this as a rhetorical question that presupposes an affirmative answer. His answer could be interpreted as affirmative, even if it is a far cry from the expected response. The questioner rightly assumes that God is the one who saves. Jesus responds with a reminder that God’s saving action cannot be taken for granted. One must “strive to enter the narrow door”. Serious commitment is involved in ensuring that God’s

saving power is there for God’s world.

While the question comes from one person, Jesus’ response is “to them”. The insistence of people in the crowd that they have eaten with him may suggest they are among those who have been following him from Galilee. They may even be those who objected to Jesus’ table companions, the tax collectors, and sinners (Luke 7:34). The text makes it clear that they have heard his teaching: “You taught in our streets”.

*The door is open to all who
hear the word of God*

Jesus’ reply indicates that the tables have turned. It would come as no surprise to a Jewish audience to hear Jesus stating that the kin-dom belongs to Israel’s ancestors and to all the prophets. Jesus’ assertion that it also belongs to those who come from far and wide, “from east and west and north and south”, might be less than palatable to those who see themselves as “first” in the schema of salvation.

Those who share in the banquet in God’s kin-dom, the “saved”, have



prevailed in the struggle to enter through the “narrow door”. Entry is by no means restricted to Israel’s forebears. It belongs to all who hear the word of God and put it into practice. The inclusion or “salvation” of outsiders will cause grief among “evil-doers”. These flawed individuals include those who have eaten with Jesus and who have heard his teaching without effect and who, consequently, have failed to commit themselves to the struggle to establish God’s reign of justice and peace and reconciliation. There is no privileged access to salvation on the basis of birth or race or any other contingency. While the “door” to salvation may be “narrow”, the Lukan Jesus has already declared that it is open to all who hear the word of God, to those who “hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance” (8:15).

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 66:18–21

HEBREWS 12:5–7, 11–13

LUKE 13:22–30

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SIRACH 3:17–20, 28–29

HEBREWS 12:19–19, 22–24

LUKE 14:1, 7–14