

11 September 2022

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Rejoice with me*

# 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  
9.00 AM – 1.00 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/)

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Monday and Friday 9:30 AM

Thurs (Valda Allan funeral) 10:00 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM and 6.00 PM

Sunday 9.00 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>)

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 4 this week

Counting begins at 9:30 AM

## WE PRAY FOR

**Recently deceased:** Valda Allan,  
Peter Bettes

**Anniversaries:** Janette Pearse.

**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 pay our respects to Elders past,  
present, and emerging.*

### Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

### Parish Coordinator

TBC

### 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](http://www.sapliturgy.net.au)

### Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn

[stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com](mailto:stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com)



**SEASON OF  
CREATION**

## 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.



## SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We are committed to the care, well-being and protection of children, young adults, and people at risk, and recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place where people feel safe and supported. We pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/safeguardingsunday)



## RCIC INFORMATION SESSION

Next Thursday, September 15th, we will be holding an information session for those who are interested in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC). The meeting will take place at 5.00 PM in St. Alipius Church. At this meeting, we will discuss the RCIC program and its structure, as well as looking at significant dates that will along the journey. Anyone who would like to learn more about this program for school-age children is most welcome to attend. Please direct questions to the parish office.

## SACRED HEART REUNION

A reunion of Sacred Heart College Class of 1965 plus any other students will be held on Sunday 9 October. The reunion will commence at 10:00 AM with a campus tour of Damascus College, followed by lunch 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM at the Golden City Hotel. \$45 per person. To attend, please contact Lois Knight via email [loisknights345@hotmail.com](mailto:loisknights345@hotmail.com).

## CASSEROLE EVENING

A social evening is planned for 30 September at 6:00 PM at Sts Peter and Paul church hall in Buninyong. \$15 per person, with profits going to St Vincent de Paul Society. Please bring food to share. Drinks provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS
<b>RCIC Process Information Session</b> 15 September, 5:00 PM, St Alipius
<b>Parish Pastoral Council Meeting</b> 15 September, 6:30 PM, Presbytery
<b>Casserole Evening</b> 30 September, 6:00 PM, Buninyong church hall.

## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Collection basket – **\$1,301**

*Presbytery and Priest support*

Envelopes, credit cards and direct debits – **\$343.20**

*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](mailto:ballaratoffice@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

## SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation begins on 1 September with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and ends on 4 October with the feast of St Francis. The theme and invitation this year is "Listen to the voice of creation." It is a special time for all Christians to pray and work together to care for our common home. If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a sweet song in praise of our Creator God; along with an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this, our common home. Our Earth weeps and implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction. Our children plead with us to do everything possible to prevent, or at least limit, the collapse of our planet's ecosystems and to preserve the ancestral lands of our first nations peoples. During this Season of Creation, let us pray that the human family can work effectively in confronting the double crises of climate change and the reduction of biodiversity. May we respond in prayer and action so that we and future generations can continue to rejoice in God's creation.

## CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS

We congratulate the 100 or so children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last week. They have been preparing for this Sacrament for several weeks and presented themselves beautifully at the liturgies. Thanks to the teachers from our parish schools for preparing these children and the prayerful liturgies. Thanks also to Frs. Eladio, Eugene, Ed, Jim, and Abraham for giving up their time to join us. Big thanks to Fr. Jorge who visited all the children in schools, prior to this week. We look forward now to joining these children as they receive their First Eucharist in October. Please keep them in your prayers.



## PAKISTAN FLOOD APPEAL

Devastating floods have left a trail of destruction across Pakistan, claiming more than 1,100 lives with more at risk. Around 33 million Pakistanis have been affected, with more than one-third of the country completely submerged by the heaviest recorded monsoon rains in a decade. Caritas Australia's partners are responding to support flood-affected communities who need immediate assistance. Your generous support can help provide emergency aid to help families recover and rebuild from the disaster. Please donate to the appeal here:

[www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pakistan-floods](http://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/pakistan-floods)

## LAKE BOLAC CELEBRATION

The St Bernard's community at Lake Bolac is celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of their old and new churches on Sunday 25 September. Bishop Paul Bird will say mass at 11:00 AM, followed by lunch at 12:30 PM at the Lake Bolac Memorial Hall. RSVP Jane Higgins via email at [mjhiggins58@bigpond.com](mailto:mjhiggins58@bigpond.com) or phone Leanne Breen – 0400 301 100.

## SING ASSEMBLY

An event to explore the role of the assembly in enriching the mass will be held on Saturday 8 October from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall. Speakers include Paul Taylor, Fr Kevin Lenehan, and Sophy Morley. Further information and booking details to come.

## CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

Thank you to parishioners who generously donated \$953 last weekend to support sick and retired priests. You are still able to contribute using the envelopes marked "Ballarat Clergy Support Fund".

## SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Please pray with the World Network of Prayers of the Pope and UISG to support the synodal journey.



Visit the website [www.prayforthesynod.va/en/](http://www.prayforthesynod.va/en/) for more information and to post your prayer on the website.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Save the date for the Ballarat Diocesan launch of the Social Justice Statement 2022–23 on Saturday 1 October from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. This free event is a unique opportunity to learn about this year's statement, which is titled "Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse." There will be a speaker from the Victorian Police and one from Centacare. Details to be provided soon.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Parish of St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat is seeking a part-time (0.6) Parish Coordinator/Secretary to ensure the efficient operation of the Parish Office. Hours are Tuesday – Friday from 10.00 AM – 4.00 PM. For a suitable candidate, the role and hours of work may be expanded to include the coordination of the Parish Sacramental Program. Additional information is available from the Cathedral Parish webpage

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

Or contact the Parish Office on 5331 2933. Applications close on Friday 16 September at 5.00 PM.

# Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

24 Sunday Ordinary Time Year C: Luke 15:1–32

Diverse creatures of the earth as well as earth elements feature in the gospel for this week of the Season of Creation. While all three parables in today's gospel reading invite us into the experience of loss, loss of a valued creature, of a woman's means of survival, of an adult child's respect and presence, they likewise invite us into an encounter with God who seeks and "saves" the lost, be they human or other-than-human, and who rejoices big time when the lost are found.

These Lukan parables are prefaced by an account of the criticism Jesus endured for hosting "the lost" of the human community, namely the toll collectors and those who were categorised as "sinners". The critics in the story are those who consider themselves "righteous". They have no room in their hearts for compassion or forgiveness and no capacity to accept the goodness of a prophet who acts in ways that cut across their expectations.

"What person (*anthropos*) among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he/she found

it?' asks Jesus of his critics. The lost sheep is found and ultimately embraced by the community. The ensuing celebration is likened to the celestial banquet where there is more joy over one who repents than over those who have no need of repentance.

Repent/repentance on the part of the sheep may seem a strange choice of words since the lost sheep simply responds to the initiative of the shepherd who goes after it and returns it to the fold. Jesus may be suggesting that we need others to shepherd us in turning our lives around.

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*There is joy when the lost are found*

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In Jesus' second question to his critics, "Or what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one... search thoroughly till she found it?", the pattern is repeated. The drachma, enough cash for one day, is lost, sought, found and the community rejoices. Occasionally in the biblical tradition, as here, God is imaged as a woman. God is the diligent female householder who seeks and saves what is lost. The third story features a parent



who is willing to overlook the delinquency of a wayward child when that child is impelled by hunger to return home. In every case, there is joy when the lost one, whether human or animal or mineral, is found. That's how it is with God. If our faith does not bring joy to the lost, to the poor, to the marginalised, to asylum seekers, to endangered species, then it is not of God. Our faith is in God who saves and brings joy to the whole Earth community. No single image can contain the compassionate, loving God of these parables. The invitation to the believing community is to find ways of opening our hearts, and the hearts of the unforgiving in our world, to God's action of seeking and saving the lost – here and now, not simply in the afterlife.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

### TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXODUS 32:7–11, 13–14

TIMOTHY 1:12–17

LUKE 15:1–32

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

### TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AMOS 8:4–7

1 TIMOTHY 2:1–8

LUKE 16:1–13