



▶ **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

30 April 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter
The Lord is my shepherd

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parish/ballarata-east/

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Mon to Fri 9.30 AM
Saturday 9.30 AM, 6.00 PM
Sunday 9.00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)
10.30 AM (2nd & 4th)

Ss Peter and Paul's

Sunday 9:00 AM (2nd & 4th)
10:30 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th)
Rosary – Thursday 11:00 AM

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 1 this week – 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

Faithfully departed: Mary Hall

Anniversaries: Helen Ronan

Unwell: Peter McLachlan, Sarah
McLachlan

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

*We acknowledge this land's
traditional owners and custodians
and pay our respects to Elders
past, present, and emerging.*



Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

Sacramental and Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

Parish Pastoral Council Chair

David Morrison

Finance Officer

TBA

Finance Chair

Paul O'Beirne

Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

Liturgy Coordinator

Fr Jorge

www.sapliturgy.net.au

Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn

stalipiusfuneral@gmail.com

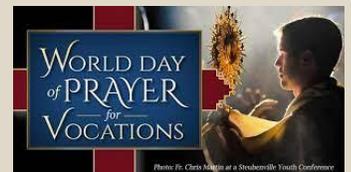


Photo: Fr. Chris Muller at a Strathberrily Youth Conference

WELCOME BACK FR JORGE

This week we welcome Fr Jorge back to the parish after his visit to his family in the Philippines. Our thanks go to Fr Barry for celebrating masses with us last weekend.

LITURGY ROSTER

Thanks to everyone who volunteered for the May - July roster, which has been distributed via email. Copies are also available from the sacristy. Anyone who'd like to participate 2-3 times across a 3-month period for any of the ministries, please contact the parish office or complete a '[New Members](#)' form on sapliturgy.net.au.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Finance Committee Meeting
5:30 PM, 2 May, Presbytery

Catholic Women's League Cathedral Branch
1:30 PM, 3 May, Mary Glowrey Room, St Patrick's

Caring Group
2:00 PM, 5 May, St Alipius Hall

PLANNED GIVING RENEWAL

We are seeking volunteers to join a planned giving program committee. Our goal is to renew and revitalise our parish's planned giving efforts and ensure the long-term sustainability of our community.

If you are interested in joining the planned giving program committee, please contact the parish office and leave your details. You will then be invited to an information session to discuss the role further before committing. We look forward to hearing from you!

FAITH RUNS DEEP EVENT

The Unearthed event is organised by the team from Olive Tree Media who are collaborating with numerous churches from the Ballarat region to host a free event that will help uncover stories of faith in the Australian context. Media presenter Karl Faase and country music star Colin Buchanan will appear at this event. There will be an interview with artist Bindi Cole Chocka who is featured in the series, sharing part of her journey of life and faith. The Unearthed event is on Thursday, 4 May at 7.00 PM at the Ballarat Civic Hall. For more information and to book your free ticket go to Olive Tree Media website www.olivetreemedia.com.au/unearthedballarat/ or email churches@olivetreemedia.com.au

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

CARING GROUP

The Caring Group will meet at 2:00 PM on Friday in the parish hall. All welcome. Please bring a plate to share.

VINNIES BREAD RUN

Vinnies volunteers provide bread to those in need each Monday between 7.30 and 8.00 PM. If this would benefit you or someone you know please visit the hall during this time. Please bring a bag to put the bread in.

HOLY COMMUNION ADVICE

Bishop Paul has issued the following information:

Now that the COVID pandemic is less in the news, some people have proposed reintroducing receiving the host on the tongue and sharing the chalice.

Over the past few weeks, I have consulted various people including the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, the Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Grampians Health Service, and the Head of the Infectious Diseases Department at the Alfred Hospital. These consultations have highlighted the fact that COVID infections are still a serious concern and that we can reduce the risk of infections by continuing the present provisions regarding Holy Communion.

I have concluded that it is not yet time to reintroduce the sharing of the chalice. While the reception of Holy Communion under both species of bread and wine is a fuller sign of our sharing in the banquet of Christ, we can find reassurance in the teaching of the Council of Trent that the whole Christ, body and blood, soul, and divinity, is contained under each species. So, even when we simply receive the host, we are receiving the whole Christ.

Regarding the way of receiving the host, recognising the continuing risks of the pandemic, and out of consideration for the health of all parishioners, I recommend reverent reception of the host in the hand rather than reception on the tongue.

May our Communion draw us ever closer to Christ and strengthen our love and care for one another.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul Bird

MASS COUNTS IN MAY

The annual Diocesan mass count will take place over four weekends in May.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer is observed on Sunday, 30 April 30 and is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The purpose is to publicly fulfil the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). We remember young women and men throughout our country and diocese and pray they may be open to hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to marriage, the single life, the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

The first edition of Our Diocesan Community for 2023 is available in the church foyers. Please share copies with those who would be interested in knowing about things that are happening across the diocese.

CENSUS DATA

A new National Centre for Pastoral Research report provides a comprehensive snapshot of the millions of people who identified as Catholic in the 2021 Australia Census. Read more at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog

<https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/new-report-reveals-makeup-of-australian-catholic-population/#more-9486>

BAPTISMS

Jet Edward, Myah Louise & Aurorah Jean Rivett
Children of Anthony Rivett and Brooke Slater

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

PRAYING WITH THE POPE

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – www.thepopevideo.org.

The Pope's intention for April - For a culture of peace and non-violence: We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by states and citizens.

VISITING PRIEST

Father Robert McCulloch will be in Ballarat on Monday 8 May and will offer mass at the Cathedral at midday. Fr McCulloch will give a presentation in the Mary Glowrey room immediately after mass and will provide an update on current events in Pakistan and beyond. A light lunch will be provided. Donation envelopes will be available. Entry – by donation. For enquiries call 0401 175 045.

ACU ONLINE PUBLIC LECTURE

The Rev Canon Dr Lizette Larson-Miller will speak via Zoom on the topic: "I am what I ritualise: identity, theology, and liturgy in a secular context" on Monday 8 May, 10.00 AM – 11.30 AM. Dr Larson-Miller is an expert liturgical scholar and is currently the Huron Lawson Professor of Liturgy at Huron University College at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada. She is also the Canon Precentor of the Anglican Diocese of Huron, and past president of *Societas Liturgica* and the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation. Her interests span liturgical history (especially late antiquity and early medieval liturgical developments), rites and rituals with the sick, the dying, and the dead, and contemporary sacramental theology and sacramentality. She holds two degrees in music, an MA in liturgical studies from St John's University (Collegeville), and a PhD in liturgical studies from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. Her most recent book was, "Sacramentality Renewed: Contemporary Conversations in Sacramental Theology" Liturgical Press, 2016. Registrations close on 5 May at www.acu.edu.au/publiclectureCfL.

ACRATH ONLINE GATHERING

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans(ACRATH) invites you to join their national online gathering "Hearts Stirred to Action - The Call of the Human Face of Trafficking" on Wednesday, 3 May Details at <https://acrath.org.au/hearts-stirred-to-action/will>

BENDIGO REUNION

Past students at St Vincent's College Bendigo and their partners are invited to attend our 65th Anniversary and Sports Hall of Fame Dinner on Saturday, 20 May, followed by Mass and BBQ at Catherine McAuley College on Sunday, 21 May. Contact Tim Coates at 0407 403 574 or timothycoates@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE

The Catholic Women's League Ballarat Diocese Committee reflection day will be held at St Mary's Warracknabeal on 24 May starting with 10:30 AM mass, followed by lunch and a guest speaker.

Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

Fourth Sunday of Easter: Luke 24:13–35

Sheep were domesticated in Palestine some eight thousand years ago. In biblical times, shepherds would lead their sheep out to graze by day and bring them by night to a communal enclosure or sheepfold, the entrance to which was guarded by a gatekeeper. Shepherds knew their sheep and their sheep knew them. Thieves would have to scale the wall of the enclosure and watch for the chance to get away with a few of the sheep. The loss of even a few sheep was a deeply personal loss for the shepherd and the shepherd's family. Furthermore, the personal relationship between sheep and shepherd made theft a traumatising experience for the sheep. Little wonder that the biblical tradition is replete with ovine images.

In John 10, Jesus directs a parabolic image of sheep and shepherds and thieves to the religious authorities of the previous chapter. They fail to understand, mainly because they are hostile and choose not to understand. While they claim to shepherd God's people, they do not even know them and have no capacity to lead them. Jesus is, by contrast, both shepherd and gate for the sheep:

such are his identity claims. The former claim becomes explicit later in the chapter when he states, "I am the good shepherd." It follows his twice repeated claim, "I am the gate". The "I am" in these claims echoes God's self-revelation to Moses in the burning bush. Jesus contrasts the access he provides as "the gate" with the unauthorised access gained by others "who have come before" him, namely the religious authorities. They gain access to the sheepfold on false pretences and lead God's flock into pastures that fail to satisfy.

I am the good shepherd

In Psalm 23, God is the shepherd of Israel who leads the people into nourishing pastures and restores life to the depths of their *nephesh* or being. *Nephesh* is the Hebrew word used in Genesis 2 for the life that God breathes into all beings. God leads the people in the way of justice or righteousness. Psalm 118 sings of God's gate through which the just or righteous will enter and give thanks. As the gate to the little sheepfold, Jesus is the way into safety and the way out to life-restoring pastures. In other



words, he is the gate to abundant life. As shepherd, he monitors the movement of the sheep so that they are not tempted to stray along the paths of unrighteousness and destruction.

Finally, Jesus makes a claim about his mission: "I have come that they (the sheep) may have life and have it abundantly". This has a particular resonance at a time when so many lives are threatened by climate change and when life has changed dramatically for the whole Earth community. Abundant life for all is our deepest desire and we must search to discover what that means in uncharted territory. As usual, the gospel text is multi-layered. The images pulsate with life and energy. They invite vigilance on the one hand and hope on the other. They offer yet another way of celebrating Easter.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 2:14,36–41
1 PETER 2:20–25
JOHN 10:1–10

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 6:1–7
1 PETER 2:4–9
JOHN 14:1–12