



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

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

6 August 2023

Transfiguration of the Lord

*This is my beloved Son*

# St Alipius parish

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Wed and Fri 9.30 AM in the Parish Hall  
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 (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 1 this week – 9:30 AM

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

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

## WE PRAY FOR

**Faithfully departed:** Brother John Coswello, Dianne Molloy

### Anniversaries:

**Unwell:** Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Colin McKenzie, Patricia Murry, Maureen Santamaria, Carole Simmons, Shelley Pawang

## PARISH VISION

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.

## PARISH MISSION

Our mission in the Parish of St. Alipius is to actively engage and serve our combined communities, embodying the teachings of the Gospel. Strengthened in the spirit of faith, hope, love acceptance and Mercy, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive environment. Guided by God's call to service, we aim to build strong connections, provide spiritual nourishment, promote social justice, and offer support to individuals and families in their journey of faith. Through our dedicated interactions, we seek to deepen our relationships with God, inspire transformation, and make a positive impact in the lives of those we encounter, spreading God's love and compassion to all.

### Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

### Visiting Priest

Fr Barry Ryan

### Sacramental and Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

### Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

### Parish Pastoral Council Chair

David Morrison

### Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

### Finance Chair

Paul O'Beirne

### Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

### Liturgy Coordinator

Jason Fletcher

### Funeral Ministry

Carmel Flynn

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



## LITURGY ROSTER

Copies of the liturgy roster for St Alipius are available in the church foyer. The new roster runs for two months, rather than three. If you're unable to attend a mass that you're rostered on for, please swap with someone else or contact the Parish Office. If you would like to be emailed a copy of the roster, please let the Parish Office know what email address to send it to.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking to expand our list of liturgy ministry volunteers, especially for Sunday mass, which has a much smaller number of volunteers than the Saturday vigil mass. The Sunday roster has many of the same people volunteering for multiple tasks. Saturday has eleven people who have volunteered to bring up the gifts during the offertory, but we have only three on the Sunday roster. There are 14 readers for Saturday, compared to 9 for Sunday. We only have four people who have offered to be rostered on as a welcomer at the vigil mass, and none for Sunday, so more people willing to help with that would be greatly appreciated. Please let the Parish Office know if you'd like to join the liturgy roster. Training can be provided if you're unsure about what a role entails. It is a wonderful way to connect with the mass and our Parish community.

## PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

Planned giving receipts are located at the back of the church. Please remember to collect yours at mass.

## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$913
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$373.20

Planned giving envelopes for the new financial year are available for collection at the back of the churches. Thanks to all who participate in the stewardship program for your contributions. We invite anybody who would like to join the program to please contact the parish office.

## VINNIES BREAD RUN

Each Monday night between 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM, Vinnies volunteers can be found in the St. Alipius Church Hall providing bread for those in need. If this would benefit you, or someone you know please call into the hall and bring a bag to put the bread in.

## VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

The St Vincent de Paul Society's annual Winter Appeal focuses on older women experiencing and at risk of homelessness. Appeal envelopes are at the ends of the pews. To support the work of our local SVdP conference place your donation envelope on the collection plate. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and can be made at [www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal](http://www.vinnies.org.au/nswwinterwarmthappeal), at Vinnies shops, or by calling 13 18 12.

## TOILETRIES COLLECTION

Our local Vinnies are collecting toiletries for people in need. Please donate soap, toothpaste, or other toiletries, in the box on the Vinnies' stall. Anything you can give will be provided to someone who will greatly appreciate it.

## BUNINYONG CEMETERY

Since 1852 unpaid volunteers have managed, operated, and maintained Buninyong's historic cemetery. There is an urgent need for additional volunteers to help on Mondays from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM with grounds maintenance, including ride-on mowing, whipper-snipping, trees/plants, minor earthworks, and other tasks. Call 0415 929 571 for more information.

## PIETY STALL

The piety stall has a range of very affordable cards and gifts for sale including some runout items on tables near the piety stall that are either free or \$2 each.

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"Live Your Best Married Life in Love" – every relationship is a journey, and the grind of everyday life can easily cause you to lose touch with your spouse. The Marriage Encounter weekend in Melbourne on 3 – 5 November, gives married couples time to nurture their relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from the pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome. For more information visit [wwme.org.au](http://wwme.org.au). To book, phone Mercy & James on 0409 183 676 or email [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au)

## WORLD YOUTH DAY 1 – 6 AUG

More than 3000 Australian pilgrims will attend World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. We pray for the people from the Diocese of Ballarat who are attending, including Grace Wilkinson and Robin Vaihu (St Alipius Parish), Grace Doherty, Anna Whiting, and Gerry Vytilingam (Swan Hill), John-Paul Walker (Linton & Sebastopol Parishes), and Laura Bruty (Linton Parish & Australian Catholic University Ballarat Campus).

## WORLD YOUTH DAY PRAYER

God, merciful Father, in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman. We entrust to you in a special way young people of every language, people, and nation: guide and protect them as they walk the complex paths of the world today and give them the grace to reap abundant fruits from their experience of the Lisbon World Youth Day. Amen.

### BAPTISMS

Lilly Mann

Children of Sean Mann and Sharna Hodges

*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](http://www.thepopevideo.org).

The Pope's intention for August – **for World Youth Day:** We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives. Lord, hear us.

## MCAULEY HOUSE

McAuley House is celebrating 15 years since the establishment of McAuley Community Services for Women, following the merger of Mercy Care and Regina Coeli. Over that time, McAuley House has supported more than 13,000 women and children. The demand for services remains high. McAuley House will continue advocating for real change that will allow more women and children to remain safely in their homes after violence and avoid homelessness and further disadvantage. A donation to McAuley House supports women and children to be safe and continue this important work <https://www.mcauley.org.au/ways-to-give/donate/>

## SACRED HEART REUNION

A reunion of the Sacred Heart College Ballarat East class of 1965, plus anyone who attended SHC, will be held on Sunday, 15 October at GC's Ballarat from 11.00 AM – 3.00 PM. To attend email ph. 0419 902 538 or email [loisknights345@hotmail.com](mailto:loisknights345@hotmail.com).

## SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Social Justice Sunday is 27 August. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Social Justice Statement, "Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples" will be launched on Thursday, August 17 via a live stream on Facebook [socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2023/07/20/listen-learn-love/](https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2023/07/20/listen-learn-love/)

## CATHOLIC CARE APPEAL

The CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal is held in August each year in partnership with parishes and is their major annual fundraiser. CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people, and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. Services include counselling and mental health support, support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care in hospitals and prisons, support for separating families, social housing, and homelessness support. Your generous donation will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. You can donate online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03) 9287 5513.

## WOMEN DEACONS WEBINAR

ACU Centre for Liturgy is presenting an online public lecture titled, "Women Deacons and the Synod: What Happens Now?" on Monday, 7 August from 10.00 AM – 11.30 AM presented by Dr Phyllis Zagano, Hofstra University, New York. Registrations close on 4 August at [www.acu.edu.au/publiclectureCfL](http://www.acu.edu.au/publiclectureCfL). The Zoom link to join will be sent following registration. More information is available from [www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/news-events-and-resources](http://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/news-events-and-resources)

## LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Good Samaritan Study and Mentoring (SAM) Leadership Program offers both financial and personal support to mature-aged Catholic women as they undertake undergraduate or postgraduate theological/spiritual study at a recognised theological Institution. Applications close on 6 September. Visit [www.goodsams.org.au/article/applications-invited-for-womens-study-and-mentoring-program-2/](http://www.goodsams.org.au/article/applications-invited-for-womens-study-and-mentoring-program-2/) for information.

# Reflection on the Gospel

Veronica Lawson RSM

*Feast of the Transfiguration: Matthew 17:1–9*

The Feast of the Transfiguration takes precedence over the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time and features its own particular readings. Today we are invited to reflect on a transformative moment in the life of Jesus as experienced by his closest followers. It is important to note that Matthew's account of the "transfiguration" is loosely framed by reminders that Jesus is to suffer and eventually to meet a violent death (16:21 and 17:23). It would seem that Jesus' three companions, Peter, James and John, get a glimpse of God's glory shining on his face and penetrating even his clothing, a hint that God's grace is more life-giving than the forces of violence and opposition to God's reign. Peter, James, and John see Moses and Elijah, the key prophetic figures of Israel, speaking with Jesus, God's new and definitive prophet.

The "transfiguration" seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he comes to terms with the fate he is likely to meet: if he continues to confront the forces of oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. He struggles with that realisation in the wilderness at the outset of his ministry. He comes to peace with what it involves on the

mountaintop. Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory, to "make tents" for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to the mission. But that is not the way of discipleship. Rather, he and his companions are called to "listen" to Jesus, the beloved of God.

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*We might take time this Sunday to consider the challenges facing us as contemporary disciples.*

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Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of final victory. We also need the good sense to listen and to follow through on the path that brings life to all of earth's inhabitants, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we experience from the most unexpected quarters. If we are to sustain the struggle for a healthy, safe, and peace-filled world, we have to resist the temptation to hold on to the experience of glory and come to terms with the personal cost of going all the way to Jerusalem, to the place of victory.



We might take time this Sunday to consider the challenges facing us as contemporary disciples. According to the 2023 International Food Policy Research Institute (IFRI) Report, 768 million people in our world are undernourished and of the 200 million plus who face acute food insecurity, most live in protracted crisis situations. In "situations marked by prolonged civil strife and conflict, repeated weather shocks, and economic decline, or some combination thereof." Meanwhile, the gap between rich and poor in our world is widening and the planet is experiencing life-threatening weather events. Only when we willingly accept the pain of relinquishing our hold on an unfair share of the world's resources will we understand the meaning of this feast.

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

### THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

DANIEL 7:9–10, 13–14

2 PETER 1:16–19

MATTHEW 17:1–9

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

### 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 KINGS 19:9, 11–13

ROMANS 9:1–5

MATTHEW 14:22–33