



▶ **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

13 August 2023

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Truly, you are the Son of God

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

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

Mass and prayer resources

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

Counting team 2 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:

Anniversaries: Con Clifford, Tom Clifford, Bill Maguire, Tess Maguire, Lawrence McCartin, Geoffrey McCartin

Unwell: Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahan, 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



PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended our trivia night last Friday. Big thanks to Natalie Shannon who worked hard to prepare and host this night, which saw about 80 people have lots of fun. Thanks also to those who supplied prizes for the evening, your generosity is greatly appreciated. We raised \$1,075.



SOCIAL GATHERING

The PPC are organising a get together for anyone who would like a night out. This night will be held on Wednesday 13th September at Golden Point Hotel at 6pm. Come along, order yourself a meal and a drink and enjoy some good conversation as Spring begins. Names will need to be to the office by no later than Friday 1st of September to allow for booking. Anyone who would like to attend, but needs transport, please don't hesitate to contact the parish office as we will organise the transport for you. Looking forward to another great gathering.

PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

If you would like to receive a statement for your contributions to the Stewardship Program over the past financial year, please contact the office.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish dinner at Golden Point Hotel
6:00 PM, Wednesday 13 September, 639 Main Road

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.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$994
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$368

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 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, at Vinnies shops, or by calling 13 18 12.

BAPTISMS

Lacey Jayne Romania
Child of Matthew and Karina Romania

Ava Jean and Ethan John Segrott
Children of Andrew Segrott and Rachael Houtsma

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

Pope Francis

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.

OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

The second edition of ODC 2023 is now available. Please take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

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 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.

FR FRANK SMITH FUNERAL

The Funeral Mass for Fr Frank Smith CSsR will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, 480A Gillies Street, Wendouree at 10.30 am on Friday, 25 August.

FREEDOM WALK

Neil Para is walking 1000 km from Ballarat to Sydney, to ask Prime Minister Albanese for fairness for refugees who've lived here in Australia for more than a decade. Neil is a refugee who fled war and persecution in Sri Lanka and has lived in Ballarat since 2013. The government's recent announcement has given permanence to 19,000 people – but what about the rest? For more details and to sign the petition, scan QR code.



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/

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.

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. To book, phone Mercy & James on 0409 183 676 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.au

ST PATRICK'S ENROLMENTS

Applications for enrolments at St Patrick's College, Ballarat, in Year 7, 2025 are now open at www.stpats.vic.edu.au/prospective-families/apply-now. An information session will be held at 5:00 PM on Wednesday 30 August in the OCA Pavilion. Register at www.stpats.vic.edu.au.

Battered by the waves

Veronica Lawson RSM

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 14:22–33

Right now, our planet is battered by waves of life-threatening weather events and our church knows all too well what it means to be “battered by the waves”. Over the two millennia history of the church, there have been periods of discrimination and persecution against its members. Countless church members have died for their faith, while others have been and are being denied the freedom to practice their religion. There have also been times when the church has fallen far short of its own ideals and has quite seriously betrayed the gospel values it seeks to embody and proclaim. It is presently “battered” by huge even terrifying waves, largely of its own creating. Only God can bring order out of the chaos, and God works through the courageous witness and action of faith-filled disciples.

In today’s gospel, Matthew tells of Jesus astride the waves like the God of Israel in Job 9:8. In Israel’s mythology, the sea represents chaos. To walk on water is to have power and authority to bring order out of the chaos. Matthew presents Jesus as exercising the power of God over the potentially destructive chaos. Jesus makes his claim to divine power explicit in words that

echo God’s words from the burning bush: “It is I” (literally “I am”). He tells the frightened disciples to take heart and not to be afraid. Peter, leader of the group, continues to doubt. He asks for a sign and is then prepared to take a risk in order to come to Jesus on the water. He begins to falter when he takes his eyes off Jesus and focuses instead on the threatening wind. Jesus reaches out his hand to rescue Peter. In a lovely gesture, Jesus takes him by the hand and holds him firmly in his grip. Jesus names Peter’s hesitation as a response of limited faith.

Jesus takes him by the hand and holds him firmly.

Matthew weaves the story of Peter into an earlier story from Mark’s gospel. We can only speculate on the reasons for this. Were Matthew’s communities going through hard times? Were they battered by the waves of conflicting loyalties as they found themselves excluded from Pharisaic Judaism? Was the pressure of separation from the synagogue too great for some, even for those in



leadership? This is a telling story for anyone who exercises leadership at any level in the church. It is a reminder to us to keep our eyes firmly fixed on the source of hope in times of struggle and uncertainty and on the crucial issues that face our planetary home.

Finally, this story invites us to consider the threatening waves created by flood and fire and food insecurity. The human community which is largely responsible for the climate crisis must join hands to save what can be saved. The growing commitment to renewable energy provides a contemporary image of a saving hand reaching out to Earth communities that are in danger of being submerged by flood, overwhelmed by hunger or destroyed by scorching heat.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 KINGS 19:9, 11–13
ROMANS 9:1–5
MATTHEW 14:22–33

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 56:1, 6–7
ROMANS 11:13–15, 29–32
MATTHEW 15:21–28