



▶ **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/)

24 September 2023

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Open our hearts, O Lord*

# St Alipius parish

## MASS TIMES

### St Alipius

Wed – Fri 9.30 AM in the Parish Hall

Saturday 9.30 AM, 6.00 PM

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

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 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:** Daniel Joseph Cosgriff, Brian Lewis (Elaine)

**Anniversaries:** Bev Dawson

**Unwell:** Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Patricia Murry, Carole Simmons, Shelley Pawang

## PARISH TEAM

### Parish Priest

Fr Jorge Jr De Chavez, OSJ

### Visiting Priest

Fr Barry Ryan

### Sacramental and Parish Coordinator

Cathy Prunty

### Administrative Assistant

Natalie Shannon

### Finance Officer

Bernadette Prestwood

### Child Safety Officer

Emily Clarke

## 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.



## FR. JORGE NEWS

Fr. Jorge is sad to announce that his time at St. Alipius Parish is coming to an end. As a member of the Oblates of St. Joseph, Fr. Jorge has been approached by his superior with the news that he is required to move to WA to take up the role of Parish Priest in a community there. Members of the Oblate community are generally contracted to a parish for a period of 4 years and Fr. Jorge's four years will come to an end at the end of 2023.

## MIGRANT SUNDAY – 24 SEPT

The theme of Pope Francis' Message for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is, "Freedom to choose whether to migrate or stay." Let us pray: God, Father Almighty, grant us the grace to work tirelessly for justice, solidarity, and peace, so that all your children may enjoy the freedom to choose whether to migrate or to stay. Grant us the courage to denounce all the horrors of our world, and to combat every injustice that mars the beauty of your children and the harmony of our common home. Sustain us by the power of your Spirit, so that we can reflect your tender love to every migrant whom you place in our path, and to spread in hearts and in every situation the culture of encounter and of care.



## CONGRATULATIONS

*Did you know that our very own Natalie Shannon has become engaged? A big congratulations to Nat and her fiancé Russell on their engagement. We wish you both well for a very happy future.*

## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Supporting our parish priests	\$1007
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$563.20

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.

## LITURGY ROSTER

The St Alipius liturgy roster for October and November will be published in the coming week. Please let the Office know if you'd like to be emailed a copy of the new roster.

## 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.

## 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.

## SVDP NATIONAL CONGRESS

In late October, the St Vincent de Paul Society will hold a three-day National Congress in Sydney. As part of the preparations for this event, all conferences have been asked to share their stories and mission with their local community. Please check out the Ballarat East Conference display – "The Hands Behind the Help" in the St Alipius foyer.



## LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary will host a 'Day of Reflection' on Wednesday, 27 September to commemorate their 1001st Legion of Mary Meeting. Fr. John Corrigan will be the keynote speaker for the day. All members of the Legion of Mary Family, active, auxiliary, and past members, including parishioners from all Parishes of Ballarat, are cordially invited to join in celebrating this milestone that the Legion of Mary, Our Lady of Nazareth Praesidium, Ballarat, has achieved. The day will start at 9.00 am and conclude at 3.15 pm. It will be held in the Mary Glowrey Room at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

## MERCY CHAPTER GATHERING

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea Chapter would be grateful for your prayer, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, during the coming weeks as they gather for their Chapter – a time of evaluating the past and planning for the future. Venerable Catherine McAuley, pray for us.

## SEASON OF CREATION

Every year from 1 September to 4 October, Catholic Earthcare Australia (Caritas and the Australian Bishops Conference) joins with Christian communities globally to celebrate the Season of Creation, to celebrate the gift of our common home. The theme for 2023 is “Let Justice and Peace Flow”, drawing on the river imagery of in Amos 5:24. It challenges us to act for ecological justice, creating change and speaking out with communities most impacted by rising sea levels, biodiversity loss and other consequences of climate change. Resources for the Season of Creation are available from the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2023/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/catholic-earthcare-ballarat-diocese/season-of-creation-2023/)

### BAPTISMS

**Piper Rose Thacker**  
child of David and Rochelle Thacker

**Imogen Rose Ruxton**  
child of Luke and Madelyn Ruxton

**Ollie James & Lenny George Cvirn,**  
children of Brenton Cvirn and Shae Ruxton

*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).

Pope’s intention for September – **For people living on the margins:** We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions. May they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance. Lord, hear us.

## AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Aid to the Church in Need is running an emergency campaign for Pakistan where recently up to 24 churches, hundreds of Christian homes and a Christian cemetery were targeted in an attack which was sparked by reports of blasphemy allegations against two Christians accused of desecrating the Qur’an. ACN is working with project partners on the ground to aid the current needs of the Christian people. To learn more and to make an offering, scan or click on the QR code.



## SYNOD OF BISHOPS PRAYER

The Vatican is asking all baptised people, regardless of whether they will be in Rome, to participate in October’s assembly of the Synod of Bishops with their prayers. More information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/>

## DIOCESAN ENEWS



The latest edition of e-News has been published. Scan or click the QR code to access. Subscribe to receive future e-News editions straight to your email via: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/news-events/e-news/)

## MIGRANT & REFUGEE PRAYER

God, Father Almighty, grant us the grace to work tirelessly for justice, solidarity, and peace, so that all your children may enjoy the freedom to choose whether to migrate or to stay. Grant us the courage to denounce all the horrors of our world, and to combat every injustice that mars the beauty of your children and the harmony of our common home. Sustain us by the power of your Spirit, so that we can reflect your tender love to every migrant whom you place in our path, and to spread in hearts and in every situation the culture of encounter and of care. Amen

## ST BRIDGET’S REUNION

St Brigid’s College Horsham invites past pupils of the Classes of 1973, 1983, 1993, 2003 & 2013 for the milestone reunion.

The reunion will be held at St Brigid’s College at 2:00 PM on Saturday 21 October.

Attendees can RSVP by calling the school office on (03) 5382 3545 or via this link: <https://forms.gle/uKfjHb2KMsZ1huXa9>



# Waiting in Line

## Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 20:1–16

From 1973 to 1975, I was a student at the Ecole Biblique et Archéologique Française in East Jerusalem. Until women were admitted as resident students there in 1974, I lived at the Chaldean Patriarchate.

Early each morning, I would cross the road from the Patriarchate and greet the Palestinian day labourers lined up beside their vehicles, waiting for employment in the vacant lot that divided Israeli from occupied Palestinian territory.

In the wake of the Yom Kippur War, these workers were living through hard times.

In the morning, they were chatty and cheerful. Those who found work no doubt remained cheerful: they had the means to support their families and could find some meaning in their lives. Those still waiting for work at midday or later were dejected and shamed, not least by the prospect of returning home without their daily bread.

Those who were hired found honour in society and the means to sustain themselves and their families. Those who missed out on work suffered hunger, indignity, and a sense of powerlessness.

Confronted by this spectacle day after day, I began to understand the parable of the labourers in the vineyard.

In Matthew's parable, those who have worked all day grumble because the underemployed are made "equal" to them.

Jesus makes it clear that people's worth is not to be measured in terms of their capacity for economic production.

Pope Leo XIII, writing in 1891 about the condition of the working class, echoes this aspect of the parable.

---

*Parables yield meaning differently in different contexts.*

---

Those who cannot find work and those who cannot work on account of disability or visa restrictions understand something of the experience of the Palestinian workers.

Their needs are no less urgent than the needs of those who have productive and well-paid employment. Minimal social security benefits might address their basic material needs but are less than effective in addressing the underlying issues of human dignity.

Parables yield meaning differently in different contexts.

We may want to consider the corrosive effects of "envy". Faced with the growing disparity between rich



and poor in our world, we may wish to raise questions about the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the landowner.

Those who are conscious of the plight of asylum seekers and refugees, as well as those ineligible for benefits, may come with questions about "generosity" offered from a base of power over against equal access to Earth's resources.

In the face of the climate crisis and the effects of war and pandemic, many of those who used to be safe in economic terms now find themselves with huge debts and diminishing security. Many in our world are every bit as desperate as the Palestinian day labourers, waiting in line as never before.

As we celebrate this third Sunday of the Season of Creation, we might accept the invitation of today's gospel story to live in ways that promote quality of life for every one of Earth's inhabitants.

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ISAIAH 55:6–9  
PHILIPPIANS 1:20–24, 27  
MATTHEW 20:1–16

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EZEKIEL 18:25–28  
PHILIPPIANS 2:1–11  
MATTHEW 21:28–32