



▶ **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 – 12:00 PM

21 April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

*I am the good shepherd*

# St Alipius parish

[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

Tuesday Funeral Mass – Sr Mary  
Madden RSM 10:30 AM

Wednesday Funeral Mass – Marg  
Maunsell 11 AM

Friday Funeral Mass (Buninyong) –  
Bill Gove 10:30 AM  
Saturday, 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)

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:** Bill Gove, Sr Mary Madden RSM, Marg Maunsell

**Anniversaries:** Mary Murphy, Mary Hall

**Unwell:** Socorro De Chavez, Peter McLachlan, Sarah McLachlan, Eleanor McMahon, Shelley Pawang, Carole Simmons

## PARISH TEAM

### Parish Priest

Fr Justin Driscoll

### Assistant Priest

Fr Matthew Restall

### 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.

**VOCATION  
SUNDAY**



## 150 ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Next weekend parishes throughout the Diocese of Ballarat will be acknowledging the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Diocese.

This year is also the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the St Alipius church building. Ballarat's inaugural bishop's first official task was opening the St Alipius church that we now gather in, which replaced a wooden church and before that a canvas one, which was erected on the site in 1853. 100 years ago, the current church was extended, and the wooden sacristy and chancel were rebuilt in bluestone. The belltower and cast-iron fence were also added then.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Celebrating 150 years of Diocese**  
Masses on 27-28 April

**Liturgy Committee Meeting**  
5:30 PM, Tuesday 23 April, Presbrytery

**Baptism Preparation Session**  
10 Am or 5:30 PM, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Mary Glowrey Room – St Patricks Cathedral

## DIOCESAN TIMELINE

As part of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat, a timeline of significant dates and events over the past 150 years has been published on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/history-2/>

## STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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

Supporting our parish priests	\$1083
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$478.40

We invite anybody who would like to join the program to please contact the parish office.

## ANZAC DAY MASS

ANZAC Day Mass on Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup> at St Patricik's Cathedral at 9.15am. This will proceed the march to the Ballarat Cenotaph. The Buninyong ANZAC Day service will commence at 10.15am in the Memorial Park.

## MASS COUNTS IN MAY

The annual count of attendees at masses throughout the diocese will occur over the four weekends in May.

## PRAYERS FOR ANZAC DAY

The Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference has shared these prayers with us for ANZAC Day:

We pray for all airmen, sailors and soldiers who served and bravely lost their lives in battle during times of conflict, especially members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. May they rest in the peace of Christ and rise in glory on the last day. Let us pray to the Lord.

We remember all families, parents and children who lost loved ones through war. May the light of God's hope and strength comfort them. Let us pray to the Lord.

## VOCATION SUNDAY

Vocation Sunday is celebrated on the Fourth Sunday of Easter. It is an opportunity for all to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. "Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, the harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:35-38). We remember young women and men throughout our country and diocese and pray that they may be open to hearing and responding generously to the Lord's call to marriage, single life, priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life, or secular institutes.

## PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O Holy Spirit of wisdom and divine love, awaken in the hearts of the young, your knowledge, understanding, and counsel. May they discover the vocation wherein they can best serve God to be of service to their sisters and brothers. In flame all young hearts with courage and grant them your peace. Mary, mother of our saviour, and our mother, pray for us.

## VINNIES MAGAZINE

Scan or click the QR code to read the Autumn edition of "The Record" from the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia.



## THANK YOU

Each year we invite Dom Jans to decorate the Easter Candles for our parish churches. In doing this Dom is carrying on the work of her father, Henk de Jong who made and decorated our candles for many years. Everyone would agree that once again, our candles look beautiful. Dom, thank you for all the hours you have put into the preparation of these candles prior to our Easter masses, we are very grateful that you continue to be willing to share your talents with us.

## DAMASCUS REUNIONS

Damascus College warmly welcomes past students and staff of Sacred Heart College, St Martin's in the Pines, and Damascus College to our 2024 Class Reunions.

Class of 1974 (50 years) – Saturday, 21 April

Class of 1984 (40 years) – Saturday, 18 May

Class of 1994 (30 years) – Saturday, 18 May

Class of 2004 (20 years) – Saturday, 25 May

Class of 2014 (10 years) – Saturday, 25 May

An all-year St Paul's Reunion will be held in 2025.

For further details and booking links for each class reunion, please visit:

[www.damascus.vic.edu.au/community/alumni/alumni-reunions-events](http://www.damascus.vic.edu.au/community/alumni/alumni-reunions-events) Scroll to 2024 'CLASS OF' Reunions and click the + to view details and book your ticket.

Enquiries: [connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au](mailto:connecting@damascus.vic.edu.au)

## BAPTISMS

**Ziggy Rae Bux**

Child of Tyler and Hayley Bux

**Saige Alice, Summah May & Jaxon Peter Hine**

Child of Darryn & Julie Hine

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

Pope Francis

## ST. ALIPIUS SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT

St. Alipius School invites you to 'Trivia with a Twist' on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> at the McInerney Centre, St. Alipius Primary School. Time 6:30 pm for a 7pm start. Tickets are \$10. BYO Drinks and Nibbles. Contact the school for tickets.

## 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 April – **For the role of women:** Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognised in every culture and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

## MEMORIES

L-R: Daryl Harrington, Brian Morgan, Paul Harris, Barry Hood (Rockett's drummer on stage), Frank Burke, John O'Brien, Jim O'Meara, Leo McMahon, Jim Murphy.



## SNAPSHOT OF OUR MINISTRY DISTRICT

Parishes of Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon

### Total Population

Ballarat East (inc. Buninyong) 31,686

Bungaree (inc. Clarke's Hill & Dunnstown) 1,756

Gordon (inc. Ballan & Springbank) 6,197

### Catholic Population

Ballarat East (inc. Buninyong) 7,095 (22.4%)

Bungaree (inc. Clarke's Hill & Dunnstown) 638 (35.7%)

Gordon (inc. Ballan & Springbank) 1,871 (30.3%)

### Sunday Mass attendance in 2023

Ballarat East (inc. Buninyong) 230

Bungaree (inc. Clarke's Hill & Dunnstown) 40

Gordon (inc. Ballan & Springbank) 106

### Baptisms in 2023

Ballarat East (inc. Buninyong) 84

Bungaree (inc. Clarke's Hill & Dunnstown) 6

Gordon (inc. Ballan & Springbank) 30



# Embracing the Whole Earth

## Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Fourth Sunday of Easter: John 10:11–18

We do not often think of ourselves as sheep, and yet that is what we are called in today's gospel.

The liturgy for Good Shepherd Sunday invites us to reflect on Jesus of Nazareth as the noble or good shepherd of the believing community and his followers as "sheep".

"Shepherd" in its literal sense is not part of our 21st-century vocabulary, and yet we use it metaphorically, both as a verb and as a noun. Its verbal form connotes care and compassion, protection, guidance, and tender relationship.

In John's gospel, Jesus rightly claims for himself the title "good shepherd". He contrasts the good shepherd or leader with the leader who fails to care for the flock. Knowing one's sheep, staying with them in the face of mortal danger and being prepared to die for them are marks of the good shepherd.

There are echoes here of Ezekiel 34 where the "shepherd/sheep" metaphor describes the leaders of Israel in their relationships with the people.

There are likewise echoes of a description of the emperor Tiberius in whose reign Jesus was executed, precisely because he did not abandon his "flock".

The Roman historian Suetonius has this to say of Tiberius: "To the

governors who recommended burdensome taxes for his provinces, he wrote in answer that it was the part of a good shepherd to shear his flock, not skin it" (Suetonius, Life of Tiberius 32.2).

In the pre-industrial biblical world, the "shepherd/sheep" metaphor was heard by an audience that enjoyed a much closer relationship with sheep and their human carers than do most people today.

In my country, for instance, there are 70 million sheep and 26.82 million people. In other words, the ovine inhabitants of Australia significantly outnumber the human.

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*He did not abandon his  
flock*

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Yet most of our highly urbanised human population knows its sheep only in their disembodied forms. The human-ovine relationship is, for the most part, reduced to that of consumer and consumed.

Sheep are valued, not for their intrinsic goodness as creations of a loving God, but rather as commodities that provide food and clothing for the human population.

We now know that modern domesticated sheep evolved from



creatures that pre-date modern humans. We might take time to consider the implications of this for our relationship with the other-than-human inhabitants of our planetary home.

Our reflections might include some consideration of the wisdom or otherwise of continuing to breed these creatures for human consumption, often at the expense of the environment.

Good Shepherd Sunday provides us with an opportunity to move beyond our human-centred views of the world and our human-centred interpretations of our sacred texts.

We might hear a call to value the realities that underpin gospel images such as the Good Shepherd/sheep metaphor. We might also hear a call to expand our appreciation of all the inhabitants of our planet. To be good shepherds in our time is to embrace the whole Earth Community with reverence and compassion.

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 4:8–12  
1 JOHN 3:1–2  
JOHN 10:11–18

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 9:26–31  
1 JOHN 3:18–24  
JOHN 15:1–8