



▶ **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

19 May 2024

Pentecost Sunday

Receive the Holy Spirit

St Alipius parish

ballarateast@ballarat.catholic.org.au

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

MASS TIMES

St Alipius

Tuesday – Friday 9:30 AM

Saturday 9:30 AM, 6:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM (1st, 3rd & 5th weeks)

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 3

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

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

WE PRAY FOR

Faithfully departed: Mary Conroy

Anniversaries:

Unwell: Socorro De Chavez, Luka Fletcher-Leskarac, Max Green, 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.



LAUDATO SI' WEEK

MAY 19 - 26 2024

Reflection on Laudato Si' a message of solidarity and the wisdom of Indigenous Peoples

COMMISSIONING FOR MINISTRY

Across the parishes of our ministry district, many people serve through liturgical ministries, others in ministries of pastoral care and outreach, some in ministries of Christian initiation, faith formation and Catholic education, and others in leadership and stewardship.

As part of the Diocese of Ballarat's 150th anniversary, those members of our parish who engage in ministries will be commissioned for their service at all masses celebrated this weekend on the feast of Pentecost. We will acknowledge those who have responded to the call to ministries within our church communities and are willing to commit themselves to continued service.

The commissioning allows us to express our gratitude to all who serve in the great diversity of ministries, for as St Paul writes '*There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*' (1 Corinthians 12,4-7).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parish Meeting – Acknowledging our Parish's Historic Anniversaries
3:00 PM, Sunday 26 May, St Alipius Hall

Finance and Property Update Meetings
5:30 PM, 29 May, Buninyong Hall
5:30 PM, 30 May, St Alipius Hall

Social Evening and Dinner
6:00 PM, Thursday 6 June

Baptism Preparation
10:00 AM or 5:30 PM, 6 June, Cathedral Hall

ANNIVERSARY PLANNING

St Alipius Parish was founded in 1852 and the first canvas and bark church was built on the current site a year later. The foundation stone for the church at Buninyong was also laid in 1853. 170 years ago, parish priest Fr Patrick Smyth attended the Eureka Stockade and helped Peter Lalor's escape. Our church building was opened 150 years ago, and the bell tower and fence were erected 100 years ago. All parishioners are invited to a meeting in the parish hall at 3:00 PM on Sunday 26 May to share their ideas on acknowledging these historic milestones.

FINANCES AND PROPERTY

The Parish Finance Council will be holding community meetings to update parishioners on the financial position of the parish, including options for the future use of our parish land and buildings and the insurance of our churches and other buildings. These are important issues affecting the future of our parish, so your attendance and input would be greatly appreciated. A meeting will be held at 5:30 PM at each church, at Ss Peter and Paul's Buninyong on Wednesday 29 May, and St Alipius parish hall, on Thursday 30 May.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all parishioners who contribute to our stewardship program. Your generosity is appreciated. The figures shown below are for the past two weeks:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Supporting our parish priests | \$1,041 |
| Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc. | \$863 |

Contact the parish office to join the program and support your parish.

SOCIAL EVENING AND DINNER

You are invited to a social evening and dinner at 6:00 PM on Thursday 6 June to spend time with one another and our new priests Fathers Justin and Matt. The venue is yet to be finalised. Contact the parish office to RSVP.

FIRST EUCHARIST CELEBRATIONS

The parish welcomes children receiving their first Eucharist and their families at our masses over the coming weeks. We ask you to keep these families in your prayers in their final days of preparation. These children come to us from our local catholic schools and government schools from around the area. They have been preparing for the sacrament with their families.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

From 20–26 May we celebrate and recognise the vital work of volunteers and say thank you, especially those who volunteer in our parish and agencies. This year's theme is "Something for Everyone" and is an invitation to those who wish to explore the many opportunities available. Contact the parish office if you can volunteer in a parish role such as welcomer, sacristan, reader, special minister, visual display operator, cleaner, gardener, or altar server. Resources for volunteer week are available at: www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/

OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

The second edition of ODC will focus on the diocese's 150th anniversary, with the theme "Community – Remember, Revitalise and Hope." Please share your stories with odc@ballarat.catholic.org.au by 31 May.

BAPTISMS

**Henry Blaise, Bonnie Frances Joanne,
Margot Mathilda & James Jack Groud**
Children of Lucas Groud and Sarah Groud

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

Pope Francis

CWL REFLECTION DAY

Ballarat Diocesan Committee Catholic Women's League invites all to the Diocesan Conference/Reflection Day on Thursday 23 May in the Mary Glowrey Room with registration (\$20 cash only) at 9.15 AM. The conference runs from 10.00 AM – 3.00 PM, including 12.05 PM Mass in the Cathedral with the Crowning of Our Lady Help of Christians, and morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Guest speakers – Diocesan Archivist, CatholicCare and Thomas More Centre. Stalls and Competitions – cash only. RSVP Margaret Rowe by 20 May on 0419 114 436 or margrove@bigpond.com or C Kavanagh at 0401 175 045 or email annekav1234@gmail.com.

ACU PUBLIC LECTURE

The ACU Centre for Liturgy offers a new public lecture by Mr Steve Warner, a renowned liturgical musician, composer, and choral conductor who will address the topic, "The Ageless Voice of the Young: Fostering Emerging Liturgical Musicians". The lecture will be held online at 10:00 AM on Monday 20 May. Register at <https://shorturl.at/qsCKZ>.

NATIONAL FAMILIES' WEEK

National Families Week celebrates the vital role that families play in Australian society. The week is celebrated to coincide with the United Nations International Day of Families on 15 May. CatholicCare's theme this year is "Building Compassionate Families and Communities." The week is a perfect time to come together to celebrate the power of family relationships in all their diversities and the importance families play in our lives and community. Resources are available from www.catholiccarevic.org.au/page/103/familyweek

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The following resources are available from various Catholic agencies to help end domestic violence and violence against women:

A prayer service, "Prayer for the Elimination of Violence Against Women" from the National Centre for Evangelisation <https://shorturl.at/pqzBS>.

Social Justice Statement 2022-23, "Respect: Confronting violence and abuse", developed by the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference's Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace www.catholic.au/s/article/violence-against-women.

Catholic Social Services Victoria "Prevention of Domestic Violence Kit" <https://css.org.au/advocacy-policy/prevention-of-family-violence/>.

"A Catholic Response to Domestic Violence" www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding/a-catholic-response-to-domestic-violence from the Diocese of Broken Bay.

FAITH SEMINAR SERIES

The Engaging Your Faith online seminar series consists of nine stand-alone sessions on a range of themes presented by the Catholic Theological College to explore personal, theological, and spiritual development. The cost is \$25.00 per session, and they are open to anyone to attend, beginning 14 May. For details, visit: <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

LAUDATO SI' WEEK

In his encyclical Laudato Si', Pope Francis reminds us that everything is connected. Our relationship with nature is not separate from our relationship with God and others. This concept of integral ecology encourages us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action.

The Diocesan Social Justice Commission, in collaboration with Caritas (Diocese of Ballarat), Earthcare Ballarat and the Pastoral Ministry Office, encourages us to "**Learn about your food.**"

During Laudato Si' Week (19–26 May), we are invited to contemplate the wonder of creation and nurture the seeds of hope for our suffering planet.

COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Sunday 12 May was World Communications Day. Pope Francis' message for the 50th World Day of Social Communications, "Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication" can be read at <https://shorturl.at/xGJSV>.

The Dicastery for Communication has published a pastoral reflection on social media engagement, "Towards Full Presence" and can be read at www.fullypresent.website/en.html.

A Message of Peace

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Pentecost Sunday: John 15:26–27; 16:12–15

Pentecost Sunday is often called the birthday of the Church.

For the ancient Israelites, Pentecost (meaning “fiftieth”) was a harvest festival celebrated 50 days after the beginning of the harvest.

When the Jerusalem Temple was built, this harvest festival was transformed into a pilgrimage feast to celebrate the covenant that God had made with Israel on Mt Sinai.

In the decades following the death of Jesus, the early Christians reflected on their origins and chose this feast to mark the birth of God's new covenant with God's people.

In today's first reading, Luke tells the new Pentecost story in symbolic language that evokes the story of Moses and the people of Israel receiving God's Law on Mt Sinai.

Just as God's presence to Israel was marked by earthquake and thunder and fire, so God's Spirit enveloping the people of the new covenant appears in a mighty rush of wind and tongues of fire.

Luke's account also evokes early rabbinic teaching that the voice of God on Sinai divided into seventy tongues and all the nations received the Law in their own tongue.

For the teaching at the heart of the new covenant, we turn to the gospel reading from John where Jesus speaks of the Spirit as both Advocate and Spirit of Truth who is “sent” by Jesus and comes forth from the “Father”. The Spirit will testify on Jesus' behalf.

We too are called to listen

While this passage from John becomes central to later discussions about the nature of the Trinity and the fourth-century formulation of the creeds, the focus of Jesus' words in the context of John's gospel is on the disciples and their way of being in the world.

The message of the Johannine Jesus is that “you too will testify/bear witness.”

Jesus is speaking to disciples who have been with him “from the beginning”. They are those who know what it means to abide, to “hang in there” through the challenging as well as the good times. They have listened and learned and so have the capacity to testify or bear witness.

The expression “Spirit of truth” has a particular resonance in the present



climate of “fake news/fake wisdom” and “spin” or distortion of truth, in what Australian social psychologist Hugh Mackay dubs the “Age of Opinion.”

The Spirit of truth will guide the first disciples “into all the truth.” The Spirit of truth will continue to guide disciples throughout the ages into a deep understanding of truth.

This is the message of the Johannine Jesus for us in our times as much as it was for disciples in the first century of the common era.

We too are called to listen, to learn and to remain constant in our commitment to the truth.

We know that we are never alone, that the Spirit of truth is the source of our power to testify to the truth.

As we pray “Come Holy Spirit” this Pentecost, let us renew our commitment to the pursuit of truth.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

PENTECOST

ACTS 2:1–11

GALATIANS 5:16–25

JOHN 15:26–27; 16:12–15

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

DEUTERONOMY 4:32–34; 39–40

ROMANS 8:14–17

MATTHEW 28:16–20