

5 May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Remain in my love

St Alipius parish



▶ **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

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 1

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: Fr

Tom Brophy, Nick Moore, Judy Murphy, Ian Chandler

Anniversaries: Helen Ronan

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

Catholic Diocese of Ballarat

150 years



FR TOM BROPHY FUNERAL

Mass celebrating entry into eternal life For Fr Tom Brophy will be celebrated at 10:00 AM on Monday, 6 May in St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Burial will follow at the Ballarat New Cemetery. The rosary will be recited at 6:30 PM on Sunday 5 May at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. The link for the live stream of the funeral Mass is www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1XY3pJf9z0 and for the burial is www.youtube.com/watch?v=17ebPR80EK8.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ministry Recommissioning Masses
Pentecost weekend – 18 and 19 May

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. The figures shown below are for the past two weeks:

Supporting our parish priests	\$1,183 \$1,070
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$208 \$208.20

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

FR MUGAVIN GOLDEN JUBILEE

All are welcome to Mass to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood for Fr Paddy Mugavin at 10:30 AM on Sunday, 19 May at St Mary's Church, Hamilton. Morning tea / light lunch provided.

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.



BROKEN HILL TO BALLARAT

On Friday morning a group of students from Damascus College left the school to begin an adventure which has been in the pipeline for approximately 18 months. The students are all members of the school's Sustainable Racing Team and will ride a trike from Broken Hill to Ballarat next week raising funds for cancer research at the Fiona Elsey Research Institute. The students are doing this in memory of Connor Prunty. We admire the way that they have taken this on and wish them well in their travels. Please keep them in your prayers in the coming days, as they slowly make their way back to school, arriving next Friday, May 10th. For more information follow this link: [Broken Hill to Ballarat - Damascus College](#) or check out the Damascus College web page.



TRIVIA NIGHT

Rotary Wendouree is hosting a trivia night in St Alipius Hall on Friday 17 May to raise funds to assist with purchasing a ute for an impoverished and fragile community in Aileu, Timor Leste. Doors open at 6:30 PM and the game starts at 7:00 PM. \$25 per person, with tables of 8 available. BYO drinks and nibbles. Tea and coffee supplied. Contact Clare to book a table clarembennett@inet.net.au or 0439 652 325

ST BERNARD'S ANNIVERSARY

St Bernard's Bacchus Marsh will mark its 150th anniversary with mass at 11:00 AM on Sunday, 23 June. Prepaid orders for the 300-page history focussing on the priests and people who built the parish are required by 10 May. \$75.00 per copy. Details are available on the church website <https://stbernardsbacchusmarsh.com.au/>

MASS COUNTS IN MAY

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

SEMINARY ENQUIRY DAY

Corpus Christi Seminary, Melbourne is hosting an Enquiry Day for those thinking about the priesthood at 10:45 AM on Sunday, 19 May. Please register to attend by email Diane.Carey@cam.org.au. For more information contact Fr Ed Moloney, Diocesan Vocations Committee ed.moloney@ballarat.catholic.org.au.

BAPTISMS

Henry Arthur and Esme Ida Remilton
Children of Warrick and Mikhaila Remilton

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

LEADERSHIP ACROSS THE THREE PARISHES OF OUR MINISTRY DISTRICT

Each of the three parishes of Ballarat East, Bungaree and Gordon have Parish Leadership structures to foster participation, collaboration, and consultation. Ballarat East has both a Parish Pastoral Council and a Finance Committee. The members of the Pastoral Council are Martin McGettigan (chair), Teresa Fletcher (Finance Committee liaison), Diane McKeegan, Greg O'Beirne, Maria Jones and Claire Stewart with Mark Hogbin (Principal of St Francis Xavier Primary), Cathy Prunty (Parish Coordinator), Fr Matt and Fr Justin as ex-officio members. The members of the Finance Committee are Paul O'Beirne (chair), Susan Begbie, Teresa Fletcher, Arnoud Goossens, Brett Holloway, Lauren Morris, Greg O'Beirne and John White with Bernadette Prestwood (Finance Officer), Cathy Prunty and Fr Justin ex-officio members. The Finance Committee met on Wednesday May 1st and the next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be on Thursday May 9th. Bungaree Parish has a Leadership Team that serves as both Pastoral Council and Finance Committee. Each of the three communities have two delegates with Damien Ryan (chair) and Chris Frawley from Bungaree, Marty Forbes and Dom Prendergast (Clarkes Hill), Dianne Reynolds and Barry Sheehan (Dunnstown), with Clare Scanlon (St Mary's Clarkes Hill Principal), Fr Matt and Fr Justin ex-officio members. The next meeting of the Leadership team is proposed for Wednesday May 15th.

The Gordon Parish also has a Leadership Team that serves as both Pastoral Council and Finance Committee with each of the three communities having two delegates with Sue Daly (chair) and Brendan Maher from Springbank, Mark Conlan & Jim Leahy (Ballan), Joan Bourke & Shane Carey (Gordon), with Jayne Bosworth (St Brigid's Ballan Principal), Paul McDowell (St Patrick's Gordon Principal), Fr Matt and Fr Justin ex-officio members. Leadership Team will meet on Wednesday May 8th.

The Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia decreed that dioceses and eparchies support parishes to establish and strengthen appropriate synodal structures by developing guidelines and providing resources for the flourishing of Parish Pastoral Councils, Parish Finance Committees, and other parish bodies. The Plenary Council affirmed that governance in the Catholic Church should be exercised in a synodal manner, with the appropriate participation of all the baptised. Throughout 2024 as the Diocese of Ballarat acknowledges its 150th anniversary, formation for synodal leadership and governance will be offered, leading to a Diocesan Assembly being held in Ballarat on November 15th – 16th. From the Assembly a Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Council will be discerned.

JOIN THE MERCY ASSOCIATES

Women and men are invited to join this group, which seeks to "Preserve, Nurture and Reimagine the Mercy charism", established by Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy. Members are offered some social and spiritual activities throughout the year. If you are interested, email mercyassociates@ismapng.org.au.

PENTECOST MASSES

During our masses over the Pentecost Sunday weekend, on the 18 and 19 May, people who volunteer in various ministries will be asked to stand and be recommissioned by the celebrating priest. This includes roles such as extraordinary ministers of the eucharist, readers, sacristans, musicians, PowerPoint creators and operators, welcomers, etc. If you are on the volunteer roster at either church, please try to attend mass in the parish that weekend, so you can participate. Opportunities for additional people to join the rosters will be made available later this year.

TRAUMA RESOURCES

The Trauma Healing Institute in the USA, an arm of the Bible Society of America, offers free materials to help people who have lived through a traumatic situation. Items can be ordered online, with free shipping. There are also free scripture and other resources. To order go to <https://biblesocietyaus.typeform.com/to/bBhmvT>

Abide in my Love

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

Sixth Sunday of Easter: John 15:9–17

The constitutions of my religious institute remind me that “the tender mercy of our God has given us one another”.

The implications of this profoundly beautiful truth are spelt out thus: “In our communities, we try to live in the friendship of Christ’s disciples [John 15:15]. To so live calls forth relationships of equality, a real acceptance of ourselves and others, a forgetfulness of anything that does not make love its message.”

Living in the friendship of Christ’s disciples is at the heart of a gospel way of living. It is the commission at the heart of today’s reading and seems to be exactly what Pope Francis reminded all believers in his Apostolic Exhortation on the Call to Holiness in Today’s World, *Gaudete et Exultate*: “We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do”.

As we listen to the proclamation of the gospel, we might attend to the repetition of “joy”, to the three-fold repetition of “friends” and to the nine-fold repetition of “love”. We might attend to the way in which the pronouns I/my/me and you/your function in the passage. We may also notice the reference to “commands” and “commandments”.

We tend not to associate “commands” with friendship and love because those we count as our friends are not usually in the habit of commanding or ordering us to do what they want. We derive little joy from being ordered to do something. And yet, there is no resiling from the juxtaposition of these terms.

They are to love one another as Jesus has loved them

God, imaged in the gospel passage as “Father”, loves Jesus. Jesus remains or abides in God’s love so deeply that this love flows on to his friends.

They are to love one another as Jesus has loved them. This is his commandment or commission to them and, by extension, to us. It directs them/us to live for each other and put their lives/our lives on the line for one another.

Countless volunteers in the tragic war zones of our world are doing precisely that.

Remaining in the love of God or of Jesus and doing what God or Jesus commands seem to be one and the



same thing. In other words, love is not just an emotion: it is always expressed in action that is in tune with and for the sake of the other.

The disciples need no further explanation. Jesus’ whole life and his courage in the face of impending death have shown them what it means to love one another.

Living in the friendship of Christ’s disciples is not some abstract goal. Too often we affirm the goodness of our selfless companions on the journey only when we come to lay them to rest.

As we approach the end of the Easter season, we might give thanks for the love of our friends, for their witness to holiness and for the joy that they bring to our lives.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48

1 JOHN 4:11–16

JOHN 15:9–17

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

ACTS 1:1–11

EPHESIANS 4:1–3

MARK 16:15–20