

26 May 2024

The Most Holy Trinity

Make disciples of all nations

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 4

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: Peter Goates

Anniversaries: George Pearse

Unwell: Socorro De Chavez, 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.

National 20-26 MAY 2024
Volunteer
Something for Everyone **Week**

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

This past week we celebrated National Volunteer Week. Providentially it followed the commissioning of all engaged in ministries across the three parishes and eight faith communities of our Ministry District. This year's theme is "Something for Everyone," which is true for our faith communities and the community, recreational, service, and sporting associations and groups that serve our broader communities and rely on the generous contribution of so many. Volunteer Week provides an opportunity to express our gratitude to the many who serve and as an invitation for others to become volunteers in our parishes. Some ministries require a Working With Children Check and/or a Police Check. All volunteers must be familiar with and acknowledge their compliance with the Code of Conduct, and Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy and process.

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, Robin Hood Hotel

Baptism Preparation

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

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	\$1,133
Maintenance of parish buildings, office and administration expenses, grounds maintenance etc.	\$278

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

ST ALIPIUS ROSTER

The roster for liturgy ministries for June and July will be distributed next week. Thank you to all who have generously volunteered to help.

VOLUNTEERS PRAYER

We pray for all those who volunteer in our parishes. May we value the many talents and gifts that God has given to these people. We thank them for generously offering their time to parish ministries. For all these gifts, given out of your love, we thank you, God of all goodness. Amen.

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 at St Alipius parish hall, on Thursday 30 May.

SOCIAL EVENING AND DINNER

You are invited to a social evening and dinner at the Robin Hood Hotel at 6:00 PM on Thursday 6 June to spend time with one another and our new priests Fathers Justin and Matt. Contact the parish office to RSVP.

FIRST EUCHARIST

This weekend we welcome children from our parish who are receiving the sacrament of Eucharist for the first time. These children will be joined by their families who have spent the past few weeks working at home to prepare them. Please keep them all in your prayers. We are grateful for the work that our parish schools have done in supporting the preparation of these students and we thank staff for joining us today.

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.

WORLD'S CHILDREN'S DAY

Pope Francis has announced the celebration of the first World Children's Day on 25 and 26 May. "Like Jesus, we want to put children at the centre and care for them." The day will be organised by the Vatican's Dicastery for Culture and Education and will seek to answer the question, "What kind of world do we wish to pass on to the children who are growing up?" Read the Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the First World Children's Day at <https://www.worldchildrenday.org/>

BAPTISMS

Nadia Claire and Juliette Frances Bertsclik
Children of James and Annie Bertsclik

Theodore James McLean
Child of Lachlan and Hannah McLean

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

LAUDATO SI' WEEK PRAYER

God of all creation, thank you for the gift of our lives and for the world in which we live. We thank you for the warmth of the sun in winter, and a cool breeze in summer. We thank you for the great diversity of life, which fills us with wonder and reminds us that we too are creatures. We pray that we will grow in respect for all life, and for the Earth itself. That we will use your gifts with gentleness and wisdom, not with greed and selfishness. We pray that our minds and hearts will lead us to an active hope, as we respond to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor in our time. May our hope transform humanity, to take bold action to protect our world. At this time of Pentecost may we call on the Holy Spirit to kindle in us the fire of God's love and renew the face of the Earth. May we all be part of that renewal. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHILDREN'S DAY PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in the faces of children all over the world. Come, Jesus, you who make all things new, who are the way that leads us to the Father, come and remain with us always. Amen.

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.

RECONCILIATION WEEK

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The theme for 2024, "Now More Than Ever", is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will—and must—continue. Resources and more information are available from the diocesan website

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/national-reconciliation-week-may-27-june-3-including-sorry-day-may-26/



PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice, and pastoral care. More information and application forms are available at <http://pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship>. The closing date for applications is 31 July.

MINISTERS OF WORD TRAINING

ACU offers an \$80, four-week online training course for new and experienced Ministers of the Word. Visit <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/pastoral-training/ministers-of-the-word-information> for details.

Communion of Relational Love

Gospel reflection by Veronica Lawson RSM

The Most Holy Trinity: Matthew 28:16–20

Trinity Sunday celebrates the core Christian conviction that God is a communion of relational love.

For the people of Israel, no other god could compare with their God whom they knew as both creator and liberator and whom they experienced as intimately involved in every aspect of their lives.

In a world of many gods, the assertion found in today's first reading from Deuteronomy that there is "no other god" was an enormous claim to make. Awareness of YHWH's sustaining and liberating presence brought with it serious responsibilities: keeping the commandments grounded the people of Israel in the life of their God.

The earliest Christians inherited the Jewish belief in one God. At the same time, Christian Jews expressed their faith in distinctively Trinitarian language.

Over the first six centuries of the Christian era, the belief that God is a communion of love was to develop into the doctrine of the Trinity, a teaching that is at the heart of Christian faith.

The word Trinity is not used in the Christian Scriptures. In fact, it was not until the Council of Constantinople in 381CE that the doctrine of the Trinity

was set out in the creed, and not until the Second Council of Constantinople in 551CE that the word "Trinity" was actually used of the Triune God.

The gospel reading has Jesus commanding his followers to make disciples of all and to baptise in the name of the Trinity.

At the beginning of this gospel, Jesus is named Emmanuel, "God with us." With Jesus' final assurance, "know that I am with you always", we find ourselves gathered into the very life of God.

*We find ourselves gathered
into the very life of God*

Perichoresis, a Greek term suggestive of both permeation and diversity in unity, is one of the earliest and probably one of the most striking metaphors used to explain this Trinitarian life of God. The life in God is three and yet one in a totally harmonious union of love.

Since God is neither male nor female, the traditional male language of Father, Son and Spirit is not to be absolutised or taken as a literal



description of the triune God: it is one way of imaging God.

As St. Paul reminds us in today's reading from his letter to the community in Rome, God is not a distant God, but rather a God whose Spirit draws us, as "joint heirs with Christ", into God's own life of love and relationship.

Trinity Sunday is the day we set aside to celebrate the mystery of God and the nearness of God who invites us into the dynamic cycle of life and love, a cycle that reaches out beyond the human community and embraces the entire cosmos.

As we make the sign of the cross, a symbolic action with a two-millennia history (from the 2nd Century CE), we might become more and more attentive to the wonder of the divine life that dwells in us and in whom we are privileged to dwell.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY
DEUTERONOMY 4:32–34; 39–40
ROMANS 8:14–17
MATTHEW 28:16–20

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF
CHRIST
EXODUS 24:3–8
HEBREWS 9:11–15
MARK 14:12–16, 22–26